

## Declaration of the Eighth Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities

We, the participants of the VIII Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities, held in Miami, Florida, United States of America, from June 10 to June 13, 2002, taking into consideration the urgent necessities of our nations:

- 1) Urge the international cooperation organizations to continue to broaden and to improve the possibility to access credit directly in order to bring into realization the diverse initiatives presented by our representatives for the development of our people.
- 2) Request that the multilateral cooperation organizations support the strengthening of the associations of municipalities in the hemisphere, as well as their educational programs, environmental programs, training programs for the citizenry, environmental security programs, and other activities.
- 3) Urge, regarding the Peace Plan for the frontier between Ecuador and Peru, the upholding of the Itamaraty Treaty and we also urge the parties that enforce the Treaty to abide by the requisites of financial aid to the borderline communities which are affected by this conflict, as it is stipulated by the Treaty.
- 4) Propose, given the importance of the topics of gender and social equity, to create a Latin-American network of women to advocate the strengthening of democracy and the consolidation of local governments, the primordial base of the development of our continent.
- 5) Express our solidarity, as municipal representatives, with the sister Republic of Argentina, in the grave situation that it has at present, and we pray for the overcoming of this difficult socio-economic juncture in the shortest possible time.
- 6) Recognizing that the Colombian nation is living a grave political situation due to the threats of diverse terrorists groups to its municipal authorities and to its President-elect, Dr. Alvaro Uribe, manifest our rejection to attitudes that go against democracy and the people. We reiterate our wishes that peace and development open their ways again in Colombia.
- 7) Wish success for the Ninth Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities which benefits our Great America.

Given in Miami, Florida, United States of America, this 13th day of June, 2002.