

16TH COPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
34TH MEETING OF THE COPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NETWORK OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE AMERICAS
MEETING OF THE COPA PERMANENT THEMATIC WORKING COMMITTEES

**COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
DECLARATION ON SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANTS**

Panama City, February 28, 2018

GIVEN THAT the substantial reduction of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) is essential to international efforts to fight climate change, helps to improve air quality and has significant benefits for health, the economy and food safety;

WHEREAS SLCP-limiting measures will contribute to an approximate 0.6°C short-term reduction in global warming worldwide by 2050 and to curbing the short-term warming rate, especially in sensitive areas such as the Arctic and the Himalayas, and given that these measures are means for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

CONSIDERING THAT we all share the same atmosphere and must adopt immediate, effective measures for protecting it;

The Members of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development, gathered in the facilities of the Latin American Parliament for the 16th COPA General Assembly,

Consider it essential and a priority for COPA member nations and parliamentary assemblies to take the following measures:

1. Promote:

- a. innovative measures to reduce SLCPs, including black carbon, methane and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs);
- b. immediate, effective implementation of measures to reduce black carbon, methane and tropospheric ozone so as to fight climate change;

2. Take specific action, such as:

- a. introducing low-sulphur fuels and less-polluting diesel vehicles, creating black carbon inventories and supporting methane emission reduction by the oil and gas sector;

- b. taking SLCPs into account in national climate action plans;
- c. reducing hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are highly polluting, by designing complementary initiatives aimed at increasing refrigeration systems' energy efficiency;
- d. promoting initiatives that help implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, improve air quality, reduce world hunger and build sustainable cities and communities;
- e. compiling and disclosing scientific knowledge on SLCPs to better understand them so as to reduce emissions in the short and long terms;
- f. seeking financial support to create SLCP-reduction projects.