



PGA's Parliamentary Seminar on Protecting Human Rights, Combating Discrimination and Addressing HIV/AIDS of Persons with Diverse Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities

Santo Domingo Plan of Action

Acknowledging that basic human rights principles are universal, inalienable, indivisible and interdependent

Reaffirming, in accordance with The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights, and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, among others, that all individuals are equal as human beings by virtue of the inherent dignity of each human person and that no one, therefore, should suffer discrimination on any grounds, including sexual orientation and gender identity

Taking note of the growing prominence of international and regional instruments and norms on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, including United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution 17/19 on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity (June 2011) and Organization of American States General Assembly AG-Res-2807 (6 June 2013), the findings of the *Global Commission on HIV and the Law*, and the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance (2013)

Mindful of our duties as Parliamentarians to represent the basic interests and fundamental rights of all of our constituents; and to ensure that access to basic services provided by our respective Governments is non-discriminatory

We, participating legislators in this PGA Parliamentary Seminar on Protecting Human Rights, Combating Discrimination and Addressing HIV/AIDS of Persons with Diverse Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities, commit to undertake the following actions:

- 1. Identify and actively encourage legislation and public policies that improve the promotion of universal human rights to combat discrimination with colleagues in Parliament, with the Executive branch of Government and among our constituencies.
- 2. Review existing domestic, regional and international obligations in our respective countries with a view to repeal discriminatory laws, if they exist, and introduce robust and protective legislation for its national implementation, as well as advocating for such

- legislation and/or its enforcement with relevant stakeholders, including government ministers and the media.
- 3. Establish a dialogue with civil society organizations working with LGBTI groups and with people living with HIV/AIDS in our country to learn first-hand about their experiences related to human rights violations and discrimination in relation to access to health and other basic services.
- 4. Promote training and participate in seminars addressing regional and international jurisprudence on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity. Additionally, facilitate exchanges among legislators to share experiences on this topic.
- 5. Report to the PGA Secretariat, every 6 months, on steps and actions taken pursuant to this Plan of Action.
 - a. In the Dominican Republic, follow up to this Plan of Action will be conducted in cooperation with civil society organizations working with LGBTI groups and with people living with HIV/AIDS, the country office of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA).

Done and adopted this 11th day of October, 2013 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic