

REMARKS BY SECRETARY GENERAL JOSE MIGUEL INSULZA AT THE PRESENTATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

November 16, 2010 Office of the Secretary General

I want to extend a warm welcome to Ambassador Zhang Yesui, Permanent Observer of the People's Republic of China to the OAS, as well as to the other members of the Chinese delegation.

I am very thankful and honored by the generous support presented by the Government of China, which is making an additional contribution today to the US\$200,000 already disbursed this year through the China-OAS Cooperation Fund. You have also supported the OAS Scholarship Program, providing the opportunity to ten undergraduate and graduate students from Latin America and the Caribbean to study in China each year.

The support we are receiving today includes two important contributions. Communications equipment to facilitate the work of the OAS Press Department. This contribution consists of an in-kind donation of computer systems, televisions and monitors valued at US\$10,270, and a cash contribution of \$19,390 which will be used to purchase Fiber Optic Cables for the OAS Main Building. This donation will undoubtedly enhance the Organization's capacity to more efficiently deliver information on our work to the public-at-large.

In addition, we are grateful for the Chinese donation of US\$15,000 to support the *Inter-American Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation, and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Minors* of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN). These funds will be used to advance the work of the IIN in coordinating regional policies to prevent and eliminate crimes against children.

Since its incorporation into the OAS as Permanent Observer in 2004, the People's Republic of China has over time been an important contributor to peace and stability in the hemisphere, having previously supported OAS Electoral Observation Missions, programs in sustainable development, and outreach initiatives, among others.

The support we are receiving today yet again reinforces our shared commitment to global cooperation and understanding. The OAS thanks the Government of China for its confidence and appreciates the assistance given to our Organization to further the common values in the hemisphere.