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CJI/RES. 226 (LXXXIX-O/16)
October 13, 2016
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CJI/RES. 226 (LXXXIX-O/16)

**PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES ON
PUBLIC DEFENSE IN THE AMERICAS**

THE INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE,
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the right to defense is a right recognized by all the universal and regional instruments on human rights;

That legal assistance is a guarantee for the exercise of this right and must be provided by the State;

That the General Assembly of the OAS has adopted five resolutions on the matter addressing the aforementioned concepts;

TAKING NOTE of the report of Dr. Fabian Novak Talavera “Principles and Guidelines on Public Defense in the Americas” (CJI/doc.509/16 rev.1) submitted during the 89th regular session of the Inter-American Juridical Committee;

ALSO RECOGNIZING the importance of the visit of and exchange of views with the representatives of the Inter-American Association of Public Defenders (AIDDEF) during the current regular session,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the ten principles contained in the document “Principles and Guidelines on Public Defense in the Americas” (CJI/doc.509/16 rev.2), attached to this resolution.

2. To transmit this resolution and the attached document to the Permanent Council of the OAS, with the recommendation to consider submitting it to the OAS General Assembly for approval of said principles.

This resolution was approved unanimously in the session held on October 13, 2016, by the following members: Doctors David P. Stewart, Hernán Salinas Burgos, Fabián Novak Talavera, Ana Elizabeth Villalta Vizcarra, João Clemente Baena Soares, Carlos Mata Prates, Gélin Imanès Collot and José A. Moreno Rodríguez.