

ANNEX

***GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SOCIAL DEFENCE***

**RESOLUTION ON MERCENARY ACTIVITIES:
A NEW THREAT TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF
MANKIND**

1. Mercenary activities and the phenomenon of delegating military activities to private security companies have been increasing significantly on all five continents. The *Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the rights of peoples to self-determination*¹, the United Nations General Assembly as well as many civil society organizations have condemned the impunity with which human rights violations are treated as well as the lack of an effective application of national and international regulations of military law.
2. The particular cruelty of situations such as the recruitment of minors and new problems regarding, for instance, the fraudulent use of subsidiaries which are legally established in one country, work out of another country and recruit personnel from a third, greatly preoccupy the International Society of Social Defence.

1 Promoted by the Office of the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights, see <http://www.ohchr.org/spanish/issues/mercenaries/wgissues.htm>

3. Therefore, in our capacity as a scientific organization promoting humane criminal policies, we wish to join the United Nations and other international organizations in stressing the urgent need to ratify the *International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries*, drafted in 1989 and ratified by 28 countries, the need for a full revision and reinforcement of the said Convention as well as the need for a greater commitment by the international community to combat this phenomenon on a world level.

San Pedro Martir, Toledo, 22 September 2007.