

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Supporting Adoption of the COCOPA Initiative by the Mexican Congress in Order to
Recognize and Protect Mexico's Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Self Determination
and Self Governance)

RESOLUTION NO. 01-123

1 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Nation ("Nation") is a sovereign government and a federally**
2 **recognized Indian nation that represents a people divided by the United States-**
3 **Mexico international border; and**

4 **WHEREAS, the lands now divided by this border are the aboriginal homeland of the Tohono**
5 **O'odham, whose residency predates the existence of the United States of America or**
6 **the Republic of Mexico; and**

7 **WHEREAS, as a people with one homeland in two countries, the Tohono O'odham Nation strongly**
8 **supports the right of the Mayan and all other Indigenous peoples now living within**
9 **the Republic of Mexico to self determination and self governance; and**

10 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Nation has a special interest in the Mexican government's**
11 **relations with Indigenous peoples, as members of the Tohono O'odham Nation**
12 **residing in the State of Sonora, Mexico are subject to the same laws and policies that**
13 **have resulted in the harsh treatment of the Mayan and other Indigenous peoples**
14 **throughout the Republic of Mexico; and**

15 **WHEREAS, the Mexican government's denial of fundamental sovereign rights and protections**
16 **for Indigenous peoples resulted in the formation of the Zapatista National Liberation**
17 **Army (EZLN) in the State of Chiapas in 1994 and the EZLN's subsequent movement to**
18 **gain recognition of these sovereign rights and protections for all Mexico's Indigenous**
19 **peoples, including the O'odham in Mexico; and**

20 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Nation recognizes that the adoption of the San Andrés Accords**
21 **by the Mexican government and the EZLN in 1996 was a first step toward resolving the**
22 **Chiapas conflict and gaining meaningful legal recognition and protection for all of**
23 **Mexico's sovereign Indigenous peoples; and**

24 **WHEREAS, the Commission on Concordance and Pacification (COCOPA), the Mexican**
25 **congressional committee comprising members of the Institutional Revolutionary**
26 **Party (PRI), Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), and National Action Party (PAN),**
27 **did draft an initiative ("COCOPA Initiative") designed to implement the 1996 San**
28 **Andrés Accords; and**

29 **WHEREAS, the COCOPA Initiative was signed by the EZLN on November 20, 1996 and initially**

RESOLUTION NO. 01-123

(Supporting Adoption of the COCOPA Initiative by the Mexican Congress in Order to Recognize and Protect Mexico's Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Self Determination and Self Governance)

Page 2 of 3

1 supported by the Mexican Minister of Interior as a representative of the Mexican
2 Republic; and

3 WHEREAS, the former Mexican government failed to honor the San Andrés Accords which it
4 signed and refused to enact the COCOPA Initiative drafted by its own officials; and

5 WHEREAS, on March 15, 1998, the Mexican government presented a counter proposal to the
6 COCOPA Initiative which would undermine the San Andrés Accords and has therefore
7 been rejected by the EZLN; and

8 WHEREAS, the election of President Vicente Fox and his introduction of the COCOPA Initiative
9 to the Congress of Mexico on December 5, 2000 presents a historic opportunity to
10 recognize the sovereign rights of Mexico's Indigenous peoples.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the
12 Tohono O'odham Nation strongly supports full implementation of the San Andrés
13 Accords and adoption of the COCOPA Initiative which was presented to the Mexican
14 Congress on December 5, 2000.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the Tohono
16 O'odham Nation strongly opposes the adoption of any proposal other than the
17 COCOPA Initiative which is not supported by the EZLN and further opposes any effort
18 to undermine or invalidate the San Andrés Accords.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the Tohono
20 O'odham Nation urges President Vicente Fox and the Congress of Mexico to support
21 the COCOPA Initiative as a means of resolving the Chiapas conflict, honoring Mexico's
22 Indigenous peoples' rights, and bringing greater stability to the Republic of Mexico.

23 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the Tohono
24 O'odham Nation urges President George W. Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell, and
25 the United States Congress to support the San Andrés Accords and the ongoing efforts
26 of the O'odham and other Indigenous peoples in Mexico to regain their rights to self
27 determination and self governance.

28
29 The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 06TH. Day
30 of MARCH, 2001 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 2,165.5 FOR; -0-
31 AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [05] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by
32 Section 1 (c)(2) of Article VI of the Constitution of the Tohono O'Odham Nation, adopted by the
33 Tohono O'Odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant
34 Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June
35 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

RESOLUTION NO. 01-123

(Supporting Adoption of the COCOPA Initiative by the Mexican Congress in Order to Recognize and Protect Mexico's Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Self Determination and Self Governance)

Page 3 of 3

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44

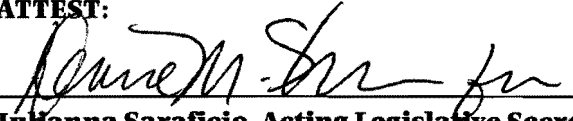
TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



Dennis Ramon, Legislative Chairman

9th day of March, 2001

ATTEST:




Julianna Saraficio, Acting Legislative Secretary

9th day of March, 2001

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'Odham Nation on the 9th day of March, 2001 at 5:27 o'clock, P.M., pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48 hours of submittal.

TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



Dennis Ramon, Legislative Chairman

APPROVED

on the 9th day of March, 2001

DISAPPROVED

at 5:29 o'clock, P.M.

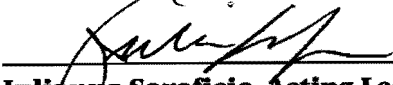


EDWARD D. MANUEL, Chairman

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 09 day of

March, 2001, at 5:32 o'clock, P.M.



Julianna Saraficio, Acting Legislative Secretary

ACTION: SUPPORTING ADOPTION OF THE COCOPA INITIATIVE BY THE MEXICAN CONGRESS IN ORDER TO RECOGNIZE AND PROTECT MEXICO'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS TO SELF DETERMINATION AND SELF GOVERNANCE

MOVED: COUNCILMAN TONY BURRELL

SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN GLORIA MONTANA

DATE: MARCH 09, 2001

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF ODAK 171.8	1. MARY ANN ANTONE (Darlene Andrew)	85.9	X			
	2. RITA MARTINEZ (Nicholas Jose)	85.9	X			
SELLS 372.7	1. DENNIS E. JOSE ()	186.35	X			
	2. EVELYN JUAN ()	186.35	X			
SCHUK TOAK 133.4	1. MARY FLORES ()	66.7	X			
	2. AMBROSE ENCINAS ()	66.7	X			X
SAN XAVIER 165.9	1. TONY BURRELL ()	82.95	X			
	2. DENNIS RAMON ()	82.95	X			
BABOQUIVARI 286.5	1. FRANCES MIGUEL ()	143.25	X			
	2. FRANCES G. ANTONE (Edward N. Kisto)	143.25	X			X
GU ACHI 209.6	1. CAMILLUS LOPEZ (Louis Johnson)	104.8	X			
	2. ALEX J. RAMON ()	104.8	X			
PISINEMO 156.8	1. BARBARA SALVICIO (Alex Antone)	78.4	X			
	2. JOHNSON JOSE ()	78.4	X			
SAN LUCY 128.1	1. ALBERT MANUEL, JR. ()	64.05	X			X
	2. GLORIA RAMIREZ ()	64.05	X			
GU VO 160.0	1. FERN SALCIDO ()	80.0	X			X
	2. GLORIA MONTANA (Phillip Antone)	80.0	X			
HICKIWAN 158.1	1. SHIRLEY MOLINA ()	79.05	X			
	2. LLOYD FRANCISCO (Susan Sam)	79.05			X	
CHUKUT KUK 222.6	1. KENNETH WILLIAMS ()	111.3	X			
	2. DAVID GARCIA (Mary Audrey Juan)	111.3	X			
TOTAL		2,165.5	2,086.45	-0-	79.05	[04]

****PASSED VOTES**