POLICIES FOR THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF RIGHTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

(Adopted at the Fourth Plenary Session, held on October 3, 2018)

THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

CONSIDERING:

The scientific evidence on the significance of work in the early childhood in subsequent emotional, cognitive and social development and the importance of implementing public policies in order to address this age group comprehensively;

BEARING IN MIND:

General Comment 7 “Implementing Child Rights in Early Childhood” of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, which reiterates that all children are holders of all rights without any discrimination based on their age;

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, in particular Goal 3, Targets 3.1 and 3.2, and Goal 4, Target 4.2;

OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 2881 (XLVI-O/16) Omnibus Resolution - Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development, which resolves “(...) To contribute to the implementation of policies that guarantee all children the necessary conditions, from birth, for them to fully develop their personality, their cognitive, emotional, and bonding potential, and their aptitudes for co-existence and the full exercise of their rights and citizenship. (...)

OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 2887 (XLVI-O/16) Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, which resolves “(...) To assist in strengthening promotion and protection systems to ensure the full exercise of the rights of the child in the region by promoting universal and inclusive public policies, with special attention to traditionally excluded and/or vulnerable groups. (...)

That resolution AG/RES. 1 (LI-E/16) adopts the strategic lines and objectives of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for each of the OAS’s pillars, including the Comprehensive Development Pillar, which includes as its strategic line, “Promoting education and human development in the Americas”, and one of the goals of this
line is to strengthen the institutional capacity of member States to provide comprehensive care in early childhood;

Resolution CD/RES. 04 (88-R/13) “Promoting Family Care and Parenting Skills for Early Childhood”;

RECOGNIZING:

That despite significant efforts made by the States to develop non-fragmented public policies, challenges still exist with regard to comprehensiveness, coverage and quality of services;

HAVING REGARD TO:

The various experiences described in relation to this issue during the Meeting and the discussions arising in the Directing Council on the promotion and protection of rights in early childhood,

RESOLVES:

1. To invite the States to continue working on the priority implementation of policies, plans and programmes targeting the promotion and comprehensive protection of rights in early childhood, as well as on their long-term sustainability, by means of cross-sectoral strategies and between levels of government, which include technical innovations and the sustained investment of resources in order to carry them out.

2. To Suggest the States to focus public policies aimed at early childhood to the Sustainable Development Goals and the new 2030 Agenda.

3. To request the Director General of the IIN to provide, whenever possible, technical assistance and training for human resources in this field to the States that request it.