



IAB EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT (PARLATINO) IN RESPONSE TO A DRAFT FRAMEWORK LAW

In a letter addressed to the President of the Latin American Parliament, Deputy Elias Castillo González, IAB President and Director General expressed the deep concern that motivates the presentation by the Ecuadorian Deputy Octavio Villacreses from the ruling Alianza País party, of a draft "Framework Law on Communication" which is inspired by the Gag Rule implemented by the government of President Correa in force today in Ecuador.

IAB urged the President of the Parlatino and its members not to consider this initiative stating that: "If successful, such a project at Parlatino's level, would be severely contrary to the American Convention on Human Rights, the Principles on Freedom of Expression included in the Inter-American System of Human Rights and the Inter-American Democratic Charter, among other hemispheric instruments. "Freedom of Expression is touchstone of all freedoms, being a fundamental component to the existence and full exercise of Democracy," states the letter from IAB.

The headquarters of the Latin American Parliament are based in Panama City.

The Panamanian Association of Broadcasting issued a strong statement denouncing the initiative of the Ecuadoran Deputy.