



MACEDONIAN PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATION

of the United States and Canada, Inc.

RESOLUTION

The duly elected delegates of the Macedonian Patriotic Organization of the United States and Canada, Inc. (MPO), who met on September 2, 2006, in Cleveland, Ohio, for their 85th Annual Convention, unanimously voted to urge the member nations of the European Union to commence entry talks with the Republic of Macedonia at the earliest possible time, and hereby proclaim:

WHEREAS, the Republic of Macedonia has created and maintained a stable, democratic and multi-ethnic state in Southeast Europe, has enacted and implemented comprehensive political, economic, defense, security and legal reforms including the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, has demonstrated significant progress in complying with the Copenhagen Criteria, and recently conducted parliamentary elections in accordance with applicable international standards; and,

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2005, the European Commission issued a report to the European Council recommending that the European Council grant the Republic of Macedonia candidate status for membership in the European Union; and,

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2005, the European Council accepted the European Commission's recommendation and accepted the Republic of Macedonia as a candidate for membership in the European Union; and,

WHEREAS, no date has been set for the commencement of admission talks with the Republic of Macedonia by the European Council notwithstanding the European Council's acceptance of the Republic of Macedonia as a candidate for European Union membership; and,

WHEREAS, the setting of a commencement date for entry talks between the European Union and the Republic of Macedonia and the admission of the Republic of Macedonia to the European Union will improve the economic and political stability of the Republic of Macedonia and Southeast Europe, advance and promote inter-ethnic relations and heighten social development within both the Republic of Macedonia and all of Southeast Europe; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the European Union, and its member states, to continue the expansion of the European Union by admitting those nations in Southeast Europe that, like the Republic of Macedonia, are committed to maintaining democratic societies, market-based economies, respect for the rule of law, and the protection of the civil and human rights of their citizens, to full membership in the European Union, as the admission of such nations, including the Republic of Macedonia, will promote further peace and stability in Europe, ***THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED, that the MPO urges the member states of the European Union to commence entry talks with the Republic of Macedonia and admit the Republic of Macedonia as member of the European Union at the earliest possible time.

COPIES TO: President of the Council of the European Union, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union, President of the Commission of the European Communities, European Union Special Representative and Head of the European Commission Delegation to the Republic of Macedonia, Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to the United States of America, Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to Canada