

RESOLUTION

The General Council of the International Association of Judges, meeting at Dakar, Senegal on 11 November 2010

- (1) Takes due note of the serious economic problems facing many countries in the world; and
- (2) Notes the terms of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1985 in particular the terms of the Paragraph 11 that adequate remuneration, conditions of service, pensions and the age of retirement shall be adequately secured by law; states ensure the status and remuneration of judges are commensurate with the dignity of their profession and the burden of their responsibilities; and
- (3) Notes also the terms of the Universal Charter of the Judge, adopted by the Central Council of the International Association of Judges in November 1999 Article 13, which stipulates that Judges must receive sufficient remuneration to secure true economic independence. The remuneration must not depend on the results of the judges' work and must not be reduced during his or her office. The judge has the right to retirement with an annuity or pension in accordance with his or her professional category.
- (4) Notes with concern that the governments of various states either have taken, or are considering, steps which will (or might) reduce the remuneration of their judiciaries (including their pension rights) in a manner which may be inconsistent with the above internationally accepted principles concerning the independence of judges within democracies governed by the Rule of Law:

THEREFORE URGES all such governments to ensure that no steps are taken which will or might imperil the above stated principles which are fundamental to the maintenance of democracy and the Rule of Law.

