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RESOLUTION OF IAB 43 RD. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARGENTINA

WHEREAS:

Four years ago a Law on Audiovisual Communication Services was enacted in Argentina, and some articles of that law are under constitutional analysis by the Supreme Court, given the involvement of the rights to freedom of expression, equality, ownership and non-retroactivity of the law , among others.

CONSIDERING:

That this law contradicts the American Convention on Human Rights and is framed in the tendency of some governments in Latin America that seek to remain in power through the use of various instruments, among which the control of private and independent mass media.

That the Argentinean government has used the mechanisms of this law to exercise undue pressure on independent media that are not related to it.

That the decision of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation with regard to the origin or not of the claim for unconstitutionality posed, it will have a strong impact on the sustainability of private and independent media and the ability of citizens to be freely informed to exercise their civil rights.

THE 43rd. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTING - IAB - MEETING IN RIO DE JANEIRO , BRAZIL , RESOLVES :

1. To reiterate that certain articles of the Media Law, constitutionally questionable, violate Freedom of Expression and other fundamental rights protected by the American Convention on Human Rights.
2. To reject the pressures that in a public and notorious way the Government has been exerting on the Supreme Court of Justice, which threaten their autonomy and independence.
3. To emphasize the legal doctrine and tradition that has distinguished the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina internationally, in defense of Freedom of Expression and Human Rights which is particularly relevant in a decision that will constitute a historical precedent in the region.

Rio de Janeiro, October 16, 2013