

Backgrounder

DECLARATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE RIO GROUP AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ON HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

The Governments of the Argentine Republic, the Republic of Bolivia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Chile, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Ecuador, the United Mexican States, the Republic of Panama, the Republic of Paraguay, the Republic of Peru, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, the Republic of Venezuela, the Republic of Nicaragua representing the countries of Central America, and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago representing the countries of the Caribbean, the said member countries of the Rio Group (hereinafter referred to as "the member countries of the Rio Group") and the Government of Canada (hereinafter referred to as "Canada"):

Inspired by the friendship between the member countries of the Rio Group and Canada as well as by their desire to develop and broaden cooperation generally;

Recognizing that closer cooperation is of mutual benefit to both the member countries of the Rio Group and to Canada;

Desiring to complement the bilateral relations between the individual member countries of the Rio Group and Canada;

Conscious of the need for a permanent exchange of information through recognized and regular bilateral contacts between the member countries of the Rio Group and Canada;

Reaffirming their intention to develop a dialogue regarding bilateral matters and other regional and international themes of mutual interest that reflect the vigour of the relations between the member countries of the Rio Group and Canada;

Confirming the usefulness of direct and informal consultations between the Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Rio Group and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, and the usefulness of such consultations that take place on the margins of various international fora and organizations, particularly, the United Nations and the Organization of American States;