

4] The Canadian government should increase funding to CIDA for expanded projects related to investment in democracy and the advancement of human rights in Latin America.

### Topic #2: Education

Delegates reviewed quickly the documentation circulated at the beginning of the workshop on Education including the "Summit of the Americas: Process Review," the "Working Agenda," and the "Education Action Plan: Universal Access to Quality Basic Education." Ms. Margaret Ford of CIDA opened the discussion expressing considerable enthusiasm for the process which has been embraced and driven by Latin American governments. Vitally important issues such as universal access, quality of education, and education of indigenous and marginalized groups are on the table and being considered actively. Universal literacy and open access to good quality basic education are viewed as essential components to improvements in many different areas. By 2010, the goal is to have in place a guarantee of universal access to primary education available to 100% of the population and a secondary enrollment rate of 75%. Speakers agreed with the documentation provided that special attention should be given to the education of marginalized members of society, indigenous peoples, women, and girls.

Having expressed support for education that some speakers identified as little more than reiteration of "motherhood issues," the discussion turned to questions related to implementation. How will universal educational standards be guaranteed? Speaking about Brazil, Ms. Joelle Gray, an accountant and Graduate Student from the University of Calgary noted the lack of infrastructure, scarcity of resources, and need for enormous numbers of