

pointed out the enormous potential consumer population of Latin America and argued that the potential for growth in Canadian trade south of Mexico is outstanding. Mr. Stedman of Nova Gas International viewed free trade and economic integration as key elements in solidifying peace, controlling the military, and in preventing the possibility of future conflicts. He pointed out a number of Latin American and world examples of how economic integration produced a decline of international tensions. The growth of Mercosur with Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay participating illustrates this point since all of these nations traditionally have guarded their prerogatives and rights.

On the other side, speakers representing labour such as Mr. Dave Morris of the Canadian Labour Congress and some NGO representatives expressed concerns about the flight of jobs from Canada to Mexico, the increase of part-time work without benefits, and environmental degradation caused by insufficiently regulated mining and manufacturing. While Morris pointed out that labour was not opposed to international trade, in his view the record of NAFTA illustrated significant damage to Canadian workers. He expressed a degree of cynicism about conferences like this one that talked a great deal but usually achieved very little. To protect labour, a Charter of Labour and Workers' Rights is needed for the Americas. Mr. Antipan reminded the workshop of the wonderful statements diffused by international observers about Chilean and Mexican economic reforms. Despite a record GDP and burgeoning foreign investments, Chile suffers more than ever from skewed income distribution. Mexico, a large consumer of corn is no longer self-sufficient in this vital staple food product and the historic ejidos (cooperatives) either have been either damaged or are being sold off. Other speakers argued that Canada needs a different agenda in which private sector business interests