

powers, the process of economic liberalization can be weakened; 2] while Latin American civil society is vibrant and dynamic, governments must be made to respond to popular initiatives; 3] the focus of democratic reforms is often upon the individual as in North America while the continuing perception of rights in places such as rural Guatemala is upon communal and corporate concerns; 4] despite involvement in political processes, popular questions seldom produce responses from the central government; and 5] proposals about democracy and human rights must take into consideration that despite the existence of a complex legal framework, the judicial system in some countries simply does not function.

This concluded the bulk of the morning of deliberations on Democracy and Human Rights. Certain issues such as that of Cuba, the ongoing crisis in Haiti, corruption in Mexico, and questions related to democracy in Peru emerged in discussions and during the coffee and lunch break, but time expired before they could be aired in the plenary session.

Recommendations Proposed for Strengthening Democracy and Human Rights:

- 1] The Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action from the Miami Summit are consistent with Canadian views of government and society and should continue to be supported.**
- 2] Canada should recognize the complex diversity of Latin America by developing special expertise in a broad spectrum of fields.**
- 3] Exchanges should be promoted and scholarships made available for Latin Americans to study in Canada and for Canadians to study in Latin America.**