

*revitalise the Institute.* Minister Axworthy signalled his interest to pursue this issue. The Institute could be a useful tool for Indigenous Peoples inclusion and participation, however, it requires a radical reform. Without it, the institution should be scrapped all together.

Indigenous Peoples are engaged. Recently the AFN co-hosted a roundtable in Winnipeg with the CCFPD which included Indigenous Peoples leaders and representatives from the Hemisphere, government officials, business, and academics (March 22-23, 2000). Paul Chartrand prepared a discussion paper on Corporate Social Responsibility. There will likely not be a large Indigenous Peoples presence at Windsor due to lack of resources. The AFN will be present as well as other Indigenous groups from Canada. *Plans are underway to stage a large Indigenous Leaders of the Hemisphere Conference later this year aimed at producing a consensual statement for the Quebec City Summit.* Canadian initiatives on Indigenous Peoples issues are ahead of Latin America and the United States, in many instances, concluded Allan Torbitt. There is an expectation that Canada will continue leading in this area.

Some participants raised the challenge of shifting the focus of OAS member states from national sovereignty to Human Security issues. George Haynal said that while acceptance of the concept varies, Canada will continue to promote it. A step forward was the unprecedented cooperation of some of the OAS member states in trying to prevent illegal drug trafficking. They agreed to develop a mechanism that requires polling of national sovereignty. Such a development was highly unlikely even five years ago. An new understanding of sovereignty, based on the security of citizens and legitimate governance is developing. Moreover, there are extensive trans-boundary civil society networks, including labour unions, specific issue groups (i.e., bio-technology, Social Corporate Responsibility, etc.), NGOs, and others. The internet and other new telecommunications technologies also contribute to the erosion of the traditional concept of state sovereignty and the emergence of diverse e-communities.

Others pointed out that the years of oppression in Latin America may have seriously undermined the capacity of civil society to organise for years to come. Strengthening democracy in the region will take more than building institutions and improving governance. The relative weakness of Southern NGOs requires commitment on the part of the Northern governments and Northern NGOs to build capacity of the Latin American peoples to participate. Interests of those located in the poor South may not necessarily correspond with rich Northern NGOs, posing challenges for a united civil society forum. Michael Jay, CIDA, told the participants that CIDA is trying to build capacity of Southern NGOs, encourages networking, and includes small Caribbean countries.

Laura MacDonald, Carleton University, drew attention to the tension within the Human Security framework between individual and collective rights. She asked how are the individual aspects of Human Security reconciled with communitarian notions and pointed out that an excessive reliance on the former may facilitate special interests and free markets at the expense of community development. Steve Lee, Chair, pointed to the many collective aspects of Human