

Negotiation and ratification processes

- There must be a gradual negotiation process, allowing each country to adopt transitional policies. Progressive negotiations will allow better identification of opportunities and threats faced by different economic sectors;
- There must be democratic means of ratifying an agreement such as FTAA in each country of the Americas.
- A national referendum should be held on any new free trade agreement, thus facilitating open debate, enhancing the democratic process and serving as a means of educating Canadians about any new accord (as happened in Europe after the *Traité de Maastricht* was signed).

Capital controls

- People must be protected from the vulnerability and instability caused by speculative capital. Measures must be taken to strengthen domestic regulations and review, particularly, short-term investments. Measures affecting banking, tax systems and the regulation of profit must be considered.

Sovereignty issues

- Investor-state dispute mechanisms, staffed by appointed trade officials, should not be empowered to make decisions affecting health care and the environment or deal with questions of expropriation. Nations should remain able to pursue their environmental concerns and social programs without being constrained by mechanisms included in a free trade agreement.
- The ability to derogate should be included in any free trade agreement, thus enabling elected, rather than appointed officials, to deal with social issues, expropriation and the environment.

Code of ethics

- In order to combat charges that some processes take place in secrecy, the Canadian government should establish a code or charter of ethics for businesses investing in Latin America. And, codes of conduct should be included in any free trade agreement.

Others

- The debt situation must be resolved in order to have negotiations among equals.