

and to avoid any tendency to seek the intervention of senior government influence. the Chilean judiciary functioned very well to produce satisfactory settlements and accommodations. Not only were Chilean democratic institutions strengthened by the process, but the population of Santiago can look forward to the amelioration of a dangerous environmental hazard that threatened public health. In addition to the benefits for all parties illustrated by Nova's experience, Stedman stressed that economic liberalization and foreign investment in Latin America have opened many opportunities for competition and participation. Local elites that otherwise may have sought to preserve non-competitive and privileged systems now have to permit broader participation and in general to accept change. Delegates from the business sector stressed that Canadian business investors in Latin America are ardent supporters of democratic reform and the advancement of human rights.

This discussion provoked a number of interventions by Ms. Kathryn Olson of Earthkeeping and other delegates who wondered whether the fundamental objectives of business investors met the needs of civil society. It was argued that Consultation workshops such as this one need to formulate specific objectives and goals. Ana Maria Peredo, an Anthropologist and Ph.D. student in Management from the University of Calgary stated that one problem is that foreign policy and investment objectives are defined in the short term rather than the long term. Those concerned primarily with issues such as economic growth in Latin America should also consider factors such as the quality of life of local people. Dr. Jim Handy of the University of Saskatchewan, a well known specialist on Guatemala and Central America, identified five areas of concern in the process of strengthening democracy and human rights based upon his extensive field experience. These areas or contradictions are: 1) between strengthening the state and decentralizing