

in the negotiating process are democratic practices. If these negotiations are not seen as democratic within Canada, then how can Canada promote and encourage democratic development elsewhere in the world?

2. **Security of the Individual:** The security of the individual is essential. Individual rights to basic needs such as water, food, housing, health, education and fair labor rules and working conditions should be protected in trade agreements. Respect and dignity for the individual are Canadian values and should be front and center in trade negotiations involving Canada.
3. **Sustainability and Incentives:** Providing incentives to countries as encouragement to follow suit in eradicating poverty was seen as the preferred way. Countries should be stimulated to follow better labor laws and provide fair and healthy conditions for working people. Incentives, not sanctions were seen as methods to protect intellectual property rights and raise and strengthen environmental standards.
4. **Participation and Consultation:** Access to information and participation in discussions during trade negotiations was clearly articulated at the roundtable. Canada has some good models for participation and consultation with civil society. This experience should be shared and followed during the trade negotiations.
5. **Good Governance, Human Rights and Individual Security:** Any rules-based trade agreement must respect human rights, good governance, and security of the individual. The "democracy clause" needs sound wording and proper ways of implementing that are clear and enforceable. This clause, although little is known about it by civil society, should be more about content and not just process.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Dale Albertson, Past Chair of the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC) provided concluding comments during the wrap up of the roundtable. Each sector represented in these discussions echoed themes of transparency, public participation and a need for a broader understanding of democracy. Meeting basic human needs through debt relief, considering the Tobin tax and agreeing to an international minimum wage contextualized to individual countries were seen as essential to poverty alleviation. Intellectual property rights must be protected to promote sustainability.

In a globalized world that is instantly linked, media coverage that questions the current status of trade agreements and informs the public on serious debate has been disappointing. There has been more coverage of preparations for protest at the upcoming Summit of the Americas than the actual content and implications of the FTAA. Canada, through the federal government, has been very enthusiastic about the FTAA. This enthusiasm is not clear to all Canadians. This eagerness is intertwined with an on going and evolving Canada-United States relationship where politics seem to have been subjugated to economics. The FTAA is not necessarily a sure thing. There are countries in Latin America such as Brazil who have reservations about the FTAA and its long-term impact on their region.

Although the FTAA is a flawed process, participants were encouraged to continue dialogue about free trade agreements on a personal level and in their communities. These are complex issues that need more in depth analysis and further work to develop solutions in areas discussed at this roundtable. Civil society needs to do more work on what "a citizen's agenda for trade looks like". The FTAA deadline is 2005. Civil society groups and provincial and municipal governments need to work hard over the next years to ensure the FTAA respects democracy, human rights and security and doesn't just "express good intentions about poverty alleviation."