

The Summit: Achievements of Miami

QUESTION

What did the last Summit accomplish? Aren't these just massive photo-ops, where everything is written months in advance?

SUGGESTED REPLY

- The Miami Summit conceived of a true hemispheric partnership, based on common values such as democracy, economic integration and sustainable development.
- This idea has taken root and rapidly become one of the guiding principles in regional relations.
- Since Miami, all major regional organizations have become increasingly involved in the implementation of Miami Summit mandates (such as the Organization of American States the Inter-American Development Bank, the Pan-American Health Organization and the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean).
- Since Miami, there have been a number of impressive results in a number of areas on the Miami agenda:
 - Approval of a hemispheric drug strategy;
 - Approval of a Plan of Action on Sustainable Development which builds on the commitments of the 1992 Earth Summit;
 - Approval of Inter-American Conventions on Corruption and Illegal Traffic of Firearms, the first of their kind in the world;
 - Human rights ombudsmen have become more prevalent in the region, and initiatives are on the way to build better links between the Inter-American Human Rights system (Commission and Court) and national systems for the protection of human rights.
 - The stage has been set for leaders to launch negotiations for an FTAA while ensuring that civil society will be duly consulted.