

Social Dimensions of Trade

Recommendations 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12

Summit of the Americas-related issues

The Minister for International Trade has stated that our social and economic agendas are connected. The Government of Canada is firmly committed to addressing the social dimensions of trade. The Summit of the Americas process is a major element of the Government's agenda promoting this commitment within the hemisphere.

Regarding Recommendation No. 3, the mandates and missions of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) are subject to ongoing examination by their members, including Canada, through existing mechanisms such as expert seminars, the development of program and project work-plans, and annual meetings of their senior deliberative organs. These organizations are active participants in the Summit of the Americas process and in the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), which oversees progress on Summit commitments including those contained in the Eradicating Poverty and Discrimination basket of the Plan of Action from the Santiago Summit.

In this context, PAHO and the IDB play significant roles in Summit implementation as Responsible Coordinators for the health technologies and micro, small and medium enterprises themes respectively. With the Organization of American States (OAS) Trade Unit, the IDB and ECLAC also provide technical support to the FTAA negotiating process as members of the Tripartite Committee. Having recently assumed the Chair of the SIRG, Canada will continue to work with all Summit partners in maximizing coordination and ensuring effective monitoring and implementation of Summit mandates.

With respect to Recommendation No. 4, it should be noted that the Government seeks in negotiations of all treaties or conventions to ensure that there are no conflicts with Canada's international human rights obligations or with measures to protect or progressively realize rights that are affirmed under international law. Canada strongly

