

seemed inherently about limiting sovereignty and democracy, especially at the provincial level. Such agreements put into question the power of the government over such issues as land claims and the environment and move decision making out of the hands of elected officials and into the hands of appointed administrators serving on trade panels and various committees designed to arbitrate trade disputes. One participant described the particularly "chilling" effect this transfer of power is having and will have on governments' willingness to put forward social legislation. Others conceded that, while integration necessarily implied some diminishment of sovereignty, this was not necessarily entirely negative.

Given this concern with secrecy and lack of input and the emphasis of many of those participating in the meeting as to the need for transparency, accountability, popular participation and legitimacy, both in the consultation process within Canada and in the workings of the summit itself, one recommendation that some favoured placing first was that:

1. Cuba be included in all discussions like the summit and be invited to participate in the Santiago Summit.

Two related recommendations that also followed from the importance placed on openness and increased participation in the process were that:

2. NGOs and civil society be included in the official delegation that Canada sends to the Santiago Summit; and that

3. the provincial governments in Canada participate in the Santiago Summit.