



Actes du Sommet de Québec

Proceedings of the Quebec City Summit

Actas de la Cumbre de Quebec

Procedimentos da Cúpula de Quebec

2001

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Avril 2001

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O Primeiro Ministro Jean Chrétien e os Chefes de Estado, de Governo e de Delegação na Citadelle, Cidade de Quebec, abril 2001.

Declaración
de Québec

Fait à Québec, Canada
le 22 avril 2001

Declaración de la
ciudad de Québec

Hecha en la ciudad de Québec, Canadá
22 de abril de 2001

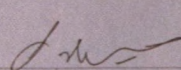
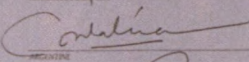
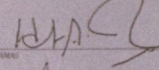

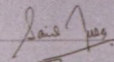

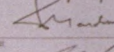
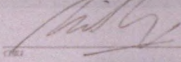
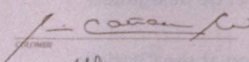
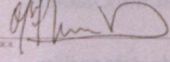

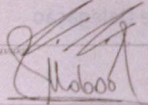
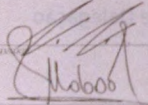


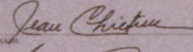
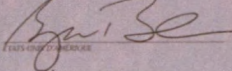
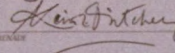
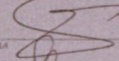
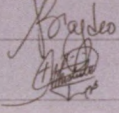
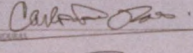
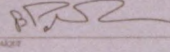
Declaration of
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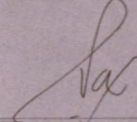

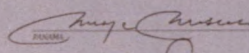
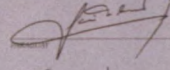
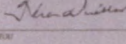
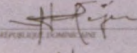

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April 22, 2001

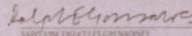
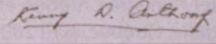
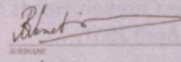
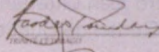
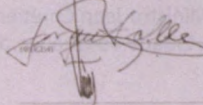
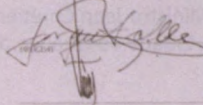
Declaração da
cidade de Québec

Feita na cidade de Québec, Canadá
22 de abril de 2001


CANADA

ARGENTINE

ARABIA SAUDITE

ARABIE SAOUDITE

ARABIE SAOUDITE

ARABIE SAOUDITE

ARABIE SAOUDITE

ARABIE SAOUDITE

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ARABIE SAOUDITE


CANADA

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

GUATEMALA

GUATEMALA

JAMAÏQUE

JAMAÏQUE


MEXIQUE

MEXIQUE

PAYS-BAS

PEROU

PEROU

REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE

SAINT-KITTS ET NEVIS


SAINT-VINCENT ET LES GRENADINES

SAINT-VINCENT ET LES GRENADINES

SLOVAQUIE

TONGA

VENEZUELA

VENEZUELA





Proceedings of the Québec City Summit

April 2001

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ENGLISH

Foreword



The success of the Third Summit of the Americas in Quebec City (April 20-22, 2001) is a source of pride for Canada and all participants in the Summit process.

The Heads of State and Government of the democratic countries of the hemisphere came together to endorse a bold vision for action to build a better future for the citizens of the Americas, a vision based on common values and shared objectives. Through the *Declaration of Quebec City* and its *Plan of Action*, Leaders responded to the

challenge of developing a practical agenda for strengthening democracy, creating greater prosperity and providing all citizens of the hemisphere with an opportunity to realize their full potential. They also adopted a *Declaration on Connectivity*, a framework for the use of information and communications technologies to enhance contacts among people, promote participation in democratic institutions, create new economic opportunities, and deliver government services more effectively. To facilitate the achievement of these goals, partner institutions, including the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), committed themselves to the Summit process and the mandates endorsed in Quebec City with a new vigour. This vigour and interest was also evident among parliamentarians, local government and civil society organizations as they were more engaged in the Summit process than ever before. Institutional support and active participation by these actors will continue to play a significant role in Summit follow-up and implementation.

The *Proceedings of the Quebec City Summit* captures this spirit of common commitment and purpose — the spirit of Quebec City. The *Proceedings* includes the official documents of the Summit, as well as several speeches delivered by Leaders at the opening ceremony, during the first plenary session on the theme of democracy and at the closing ceremony. The *Proceedings* also includes a section on the Third Summit of the Americas Roundtable with Civil Society.

The *Proceedings of the Quebec City Summit* not only demonstrates the already impressive depth and breadth of hemispheric cooperation, but also reflects the real and exciting potential for even greater achievements in the years ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Jean Chrétien". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Official Summit Documents

Declaration of Quebec City

We, the democratically elected Heads of State and Government of the Americas, have met in Quebec City at our Third Summit, to renew our commitment to hemispheric integration and national and collective responsibility for improving the economic well-being and security of our people. We have adopted a *Plan of Action* to strengthen representative democracy, promote good governance and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.* We seek to create greater prosperity and expand economic opportunities while fostering social justice and the realization of human potential.

We reiterate our firm commitment and adherence to the principles and purposes of the Charters of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States (OAS).

Our rich and varied traditions provide unparalleled opportunities for growth and to share experiences and knowledge and to build a hemispheric family on the basis of a more just and democratic international order. We must meet the challenges inherent in the differences in size and levels of social, economic and institutional development in our countries and our region.

We have made progress in implementing the collective undertakings made at Miami in 1994 and continued at Santiago in 1998. We recognize the necessity to continue addressing weaknesses in our development processes and increasing human security. We are aware that there is still much to be achieved if the Summit of the Americas process is to be relevant to the daily lives of our people and contribute to their well-being.

We acknowledge that the values and practices of democracy are fundamental to the advancement of all our objectives. The maintenance and strengthening of the rule of law and strict respect for the democratic system are, at the same time, a goal and a shared commitment and are an essential condition of our presence at this and future summits. Consequently, any unconstitutional alteration or interruption of the democratic order in a state of the Hemisphere constitutes an insurmountable obstacle to the participation of that state's government in the Summit of the Americas process. Having due regard for existing hemispheric, regional and sub-regional mechanisms, we agree to conduct consultations in the event of a disruption of the democratic system of a country that participates in the Summit process.

Threats to democracy today take many forms. To enhance our ability to respond to these threats, we instruct our Foreign Ministers to prepare, in the framework of the next General Assembly of the OAS, an Inter-American Democratic Charter to reinforce OAS instruments for the active defense of representative democracy.*

* Venezuela reserves its position.

Our commitment to full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is based on shared principles and convictions. We support strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the inter-American human rights system, which includes the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. We mandate the XXXI General Assembly of the OAS to consider an adequate increase in resources for the activities of the Commission and the Court in order to improve human rights mechanisms and to promote the observance of the recommendations of the Commission and compliance with the judgments of the Court.

We reaffirm our commitment to maintain peace and security through the effective use of hemispheric means for the peaceful resolution of disputes and the adoption of confidence- and security-building measures. In this regard, we support and commend the efforts of the OAS. We reiterate our full adherence to the principle that commits states to refrain from the threat or use of force, in accordance with international law. In conformity with the principles of international humanitarian law, we strongly condemn attacks on civilian populations. We will take all feasible measures to ensure that the children of our countries do not participate in armed conflict and we condemn the use of children by irregular forces. We reaffirm that the constitutional subordination of armed forces and security forces to the legally constituted civilian authorities of our countries, as well as respect for the rule of law on the part of all national institutions and sectors of society, are fundamental to democracy. We will strive to limit military expenditures while maintaining capabilities commensurate with our legitimate security needs and will promote greater transparency in the acquisition of arms.

We reiterate our commitment to combat new, multi-dimensional threats to the security of our societies. Foremost amongst these threats are the global drug problem and related crimes, the illicit traffic in and criminal use of firearms, the growing danger posed by organized crime and the general problem of violence in our societies. Acknowledging that corruption undermines core democratic values, challenges political stability and economic growth and thus threatens vital interests in our Hemisphere, we pledge to reinvigorate our fight against corruption. We also recognize the need to improve the conditions for human security in the Hemisphere.

We renew our commitment to the full implementation of the *Anti-Drug Strategy* in the Hemisphere, based on the principles of shared responsibility, a comprehensive and balanced approach, and multilateral cooperation. We welcome the development of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism and reiterate our commitment to make this mechanism, unique in the world, one of the central pillars in effective hemispheric cooperation in the struggle against all the factors that constitute the global drug problem. We express our support for effective alternative development programs aimed at the eradication of illicit cultivation and will strive to facilitate market access for products resulting from these programs.

We acknowledge that another major threat to the security of our people is HIV/AIDS. We are united in our resolve to adopt multi-sectoral strategies and to develop our cooperation to combat this disease and its consequences.

We reaffirm the importance of an independent judiciary and our determination to ensure equal access to justice and to guarantee its timely and impartial administration. We commit ourselves to increase transparency throughout government.

Free and open economies, market access, sustained flows of investment, capital formation, financial stability, appropriate public policies, access to technology and human resources development and training are key to reducing poverty and inequalities, raising living standards and promoting sustainable development. We will work with all sectors of civil society and international organizations to ensure that economic activities contribute to the sustainable development of our societies.

We welcome the significant progress achieved to date toward the establishment of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), including the development of a preliminary draft FTAA Agreement. As agreed at the Miami Summit, free trade, without subsidies or unfair practices, along with an increasing stream of productive investments and greater economic integration, will promote regional prosperity, thus enabling the raising of the standard of living, the improvement of working conditions of people in the Americas and better protection of the environment. The decision to make public the preliminary draft of the FTAA Agreement is a clear demonstration of our collective commitment to transparency and to increasing and sustained communication with civil society.

We direct our Ministers to ensure that negotiations of the FTAA Agreement are concluded no later than January 2005 and to seek its entry into force as soon as possible thereafter, but in any case, no later than December 2005.* This will be a key element for generating the economic growth and prosperity in the Hemisphere that will contribute to the achievement of the broad Summit objectives. The Agreement should be balanced, comprehensive and consistent with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules and disciplines and should constitute a single undertaking. We attach great importance to the design of an Agreement that takes into account the differences in the size and levels of development of participating economies.

We acknowledge the challenge of environmental management in the Hemisphere. We commit our governments to strengthen environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources with a view to ensuring a balance among economic development, social development and the protection of the environment, as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. Our goal is to achieve sustainable development throughout the Hemisphere.

We will promote compliance with internationally recognized core labour standards as embodied in the International Labour Organization (ILO) *Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work* and its *Follow-up* adopted in 1998. We will consider the ratification of or accession to the fundamental agreements of the ILO, as appropriate. In order to advance our commitment to create greater employment opportunities, improve the skills of workers and improve working conditions throughout the Hemi-

* Venezuela reserves its position.

sphere, we recognize the need to address, in the relevant hemispheric and international fora, issues of globalization related to employment and labour. We instruct the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labour to continue their consideration of issues related to globalization which affect employment and labour.

Recognizing the importance of energy as one of the fundamental bases for economic development, the region's prosperity and improved quality of life, we commit to pursuing renewable energy initiatives, promoting energy integration and enhancing regulatory frameworks and their application, while promoting the principles of sustainable development.

Democracy and economic and social development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing as fundamental conditions to combat poverty and inequality. We will spare no effort to free our fellow citizens from the dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty. We commit to further efforts to reach international development goals, especially the reduction by 50 percent by the year 2015 of the proportion of people living in extreme poverty.

We commit ourselves to promote programs for the improvement of agriculture and rural life and agro-business as an essential contribution to poverty reduction and integral development.

We commit to strengthening hemispheric cooperation and national capacities to develop a more integrated approach to the management of natural disasters. We will continue to implement policies that enhance our ability to prevent, mitigate and respond to the consequences of natural disasters. We agree to study measures to facilitate timely access to financial resources to address emergency needs.

We recognize the cultural and economic contributions made by migrants to receiving societies as well as to their communities of origin. We are committed to ensuring dignified, humane treatment with appropriate legal protections, defense of human rights, and safe and healthy labour conditions for migrants. We will strengthen mechanisms for hemispheric cooperation to address the legitimate needs of migrants and take effective measures against trafficking in human beings.

Progress towards more democratic societies, growing economies and social equity relies on an educated citizenry and a skilled labour force. We have agreed to a series of policies to improve access to quality education through teacher training, education in civic values and the use of information technologies both in our classrooms and in measuring progress toward achieving these goals. Improved education policies and increased investment in our education systems will help reduce income disparities and close the digital divide in our Hemisphere.

Our collective hemispheric efforts will be more effective through innovative uses of information and communications technologies to connect our governments and our people and to share knowledge and ideas. Our statement, *Connecting the Americas*, underscores this conviction.

We emphasize that good health and equal access to medical attention, health services and affordable medicine are critical to human development and the achievement of our political, economic and social objectives.

We reaffirm our commitment to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, including those who are vulnerable, marginalized, disabled or require special protection. We are committed to the eradication of all forms of discrimination, including racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related intolerance in our societies, as well as to the promotion of gender equality, and to achieving the full participation of all persons in the political, economic, social and cultural life of our countries.

We will work to ensure that the input from the Indigenous Conclave of the Americas, held in Guatemala, and the Indigenous Peoples Summit of the Americas, held in Ottawa, is reflected in the implementation of the *Summit of the Americas Declaration and Plan of Action*. We support efforts towards early and successful conclusion of negotiations on the *Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which will promote and protect their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

We consider the cultural diversity that characterizes our region to be a source of great richness for our societies. Respect for and value of our diversity must be a cohesive factor that strengthens the social fabric and the development of our nations.

The principal responsibility for the coordination and implementation of the attached *Plan of Action* resides with our governments. Ministerial meetings are producing significant results in support of Summit mandates. We will continue to develop this cooperation.

We value the active support of the Organization of American States and its specialized organs, particularly the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture and the Inter-American Children's Institute, as well as the Inter-American Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the World Bank. We call upon these institutions and other regional and international organizations to establish greater coordination for support to the implementation and follow-up to the *Plan of Action* of this Summit.

The OAS has a central role in the implementation of the decisions of the Summits of the Americas. We instruct our Foreign Ministers, at the next General Assembly, to advance and deepen the process of reform in the OAS, supported by appropriate resources, to improve its functioning and to enable the Organization to better implement our Summit mandates.

We welcome and value the contributions of civil society, including business and labour organizations, to our *Plan of Action*. We affirm that openness and transparency are vital to building public awareness and legitimacy for our undertakings. We call upon all citizens of the Americas to contribute to the Summit process.

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas, have accepted the offer of the Government of the Republic of Argentina to host the Fourth Summit of the Americas. The Summits of the Americas exist to serve people. We must develop effec-

tive, practical and compassionate solutions for the problems that confront our societies. We do not fear globalization, nor are we blinded by its allure. We are united in our determination to leave to future generations a Hemisphere that is democratic and prosperous, more just and generous, a Hemisphere where no one is left behind. We are committed to making this the century of the Americas.



Plan of Action

To strengthen democracy, create prosperity and realize human potential, our Governments will:

I. Making Democracy Work Better

Electoral Processes and Procedures

Recognizing the relationship among democracy, sustainable development, the separation of powers, as well as effective and efficient government institutions, and noting that the transparency and accountability of electoral systems and the independence of bodies responsible for the conduct and verification of free, fair and regular elections are essential elements in ensuring support for and involvement in national democratic institutions:

Share best practices and technologies with respect to increasing citizen participation in electoral processes, including voter education, the modernization and simplification of voter registration and the voting and counting process, while taking into account the need to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process and promoting the full participation and integration of all persons eligible to exercise the right to vote, without discrimination;

Continue to enhance electoral mechanisms, using information and communications technologies where possible, to effectively guarantee the impartiality, promptness and independent action of agencies, tribunals or other bodies responsible for the conduct, supervision and verification of elections at national and sub-national levels, and strengthen and facilitate, with the support of the Organization of American States (OAS) and other regional and international organizations, hemispheric cooperation and exchange of legislative and technological experiences in these areas, and the deployment of election observers when so requested;

Convene under the auspices of the OAS, and with the collaboration of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), meetings of experts to examine in more depth issues such as: political party registration, access of political parties to funding and to the media, campaign financing, oversight and dissemination of election results and relations of political parties with other sectors of society;

Transparency and Good Governance

Recognizing that good governance requires effective, representative, transparent and accountable government institutions at all levels, public participation, effective checks and balances, and the separation of powers, as well as noting the role of information and communications technologies in achieving these aims:

Promote cooperation among national agencies in the Hemisphere charged with the development and maintenance of procedures and practices for the

preparation, presentation, auditing and oversight of public accounts, with technical assistance where appropriate from multilateral organizations and multilateral development banks (MDBs), and support exchanges of information on oversight activities related to the collection, allocation and expenditure of public funds;

Encourage cooperation and exchange of experiences and parliamentary best practices between national legislators of the Hemisphere, while respecting the separation and balance of powers, through bilateral, subregional and hemispheric vehicles such as the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA);

Work jointly to facilitate cooperation among national institutions with the responsibility to guarantee the protection, promotion and respect of human rights, and access to and freedom of information, with the aim of developing best practices to improve the administration of information held by governments on individuals and facilitating citizen access to that information;

Create and implement programs with the technical and financial support, where appropriate, of multilateral organizations and MDBs, to facilitate public participation and transparency, using information and communications technologies where applicable, in decision-making processes and in the delivery of government services, and to publish information within time-limits established by national legislation at all levels of government;

Media and Communications

Noting that access to existing and emerging information and communications technologies has an increasingly significant impact on the lives of individuals and offers important opportunities for democratic development, and that the media has an important role to play in promoting a democratic culture:

Ensure the media is free from arbitrary interventions by the state and, specifically, work to remove legal or regulatory impediments to media access by registered political parties including by facilitating, where possible, equitable access during election campaigns to television and radio;

Encourage cooperation among public and private broadcasters, including cable operators, and independent broadcast regulatory bodies and governmental organizations, in order to facilitate the exchange of best industry practices and technologies at the hemispheric level, to guarantee free, open and independent media;

Encourage media self-regulation efforts, including norms of ethical conduct, to address the concerns of civil society with regard to, *inter alia*, reducing the dissemination of extreme violence and negative stereotypes of women and ethnic, social and other groups, contributing in this way to the promotion of changes in attitudes and cultural patterns through the projection of pluralistic, balanced and non-discriminatory images;

Fight against Corruption

Recognizing that corruption gravely affects democratic political institutions and the private sector, weakens economic growth and jeopardizes the basic needs and interests of a country's most underprivileged groups, and that the prevention and control of these problems are the responsibility of government as well as legislative and judicial institutions:

Consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the *Inter-American Convention Against Corruption*, in accordance with their respective legal frameworks, and promote effective implementation of the Convention by means of, *inter alia*, the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight Against Corruption and associated technical cooperation programs and activities, including those of relevant multilateral organizations and MDBs, in the area of good governance and in the fight against corruption, as well as programs which each country designs and implements in accordance with national laws, by its own appropriate bodies that may require assistance;

Support the establishment as soon as possible, taking into consideration the recommendation of the OAS, of a follow-up mechanism for the implementation of the *Inter-American Convention Against Corruption* by States Parties to this instrument;

Support strengthening the Inter-American Network of Institutions and Experts in the Fight Against Corruption in the context of the OAS, as well as initiatives aimed at strengthening cooperation among ethics officials and members of civil society;

Strengthen, in cooperation with multilateral organizations and MDBs, where appropriate, the participation of civil society in the fight against corruption, by means of initiatives that promote the organization, training and linkage of citizens groups in the context of concrete projects which promote transparency and accountability in governance;

Continue to promote policies, processes and mechanisms that protect the public interest, the use of disclosure of assets mechanisms for public officials in order to avoid possible conflicts of interest and incompatibilities, as well as other measures that increase transparency;

Empowering Local Governments

Recognizing that citizen participation and appropriate political representation are the foundation of democracy, and that local governments are closest to the daily lives of citizens:

Promote mechanisms to facilitate citizen participation in politics, especially in local or municipal government;

Promote the development, autonomy and institutional strengthening of local government in order to promote favorable conditions for the sustainable economic and social development of their communities;

Strengthen the institutional capacity of local governments to allow full and equal citizen participation in public policies without any discrimination, facilitate access to those services fundamental to improving citizens' quality of life, and strengthen decentralization and the integral development of these services in part through commensurate and timely funding and initiatives that permit local governments to generate and administer their own resources;

Promote sharing of information, best practices and administrative expertise among local government personnel, associations of local governments, community associations and the public, in part by facilitating access to information and communications technologies by municipalities and by encouraging cooperation and coordination among national, subregional and regional organizations of mayors and local government;

Stimulate international cooperation in training directors and managers of local government;

Support convening a meeting in Bolivia of ministers or authorities at the highest level responsible for policies on decentralization, local government and citizen participation in municipal government, and consider closely the recommendations of the Sixth Inter-American Conference of Mayors and other relevant processes;

Support the OAS Program of Cooperation and Decentralization in Local Government, including, with the support of the IDB, the development of programs and the effective inclusion of citizens in decision-making processes;

2. Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

Recognizing that the universal protection and promotion of human rights, including civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, as well as respect for the norms and principles of international humanitarian law based on the principles of universality, indivisibility and interdependence are fundamental to the functioning of democratic society, stressing the importance of respect for the rule of law, effective and equal access to justice and participation by all elements of society in public decision-making processes:

Implementation of International Obligations and Respect for International Standards

Consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, all universal and hemispheric human rights instruments, take concrete measures at the national level to promote and strengthen respect

for human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, including women, children, the elderly, indigenous peoples, migrants, returning citizens, persons with disabilities, and those belonging to other vulnerable or discriminated groups, and note that the use of the term “peoples” in this document cannot be construed as having any implications as to the rights that attach to the term under international law and that the rights associated with the term “indigenous peoples” have a context-specific meaning that is appropriately determined in the multilateral negotiations of the texts of declarations that specifically deal with such rights;

Reaffirm their determination to combat and eliminate impunity at all levels within their societies by strengthening judicial systems and national human rights institutions;

Combat, in accordance with international law, genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes wherever they might occur, and in particular, call upon all states to consider ratifying or acceding to, as the case may be, the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*;

Recognize the importance of the Regional Preparatory Conference of the Americas against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Forms of Intolerance held in Santiago, Chile, in December 2000, and undertake to participate actively in the World Conference to be held in South Africa in 2001, promoting its objectives and stressing that political platforms based on racism, xenophobia or doctrines of racial superiority must be condemned as incompatible with democracy and transparent and accountable governance;

Support efforts in the OAS to consider the need to develop an inter-American convention against racism and related forms of discrimination and intolerance;

Strengthening Human Rights Systems

Continue promoting concrete measures to strengthen and improve the inter-American human rights system, in particular the functioning of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), focusing on: the universalization of the inter-American human rights system, increasing adherence to its founding instruments, complying with the decisions of the Inter-American Court and following up on the recommendations of the Commission, facilitating the access of persons to this protection mechanism and substantially increasing resources to maintain ongoing operations, including the encouragement of voluntary contributions, examining the possibility that the Court and the IACHR will function permanently, and entrust the XXXI General Assembly of the OAS, which will take place in San José, Costa Rica, in June of this year, to initiate actions to meet the above-mentioned goals;

Strengthen the capacity of governmental institutions mandated with the promotion and protection of human rights, such as national human rights institutions, thereby recognizing the important function they perform, and contribute to the successful establishment of a network of all such institutions of the Hemisphere, using information and communications technologies to promote and give effect to sustainable cooperation and better coordination;

Create and strengthen national human rights action plans, in accordance with the mandate of the 1993 *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*, and foster independent national human rights institutions by seeking, where appropriate, technical and financial support from multilateral organizations, MDBs and specialized multilateral agencies;

Seek to promote and give effect to the *Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms* [also referred to as the United Nations (UN) Declaration on Human Rights Defenders];

Advance negotiations within the OAS on the *Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* with a view toward its earliest possible conclusion and adoption;

Migration

Reaffirming the commitments made in 1998 at the Santiago Summit concerning the protection of the human rights of migrants, including migrant workers and their families:

Strengthen cooperation among states to address, with a comprehensive, objective and long-term focus, the manifestations, origins and effects of migration in the region;

Promote recognition of the value of close cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination in order to ensure protection of the human rights of migrants;

Establish an inter-American program within the OAS for the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants, including migrant workers and their families, taking into account the activities of the IACHR and supporting the work of the IACHR Special Rapporteur on Migrant Workers and the UN Special Rapporteur on Migration;

Commit to undertake the widest possible cooperation and exchange of information among states concerning illegal trafficking networks, including developing preventative campaigns on the dangers and risks faced by migrants, particularly women and children who often can be victims of such trafficking, with a view to eradicating this crime;

Establish linkages with subregional processes, such as the Regional Conference on Migration and the South American Conference on Migration, which

are dialogue fora, in order to exchange information on the migration phenomenon, as well as promote cooperation with specialized international organizations, such as the International Organization of Migration (IOM), in order to advance and coordinate implementation efforts of Summit mandates;

Human Rights of Women

Continue to implement the recommendations contained in the 1998 Report of the Special Rapporteur of the IACHR on the Status of Women in the Americas and ensure the evaluation of and, where appropriate, the establishment of national mechanisms for follow-up;

Integrate fully the human rights of women into the work of hemispheric institutions, including the Inter-American Court on Human Rights and the IACHR, and increase the nomination of women as candidates for positions in these bodies;

Request the OAS, through its specialized organs and particularly the Inter-American Commission on Women (CIM), to facilitate the integration of a gender perspective in the work of all its bodies, agencies and entities through the development of training programs and the dissemination of information on the human rights of women, as well as support governments in the systematic compilation and dissemination of sex disaggregated data;

Develop, review and implement laws, procedures, codes and regulations to guarantee compatibility with international legal obligations and to prohibit and eliminate all forms of discrimination based on gender, and continue work begun at the Santiago Summit that set the goal of legal equality between men and women by the year 2002;

Develop additional policies and practices to combat violence against women, including domestic violence, in accordance with the definition established in the *Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women* (The Convention of Belém do Pará);

Consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the *UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, and its Optional Protocol;

Human Rights of Children and Adolescents

Consider, signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the two Optional Protocols to the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, specifically on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, and the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; seek to integrate fully their obligations pursuant to the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, and other international human rights instruments into national legislation, policy and practice;

Integrate fully the human rights of children and adolescents into the work of hemispheric institutions, including the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the IACHR and the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI);

Freedom of Opinion and Expression

Continue to support the work of the inter-American human rights system in the area of freedom of expression through the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the IACHR, as well as proceed with the dissemination of comparative jurisprudence, and seek to ensure that national legislation on freedom of expression is consistent with international legal obligations;

Ensure that national legislation relating to freedom of expression is applied equitably to all, respecting freedom of expression and access to information of all citizens, and that journalists and opinion leaders are free to investigate and publish without fear of reprisals, harassment or retaliatory actions, including the misuse of anti-defamation laws;

3. Justice, Rule of Law and Security of the Individual

Recognizing that equal access to independent, impartial and timely justice is a cornerstone of democracy and economic and social development, welcoming more frequent meetings, consultations and collaboration among our justice ministers, supreme court justices, attorneys general, ombudsman officials, law enforcement officials and others, and noting with satisfaction the increased interest in collaborating and sharing experiences to develop and implement judicial and law enforcement reforms:

Access to Justice

Support public and private initiatives and programs to educate people about their rights relating to access to justice, and promote measures that ensure prompt, equal and universal access to justice;

Promote cooperation to exchange experiences in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to expedite the administration of justice, including among indigenous peoples, for which they may request the support as appropriate of the OAS, the IDB and other entities;

Independence of the Judiciary

Encourage measures to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, including transparent judicial selection, secure tenure on the bench, appropriate standards of conduct and systems of accountability;

Hemispheric Meetings of Ministers of Justice

Continue to support the work done in the context of the Meetings of Ministers of Justice and Attorneys General of the Americas, whose Fourth Meeting

will take place in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as subsequent meetings, and the implementation of their conclusions and recommendations;

Develop a funding plan for the Justice Studies Center for the Americas that takes into account the interests and resources of both governments and other likely donors, and that will enable the Center to contribute not only to the modernization and formulation of public policy in this area, but also to the institutional development of judicial systems in the region;

Develop an exchange of best practices and recommendations, through the Meetings of Ministers of Justice and other appropriate mechanisms, seeking the technical and financial support of other multilateral organizations and MDBs where appropriate, that are consistent with international human rights standards, to reduce the number of pre-trial detainees, institute alternative forms of sentencing for minor crimes and improve prison conditions throughout the Hemisphere;

Establish, in the OAS, an Internet-based network of information among competent legal authorities on extradition and mutual legal assistance to facilitate direct communications among them on a regular basis and to identify common problems in handling specific cases and issues that merit collective attention and resolution;

Combatting the Drug Problem

Recognizing the extreme nature of the drug problem in the region, renewing their unwavering commitment to fight it in all its manifestations from an integral perspective, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, through the coordination of national efforts and in a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect as established in the *Hemispheric Anti-Drug Strategy*, and also recognizing the work accomplished by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and the Governmental Experts Group appointed to undertake the first round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM):

Note with satisfaction the creation and implementation of the MEM, and reiterate their commitment to make this instrument, unique in the world, a central pillar of assistance toward effective hemispheric cooperation in the struggle against all the component elements of the global drug problem;

Implement the proposals and recommendations found in the national and hemispheric reports, approved by CICAD, in accordance with the specific situation of each country;

Continue strengthening and reviewing the MEM to monitor national and hemispheric efforts against drugs, and recommend concrete actions to encourage inter-American cooperation and national strategies to combat this scourge;

Recommend:

- ▶ Intensifying joint IDB-CICAD efforts in order to obtain financial resources from the international donor community, through consultative groups supporting anti-drug efforts, for alternative development, as well as demand reduction programs;
- ▶ Establishing units with financial intelligence functions in countries that have not yet done so, with the support of CICAD and international agencies specialized in this area, and for which, in this context, it is recommended that CICAD and IDB training efforts be expanded;
- ▶ Developing, within the framework of CICAD, a long-term strategy that includes a three-year program to establish a basic and homogeneous mechanism to estimate the social, human and economic costs of the drug problem in the Americas, and to support countries through the necessary technical assistance;

Promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation and information exchange on policies and actions concerning drug prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and supply control, and develop educational campaigns to promote public awareness of the risk of drug consumption;

Support measures to impede organized crime, money-laundering, the diversion of chemical precursors, the financing of armed groups, and other illicit activities resulting from drug and arms trafficking;

Promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation in order to consider in an integral manner the displacement phenomenon of different factors related to the drug problem, including the displacement of persons and illicit crops;

Transnational Organized Crime

Encourage all countries in the Hemisphere to consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the *UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime*, its *Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air* and its *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, as well as the *Protocol Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition*, once that protocol is open for signature;

Implement collective strategies, including those that emerge from the Meetings of Ministers of Justice of the Americas, to enhance the institutional ability of states to exchange information and evidence by concluding international agreements on mutual legal assistance where necessary, develop and circulate national reports, and strengthen cooperation, seeking the technical and financial support of multilateral organizations and MDBs where appropriate, in order to jointly combat emerging forms of transnational criminal

activity, including trafficking in persons and the laundering of the proceeds and assets of crime and cyber-crime;

Review national laws and policies to improve cooperation in areas such as mutual legal assistance, extradition and deportation to countries of origin, acknowledging the serious concerns of countries that deport certain foreign nationals for committing crimes in those countries and the serious concerns of the receiving countries about the negative effect of these deportations on the incidence of criminality in the countries of origin, and express the desire to work together, as appropriate, to address the negative effects on our societies.

Promote, where necessary, and in accordance with national legislation, the adoption of investigation techniques, contained in the *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime*, which are very important tools in the fight against organized crime;

Prevention of Violence

Recognizing that violence and crime are serious obstacles to social harmony and the democratic and socio-economic development of the Hemisphere, and as well noting the urgent need for an integral approach toward the prevention of violence:

Encourage national institutions to work together and coordinate with all appropriate multilateral organizations and MDBs in order to implement integrated programs that include initiatives for conflict resolution, where appropriate, for sustained prevention, permanent attention, public education and treatment relevant to cases of violence against persons, families and communities, strengthening national institutional capacities in these areas;

Consider developing cooperation with the media and entertainment industry with a view to avoiding the promotion and dissemination of a culture of violence, thus contributing to a culture of peace;

Encourage greater use of community-based policing, to develop increased dialogue and interaction of law enforcement authorities with civil society and local communities;

Promote cooperation to modernize criminal law, using information and communications technologies as appropriate, with a focus on human rights training and prevention of acts of violence, particularly violence perpetrated by law enforcement officials, in order to reduce violence against civilians and foster values necessary in our societies to retain social harmony;

Promote the exchange of national experiences and best practices on the use of police profiling with a view to preventing biased detentions, which tend to affect mostly minorities and the poor;

Expand opportunities to share experiences, techniques and best practices among government and civil society agencies involved in combating psycho-

logical, sexual or physical violence in the domestic setting and on the job, recognizing that such violence is overwhelmingly directed against women and children;

Seek to adopt necessary measures to prevent, impede and punish violence, the segregation and exploitation of women, minors, the elderly, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, and seek to ensure that national legislation addresses acts of violence against them and that these laws are enforced, recognizing that where victims of violence require legal assistance to obtain redress, every effort should be made to guarantee that they receive such assistance;

Request multilateral and other organizations that participate in the Inter-American Coalition for the Prevention of Violence to intensify their support and technical assistance to those countries that so request, in the elaboration of national strategies and actions regarding this topic;

Promote concrete measures to prevent hostile actions against minorities in the Hemisphere, as well as the violent activities of local, regional and international movements that support and foster racist ideologies and terrorist practices to reach their goals;

Increase regional cooperation with a view to preventing the criminal use of firearms and ammunition, and examine additional measures and laws at the national level if required;

Implement, as soon as possible, the *Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials*, and apply the CICAD Model Regulations, as appropriate;

4. Hemispheric Security¹

Recognizing that democracy is essential for peace, development and security in the Hemisphere which, in turn, are the best basis for furthering the welfare of our people, and noting that the constitutional subordination of armed forces and security forces to the legally constituted authorities of our states is fundamental to democracy:

Strengthening Mutual Confidence

Hold the Special Conference on Security in 2004, for which the OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security will conclude the review of all issues related to approaches to international security in the Hemisphere, as defined at the Santiago Summit;

1 Mexico understands that all of Chapter 4 of the *Plan of Action*, including its title "Hemispheric Security" and all of its concepts and provisions, will be addressed in the appropriate OAS fora, in conformity with the mandate of the Second Summit of the Americas, held in Santiago de Chile, in April 1998.

Continue with priority activities on conflict prevention and the peaceful resolution of disputes, respond to shared traditional and non-traditional security and defense concerns and support measures to improve human security;

Support the efforts of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to address their special security concerns, recognizing that for the smallest and most vulnerable states in the Hemisphere, security is multi-dimensional in scope, involves state and non-state actors and includes political, economic, social and natural components, and that the SIDS have concluded that among the threats to their security are illicit drug trafficking, the illegal trade in arms, increasing levels of crime and corruption, environmental vulnerability exacerbated by susceptibility to natural disasters and the transportation of nuclear waste, economic vulnerability particularly in relation to trade, new health threats including the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) pandemic and increased levels of poverty;

Improve the transparency and accountability of defense and security institutions and promote greater understanding and cooperation among government agencies involved in security and defense issues, through such means as increased sharing of defense policy and doctrine papers, information and personnel exchanges, including, where feasible, cooperation and training for participation in UN peace-keeping activities and to respond better to legitimate security and defense needs, by improving transparency of arms acquisitions in order to improve confidence and security in the Hemisphere;

Continue promoting greater degrees of confidence and security in the Hemisphere, *inter alia* through sustained support for measures, such as those set forth in the Santiago and San Salvador *Declarations on Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBMs)*, and for existing mechanisms, agreements and funds, and consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the *Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction*, the *Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions*, and the *Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials*, giving full support to the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all Its Aspects to be held in July 2001, bearing in mind the results of the Regional Preparatory Meeting of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Brasilia in November 2000, and the work of the OAS, which contributed a regional perspective to the discussions;

Strongly support the Third Meeting of State Parties to the *Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction*, to be held in September 2001 in Managua, Nicaragua, and the Review Conference of the 1980 *UN Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to*

Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, to be held in December 2001 in Geneva; as well as the efforts of the OAS to pursue the goal of the conversion of the Western Hemisphere into an anti-personnel- landmine-free zone;

Call for an experts meeting, before the Special Conference on Security, as a follow-up to the regional conferences of Santiago and San Salvador on CSBMs, in order to evaluate implementation and consider next steps to further consolidate mutual confidence;

Promote financial support to the OAS Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established to provide financial resources to assist with defraying the inherent costs of proceedings previously agreed to by the parties concerned for the peaceful resolution of territorial disputes among OAS member states;

Support the work leading up to the Fifth Meeting of Defense Ministers of the Americas to take place in Chile, as well as meetings that will take place subsequently;

Fight Against Terrorism

Support the work initiated by the Inter-American Committee on Terrorism (CICTE) established within the OAS as a result of the *Commitment of Mar del Plata* adopted in 1998, and encourage hemispheric cooperation to prevent, combat and eliminate all forms of terrorism, taking into account the approval of the Statute and Work Plan of CICTE;

Consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, those international agreements related to the fight against terrorism, in accordance with their respective internal legislation;

5. Civil Society

Recognizing the important role of participation by civil society in the consolidation of democracy and that this participation constitutes one of the vital elements for the success of development policies, noting that men and women have the right to participate, with equality and equity, in the decision-making processes affecting their lives and well-being, and considering that the diversity of opinion, experience and technical expertise of civil society constitute a significant and valuable resource for initiatives and responses of government and democratic institutions:

Strengthening Participation in Hemispheric and National Processes

Seek to establish public and private funding instruments aimed at building the capacity of civil society organizations in order to highlight the work and contribution of these organizations and to promote accountability;

Develop strategies at the national level and through the OAS, other multilateral organizations and MDBs to increase the capacity of civil society to participate more fully in the inter-American system, as well as in the political, economic and social development of their communities and countries, fostering representativeness and facilitating the participation of all sectors of society; and increase the institutional capacity of governments to receive, absorb and act on civil society input and advocacy, particularly through the use of information and communications technologies;

Promote participation of all minority groups in forging a stronger civil society;

Develop educational programs, in conjunction with relevant civil society organizations, academic experts and others, as appropriate, to provide democracy and human rights education and to promote the introduction of books and educational materials that reflect the ethnic, cultural and religious diversity of the Americas as part of primary and secondary school curricula;

6. Trade, Investment and Financial Stability

Trade and Investment

Ensure negotiations of the FTAA Agreement are concluded no later than January 2005 and seek its entry into force as soon as possible thereafter but, in any case, no later than December 2005, in conformity with the principles and objectives established in the San Jose Ministerial Declaration, in particular the achievement of a balanced, comprehensive agreement, consistent with WTO rules and disciplines, the results of which will constitute a single undertaking embodying the rights and obligations, as mutually agreed:

Ensure the transparency of the negotiating process, including through publication of the preliminary draft FTAA Agreement in the four official languages as soon as possible and the dissemination of additional information on the progress of negotiations;

Foster through their respective national dialogue mechanisms and through appropriate FTAA mechanisms, a process of increasing and sustained communication with civil society to ensure that it has a clear perception of the development of the FTAA negotiating process; invite civil society to continue to contribute to the FTAA process; and, to this end, develop a list of options that could include dissemination programs in smaller economies, which could be supported by the Tripartite Committee or other sources;

Ensure full participation of all our countries in the FTAA, taking into consideration the differences in the levels of development and size of the economies of the Hemisphere, in order to create opportunities for the full participation of the smaller economies and to increase their level of development;

Supervise and support, with technical assistance, the full implementation of adopted business facilitation measures;

Instruct our representatives in the institutions of the Tripartite Committee to continue securing the allocation of the resources necessary to contribute to the support of the work of the FTAA Administrative Secretariat;

Urge the Tripartite Committee institutions to continue to respond positively to requests for technical support from FTAA entities; and request the institutions, according to their respective internal procedures, to favorably consider requests for technical assistance related to FTAA issues from member countries, in particular from the smaller economies, in order to facilitate their integration into the FTAA process;

Economic and Financial Stability

Welcome and support the work of our Ministers of Finance, who met in Toronto, Canada on April 3-4, 2001, to promote financial and economic stability as well as strong and sustainable growth, as fundamental preconditions for accelerated development and poverty reduction, and to ensure that the benefits of globalization are broadly and equitably distributed to all our people;

Recognize the value of efforts undertaken to advance Hemispheric integration, including improved access to goods, services, capital and technology, to achieve the full range of social and other objectives;

Support the efforts of Finance Ministers to address the challenges associated with globalization, to protect the most vulnerable and prevent crises, and affirm the importance of having the benefits of globalization widely distributed to all regions and social sectors of our countries, recognizing, at the same time, the unique challenges faced by small states;

Affirm that greater attention must be given to increasing economic growth and reducing poverty in a mutually reinforcing way, and that this priority must include social sector policies that effectively achieve poverty reduction and greater investment in people, with improved access to basic education and health services;

Instruct our Finance Ministers to continue to explore ways to ensure that international financial institutions, regional development banks and other international bodies take adequate account of Summit initiatives in their lending policies and technical assistance programs for the Hemisphere;

Corporate Social Responsibility

Recognizing the central role that businesses of all sizes play in the creation of prosperity and the flow and maintenance of trade and investment in the Hemisphere, and, noting that businesses can make an important contribution to sustainable development and increasing access to opportunities, including the reduction of inequalities in the

communities in which they operate, and taking into consideration the increasing expectations of our citizens and civil society organizations that businesses carry out their operations in a manner consistent with their social and environmental responsibilities:

Support the continued analysis and consideration in the OAS of corporate social responsibility, ensuring that civil society, including the private sector, is appropriately and regularly consulted and that this process benefits from the experiences of other international organizations, national agencies and non-governmental actors;

Convene a meeting as early as feasible in 2002 with the support of the OAS, the IDB and other relevant inter-American organizations involving representatives from governments, civil society, including mainly the business community, to deepen dialogue on corporate social responsibility in the Hemisphere, raise awareness of key issues to be determined and discuss ways to promote the development, adoption and implementation by the business community of principles of good conduct that will advance corporate social and environmental responsibility;

7. Infrastructure and Regulatory Environment

Recognizing that the development of physical infrastructure is an important complement to economic integration; that advances in the area of infrastructure will release new driving forces toward a broad and deep integration, setting in motion dynamics that should be encouraged; and that infrastructure projects geared to integration should be complemented by the adoption of regulatory and administrative regimes that facilitate their implementation:

Telecommunications

Recognizing that states have the sovereign right to regulate their own telecommunications sectors and that affordable and universal access to new information and communications technologies is an important means to raise the living standards of our citizens and reduce the divide between rural and urban populations, and between countries; noting the importance of increasing cooperation with the private sector to further modernize and expand our telecommunications sectors; acknowledging and reaffirming our efforts in and dedication to market opening and increasing free, fair and equitable competition in all telecommunications services, while respecting the regulatory framework of each country, in order to attract investment needed to develop infrastructure and to reduce the cost of service; stressing the importance of adopting policies to protect the interests of users and enhance the quality, efficiency, coverage and diversity of services, all based on respect for user privacy; and bearing in mind the social, political, economic, commercial and cultural needs of our populations, in particular those of less developed communities:

Propose measures designed to modernize national laws, as appropriate, based on principles such as: permanence of strong and independent regulatory

bodies; a pro-competitive approach, including the adoption of rules on dominant operators; a flexible regulatory framework consistent with technological convergence, and to develop human and institutional capacity in support of these principles;

Facilitate the upgrading of human resources in the telecommunications sector through ongoing training programs on telecommunications policy, regulation, management and technology, and request the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), in coordination with national agencies, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)'s Centre of Excellence for the Americas, and in partnership with regional and sub-regional organizations and the private sector, to create a focal point for information on human resource development programs to foster exchanges of information on relevant training programs among governments, universities, industry associations and the private sector, in order to assist countries of the Americas in meeting the growing need for trained and competent personnel in the rapidly changing knowledge-based economy;

Take measures striving to implement the *Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for Conformity Assessment* developed by CITEL without prejudice to each participant's sovereign right to regulate its own telecommunications sector, and encourage discussion of adequate standards to ensure interoperability for existing and future telecommunications networks and the timely introduction of technology in new and existing markets, taking into account the regulations and recommendations of the ITU and other appropriate standard-setting bodies;

Support the convening of the ITU World Summit on the Information Society to be held in 2003, which will focus on the use of information and communications technologies for social and economic development;

Recommend that our national bodies work within CITEL to prepare guidelines on Universal Service, based on principles to be developed by CITEL and develop a clear definition of the responsibilities of governments and private entities;

Instruct, as appropriate, our telecommunications authorities and our relevant regulatory bodies, working within our regional and sub-regional agencies and organizations to develop and implement before the next Summit of the Americas a cooperative and collaborative program to support a connectivity agenda for the Hemisphere;

Encourage increased competitiveness and productivity of all sectors through applications such as distance education and tele-health and promote the creation of domestic activities dedicated to the generation of Internet-based industries;

Request ministries or departments responsible for telecommunications and appropriate regulatory bodies to cooperate, within CITELE, in order to clarify and simplify rules governing the provision of satellite services in our countries, and work to complete the development of a Hemispheric Web site including each country's requirements and forms of application for licensing to provide satellite-based telecommunications services;

Promote the modernization and expansion of telecommunications infrastructure in rural and urban areas through timely introduction of new technologies and services, in particular broadband technologies, the adoption of new standards on telecasting, Web casting, and Internet Protocol (IP), paying particular attention to spectrum management, interconnection policies, appropriate pace of development and emergency communications;

Address voluntary funding for the implementation of CITELE's additional mandates set out in this *Plan of Action*;

Transport

Recognizing that environmentally sound, safe, and efficient transportation systems, including multi-modal corridors, are essential to the quality of the daily lives of the people of the Americas as well as to trade in goods and services among our countries; and reaffirming our support for the ongoing efforts of our Ministers responsible for transportation, through the Western Hemisphere Transport Initiative (WHTI), to increase the integration of our transportation systems and practices:

Endorse the areas for cooperation identified at the Ministers' meeting in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in March 2001;

Promote and facilitate increased cooperation, convergence and information-sharing in the transportation-related activities of the five subregions of the Hemisphere and with multilateral organizations, with a view to furthering the development of human and institutional capacity and ensuring the environmental sustainability of transportation systems and infrastructure; to this end, request that the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) continues to provide its valuable support to the WHTI;

Improve human resources development programs by encouraging exchanges of personnel among the countries and institutions of the region, as well as the development of, and participation in, transportation-related training programs and the dissemination of information regarding these programs by way of the WHTI's Web site and by other means;

Emphasize the need to develop proper infrastructure and high safety standards as a principal priority for the WHTI's work program, while recognizing the importance of human and institutional capacity development in ensuring the safety of transportation services;

Actively and collectively encourage international maritime and air carriers to fully comply with International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) standards of safety governing the transport of dangerous goods including nuclear, hazardous and noxious substances and waste and stress the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place;

Actively and collectively encourage international maritime carriers, in particular cruise ships, to comply with IMO standards in relation to the protection of the marine environment, and to take full account of the special area status of the wider Caribbean;

Acknowledging the concerns of some states about the transport of radioactive material, including waste, through routes close to the coasts of states or along navigable waterways of the Hemisphere and the potential health consequences for our people and the possible threat to the marine environment, and consistent with maritime rights and obligations in international law; encourage and support full compliance with existing IMO and IAEA conventions, standards and codes of practice and stress the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place; encourage the consideration by the IAEA and the IMO and other competent international bodies to strengthen additional international measures, as necessary, which may include: the assurance of non-contamination of the marine environment; the recovery of radioactive material, including waste, in the case of accidental release; the provision of relief, rehabilitation or reconstruction, as appropriate, for affected people in the case of an accident; and invite countries shipping radioactive material, including waste, to provide timely information to potentially affected states in the Hemisphere relating to such shipments, consistent with the need to maintain and ensure the safety and security of those shipments;

Instruct our Ministers of Transportation to explore the possibility of discussing the modernization of air services in order to meet the growing flow of people and goods that has been taking place in the Hemisphere;

Energy

Recognize that in pursuing the regional integration of energy markets, issues such as market reform and stability, regulatory reform and trade liberalization will be addressed; support and endorse the Hemispheric Energy Initiative which promotes policies and practices to advance such integration;

8. Disaster Management

Recognizing the need to develop, implement and sustain shared comprehensive disaster management strategies and programs to reduce the vulnerability of our populations and economies to natural and man-made disasters and to maintain or quickly restore minimum levels of consumption, income and production at the household and community levels in the aftermath of disasters, including irregular population settlements; acknowledging in this regard the need to expand the community of stakeholders at the regional, national and local levels engaged in the formulation of early warning systems, the management of risk and response operations in the event of disasters and integrated sustainable development strategies:

Develop the capacity to forecast, prepare for and mitigate the potential impacts of natural and man-made hazards; promote vulnerability reduction; adopt and enforce better building codes and standards; ensure appropriate land-use practices; inventory and evaluate the vulnerability of critical facilities and infrastructure; estimate climate change variability and sea-level rise and assess their possible impacts; and in pursuit of the above, create the requisite legal framework and establish the cooperative mechanisms to access and share advances in science and technology and their application in the early warning, preparedness for and mitigation of these hazards;

Promote the exchange of information on the vulnerability of infrastructure exposed to disasters as well as the early warning capacity, particularly in the border areas of the countries of the Americas, in order to design specific prevention measures in the fields of engineering and legislation with the aim of reducing the socio-economic impact of natural disasters;

Establish or strengthen, where appropriate, partnerships with all relevant actors, including the private sector, technical professional associations, regional institutions, civil society, educational and research institutions and other multilateral coordinating agencies such as the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in the development and implementation of disaster management policies and programs at the national and community levels, and promote greater awareness and effective integration of these policies and programs among national policy makers, local authorities, communities and media, and promote the insurance and reinsurance of the social and economic infrastructure as well as the decentralization of information and decision-making;

Promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences regarding the combat against inappropriate practices in the exploitation of natural resources and unsustainable patterns of consumption, including the problems of waste management, which increase the vulnerability of the people to natural disasters;

Promote the development of telecommunications for humanitarian assistance; actively encourage greater use and interoperability of telecommunications and

other technologies and information systems that allow the observation and monitoring of different natural phenomena; use early warning systems such as remote sensing imagery, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based data necessary to address and prevent emergencies; promote the compatibility of these systems in the planning and response to emergency operations among governments, specialized agencies, relevant international organizations, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and, in this spirit, consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the *Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations*;

Establish information networks with the involvement of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) and other relevant regional and international organizations to exchange scientific and technological knowledge and experiences; encourage further regional and sub-regional action to reduce risks and improve response to natural disasters; promote joint research and development technologies and contribute to strengthen coordination of national prevention and response agencies in natural disasters; to achieve this, draw on the work of ECLAC on the improvement, up-dating and implementation of its damage assessment methodology and continue to promote natural disaster mitigation and risk reduction awareness and preparedness;

Consider the creation of a hemispheric system for prevention and mitigation of disasters that would include, among others, a specialized database containing the best information available on the characteristics, experiences, strengths and weaknesses of national and regional agencies responsible for disaster prevention and mitigation and provide a new framework for technical cooperation and research aimed at creating a hemispheric culture of prevention and solidarity;

Adopt and support, as appropriate, initiatives aimed at promoting capacity building at all levels, such as the transfer and development of technology for prevention — risk reduction, awareness, preparedness, mitigation — and response to natural and other disasters, as well as for the rehabilitation of affected areas;

Promote mechanisms that incorporate risk management and risk reduction methods in public and private development investments;

Convene within a year a hemispheric meeting on disaster preparedness and mitigation with the support of the IACNDR and the participation of a wide range of government entities, regional and MDBs, private entities, NGOs and the research, scientific and technical communities, to discuss and develop cooperative efforts to facilitate implementation of Summit mandates on disaster management;

Request the IDB to undertake a feasibility study in partnership with the OAS, the World Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and other relevant inter-American organizations, as well as the private sector, including insurance companies, on measures to reduce and/or pool risk in a manner that results in reduced premiums on catastrophic insurance, and mechanisms to facilitate contingent re-construction financing and the immediate release of funds to resolve urgent needs of the affected country; this study would examine the relationship between re-insurance and national and community disaster management capacities, as well as trends toward dis-investment and job losses in those economic sectors requiring costly catastrophic insurance coverage and the role such measures might play in this regard; share with the private sector experiences in the development and application of risk management tools such as risk transfer instruments, vulnerability assessment methodologies and risk reduction incentives for the private sector;

9. Environmental Foundation for Sustainable Development

Environment and Natural Resources Management

Recognizing that the protection of the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources are essential to prosperity and to the sustainability of our economies, as well as the quality of life and health for present and future generations; and committed to advancing sustainable development throughout the Hemisphere consistent with our 1994 and 1998 Summit of the Americas Declarations and *Plans of Action* and the 1996 Santa Cruz de la Sierra Declaration and *Plan of Action*:

Welcome the outcomes and endorse the areas of cooperation identified at the recent hemispheric meeting of Ministers responsible for the Environment held in Montreal;

Reaffirm our commitments to implement Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to which we are party, including through enactment and effective enforcement of any necessary domestic laws, reiterating common and differentiated responsibilities as set forth in Principle 7 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* and taking into account the needs and concerns of small developing countries and noting, in this context, the recently concluded *Global Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants*; also stress the need to build synergies among MEAs to enhance their effectiveness in implementation and to strengthen international cooperation;

Support the preparatory process for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development to review progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, focusing on areas where further efforts are needed to implement *Agenda 21* and explore ways to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable development;

Request the OAS through its General Secretariat, in coordination with other agencies, to organize a meeting at the ministerial level before the end of 2001, to be held in Bolivia on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the Santa Cruz de la Sierra Summit of 1996, and present contributions to the Rio+10 Summit in 2002, recognizing that by its nature, sustainable development has long-term goals that require the countries of the Hemisphere to act in concert in this area;

Request the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and PAHO to support the convening of a regional meeting between Ministers responsible for the Environment and Ministers of Health to take stock of progress achieved, to identify priority areas for renewed emphasis and cooperative initiatives, and to explore ways of moving forward in the Americas and globally, with a view to contributing to the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, recognizing the links between the environment and human health;

Resolve, as parties to the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, to pursue its objectives in accordance with its provisions and to address the issue of climate change as a priority for action, working constructively through international processes in order to make the necessary progress to ensure a sound and effective response to climate change; recognize the vulnerabilities in all our countries, in particular of Small Island Developing States and low-lying coastal states, and the need to support the conduct of vulnerability assessments, the development and implementation of adaptation strategies, capacity building and technology transfer;

Promote the adoption, implementation and enforcement of national legislation, regulations, standards and policies that provide for high levels of environmental protection, recognizing the right of each country to set its own levels of environmental protection and, to this end, reinforce cooperative partnerships, placing particular emphasis on achieving cleaner air, enhancing access to safe water and sanitation services, and strengthening national and regional capacities for integrated water resources management and for waste management;

Consult and coordinate domestically and regionally, as appropriate, with the aim of ensuring that economic, social and environmental policies are mutually supportive and contribute to sustainable development, building on existing initiatives undertaken by relevant regional and international organizations;

Support initiatives such as the Hemispheric Round-table for Cleaner Production in furtherance of our efforts to promote partnerships among government, industry and civil society and advance, as appropriate, the Plans of Action and the Global Cleaner Production Information Network launched at the 2000 Montreal International Pollution Prevention Summit;

Promote and support implementation of priorities for action set out in the *Bahia Declaration on Chemical Safety* at the national level, particularly those

aimed at increasing public access to information on toxic substances and at strengthening capacity in this area;

Promote improved environmental management at the municipal level, including through information exchange among local communities, the development of environmentally sound technology and the promotion of partnerships to facilitate, as appropriate, technology transfer, capacity building, including the strengthening of local institutions and services, and support for initiatives such as the World Bank Clean Air Initiative and IDB programs in this area;

Advance hemispheric conservation of plants, animals and ecosystems through, as appropriate: capacity building, expanding partnership networks and information sharing systems, including the Inter-American Biodiversity Network; cooperation in the fight against illegal trade in wildlife; strengthening of cooperation arrangements for terrestrial and marine natural protected areas, including adjacent border parks and important areas for shared species; support for regional ecosystem conservation mechanisms; the development of a hemispheric strategy to support the conservation of migratory wildlife throughout the Americas, with the active engagement of civil society; and the promotion of the objectives and the implementation of the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and the *UN Convention to Combat Desertification*;

Promote the adoption of concrete and urgent actions towards the implementation of sustainable forest management; promote policies, practices, incentives and investment in support of sustainable forest management, building on existing hemispheric initiatives and cooperation, as well as support the UN Forum on Forests and its program of work;

Reaffirm our commitment to advancing environmental stewardship in the area of energy by advancing policies, practices, transference of and access to technologies, that are economically efficient and take the environmental impacts of energy development and use into account; and endorse and support the work of the Hemispheric Energy Initiative in this area;

Promote the development of environmentally sound exploitation and management of minerals and metals, recognizing the importance of the social and economic dimensions of the activities of the mining sector, and support the work of regional and international fora in this area;

10. Agriculture Management and Rural Development

Recognizing the fundamental importance of agriculture as a way of life for millions of rural families of the Hemisphere as well as the role it plays in the creation of prosperity as a strategic sector in our socio-economic system and taking note of the importance of developing its potential in a manner compatible with sustainable development that would ensure adequate treatment and attention to the rural sector:

Promote dialogue involving government ministers, parliamentarians and civil society, in particular organizations linked to rural areas as well as the scientific and academic communities, with the objective of promoting medium and long-term national strategies toward sustainable improvement in agriculture and rural life;

Support national efforts to strengthen rural enterprises, in particular small- and medium-sized enterprises and promote, where appropriate, a favorable environment for agri-business; encourage, in a complementary manner, the training of small- and medium-sized rural entrepreneurs as well as the modernization of training institutions in this field;

Encourage the development of markets in the Hemisphere for goods obtained through the sustainable use of natural resources;

Strive to facilitate access to markets for those goods derived from alternative development programs implemented in countries engaged in the substitution of illicit crops;

Instruct the Ministers of Agriculture, during the next meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, to promote, in cooperation with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), joint action by all the actors of the agricultural sector to work towards the improvement of agricultural and rural life that enables the implementation of the *Plans of Action* of the Summits of the Americas;

11. Labour and Employment

Recognizing that employment is the most direct way in which economic activity is linked to the improvement of the standard of living of our citizens and that true prosperity can only be achieved if it includes protecting and respecting basic rights of workers as well as promoting equal employment opportunities and improving working conditions for people in all countries in the region, with special attention to those in the informal sector, to people belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, other vulnerable persons including women, youth, indigenous peoples, migrant workers, persons with disabilities and persons with HIV/AIDS; and noting the importance of investing in human resource development, of promoting employment security consistent with economic growth and developing mechanisms to assist workers with periods of unemployment, as well as of strengthening cooperation and social dialogue on labour matters among workers, their organizations, employers and governments:

Reaffirm the fundamental importance of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labour, welcome the progress made through its *Plan of Action* adopted in 1998, support the preparatory process for the Twelfth Conference in 2001, and direct Ministers to build upon the *Viña del Mar Declaration*, which focused on the social dimensions of globalization and the modernization of Labour Ministries, by collaborating in the examination of the labour

dimension of the Summit of the Americas process, in order to identify areas of agreement and issues where further work needs to be done;

Respect the International Labour Organization (ILO) *Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work* and its *Follow-Up*, adopted in 1998, adopt and implement legislation and policies that provide for the effective application of core labour standards as recognized by the ILO and consider the ratification and implementation of fundamental ILO Conventions;

Consult and coordinate, domestically and regionally in the appropriate fora, with a view to contributing to raising the living standards and improving the working conditions of all people in the Americas; create a process for improved collaboration and coordination on the labour dimensions of the Summit of the Americas process between Labour Ministries and other appropriate ministries and key international institutions within the Americas that have a critical role to play in the improvement of labour conditions, in particular the OAS, the ILO, ECLAC, as well as the IDB and the World Bank;

Develop new mechanisms to increase the effectiveness of projects and other technical assistance designed to build the capacity of smaller economies and their institutions to effectively implement labour laws and standards and to foster equality of opportunity with respect to gender, among others, in strategies to promote employment, training, life-long learning and human resource development programs with the objective of promoting access to more and better employment in the new economy;

Strengthen the capacity of the Ministers of Labour to develop and implement effective labour and labour market policies; collaborate with employers and labour organizations to develop and generate information on labour markets; participate in dialogue, tripartite consultations and dispute resolution strategies; and adopt ongoing strategies and programs as a core element for professional development in the labour market;

Continue to work towards the elimination of child labour, and as a priority, promote the hemispheric ratification and implementation of the *ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)*, work to bring national laws, regulations and policies into conformity with this Convention, and take immediate action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour;

Promote and protect the rights of all workers, in particular those of working women, and take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypical attitudes to gender equality at work, addressing, *inter alia*, gender bias in recruitment; working conditions; occupational discrimination and harassment; discrimination in social protection benefits; women's occupational health and safety; and unequal career opportunities and pay;

12. Growth with Equity

Recognizing that economic growth is fundamental to overcoming economic disparities and strengthening democracy in the Hemisphere, and that in order to achieve sustained economic growth and political and social stability, it is necessary to face the primary challenge that confronts the Hemisphere — the eradication of poverty and inequity — that requires an integrated and focused approach, which promotes better competitiveness, equity enhancing trade and more equitable access to opportunities, taking into account the difficulties that the countries of the region face, including those under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, in obtaining financing for their development; and that it is necessary to take measures at the national and hemispheric levels in order to create a positive environment for business, maximize the benefits of orderly migration, minimize the effects of economic volatility and natural disasters and encourage social stability and mobility in order to promote a more equitable distribution of the benefits of economic growth:

Development Financing

Acknowledge the need for development financing, including aid from bilateral donors and lending from the MDBs on appropriate terms, and commit to support our Finance Ministers and the MDBs in promoting policies to develop and maintain access to international capital markets to finance our sustainable development efforts, recognizing that debt servicing constitutes a major constraint on investment for many countries in the Hemisphere;

Enabling Economic Environment

Design and implement, with the cooperation of the IDB, the World Bank, other donors, as appropriate, as well as the ILO, building upon the work begun in regional and sub-regional programs after the 1998 Santiago Summit of the Americas, legislation, policies and regulations that reduce startup costs, support the creation of new financial products for lower-income groups and youth, foster the development of credit unions, community finance institutions and supporting institutions such as credit bureaus and create conditions that encourage commercial banks and other appropriate financial institutions to broaden their client base to include more micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises and strengthen the capacities of micro, small- and medium-sized enterprise development agencies;

Provide and improve where necessary, both in rural and urban areas, access to quality information systems for micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises through the creation of non-discriminatory mechanisms with the cooperation of the IDB, the World Bank, other donors, as appropriate, as well as ECLAC, and establish programs aimed at promoting the use of computers and the Internet, based on public and private sector partnership, to gain greater access to information technology, to credit and markets and to instruments designed to assist them in all these areas;

Support and encourage, with the cooperation of the IDB and other donors as appropriate, the formation of business incubators, associative networks, joint projects, national competitiveness programs, credit unions and complementary agreements among micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises as part of a broader strategy allowing them to share best practices, to improve access to information, credit and adequate marketing systems and to break prevailing situations of isolation;

Increase access to opportunities for sustainable entrepreneurship, productivity and employment among young people;

Improve, as appropriate, social safety nets at the national and regional levels to stabilize individual and household income and consumption by such means as stabilization funds, micro-credit schemes, crop insurance programs, job retraining and training in vocational, entrepreneurial and business skills, with the involvement of the MDBs and development agencies as well as non-governmental and community-based organizations and to establish regional networks to share best practices and experiences;

Promote, in cooperation with the CIM, IICA, other appropriate inter-American institutions and the World Bank, improved market access for disadvantaged entrepreneurs, particularly women, youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and rural populations, by developing programs that generate local employment and provide training, retraining and life-long learning, particularly in new technologies, and affordable services in business management, product development, financing, production and quality control, marketing and the legal aspects of business; by establishing outreach programs to inform low-income and poor populations, particularly in rural and remote areas, of opportunities for market and technology access and by providing assistance, monitoring, mentoring, advisory and other support services to enable these groups to take advantage of such opportunities;

Migration

Recognizing the positive aspects and benefits of orderly migration in countries of origin, transit and destination as a factor contributing to economic growth and national and regional development:

Support initiatives designed to strengthen linkages among migrant communities abroad and their places of origin and promote cooperative mechanisms that simplify and speed up the transfer of migrant remittances and substantially reduce the costs of sending them;

Support voluntary initiatives designed by communities or individuals for the use of funds in investment and productive projects benefitting the general welfare in communities of origin;

Promote the discussion of the migration phenomenon at the hemispheric level with due regard for its multi-dimensional nature and regional differences and, in so doing, consider the inclusion of the topic of migration in discussions on trade and economic integration;

Support programs of cooperation in immigration procedures for cross-border labour markets and the migration of workers, both in countries of origin and destination, as a means to enhance economic growth in full cognizance of the role that cooperation in education and training can play in mitigating any adverse consequences of the movement of human capital from smaller and less developed states;

Strive to ensure that migrants have access to basic social services, consistent with each country's internal legal framework;

Create and harmonize statistical information systems and foster the sharing of information and best practices through the use of new information and communications technologies, with the aim of promoting the modernization of migration management;

Enhancing Social Stability and Mobility

Continue and deepen progress toward implementation of the agenda for improving property registration established at the 1998 Santiago Summit of the Americas with particular emphasis on regularizing informal property rights, in accordance with national legislation, to ensure that all valid property rights are formally recognized, that disputes are resolved, and that modern legal frameworks to legitimize property records and encourage marketable property titles are adopted; and that these actions include the formulation of institutional, political and regulatory reforms that would facilitate the use of property registration as a mechanism to enable property owners to access credit and allow commercial banks and MDBs to expand their customer base among lower income sectors; promote greater cooperation and exchange of information and technology to modernize the systems of registry and cadastre in the Hemisphere, and also request multilateral and bilateral cooperation institutions to continue supporting and strengthening, in a complementary manner, their financial and technical assistance programs;

Support, in cooperation with ECLAC and the World Bank, research at the hemispheric level to generate disaggregated data on the differential impact of economic policies and processes on women and men, rural and urban populations, indigenous and non-indigenous, and communities of high or low social mobility, and on their respective participation in economic growth;

Promote recognition of the social and economic contribution made by the unpaid work performed by women predominantly in the home, and consider providing innovative social safety nets in conformity with national law;

Promote greater recognition of the economic contribution of women's activities in the subsistence and informal sectors and provide, through the international and regional MDBs and the donor community, necessary assistance to communities participating in such activities, giving greater awareness at the national level to gender issues in macro-economic planning and policy-making;

Cooperate and promote dialogue on forced displacement, geared toward the improvement of the attention given to populations displaced by violence, taking into account the problems that these populations face; and harmonize national legislation in accordance with rules and standards of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Convention of 1951;

Invite the IACHR and its Special Rapporteur on Internally Displaced Persons to continue to monitor and report on situations of forced displacement with a view to promoting durable solutions aimed at addressing the root causes of such phenomena;

13. Education

Recognizing that education is the key to strengthening democratic institutions, promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among our peoples, as well as sustaining economic growth and reducing poverty; further recognizing that to achieve these ends, it is essential that quality education is available to all, including girls and women, rural inhabitants, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and persons belonging to minorities; reaffirming the commitments made at previous Summits to promote the principles of equity, quality, relevance and efficiency at all levels of the education system and ensure, by 2010, universal access to and completion of quality primary education for all children and to quality secondary education for at least 75 percent of young people, with increasing graduation rates and lifelong learning opportunities for the general population; and also reaffirming the commitment to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005:

Entrust the OAS to organize, within the framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), a meeting of Ministers of Education in Uruguay, to be held before the end of 2001, with a mandate to:

- ▶ identify and set up appropriate hemispheric mechanisms to ensure the implementation of the education initiatives in this *Plan of Action* and to continue to promote actions on priorities identified in previous Summits based on a careful evaluation of our collective achievements in this area;
- ▶ establish time lines and benchmarks for follow-up on the implementation of our commitments in education;
- ▶ establish, in light of the fundamental importance of mobilizing resources to support sustained investment in education at all levels, a cooperative

mechanism to promote the development of productive partnerships among governments and with regional and international organizations and the MDBs;

- ▶ promote the participation of and dialogue with relevant civil society organizations to strengthen partnerships between the public sector and other sectors of our societies in implementing this *Plan of Action*;

Formulate and implement policies, within the framework of a strategy for resolving social inequalities, to promote access to quality basic education for all, including early childhood and adult education, particularly to promote literacy, while providing for alternative methods that meet the needs of disadvantaged segments of the population or of those excluded from formal education systems, in particular girls, minorities, indigenous peoples, and children with special education needs; share information and successful experiences in encouraging educational participation and addressing student retention within certain groups, especially boys — in particular in the Caribbean countries — whose drop-out rate at the secondary level is high in certain regions;

Support and promote lifelong learning by:

- ▶ offering varied curricula based on the development of skills, knowledge, civic and democratic values;
- ▶ providing flexible service delivery mechanisms, including the use of information and communications technologies, to foster employability, personal growth and social commitment; and
- ▶ certifying skills acquired on the job;

Strengthen education systems by:

- ▶ encouraging the participation of all sectors of society in order to obtain a consensus on policies that are viable and that guarantee the appropriate and continuous distribution of resources;
- ▶ society, especially parents; and
- ▶ promoting transparent school management in the interest of securing an adequate and stable allocation of resources so that educational institutions can play a leading role as agents for change;

Enhance the performance of teachers by:

- ▶ improving their conditions of service; and
- ▶ raising the profile of the profession by providing, in addition to solid initial preparation, opportunities for ongoing professional development,

and by designing accessible, flexible, dynamic and relevant training strategies using, among other means, new information and communications technologies;

Support ongoing regional projects for comparable indicators and educational assessment resulting from the Santiago Summit, including cooperation initiatives based on performance assessment programs regarding educational processes and achievement, taking into consideration studies in pedagogy and assessment practices previously developed by countries; develop comparable indicators to assess the services provided by each country to people with special education needs and promote the exchange of information on policies, strategies and best practices in the Americas;

Strive to ensure that secondary education is more responsive to evolving labour market requirements by promoting the diversification of programs and experimentation with new, more flexible teaching methods with emphasis on science and technology, including the use of new information and communications technologies, and by supporting the establishment of mechanisms for the recognition and certification of acquired skills; and to this end, promote the exchange of information and best practices and support cooperation projects;

Promote more effective dialogue between society and institutions of higher education, and facilitate access for all to these institutions by balancing growing demand with higher quality standards and public funding with greater commitment from the private sector; support hemispheric cooperation for research in science and technology aimed at the solution of specific problems in the region and the transfer of knowledge;

Support the mobility, between countries of the Hemisphere, of students, teachers and administrators at institutions of higher education and of teachers and administrators at the elementary and secondary levels, in order to provide them with new opportunities to take part in the new knowledge-based society, to increase their knowledge of other cultures and languages, and to enable them to access information on post-secondary studies and learning opportunities offered across the Hemisphere, through new or existing hemispheric networks, such as the educational Web site set up after the Santiago Summit; continue to support initiatives in this field such as those carried out by the IDB and the OAS;

Promote access by teachers, students and administrators to new information and communications technologies applied to education, through training geared toward new teaching approaches, support for development of networks and sustained strengthening of information clearinghouses, in order to reduce the knowledge gap and the digital divide within and between societies in the Hemisphere;

Science and Technology

Promote the popularization of science and technology necessary to advance the establishment and consolidation of a scientific culture in the region; and stimulate the development of science and technology for regional connectivity through information and communications technologies essential for building knowledge-based societies;

Support the development of high-level human capital for the development of science and technology research and innovation that would encourage the strengthening of the agricultural, industrial, commercial and business sectors as well as the sustainability of the environment;

Promote, with the support of existing cooperation mechanisms, the development of the regional program of science and technology indicators;

Endeavor to implement and follow up on the scientific and technological activities mentioned above, counting on the support of hemispheric cooperation and coordination mechanisms related to this field;

14. Health

Recognizing — further to the commitments made at the Miami and Santiago Summits and in accordance with agreed-upon international development goals in the areas of maternal, infant, child and reproductive health — that good physical and mental health is essential for a productive and fulfilling life, and that equitable access to quality health services is a critical element in the development of democratic societies, and for the stability and prosperity of nations; that the enjoyment of the highest standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition, as set forth in the *Constitution of the World Health Organization*; that gender equality and concern for indigenous peoples, children, the elderly and under-served groups must be of paramount concern in the development of health policy; that health outcomes are affected by physical, social, economic and political factors and that the technical cooperation of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and other relevant international organizations should continue to support health actions in the Hemisphere, in a manner consistent with the *Shared Agenda for Health in the Americas* signed by PAHO, the IDB, and the World Bank:

Health Sector Reform

Reaffirm their commitment to an equity-oriented health sector reform process, emphasizing their concerns for essential public health functions, quality of care, equal access to health services and health coverage, especially in the fields of disease prevention and health promotion, and improving the use of resources and administration of health services; promote the continued use of scientifically validated, agreed-upon, common indicators for assessing effectiveness, equity and efficiency of health systems;

Strengthen and promote development of domestic standards of practice, accreditation and licensing procedures, codes of ethics, and education and training programs for health personnel; improve the mix of health personnel in the provision of health services to better respond to national health priorities;

Intensify efforts and share and promote best practices to:

- ▶ reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality;
- ▶ provide quality reproductive health care and services for women, men and adolescents; and
- ▶ carry out commitments made at the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development and its five-year follow-up in New York;

Develop processes to evaluate the efficacy of alternative health practices and medicinal products to ensure public safety and share this experience and knowledge with other countries in the Americas;

Communicable Diseases

Commit, at the highest level, to combat HIV/AIDS and its consequences, recognizing that this disease is a major threat to the security of our people; in particular seek to increase resources for prevention, education and access to care and treatment as well as research; adopt a multi-sectoral and gender sensitive approach to education, to prevention and to controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) by developing participatory programs especially with high risk populations, and by fostering partnerships with civil society including the mass media, the business sector and voluntary organizations; promote the use of ongoing horizontal mechanisms of cooperation to secure the safety of blood; increase national access to treatment of HIV/AIDS-related illnesses through measures striving to ensure the provision and affordability of drugs, including reliable distribution and delivery systems and appropriate financing mechanisms consistent with national laws and international agreements acceded to; continue dialogue with the pharmaceutical industry and the private sector in general to encourage the availability of affordable antiretrovirals and other drugs for HIV/AIDS treatment, and promote strategies to facilitate the sharing of drug pricing information including, where appropriate, that available in national data banks; promote and protect the human rights of all persons living with HIV/AIDS, without gender or age discrimination; utilize the June 2001 UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS as a platform to generate support for hemispheric and national HIV/AIDS programs;

Enhance programs at the hemispheric, national and local levels to prevent, control and treat communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, dengue, malaria and Chagas;

Promote healthy childhood development through: prenatal care, expanded immunization programs, control of respiratory and diarrheal diseases by conducting programs such as the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, health education, physical fitness, access to safe and nutritious foods, and the promotion of breast-feeding;

Non-Communicable Diseases

Implement community-based health care, prevention and promotion programs to reduce health risks and non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease and including hypertension, cancer, diabetes, mental illness as well as the impact of violence and accidents on health;

Participate actively in the negotiation of a proposed *Framework Convention on Tobacco Control*; develop and adopt policies and programs to reduce the consumption of tobacco products, especially as it affects children; share best practices and lessons learned in the development of programs designed to raise public awareness, particularly for adolescents, about the health risks associated with tobacco, alcohol and drugs;

Connectivity

Provide sound scientific and technical information to health workers and the public, utilizing innovations such as the Virtual Health Library of the Americas; encourage the use of tele-health as a means to connect remote populations and to provide health services and information to under-served groups, as a complement to the provision of existing health care services;

15. Gender Equality

Recognizing that women's empowerment, their full and equal participation in the development of our societies, and their equal opportunities to exercise leadership are all central to the reduction of poverty, the promotion of economic and social prosperity, people-centered sustainable development, consolidation of democracy and conflict resolution and the development of equal partnerships between women and men; further recognizing that these principles are the basis for promoting gender equality and women's human rights in the Americas and working towards the elimination of the full range of inequalities:

Endorse the *Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality* approved at the First Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women, held in April 2000, by the CIM; endorse as well the *Regional Programme of Action for the Women in Latin America and the Caribbean 1995-2000* and the further actions and initiatives adopted at the Twenty-Third Special Session of the UN General Assembly (Beijing +5) to implement the *Beijing Declaration and its Platform for Action*; and integrate a gender perspective into

the programs, actions and agendas of national and international events, to ensure that women's experiences and gender equality are an integral dimension of the design, implementation and evaluation of government and inter-American policies and programs in all spheres;

Strengthen national machineries and other government bodies responsible for the advancement of women and for the promotion and protection of the human rights of women; provide them with the necessary human and financial resources, including through exploring innovative funding schemes so that gender is integrated into all policies, programs and projects; and support both the fundamental role that women's organizations have played and will continue to play in advancing gender equality and the joint efforts between governments and the private sector which contribute to respect and understanding of the human rights of women;

Promote gender equity and equality and women's human rights by strengthening and fostering women's full and equal participation in political life in their countries and in decision-making at all levels;

Reinforce the role of the CIM as the technical advisor to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) on all aspects of gender equity and equality and recognize the importance of the CIM in follow-up to relevant Summit recommendations; provide for an appropriate level of resources to the CIM to carry out its role as the principal hemispheric policy-generating forum for the advancement of the human rights of women and particularly of gender equality; promote the support and participation of the IDB, the World Bank and ECLAC in the implementation of and follow-up to this *Plan of Action*;

Promote the use of information and communications technologies as a mechanism to address inequalities between men and women and ensure women's equality of access to these new technologies and to the requisite training; to this end, ensure that government connectivity programs and programming at local, national and regional levels, integrate a gender perspective representative of the diversity of women within various groups, including indigenous peoples and rural and ethnic minorities;

Strengthen systems for collecting and processing statistical data disaggregated by sex, and adopt the use of gender indicators that will contribute to a baseline analysis of the status of women and to the implementation of public policies at the national and regional levels, and that make it possible to improve the monitoring and assessment of regional and international agreements;

16. Indigenous Peoples

Recognizing that the unique cultures, histories and demographic, socio-economic and political circumstances of indigenous peoples (as the term is explained in the section of this *Plan of Action* entitled "Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms") in the

Americas necessitate special measures to assist them in reaching their full human potential, and that their inclusion throughout our societies and institutions is a valuable element in the continuous strengthening, not only of human rights in our hemispheric community, but also, more broadly, of our democracies, economies and civilizations; noting that although progress has been made, it is necessary to strengthen participation of indigenous peoples, communities, and organizations, to promote an open and continuous dialogue between them and governments, and to continue to work together to ensure effective implementation of the relevant mandates in the Santiago Summit *Plan of Action*:

Make their best efforts, in accordance with national legislation, to encourage donor agencies, the private sector, other governments, regional and international organizations as well as MDBs to support hemispheric and national conferences in order to exchange experiences among indigenous peoples and their organizations in implementing activities to promote their sustainable cultural, economic and social development, and in such other areas as may be identified by indigenous peoples;

Acknowledge the value that the world views, uses, customs and traditions of indigenous peoples can make to policies and programs related to the management of lands and natural resources, sustainable development and biodiversity; on this basis, develop corresponding strategies and methods to consider and respect indigenous peoples' cultural practices and protect their traditional knowledge in accordance with the principles and objectives of the *Convention on Biological Diversity*;

Increase the availability and accessibility of educational services in consultation with indigenous peoples, especially women, children and youth, in accordance with their values, customs, traditions and organizational structures, by promoting linguistic and cultural diversity in education and training programs for indigenous communities; promote national and regional strategies for indigenous women, children and youth; similarly, encourage international exchange programs and public and private sector internships in order to promote equal opportunity, raise the average school-leaving age, maximize individual and collective achievement, and promote lifelong learning for all indigenous people;

Promote and accommodate, as appropriate, the particular cultural, linguistic and developmental needs of indigenous peoples, in urban and rural contexts, into the development and implementation of educational initiatives and strategies, with special attention to building institutional capacity, connectivity and linkages, including through national focal points, with other indigenous peoples of the Hemisphere;

Promote and enhance, in all sectors of society, and especially in the area of education, the understanding of the contribution made by indigenous peoples in shaping the national identity of the countries in which they live;

Develop strategies, measures, and mechanisms aimed at ensuring the effective participation of indigenous peoples in the design, implementation and evaluation of comprehensive health plans, policies, systems and programs that recognize the value of developing holistic communities that take into consideration cultural, economic and social realities and circumstances;

Support the Health of Indigenous Peoples Initiative, promoted by PAHO, in assisting states and in consultation with indigenous peoples, to formulate integrated public policies and health systems that foster the health of indigenous peoples, in designing and implementing inter-cultural frameworks and models of care specifically aimed at addressing the health needs and priorities of these peoples, and in improving information collection, analysis and dissemination on the health and social conditions of these peoples, with particular emphasis on children;

Reduce the digital, communications and information gaps between the national average and indigenous peoples and communities, through relevant connectivity and communications programs and projects that provide services in the fields of political, economic and social development, including the use of indigenous peoples information networks;

Promote the collection and publication of national statistics to generate information on the ethnic composition and socio-economic characteristics of indigenous populations in order to define and evaluate the most appropriate policies to address needs;

Support the process of reform of the Inter-American Indian Institute, based on extensive consultations among states and indigenous peoples of the Hemisphere, and further develop processes to ensure broad and full participation of indigenous peoples throughout the inter-American system, including in the discussions on the *Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

17. Cultural Diversity

Recognizing that respect for and value of cultural diversity contribute to social and economic dynamism, and are positive factors in the promotion of good governance, social cohesion, human development, human rights and peaceful co-existence in the Hemisphere, and that the effects of globalization offer great possibilities for the promotion of cultural diversity, but also raise concerns about the ability of some communities to express certain aspects of their cultural identity; further recognizing the unique role of cultural property in the strengthening of geographic, social, historical and anthropological bonds within societies; acknowledging the need to strengthen strategies to prevent the illicit trafficking in cultural property which is detrimental to the preservation of the collective memory and cultural heritage of societies and threatens the cultural diversity of the Hemisphere; and bearing in mind that the General Assembly of the UN declared the year 2001 as the Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations:

Enhance partnerships and exchanges of information, including through the use of information and communications technologies, by holding a series of seminars among experts, government officials and representatives of civil society on the importance of the linguistic and cultural diversity of the Hemisphere to promote a better acceptance, understanding, appreciation and respect among the peoples of the region;

Encourage the convocation of a meeting at the ministerial or highest appropriate level, with the support of the CIDI, to discuss cultural diversity with a view to deepening hemispheric cooperation on this issue;

Create an environment to foster awareness and understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity of countries in the Americas, through a variety of means, including the use of new communications technologies as well as the Internet; support, by means of broad collaboration, new media projects which promote inter-cultural dialogue through the production and distribution of cultural products created for television, film, the recording industry, the publishing industry and the electronic media; enrich the diversity of cultural content of these industries, *inter alia* through the preservation and restoration of cultural property and through the return of illegally acquired cultural property in accordance with our international obligations;

Promote social cohesion, mutual respect and development by:

- ▶ recognizing the contribution of physical education and fair, drug-free sport; and
- ▶ supporting initiatives which; preserve and enhance traditional and indigenous sport, strengthen the role of women in sport, and increase opportunities for children and youth, persons with disabilities and minorities to participate in and benefit from sport and other physical activities;

Commit to active cooperation among diverse institutions, at both the national and international levels, to eradicate the illicit traffic in cultural property further to the 1970 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) *Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property*; also, promote joint action with civil society organizations to implement and support policies, plans and programs that will strengthen and promote research, recovery, study, conservation, maintenance, restoration, access to and appreciation of cultural heritage and cultural property through proper care, preservation and use;

18. Children and Youth

Recognizing that promoting the rights of children and their development, protection and participation is essential to ensure that they reach their full potential; further recognizing the effectiveness and the need for intervention centered on protection against discrimination, inequity, abuse, exploitation and violence, especially of the

most vulnerable and taking into account a gender perspective; asserting the importance of the cooperation endorsed at the Tenth Summit of Ibero-American Heads of States and Governments in Panama, as well as the significant opportunity for progress for children in 2001 in the context of the Inter-American Year of the Child and the Adolescent and the goals adopted at the 1990 World Summit for Children; and recognizing the vital contribution of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* in the promotion and protection of children's rights, and the work undertaken by the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI):

Implement and support the commitments contained in the *Agenda for War-Affected Children* agreed to by 132 states at the International Conference on War-Affected Children held in Winnipeg, Canada, in September 2000, including fostering the active participation of children and adolescents in policy, dialogue and programming for children and adolescents affected by armed conflict and also encouraging the establishment of a network for them; consider additional ways to monitor, report on and advocate the protection, rights and welfare of children affected by armed conflict in the Hemisphere in conjunction with the IACHR's Rapporteur for Children's Rights;

Promote actions to establish, strengthen and implement public policies to ensure the well-being and integral development of children and adolescents, and promote the convening of conferences, seminars and other national or multilateral activities dedicated to children and adolescents, especially throughout 2001 in the context of the Inter-American Year of the Child and the Adolescent;

Ensure that every child in conflict with the law is treated in a manner consistent with his/her best interests, in accordance with our obligations under the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and other relevant international human rights instruments, including the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*; bear in mind the *United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice*; and provide training opportunities, as appropriate, including gender-sensitivity and human rights instruction, to those involved in the administration of justice;

Identify, share and promote best practices and approaches, particularly community-based approaches aimed at supporting families, meeting the needs of children and adolescents at risk and protecting them from physical or mental abuse, injury or violence, discrimination, neglect, maltreatment, and exploitation, including sexual abuse, commercial exploitation and the worst forms of child labour as expressed in ILO Convention 182; in accordance with national legislation, develop national policies and models for rehabilitation or judicial systems for minors, incorporating initiatives for crime prevention, safeguarding the due process of law, and allowing access to institutions and programs for rehabilitation and reintegration of child and adolescent offenders into society and their families;

Endorse and seek cooperative means to advance the recommendations contained in the *Kingston Consensus* of the Fifth Ministerial Meeting on Children and Social Policy, held in Jamaica in October 2000, which represents the region's contribution to the *UN Special Session for Children* to be held in September 2001;

Encourage cooperation to reduce cases of international abduction of children by one of their parents; consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, *The Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*, *The Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Inter-country Adoption*, and the 1989 *Inter-American Convention on the International Return of Children*; and comply with their obligations under these Conventions in order to prevent and remedy cases of international parental child abduction;

In order to protect and promote children's rights, develop and implement inter-sectoral policies and programs, which may include the promotion of civil registration of all children, and allocate appropriate resources to undertake these tasks; establish and support cooperation amongst states as well as with civil society and young people to ensure effective implementation and monitoring of children's rights, including country-appropriate indicators of the health, development, and well-being of children, and through sharing best practices on reporting through national reports by States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Promote consultation, participation and representation of young people in all matters affecting them by providing access to reliable information and opportunities for them to express their views and contribute to discussions in local, national, regional and international fora and events;

Reinforce the role of PAHO, the IACI, and the IACHR as technical advisors to the SIRG, on all aspects of children's issues, and recognize the importance of these institutions in follow-up of relevant Summit recommendations.

Follow-up to the *Plan of Action*

On the occasion of our third meeting, in Quebec City, we underscore the need to deepen and broaden our cooperation to meet the needs and provide for the aspirations of citizens. To achieve these objectives, it is fundamental that we effectively implement the commitments we have made. To this end:

We recognize the primary role of governments in the implementation of the *Plan of Action*.

We welcome and encourage the extensive sectoral cooperation that exists at the ministerial level in various sectors, which form the building blocks of hemispheric coopera-

tion. We direct our respective Ministers to continue to support the implementation of the mandates contained within this *Plan of Action* and to report on progress.

Summit Management

We continue to support the SIRG as the primary body, accountable through Foreign Ministers, for the monitoring of implementation of Summit mandates.

With the objective of strengthening hemispheric inclusion in the Summit of the Americas process, we agree to the formation of a regionally representative Executive Council of the SIRG, with a permanent Steering Committee composed of past, current and future Summit hosts. The Executive Council shall serve:

- ▶ to assess, strengthen and support follow-up of Summit initiatives, with the OAS serving as the technical secretariat and institutional memory of the Summit process;
- ▶ to maximize coherence between the Summit of the Americas process and mandates and subregional Summit processes;
- ▶ to deepen partnerships and coordination between the Summit of the Americas process and its partner institutions (OAS, PAHO, IICA, IDB, ECLAC and the World Bank), including examination of the suitability of new relationships with subregional MDBs; and
- ▶ to advance greater engagement and partnerships with subregional foundations, and with civil society groups, including business and the voluntary sector, in the support of Summit mandates.

The Steering Committee shall assist the Summit Chair in preparing for future Summits, including preparations for SIRG meetings.

Implementation and Financing

We underscore the need for ongoing dialogue and coordination in the inter-American system to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of Summit mandates. We welcome the engagement of the institutional partners (OAS, PAHO, IICA, IDB, ECLAC and the World Bank) in all stages of the Summit of the Americas process and endorse:

- ▶ regular dialogue between the SIRG and the partner institutions to ensure coordination in the planning, financing and implementation of Summit mandates;
- ▶ participation of the Heads of the partner institutions at future ministerial-level meetings of the SIRG; and
- ▶ the strengthening of collaboration and greater exchanges of information and expertise among MDBs, inter-American organizations and national agencies, with a view to encouraging effective use of their resources,

optimizing effectiveness of program delivery, avoiding unnecessary overlap and duplication in existing mandates, maximizing funding opportunities for beneficiaries and ensuring consistency in the implementation of the Summit initiatives aimed at advancing greater social equity.

We recognize the essential role of the MDBs and funding agencies in mobilizing expertise and resources in support of the social and economic goals of the *Plan of Action*. We direct our Ministers, working with the SIRG, to explore with the partner institutions, the ongoing financial support of initiatives, and encourage:

- ▶ our national representatives on the Boards of these institutions to promote the development of programs supportive of the Summit's social and economic goals;
- ▶ efforts of the IDB and the World Bank to provide expertise and mobilize resources for initiatives consistent with priority areas of programming;
- ▶ active pursuit of improved communication and coordination between National Coordinators and Executive Directors of the IDB and the World Bank, including a meeting between the SIRG and Executive Directors to discuss implementation of Summit mandates;
- ▶ the strengthening of relationships at the national level among government ministries and agencies responsible for the implementation of Summit mandates, the IDB and the World Bank, to ensure greater exchange in the planning and implementation of Summit mandates;
- ▶ Western Hemisphere Finance Ministers to increase their engagement in and support of the overall Summit of the Americas agenda, both with respect to their position as Finance Ministers, and as applicable, as Governors of the MDBs; we instruct our Finance Ministers to give consideration to the establishment of financial mechanisms to support the Summit initiatives; and
- ▶ efforts of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) to secure financing from both traditional and new sources, including new partnerships with the private sector, and its efforts to have the goals of the Summit inform the development of its Strategic Plan 2002-2005.

We recognize the central role of the OAS in supporting the Summit of the Americas process and the function that the OAS Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management (CEGCI) fulfills in coordinating the efforts of the OAS in this regard and in serving as a forum for civil society to contribute to the Summit of the Americas process.

We instruct Foreign Ministers at the next General Assembly of the OAS in San José, Costa Rica, to strengthen and reform, where appropriate, the institutional

mechanisms and financial capacity of the General Secretariat of the Organization to support the Summit of the Americas process, as technical secretariat, and to provide support to ministerial and sectoral meetings relevant to the OAS. In addition, we instruct the creation of a specific fund to finance the activities to support the SIRG.

We further support consideration by the OAS, other inter-American organizations and national governments, of ways in which civil society can contribute to the monitoring and implementation of Summit mandates, for recommendation to the SIRG as well as further development of mechanisms and information systems to ensure the dissemination of information on the Summit of the Americas process and the commitments assumed by governments.



Connecting the Americas

We, the democratically elected Heads of State and Government of the Americas, meeting in Quebec City, recognize that a technological revolution is unfolding and that our region is entering a new economy, one defined by a vastly enhanced capacity to access knowledge and to improve flows of information. We are convinced that the promotion of a Connectivity Agenda for the Americas will facilitate the beneficial integration of the hemisphere into an increasingly knowledge-based society. We share the goal of providing all citizens of the Americas with the opportunity to develop the tools to access and share knowledge that will allow them to fully seize opportunities to strengthen democracy, create prosperity and realize their human potential. Connectivity will open new opportunities to our society in all areas, for which equal access and appropriate training are necessary.

Connectivity Agenda for the Americas

We are conscious of the disparities in cost and access to technology within and between our countries. Therefore, we agree that we must individually and collectively move toward expanding access to global knowledge and full integration into the knowledge society, particularly in developing countries, smaller economies, and among rural and disadvantaged groups. Our efforts at promoting connectivity will be directed toward our common commitment to sustainable economic growth and social development, particularly the overarching objective of poverty reduction. Recognizing that respect for cultural and linguistic diversity contributes to social and economic dynamism, we are also committed to using the tools of the new economy to enable all individuals to participate in inter-cultural dialogue for the promotion and protection of their cultures.

We are committed to promoting the development of the telecommunications infrastructure needed to support and enhance all sectors of society and the economy and will seek to provide affordable universal access. We agree to promote the modernization of the telecommunications sector, noting the leading role of the private sector in deploying infrastructure and services, and bearing in mind the legal framework of each country and the social, political, economic and cultural needs of our populations, particularly those of developing countries and remote regions. We will devote special attention to capacity-building in areas of human resource development, particularly health, education, the environment, and to strengthening the democratic process.

We recognize that our action and initiative are necessary to provide an appropriate enabling policy and regulatory environment to foster greater public and private investment in Connectivity. We agree to establish conditions, taking into account national legal frameworks, that promote and strengthen free and fair competition in all telecommunications services. We will support cooperation among our countries and joint initiatives with the private sector. We will coordinate our hemispheric initiatives with those at the global level to ensure that our region benefits from and contributes to our increasingly connected world.

We are also committed to mobilizing and sharing human resources to strengthen our capacities for applying information and communications technologies to human development. Recognizing the importance of providing all our citizens, and especially our children and youth, with the opportunity to participate in the knowledge society, we agree to use new technologies to address the needs of our national education and health systems. We agree to seek out innovative ways of facilitating access to and the use of computers and software in our learning environments.

We recognize the progress achieved by cooperative training programs and we are committed to broadening access to technical expertise through the continued use and expansion of national and regional information and communications technologies training programs, including internships, volunteer programs and training of educators. Coordinated training programs will provide additional impetus and support to a Connectivity agenda while creating valuable shared and collective work experience for all. This can be achieved by drawing upon the comparative strengths of our partners in academic institutes and the private sector.

Our governments will cooperate with each other and promote cooperation with sub-regional, regional and multilateral organizations, civil society, and the private sector to achieve the objectives of this statement and to encourage horizontal cooperation and share best practices to take full advantage of the benefits of the new economy.

Our governments will strive to encourage the growth of e-commerce and to promote Connectivity by providing government services and information on-line, to the extent possible.

To meet the new challenges of the transition towards the knowledge-based society, we have proposed measures in our action plan to enable all those in our societies to use information and communications technologies to build networks, share ideas and establish more effective partnerships with government and the private sector that will enable them to participate more fully in the political, social and economic development of their respective societies.



Declaration in Support of the Peace Process in Colombia

We, the Heads of State and Government of the countries of the Americas, meeting in Quebec City, for the Third Summit of the Americas, declare our firm support for the efforts which, as state policy, the President of the Republic of Colombia, Andrés Pastrana Arango, is carrying out to achieve peace and reconciliation in his country and to strengthen democratic values.

We recognize the efforts made to progress in the dialogue with guerilla groups, stress the need that the commitments made in the negotiations of Los Pozos be fulfilled, and underscore the importance of the role of the international community and of facilitator countries. At the same time, we are issuing an appeal that, through a firm commitment, progress be made toward a cease-fire and an end to hostilities, with a view to the effective re-establishment of peace. It is necessary that the guerilla groups act in a manner that corresponds to the efforts of the Government to achieve this objective.

We express our confidence that the dialogue and the political negotiations, based on the primacy of law and on respect for international humanitarian law, will lead to a stable, just, firm and lasting peace, putting an end to the violence and human suffering caused by the conflict.



Official Program

Thursday, April 19

- All day **Arrival of Heads of State, Government and Delegation**
Jean-Lesage International Airport
- 4:45 p.m. **Arrival of the Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs. Chrétien**
Jean-Lesage International Airport
- 8:00 p.m. **Bilateral meetings and/or briefings**

Friday, April 20

- All day **Arrival of Heads of State, Government and Delegation**
Jean-Lesage International Airport
- Bilateral meetings and/or briefings**
- 6:30 p.m. **Opening Ceremony**
Quebec City Convention Centre, Room 400A
- 8:00 p.m. **Dinner Reception for Heads of State, Government and Delegation, their spouses and guests offered by the Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs. Chrétien**
Québec Hilton, Ballroom lobby

Saturday, April 21

- 9:00 a.m. **First Plenary Session**
Québec Hilton, Ballroom
- 1:00 p.m. **Reception**
La Citadelle, Saint-Laurent Solarium
- 1:20 p.m. **Official Photo Session**
La Citadelle
- 1:30 p.m. **Working Lunch offered by the Prime Minister of Canada**
La Citadelle, Frontenac Solarium
- 3:05 p.m. **Working Retreat**
La Citadelle, Ballroom
- 5:15 p.m. **Chairman's Statement by the Prime Minister of Canada**
Quebec City Convention Centre, Room 400A

- 7:00 p.m. Private Reception for Heads of State, Government and Delegation, their spouses and guests offered by the Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs. Chrétien
Québec Hilton, Ballroom lobby
- 8:00 p.m. Official Dinner for Heads of State, Government and Delegation, their spouses and guests offered by the Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs. Chrétien
Quebec City Convention Centre, Room 200
- 9:30 p.m. Cultural Evening
Quebec City Convention Centre, Room 200

Sunday, April 22

- 8:00 a.m. Ecumenical Service reserved for Heads of State, Government and Delegation and their spouses (optional)
Chapelle des Ursulines
- 9:30 a.m. Second Plenary Session
Québec Hilton, Ballroom
- 12:00 p.m. Pause
- 12:30 p.m. Closing Ceremony and Signing of the Official Declaration
Québec Hilton, Ballroom
- 1:00 p.m. Press Conference
*Quebec City Convention Centre,
Press Gallery, Room 400A*
- Afternoon and Evening Departure of Heads of State, Government and Delegation
Jean-Lesage International Airport



Opening Ceremony

Welcome by the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien Prime Minister of Canada

On behalf of all Canadians, I am pleased to welcome you to Quebec City for the Third Summit of the Americas.

We are meeting in one of Canada's most beautiful cities. A historic place. The cradle of the Francophonie of the Americas. A cosmopolitan city whose heart beats in rhythm with the cultures of the world.

We are here as elected representatives of our respective countries. Countries united by geography. Brought closer by history. And now forming one of the greatest families in the world. A family rich in its diversity. Proud of its history. Aware of its origins. And ready to begin its journey into the future in a spirit of cooperation, openness and respect.

Our *gran familia* has changed much since Canada joined the Organization of American States more than 10 years ago.

Our hemisphere has embraced a vision for the future based on common values and objectives: strengthening democracy, protecting human rights, promoting human security, creating prosperity and providing all the hemisphere's citizens a chance to realize their full potential. And we have all become equal partners in the pursuit of these objectives.

Of course, each country of the hemisphere has its own priorities and interests, its policies and its concerns. Each has its identity. An identity whose value we must respect and enhance if we would preserve the rich diversity characteristic of the Americas. But beyond our uniqueness, we are very much aware of the chance we have to achieve extraordinary progress if we work together for the well-being of all our peoples.

It is this possibility that is the foundation of the Summit process.

I would like to expand on this question. Because there is a very basic reality that too many have a tendency to forget.

All of our efforts to bring the nations of the Americas closer together are founded on the unquestionable fact that the vast majority of the citizens of our hemisphere want to be governed by democratic institutions. They want judicial systems that guarantee their rights and that give them, if needed, a fair and impartial trial. They want to earn a dignified living, with a good job that allows them to make full use of their talents. And they want to benefit from the prosperity that comes from free markets and stable financial systems.

This summit, like the two that came before it, is the instrument that we have chosen, as democratically elected representatives, to respond to the call of our citizens. And I am firmly convinced that it is the means best suited to achieve our goals.

My friends, democracy and economic integration are the key words of this summit. First, I would like to say a few words about economic integration.

Like all of our initiatives, the creation of a free trade area is not an end in itself. It is a means. A tool for growth that will allow us to promote closer, more dynamic economic relations among the nations of the Americas. In time, it will assure a higher standard of living and a better quality of life for all peoples in the hemisphere.

And we understand the desire of our citizens to be informed about our undertakings. This is not only normal, it is healthy for democracy. That is why we made the collective decision, two weeks ago, to make public the negotiating texts for the free trade area. I am convinced that this gesture will clear up any misunderstandings and refute baseless criticisms about a process whose only goal is to improve the quality of life of our people — of all our people.

Economic integration is only one pillar in our hemispheric edifice. After all, prosperity has no meaning if our citizens are not free, if they are not equal before the law or if they cannot make use of the opportunities open to them.

Our priorities echo this belief.

From the outset, we have focussed on a global action plan of cooperation to reduce poverty, protect the environment, promote the adoption of labour standards, and encourage corporate social responsibility. We are working together to reinforce democracy, to broaden access to education and health care, to promote the equality of men and women, cultural diversity and dialogue with indigenous peoples.

In fact, the leaders of the 40 million indigenous peoples of our hemisphere have held historic meetings to find solutions to their own unique challenges, in Guatemala and in Ottawa last month during the Summit of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. And we must listen carefully to their concerns.

There is no doubt that we are active in many areas. But taken together they form a global, coherent and balanced strategy to strengthen the autonomy of our citizens. Especially those who have often been left out in our societies, among them women, youth, seniors, and people with disabilities.

In the view of Canada, this includes taking measures to reduce, without delay, the gaps that have been created by the information revolution. New communications technologies are giving all the nations of the Americas access to tools they can use to transmit knowledge, do business, increase understanding among peoples, and stimulate human development. The Summit gives us a chance to reflect on the means we have available to assist the Americas in adapting to the transformations caused by the emergence of new technologies. And to put these technologies to work in support of the action plan that we will adopt.

My friends, in a few hours, we will begin the work of the Third Summit of the Americas. And, at the outset, I am convinced that we will be able to respond to the expectations and priorities of our citizens.

Why? Because our Summit agenda has been prepared in consultation with representatives of all sectors of civil society. It has also been enriched by the contributions of those who took part in the first Summit of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. And discussed during the first meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas.

All of these initiatives and consultations reflect our desire to be open and transparent; our resolve to reach out to those who have concerns about our initiatives and to convince them that our plans are well founded.

In a democracy, peaceful protest and peaceful demonstration are fundamental rights. I welcome those who have come to Quebec City to make known their views on how best to advance the social and economic interests of our fellow citizens.

But violence and provocation is unacceptable in a democracy. The type of behaviour that we have seen outside this afternoon by small groups of extremists is contrary to the democratic principles we all hold dear.

These people do not represent the vast majority of those who have come to Quebec City peacefully to express legitimate concerns.

We have a lot of work to do in the next two days if we are to build on the progress that has been made by our ministers and officials in the past few months.

I am convinced that on Sunday, when we leave Quebec, we will have advanced our common cause. That we will have in hand a renewed plan to strengthen democracy, create prosperity and realize the human potential of the hemisphere. And that we will have the resolve, the means and the resources to put our agreements into action.

Finally, I am convinced that in two days this *gran familia* that we are coming to know a little better each day will emerge even more united and with a greater feeling of solidarity:



Address by His Excellency Ricardo Lagos Escobar President of the Republic of Chile

Our hemispheric community met in Santiago three years ago. Today, we are gathered in Quebec, a city that itself represents convergence and expresses the richness and diversity of our Americas. From the far ends of the continent we have again come together to ensure that democracy, economic reforms and integration will bring about real improvements in the lives of the citizens of all our countries.

Three years ago, we proclaimed that education was one of the region's fundamental tasks. Indisputably, the world has changed in these three years. In these three years, globalization has taken hold in the minds of millions. It has taken hold as a challenge we must tackle, as an issue we must debate, as an inescapable reality that brings us together today with greater urgency than three years ago.

In addition to education, in 1998 our countries began talks on the Free Trade Area of the Americas, which we hope to conclude in 2005, as we said at that time.

We have made progress in these years but perhaps we should step up the pace, particularly in education. Three years ago, we said that by 2010 we wanted 100 percent of our children to attend primary school and to receive high-quality education there. We wanted 75 percent of our young people to go to secondary school. It is worthwhile recalling these commitments so we can measure how much further we have to go.

The countries represented here share a large common space. We have similar histories. Although a community is nourished by the past, by geography, it is principally built around a project, a task that aims at a shared future. What makes this task possible is a future we want to tackle together with common dreams and a commitment to action.

The objectives that bind us together are democracy, respect for human rights, economic development and social justice. It's not just living together on the same map that gives meaning to our lives. It is the future that we will have to build together. A glance at these objectives tells us that the results achieved in recent years have been uneven.

Yes, we have made progress in restoring democracy and in respect for human rights. Prime Minister Chrétien was right in saying that those of us who are here are here because we have a mandate from our citizens. We have also assured the sources of growth much better, in my opinion, than the sources of social justice. I conclude that we have a good balance, but perhaps we need a better program for the tasks that lie before us.

The path to economic growth has been a hard one for the region. We had many distortions to correct and we corrected them with courage. We knew that there was no easy shortcut to growth and that we would have to do things right: achieve macroeconomic balance, open up our economies, demonstrate fiscal and monetary responsibility.

Populism was yesterday's task. Today's is to perform well macroeconomically, and there is no left or right along that road. It is travelled, alike, by those who do things well and those who do not.

This has meant a tremendous effort for our economies, but that effort has been worthwhile if we can persevere. But it is also true that we need more and better trade to keep growing. We view trade as a means, not an end, as a tool for growth. The ultimate goal is to grow more, but we want that growth to enable us to improve social justice and equality of opportunity for our citizens.

The only thing I would like to say to the protesters here is that growth is the foundation for improving social conditions in the workplace, improving the environment and ensuring better possibilities for education and health care, and trade is an important element in growth.

Today, together with appreciating that we have learned how to grow and want to do it through freer trade with each other, we must also be concerned to see that the results of growth reach each of the poorest groups in our countries.

There will be no triumph and no one will win unless greater social justice prevails in our countries. We must aim high. Democracy, yes. Respect for human rights, yes. Growth, yes. Social justice too. And if any one of these aims fails or does not attain the results we want to see in the equation, we will not have risen to the challenge. We are in the presence of a complex process and not a sequence.

Social justice is not the fourth stage that arrives after growth, with growth arriving after democracy. That's not how it is.

In all modesty, we should acknowledge here that we know very little about how to achieve greater social justice or equality of opportunity. That is because we often view social justice more as a limitation than as an objective, and it is partly because we have used the same recipe in societies that are different.

We have failed to respect our identities, which means that we need to seek different avenues. Once we find them, we will be able to move ahead. There is no one recipe, just as there is no single line of thought, and we must make progress here too. There is more than one solution for reducing the differences in productivity between the sectors and regions of our continent. More than one solution for stepping up our joint efforts in the public and private spheres. More than one solution for bringing about the changes we wish to see in our societies. More than one solution for improving social services. More than one solution for strengthening diversity in our society.

One of our Nobel Prize winners, Gabriel García Márquez, has rightly said: "The originality that we are fully allowed in literature is denied us and viewed with great suspicion in our difficult attempts at social change."

This is why we should strive to be just as proud of bringing about a relative reduction in poverty in our countries as we are of our macroeconomic balances, our balanced

budgets, our good balances of payments. Both are important parts of the edifice we wish to build.

It is not true that to grow we have to abandon the idea of a better world and equality of opportunity, and it is not true that we can achieve equality of opportunity and a better world if we are not capable of growing. One of the things we need for growth is to dare to trade freely among ourselves.

In general, it is also easy to see that the field of traditional redistributive policies has narrowed, is smaller, is more difficult. Rather than redistributing wealth, we should be concerned with the distribution of opportunity in our countries — opportunity for employment, education, health care.

At this summit we intend to concentrate on the challenge of how to improve trade among ourselves, making it more fluid. But it is just as important to tackle other equally significant challenges. We need to define policies that promote greater competitiveness among ourselves; policies to support investments in human and physical capital; policies to improve our social management; and education policies linked to the use of the new information and communications technologies. Therefore, we should devise a plan for better liaison among the different institutions of learning throughout the hemisphere.

These objectives are ambitious, but we are here to establish goals that aim high. We must set ourselves goals that take adequate account of the needs of the citizens of this hemisphere.

Since we are now laying the groundwork for freer trade, which will bring us to faster growth, we should also set goals to ensure that faster growth will permit us to improve social cohesion in our countries.

I would like to think that at this summit, here in Quebec City, we will take up the great challenge of moving toward freer trade, and my country has been a clear and decisive advocate of this direction. With the same impetus, I would like us to proclaim at our next meeting, in three years' time, that we are capable of seriously proposing a pact for social cohesion. Just as we want to trade freely and to manage the economy well and have a good democratic system, we should also set a course for our countries that will enable us to say yes, there will be greater social justice, more opportunity for everyone, because thanks to our growth in democracy, we can aspire to better education, better housing, greater justice.

How we establish the linkage between trade, growth and social justice is perhaps the highest challenge, so that we can respond to people who think that by shouting a bit they will be heard better in their quest for equal opportunity.

Equality of opportunity is forged through a steadfast effort by all. Just as over the next two days here in Quebec City we will undoubtedly be successful in the tasks we have proposed for achieving a Free Trade Area of the Americas as a collective challenge, I would like to invite you to propose new goals for achieving greater social cohesion in

our societies, based on growth, which in the end will strengthen our democracies and respect for the rights of each of our citizens.

We will rally the Americas around a better proposal, which we will broach with seriousness, hard work and dedication — the same qualities that will be exhibited in the talks we are now beginning.

Thank you for this invitation to work together over the next two days. I am certain that we will feel optimistic on our return home, convinced that we are closer to achieving the dream of a hemispheric community, a common objective that makes us all proud.



Address by His Excellency Fernando Henrique Cardoso President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

A few weeks ago, in Brazil, a team of anthropologists of the government agency entrusted with the protection of Indian groups undertook an expedition to the Javari Basin in the heart of the Amazon, to areas inhabited by isolated Indian groups with little or no contact at all with national society.

Almost at the same time, plenipotentiaries of 34 American countries were meeting here in Quebec City to discuss a broad cooperation agenda that includes "connectivity" among its topics — a good neologism that stresses the importance of access to technologies and knowledge in the new globalized economy.

On the one hand, still isolated communities; on the other, the Internet revolution.

These facts led me to ponder the wisdom of the small letter "s" at the end of the title of our meeting: the "Summit of the Americas."

We are, indeed, a plural continent, a continent of diversity — diversity of income, living standards, languages, culture, races and forms of social organization; a diversity we can trace back to the encounter of civilizations initiated in 1492.

There is not one but several Americas — 34 Americas, perhaps, or more precisely 35, with the inclusion in a not too distant future, we hope, of the people of Cuba, our friends and brothers.

And each of our countries encloses within itself its own contrasts.

But if we spoke only of diversity, we would produce a false impression, as the Americas are also a continent united in its aspiration for democracy with freedom, social justice and prosperity for all.

We are indeed a New World.

We are a new world because the Americas are an ongoing project, an unfinished task.

Ours is a new world because as we step into the 21st century we are still struggling with problems stemming from choices made during the colonization period, particularly the infamy of slavery, which still casts its shadow of injustice on the present, even more than a century after its abolition. Its aftermath is evident not only in the perpetuation of social inequalities but also in the germs of racism that we have not yet been able to eliminate completely.

We are a new world, above all, because ours is a continent of promise and opportunities and because we harbour the hope for justice, a hope that is assured us by the prevalence of the democratic system.

It has not always been so. In the second half of the 20th century, a considerable portion of this continent was plagued by authoritarian regimes or practices that suppressed democracy in the name of freedom and violated the most basic freedoms in the name of democracy.

And this relapse into authoritarianism contaminated the very relations among the peoples of this hemisphere.

This reminder is necessary, as it contains a lesson: the integration we are undertaking in the Americas today is possible only because it is grounded on the adherence of all, without exception, to democratic values and principles.

The issues on our agenda — trade, technology, environment, combatting organized crime, education and health — are areas in which cooperation among peoples can prosper only because of democratic legitimacy.

This legitimacy is two-sided: internally, the operation and steady improvement of the institutions of the rule of law; externally, mutual respect and the primacy of dialogue over all other forms of coercion and the use of force.

The great issues of our time will be resolved through dialogue and understanding or will not be resolved at all.

Through dialogue and understanding conducive to greater access to markets and technologies, as well as to larger investment in the region's less-developed countries, we will be able to meet the aspirations of the peoples of our continent and, more pressingly, the aspirations of the poorest and most vulnerable.

Through dialogue and cooperation we will be able to tackle current challenges, such as ensuring treatment at the lowest possible cost for AIDS patients. As the successful Brazilian experience in this field shows, we already have the means to give hope and to improve the life of HIV victims. We cannot fail to use these means — and to use them to the fullest extent, not least in cooperating with other developing countries plagued by the evil.

I have spoken of the diversity that characterizes our region, the diversity we wish to preserve. Neither hemispheric integration nor the globalization process should mean an inexorable descent into cultural homogeneity. In this regard, difference itself is a value.

But if we wish to advance toward effective hemispheric integration, we should set as our task the elimination of unjust diversity — the profound inequality of income and living conditions, both within and among countries.

Our aim must be a community of the Americas. And “community” presupposes consciousness of a common destiny and thus the elimination of asymmetries and the assurance of equal opportunities for all.

It also presupposes the recognition that each people's historical journey in shaping its economic institutions may be different. There is no one way of thinking that can dictate alone the course of nations.

Free trade is one instrument at our disposal.

The progressive elimination of barriers to trade can play a decisive role in opening up opportunities for economic growth and for doing away inequalities.

This is how we in Brazil envisage the possibility of an FTAA.

This is how we have successfully built up Mercosur — an absolute priority for Brazil, and an achievement that is there to stay, which will not cease to exist because of participation in integration schemes of a wider geographical range.

A Free Trade Area of the Americas is welcome if its creation is a step toward providing access to more dynamic markets; if it indeed leads to common antidumping rules; if it reduces non-tariff barriers; if it prevents the protectionist distortion of sound sanitary norms; and if, while protecting intellectual property, it also furthers the technological capabilities of our people; and also if it goes beyond the Uruguay Round to redress the inequalities resulting from those negotiations, particularly with regard to agriculture. Otherwise it would be irrelevant or, worse, undesirable.

If we have the wisdom to do it well, the FTAA may mean progress in the promotion of development and social justice.

We will insist that free trade benefits should be equally shared by all participants, that trade opening should be reciprocal and that it should lead to the attenuation rather than the aggravation of the disparities that exist in our region.

It is essential that these assumptions be kept at the back of our minds at every moment of the negotiations that will unfold until January 2005.

To this end, the conduct of negotiations should be transparent to ensure that each society will have available all the information it will need to decide on these issues while fully exercising sovereign democracy.

Negotiations such as these will succeed only if conducted with wisdom — statesman-like wisdom — in order not to lose sight of the objectives and to prevent them from being sacrificed to the short run or to special interests.

This ought to be the political message of the Third Summit of the Americas, at which the region's democratically elected leaders are gathered, to the trade negotiators who will work in the coming years to define the content of the proposals for a free trade area.

If we keep in mind that free trade is an instrument for achieving the objectives of development and justice, it would be an obvious mistake — a very serious mistake, indeed — to set given standards of social development as a prior condition for free trade. This would be tantamount to making development a prior condition for development, what is called, in logic, a *petitio principii*. In good colloquial language, this would be putting the cart before the horse.

The fight for protecting the environment and for the progress of labour norms is a crucial endeavour that should continue to deserve high priority on the international

agenda at the appropriate forums. But this fight must not become a pretext for protectionist or distorting practices.

The task incumbent upon us with respect to environmental protection is the strengthening of the cooperation regimes and mechanisms created by the international community. In order to reverse the global warming trend, which affects all of us, it is essential to maintain the process of negotiation under the aegis of the Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,

Today, at the outset of a new century, we have a real possibility to ensure that the American continent will be a land of freedom and justice for all who live on it, now and in the future.

At different moments in our history, the ideal of a pan-American system based on the principles of equality and mutual respect has come to the fore.

At the threshold of the 19th century, men like Thomas Jefferson and the Portuguese-Brazilian diplomat Correa Serra were already dreaming of an "American system." We have since trodden a path that though not always free of mistakes has ensured us a legacy — the vision of an American continent defined not by the asymmetry of power but by a community of values.

Turning this vision into a reality depends on us, on our work and decisions. It falls on the political leadership — Heads of State and Government, parliamentarians and civil society movements — to achieve our continent's greatness.

The thousands of demonstrators on Quebec's streets expect this from us. Their protest is fuelled by the fear of an FTAA and a globalization without "a human face." This is our challenge.

Still more important: hundreds of millions of people that have not come to Quebec but whose fate is inseparable from hemispheric integration expect this from us — not only from this summit but in the years to come.

Brazil is committed to working hard and determinedly to build a community of democratic nations dedicated to freedom, justice and development in the Americas — democratic nations that meet one another not only as participants in a marketplace but as members of a civilization predicated on the values of humanity.

Thank you.



Address by the Right Honourable Owen Seymour Arthur Prime Minister of Barbados and President of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

I address you today in the name of the people of the Caribbean Community. In that spirit, I am pleased to recognize that the enterprise we are engaged in today in Quebec City began in the Caribbean almost two centuries ago.

For it was in Jamaica in 1815 that the great apostle of freedom Simón Bolívar wrote in his famous letter, "More than anyone else, I desire to see America fashioned into the greatest nation in the world, greatest not so much by virtue of her area and wealth as by her freedom and glory."

This community of the Americas that we, the heirs of Bolívar, are attempting to build has its roots in, and draws its energy from, a wonderful and a rich diversity.

When I think back to the first Summit in 1994, I am struck by the dramatic transformation in the very concept of the community that we are trying to achieve. On that occasion, propelled by the wave of trade liberalization sweeping the world, we set out primarily to devise a plan for a free trade area of the Americas by the year 2005.

By our second Summit in Santiago in 1998, we recognized and focussed on education and social issues as key to our progress. Here in Quebec City we intend to make our vision more holistic by elaborating a plan of action that calls not only for strengthening democracy and creating prosperity but, most important of all, for realizing human potential.

Let us commit ourselves to making this summit the people-centred summit. It is urgent that we do so.

The old bipolar world of a Cold War balance of terror lies in shambles about us. Few would lament its passing. Yet, now we are confronted with a set of new complex issues. We lurch from one international financial crisis to another, with devastating consequences for our economies.

The traffic in illicit drugs and firearms has led to unprecedented levels of corruption and violent crime, forcing many of our law-abiding citizens to cower in their homes.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic threatens to wipe out an entire generation of the young people of our Americas.

And the continued degradation of the environment, including the potentially catastrophic consequences of global warming, hangs like the sword of Damocles over us.

Compounding all of this, poverty intensifies around us. As a consequence, our people have begun to lose confidence in the future. They tend to see only the dark side of globalization and trade liberalization. They fear for jobs lost, cultures destroyed and

communities uprooted. They dread the coming of a "new world" dominated by an impersonal technology and an even more impersonal market in which the human being is a mere cipher.

And we, the political leaders of the Americas and others, who envision the enormous potential benefits from the forces of integration and the revolution in information technology, find our voices being increasingly drowned out by the clamour against globalization.

And are we not in some measure to be blamed? Is it not cause for concern that so far the benefits have been so inequitably distributed? Have we for the most part not failed to fashion new instruments for new times?

Our summits therefore have an importance that goes beyond declarations and action plans. They are the only serious attempt to fashion new forms of lasting hemispheric cooperation to deal with the complex new world around us.

Indeed, we are entering an era that holds enormous and empowering promise. But that promise rests on the precarious edifice of societies, and relations between societies, fractured by inequities.

The distinguished Canadian economist Gerald Helleiner has urged that the global economy can be and must be "civilised." We all must surely share that view!

As leaders of the Americas, our challenge is to ensure that the fruits of our efforts are widely and equitably distributed, both within and among our nations. To achieve this, we must fashion a hemispheric community based on respect for diversity and on the full involvement of our people.

There can, however, be no community without communication and interaction. We must therefore set as our goal the access of all citizens of the Americas to the increased flows of information facilitated by the new technology. Our commitment to connecting the Americas will go a long way to making this Quebec City summit a people-centred summit.

The respect for our diversity also requires that we recognize and take into account the different levels and patterns of development in the hemisphere, paying particular regard to the special situation of our smaller societies.

What we are attempting to do through these summits is to create a hemispheric community of a scale and of an intensity never before contemplated by man.

It will be a community that will bring into the same economic and social space the world's most powerful and some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable societies.

In treading a similar path, though faced with less disparity, the European Community saw the need and the wisdom to create special financial and other mechanisms to harmoniously and beneficially integrate its poorer societies fully into its community.

Nothing less is required if we are to build a successful community of the Americas.

We in the Caribbean remain committed to a realistic timetable for the negotiation of the FTAA by 2005.

For us, however, the creation of the FTAA is more than just about trade, it is more than just about getting tariffs and other marketing mechanisms right. It is quintessentially about expanding the horizons for economic and investment opportunities for all of us.

Our Caribbean, like the Mediterranean, has found itself repeatedly at the crossroads of history.

Yet through the trauma of genocide, wars and invasions, slavery and indentured servitude that is our history, we have not only survived, but have been extraordinarily creative as a people in fashioning a community of nations marked by freedom, justice and cooperation in the face of a stern adversity.

Our Caribbean has a vital contribution to make to the creation of the community of the Americas. Our long history of stable democratic governance, our progress in establishing societies rooted in social justice and respect for human rights, and our determination to forge communities based on ethnic and cultural diversity are assets that we proudly bring to that wider hemispheric process.

The Caribbean's democratic tradition has especially been exemplified by respect for and tolerance of differences of opinion. That experience leads us to the strong belief that we can and must fashion a hemispheric community from which no one is excluded, least of all in the name of democracy. The time must certainly have come for engaging Cuba constructively in the creation of a comprehensive community of the Americas.

Let us therefore not shirk our historic responsibility here in Quebec City. The challenges we face are daunting.

Let us make it our responsibility at this summit to reassure all the peoples of the Americas that we are sensitive to the problems facing us; that we have the courage to tackle them; and that we can summon the political will to provide the resources for resolving them.

We can do so by creating not just a Free Trade Area of the Americas, but a hemispheric community based on tolerance and respect for each other; a community that will realize the full human potential of all the citizens of the Americas; a community that will transform, if I may be permitted to paraphrase the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., "the jangling discord of our nations into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood."

On behalf of the Caribbean Community, I thank the Government of Canada for the opportunity of meeting in this beautiful, historic city and of experiencing the warm and generous hospitality of its people. Quebec City symbolizes the cultural and linguistic diversity that enriches our hemisphere. It is not always easy to create unity out of diversity. Ask any Canadian. But it is more than worth the effort. I have no doubt that our meeting here will be inspired by these values. I thank you.



Address by His Excellency
Francisco Guillermo Flores Pérez
President of the Republic of El Salvador

I would like to begin by talking about my country, which is what I hold dearest to my heart, and go on from there to organize my thoughts and express my conviction that this summit can be the source of great hope for all of the Americas.

El Salvador has had an opportunity that very few countries have experienced in their history. The cruel conflict we endured for 13 years has forced us to think about our future and to pause to take stock.

During that pause, we decided to make a commitment to freedom. We signed a new constitution in the midst of the war, which will permit all political factions to express themselves freely and participate fully in the political process we intend to follow.

We have committed ourselves to a new institutional framework through the Peace Agreement, pointing our institutions in a truly new direction, which is service to the public.

We have committed to an economic model of freedom, reducing the role of government to its true dimensions, and we have developed a policy of liberalization that, in the context of a responsible and sound economic balance, will allow economic agents to act freely.

El Salvador has made a decisive commitment to freedom, which has permitted us to end the conflict, make a start on economic analysis to combat poverty, and present ourselves to the world as a democratic country that welcomes the entire range of political and other opinion under its own roof.

Central America has travelled the same road, moving away from the rigid structures of the past. It has moved from dictatorships to democracies. Intelligently and courageously, it has been able through major peace agreements as in Guatemala, for example to achieve peace and include people who once expressed themselves through weapons but who now express themselves through the ballot box.

Central America has also worked to liberalize trade through its common market. It has lowered its tariffs and announced its commitment to liberalization and freedom to the world.

This decision by the region and by my country in particular is the only path to follow, as we have learned at a high cost during recent events in El Salvador.

El Salvador has suffered through two incredibly severe earthquakes, which are likely among the largest natural disasters the world has seen in the last 100 years, and this tremendous crisis has shown that the new institutions we built up have enabled the government to respond to the country's needs.

This freedom allowed individuals to respond creatively to the tragedy; it permitted institutions that had previously been repressive — such as the army — to act in the public service.

As a result, El Salvador has clear and concrete experience with the fact that freedom is the way to combat poverty and overcome underdevelopment. The concept is strikingly simple — the true recipe for countries is their people, their human capital, the capital of individual creativity.

Creativity can develop only in freedom, since it is only when individuals enjoy freedom of expression, freedom of action and respect for their differences that they are able to develop their tremendous capital, which is their creative energy.

Therefore, democracy, whose foundation is freedom, is the only way to combat poverty. However, this progress in Central America, this progress in democracy of which all Central Americans are proud, is still weak and fragile because nothing is weaker or more fragile than freedom, particularly at a time when we are overhauling our institutions, our political structures and our trade. Despite our efforts, we have not been able to find as much receptiveness as we would like in other countries.

What is missing from the equation of freedom is true trade liberalization, which would give our countries access to the more developed, richer and more powerful markets of the industrialized world.

This is not a petition to simply talk about the challenge. We are saying that we have already done it, we have already opened up, we have already tackled the difficult processes of liberalization. Our position here is that to save the emergence of democracy in our region, we need true economic freedom, which will permit those who were so critical in the past, those whose advice we have followed, those who fought for institutional reforms, to enjoy the true and concrete fruits of economic well-being.

Here, at this opening session, I would like to thank, on my own behalf and on behalf of all the Central American countries, the generosity demonstrated by the Canadian people through their Prime Minister in welcoming us here, despite the violent demonstrations, the fences being torn down and the professional anarchists who have tried to halt the work of democratically elected presidents here at the Summit.

In Canada, this will be seen as a minor annoyance carried out by a small group of people who seek notoriety through such actions. In our countries, in our fledgling democracies, it would be a much greater threat.

The equation of political freedom, freedom of expression and true freedom of trade is not complete if our countries must await development before they can take control of their lives through permanent jobs.

As long as this expectation is still out of reach, our fragile democracies become vulnerable to the voices that argue that the blame for the world situation, the blame for poverty, the blame for the situation in many underdeveloped countries is globalization,

is liberalization. As a result, a space has come to exist in our countries for people who advocate collectivist, dictatorial and authoritarian experiments.

There is no time to lose. We cannot ask our people to wait and wait. This Summit, this possibility for a united and truly open area of the Americas, is the real hope of our people for combatting poverty. We Central Americans have come here to lay out our position clearly and, having travelled the road to democracy and paid the costs of liberalization, the least we can hope for is that we will leave this summit with a true commitment to free trade.



Strengthening Democracy in the Hemisphere

Address by His Excellency George W. Bush President of the United States of America

Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. *Amigo y amigos*, it's an honour to be here. First, Mr. Prime Minister, I want to thank you for your warm hospitality, and I want to thank all those folks in your government who have worked hard to make this conference a success. My fellow presidents and prime ministers and leaders of our hemisphere's 34 democracies, it is a great honour to be here.

We have a great vision before us, a fully democratic hemisphere bound together by goodwill and free trade. That's a tall order. It is a chance of a lifetime. It is a responsibility we all share.

Quebec City is a fitting place for us to begin. Many of the great cultures that have shaped our hemisphere converge in this city. Before Champlain ever sailed the St. Lawrence he sailed the Caribbean, visiting Mexico and Colombia, Puerto Rico and Panama. As a matter of fact, he was one of the first to propose a canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific, so that trade might prosper. During the 400 years since Champlain's travels, our hemisphere, united by geography, has too often — too often — been separated by a history of rivalry and resentment.

But we have entered a new era. The interests of my nation, of all our nations, are served by strong, healthy democratic neighbours, and are served best by lasting friendships in our own neighbourhood.

My country, more than ever, feels the ties of kinship, commerce and culture that unite us. And I'm proud to have the privilege so early in my administration to meet with all the leaders of this hemisphere's democratic countries.

Our task is to take the vital principles shaped at Miami and Santiago and translate them into actions that directly benefit the people we answer to. I'm here to offer my own ideas. I'm here to learn, and to listen from voices — to those inside this hall, and to those outside this hall who want to join us in constructive dialogue.

The single most important thing we will do here is to reaffirm that this summit is a gathering of, by and for democracies, and only democracies. Today, freedom embraces the entire hemisphere, except for one country. And we look forward to the day when all this hemisphere's peoples will know the benefits and dignity of freedom. José Martí said it best: *La libertad no es negociable*.

We also understand that democracy is a journey, not a destination. Each nation here, including the United States, must work to make freedom succeed. Elections are the

foundation of democracy, but nations need to build on this foundation with other building blocks, such as a strong judiciary, freedom to speak and write as you wish, efficient banking and social services, quality schools, secure ownership of land, the ability to start and own a business. We must strengthen this architecture of democracy for the benefit of all our people.

This is the spirit behind the American Fellows exchange program that I announce here today. This program will sponsor one-year exchanges of outstanding civil servants among nations throughout the Americas. We'll also provide resources to help reform and modernize judicial institutions, protect basic human rights, and root out corruption and other threats to the institutions that sustain freedom.

Our hemisphere's support for democracy and freedom is principled, but it is also pragmatic. Freedom is not only a right, it is also our best weapon against tyranny and poverty. Some complain that despite our democratic gains, there is still too much poverty and inequality. Some even say that things are getting worse, not better. For too many, this may be true. But the solution does not lie in statism or protectionism; the solution lies in more freedom.

And that is why we seek freedom not only for people living within our borders, but also for commerce moving across our borders. Free and open trade creates new jobs and new income. It lifts the lives of all our people, applying the power of markets to the needs of the poor. It spurs the process of economic and legal reform. And open trade reinforces the habit of liberty that sustains democracy over the long haul.

The United States will work for open trade at every opportunity. We will seek bilateral free trade agreements with friends and partners, such as the one we aim to complete this year with Chile. We will work for open trade globally through negotiations in the World Trade Organization. And here in the Americas, we will work hard to build an entire hemisphere that trades in freedom.

The history of our times is clear: progress is found in pluralism; modernization is found in markets. Free enterprise requires liberty and enlarges liberty. Our commitment to open trade must be matched by a strong commitment to protecting our environment and improving labour standards.

Yet, these concerns must not be an excuse for self-defeating protectionism. We know from NAFTA that open trade works. Since 1994, total trade among Canada and Mexico and the United States has more than doubled. NAFTA has given consumers in all three nations more choices, at lower prices. And it has created high-quality, good-wage jobs from the Yukon to the Yucatan.

The time has come to extend the benefits of free trade to all our peoples and to achieve a free trade agreement for the entire hemisphere. Our challenge is to energize our negotiations on a Free Trade Area of the Americas so that they can be completed no later than the year 2005.

In my first speech to our Congress, I made clear that achieving U.S. trade promotion authority was among my top priorities. I reinforced that message just two weeks ago, when I met to discuss trade issues with congressional leaders. When I return to Washington, I will put forward a set of principles that will be the framework for more intense consultations with Congress. I'm committed to attaining trade promotion authority before the end of the year. I'm confident that I will get it.

Partnership in trade is fundamental to the hemisphere's well-being. But we know it is not, by itself, sufficient to guarantee the quality of life we seek for ourselves and for our children. Too many people in our hemisphere grow, sell and use illegal drugs. I want to make this clear: the United States is responsible to fight demand for drugs within our own borders. We have a serious obligation to do so. And we will expand our efforts, with meaningful resources, to work with producer and transit countries to fortify their democratic institutions, to promote sustainable development, and to fight the supply of drugs at the source.

This is a message I carried yesterday to the leaders of the Andean countries. The United States so appreciates the difficult challenge they face in fighting drugs, and stands ready to be a consistent and true partner. We're also committed to deepening our cooperation throughout the hemisphere in fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS, responding to natural disasters, and making sure the benefits of globalization are felt in even the smallest of economies. These goals are at the heart of the Third Border Initiative that we have launched with the countries of the Caribbean.

We're committed to protecting the hemisphere's natural resources. That's why I'm committed to using the *Tropical Forest Conservation Act* to help countries redirect debt repayments toward local projects that will protect biodiversity and tropical forests. As the program demonstrates success, I'm prepared to work with Congress to boost the funding.

We're committed to making education a centrepiece of our economic agenda, because learning and literacy are the foundations for development and democracy. The United States will sponsor the creation of hemispheric centres for teacher excellence. These centres will provide teacher training for improving literacy and basic education, both in person and over the Internet.

And finally, we will sponsor the creation of the new Latin E-business Fellowship program. This will give young professionals from throughout the Americas the opportunity to learn about information technology by spending time with United States companies. It will empower them with the skills and background to bring the benefits of these technologies to their own societies.

On the day I became President, I talked of liberty as a seed upon the wind, taking root in many nations. For over two decades, our hemisphere has been fertile ground for freedom. So many men and women have left the shadow of oppression and fear. After coming so far, this is not the time to grow timid or weary. Freedom is still our best weapon against tyranny and want. In so many places in this hemisphere, liberty has been won. Now the blessings of liberty must be extended to every life.

When we reach this goal by our unified efforts, we will inspire the world by our example. Together, let us go forward to build an age of prosperity in a hemisphere of liberty. Together, let us use this Summit of the Americas to launch the century of the Americas.

Juntos podemos. Juntos lo haremos. God bless the Americas and God bless our people.



Address by His Excellency Vicente Fox Quesada President of the United Mexican States

Mexico is participating in this Third Summit of the Americas in full support of the project to build a continental community.

I am pleased to attend this meeting, representing a renewed Mexico, determined to strengthen democracy, promote prosperity and enhance the human potential of our people.

In recent years, Latin America has been the bearer of good news.

Democracy has spread and gradually become consolidated throughout the continent.

We have succeeded in broadening and deepening the institutional quality of our new political systems and have included civil society in decision making, which has led to increasingly transparent public management.

Human rights are observed, respected and protected on a broader and growing scale in our countries.

We have also worked to regain the pace of our development by opening up our economies. Reference has already been made to the North American Free Trade Agreement, which has been a complete success and led to unprecedented levels of trade and job creation, with the result that almost half of all Mexicans have full-time jobs. This is what can be expected of a continental free trade agreement.

It has also led to discipline in public finances and control of inflation.

Lastly, our region has demonstrated its commitment to international peace and security by removing border tensions.

There is much to celebrate, but also much to regret.

Our region continues to be one of the most inequitable in the world, and 220 million Latin Americans still live in poverty.

Our education systems and our scientific and technological capacity are far from meeting the needs of the emerging knowledge society.

We have permitted our natural resources to deteriorate, through the destruction of our forests and jungles and the pollution of our rivers and lakes.

The strengthening of democracy should be one of our highest priorities in the region.

Today, Mexican men and women feel a renewed optimism and a new commitment to democracy, acknowledging its central role in the promotion of human and economic development.

Last July's elections in Mexico, the most hotly contested and cleanest in our history, were a triumph — a triumph for society as a whole. They marked the beginning of a new stage in our history and unleashed a great deal of positive energy.

I invite you to reiterate the commitment of the countries of this continent to democratic institutions. Economic growth and progress will never be lasting if our political systems are not legitimate, are not recognized as efficient, transparent and effectively representative.

I am convinced that the democratic exercise of power, coupled with democratization of the economy and the strengthening of our rule of law, will lead to more competitive and more progressive economies and more just and humane societies.

Therefore, Mexico has proposed and firmly supports the inclusion of the democracy clause in the *Plan of Action* that will issue from this summit, which recognizes that democratic values and practices are crucial for achieving the objectives we have set ourselves and that any alteration or rupture in the democratic order in any of our countries would be an obstacle to their participation in the Summit of the Americas process.

Alongside the consolidation of democracy, in my opinion it is indispensable to reiterate our commitment to human rights. Mexico proposes to adopt a series of measures to strengthen respect for those rights domestically and to promote their observance throughout the world.

The protection of human rights should be of capital importance in the continent. Once and for all, we must eradicate torture, discrimination, the exploitation of human beings, mistreatment of and discrimination against indigenous peoples, vulnerable groups and migrants, and all forms of abuse of power.

We must make a firm commitment to protect all the rights of all people: freedom to speak and write, freedom to associate and meet, freedom to protest loudly, freedom to caterwaul, but also freedom to demonstrate peacefully, without violence, freedom to respect the right of democratically elected heads of state to meet to improve the standard of living of their people, freedom of conscience, free and secret ballots, the right to justice, the right to freely profess a religion. All these rights and many others require a framework of equity and security that we are obliged to guarantee.

We know that poverty, particularly extreme poverty, is an implacable mechanism for exclusion in a democracy, since it isolates those who suffer from it physically, psychologically and culturally from the rest of society:

High indexes of poverty mean that a considerable part of the population of our countries does not have effective participation in the democratic process.

There can be no genuine democracy in a society heavily marked by poverty and inequality, which is the case in many parts of Latin America, including Mexico.

There can be no sustainable development unless we seriously adhere to the commitment to new sustainability that protects our present and guarantees our future. We must keep watch over our continent's natural capital.

Building a common future involves preserving our greatest asset — our immense natural resources.

There can be no development unless we are capable of narrowing the gap between those who have access to information technologies and those who are unable even to dream of having them.

In our times, information technologies must be at the centre of our countries' agenda. The objective is for the information and communications revolution to become truly continental in scope. This is the only way to reduce the digital gap between countries, companies and families.

On the foundation of democracy, freedom and solidarity, it is imperative to build bridges that will carry us to a shared future; bridges between the successful vanguard and the forgotten rearguard, between tradition and modernity, between the old and the new economy; bridges to allow those who have been excluded from development to join in a process to which they are entitled; fast-lane bridges to arrive more quickly and comfortably, to enable everyone to cross, including those who have been bypassed up to now.

To that end, strong growth in economic citizenship is a necessity. We must democratize markets and ensure that the tools for access to the new economy are available to everyone. This is the only way to unleash the energy of the millions who have been excluded from development.

Rational markets are not sufficient to achieve this. We require an elementary sense of justice and a large dose of politics and active politicians.

Societies do not transform themselves with apathetic politicians. After all, today in Latin America, rather than being the art of the possible, politics should be the art of making the necessary possible, doing it together and doing it as quickly as possible.

Today, our future binds us as much as our past. The imbalances must be recognized and attacked right now.

Technical assistance and scientific cooperation are not sufficient in themselves to surmount these differences.

To build a more competitive, more equitable and more just continent, we need criteria for convergence and measurement of results, institutions to provide support, financing systems that promote the construction of infrastructure for harmonious and sustained growth. We also need social solidarity funds to promote the most bypassed communities on our continent.

I am aware that many people have doubts about how to establish social solidarity funds. We must think creatively and horizontally.

I propose today, by way of example, that the countries of Latin America contribute a percentage of what we spend on defence to launch a social solidarity fund.

The other countries and the multilateral development banks could do something equivalent.

We share something more than a geographic space. We have something more than neighbourly relations. Our ties are as deep as our history and as rich as our culture. It is time to convert these shared assets into a wager on the future.

Latin America must be more daring. Our values form a strategic reserve. We should act firmly and strategically to face up to the enormous challenges of democracy, respect for human rights, the war on poverty, the challenges of the new economy and the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development.

We should and we can convert the entire region into a spearhead, a place of innovation and dynamism, of opportunities for all men and women, a shared future, a certain and hopeful future for the children and young people of this continent, for our sons and daughters.

We must not permit ourselves the luxury of drifting rudderless in the wind, at the mercy of market forces. We must define our destiny, channel it and then move directly toward our goals.

I invite you to make our efforts transcend national borders. Through cooperation and close contact among us, let us build a new hemispheric space for development.

Let us turn the 21st century into the Century of the Americas!



Address by the Honourable Javier Pérez de Cuéllar President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru

It is an honour for me in my capacity as Prime Minister to represent President Valentín Paniagua, who has been unable to leave the country owing to constitutional business. I am equally honoured to be the spokesperson of the Peruvian people, who, through their democratic will, have been able to defeat the darkness of dictatorship and corruption and re-establish the rule of law in the country. The fairness, freedom and transparency of the April 8 elections bear witness to this and are permitting Peruvians to start building their well-being on the basis of liberty and democracy.

The leaders of the countries of this continent have gathered here in Quebec, a lively cultural city that so generously welcomes us today, to reaffirm democracy, human rights and social justice, and to seal a solidarity pact to promote development and a better quality of life for all citizens.

For our citizens to exercise their right to democracy in public and daily life, for our democratic institutions to be increasingly representative, and for freedom to mark the boundary between the power of the state and the individual, it is indispensable to share a common democratic conscience. Today, at this event, Canada symbolizes the democratic conscience of the continent.

The existence of this democratic conscience is one of the signs of our times. Our civil societies identify with the values of freedom, democracy, human rights, justice and equitable development. In the Americas, this development of individual and social conscience has created new social and cultural conditions for cooperation among our peoples and for a stronger inter-American system.

Democracy in the Americas has evolved positively over the last two decades, although not without alarms or crises. Almost all our peoples live under democratic systems and are crusading today to preserve freedom and improve their democratic institutions.

As well, our governments have made significant headway in laws and institutions to protect democracy. One undisputed historical reality that supports this statement is that no movement and no government that has, in recent years, attempted to curtail the right of its people to democracy has been able to fully entrench itself. On the contrary, the will to democracy has prevailed. This is an encouraging sign of our times.

Today, the inter-American system has a set of rules, values, principles and mechanisms to protect democracy that make up the international legal system.

Considerable progress has been made since the first Summit in 1994. The approval and application of OAS Resolution 1080 has made for concerted action in cases where the democratic process has been abruptly interrupted. Although its application has not

been totally consistent with the democratic standards and legal underpinnings that sustain it, Resolution 1080 is a valuable tool that should be perfected and used in future with greater rigour.

The *Washington Protocol* of 1992 amended the OAS Charter to include a democracy clause whereby when a legitimate government is overthrown by force, the government that has usurped power can be suspended from the OAS.

Furthermore, based on the unhappy experience with a long authoritarian government that Peru recently lived through, the OAS-approved Resolution 1753, if successfully applied, can become the seed of a new mechanism to prevent and react to situations that seriously threaten democratic life and the rule of law, even if they do not take the form of a traditional military coup.

International solidarity, the appropriate reaction by the inter-American system and the application of diplomatic sanctions, where necessary, such as those established in the *Washington Protocol*, are invaluable complementary factors. But they only achieve their true worth when internal forces decide to forge their own democratic destiny, as was the case in Peru.

Potential threats to democracy make it necessary to strengthen the OAS's institutional resources to protect and deepen democracy and the rule of law.

Therefore, Peru believes that it reflects the aspirations of all the peoples and governments of the Americas when it calls upon the heads of state and government meeting in Quebec City to give a mandate to their foreign ministers to prepare and approve an inter-American democracy charter.

An inter-American democracy charter would be a coherent systematization of the series of rules and mechanisms to promote and protect democracy that exist in the inter-American system and in our different regions and subregions. It would also be an option for strengthening them and adapting them to address new challenges.

The democracy charter we propose should also provide greater political impetus for the rules of the inter-American system, which make democracy an essential and indispensable requisite for belonging to the regional cooperation system.

It will also be fundamental to develop the functional and conceptual linkages that exist between human rights and democracy.

Apart from being a political system that ensures the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy is, in itself, a human right. Therefore, in the development of international law on this continent it has become a duty of states. Demands that states carry out this duty, assumed in the free exercise of their sovereignty, cannot be interpreted as undermining the principle of non-intervention.

The inter-American democracy charter must necessarily provide suitable mechanisms for coping with new threats against democracy.

Obvious electoral fraud, the transformation of legitimately elected governments into autocracies, the suppression of the division of powers, the systematic subjection of the administration of justice to the political branch of government, and serious and systematic attempts to stifle the freedom of expression or other fundamental freedoms should be rejected in solidarity.

A collective reaction can encourage domestic political, social and institutional forces to demand the re-establishment of the rule of law and democratic life. The democracy charter should establish a flexible and pragmatic mechanism that, with adequate legal safeguards, will be capable of adapting to the specific circumstances of each case.

An inter-American democracy charter would constitute a benchmark for the actions of governments. It would also be a means of contributing to the materialization of the aspirations of our peoples to justice, liberty and well-being.

The path marked out for us by history demands that we shoulder our civic responsibilities to make the Americas a place of freedom, a place of democracy and respect for human rights, a continental space where the poor have hope of overcoming their poverty — and are able to do so. A space where social justice is a daily reality rather than an ideal.



Address by His Excellency Andrés Pastrana Arango President of the Republic of Colombia

I proudly represent a country that stands on guard for democracy. A people that has not only lived in democracy for more than 181 years but is ready to fight the good fight to consolidate and strengthen it, within our borders and throughout the continent.

In the face of the winds of destruction blown by senseless violence and illegal drugs, Colombia has always maintained its adherence to solutions in law. And our strength is our unwavering faith in the principles of freedom and democracy.

We have suffered greatly. We have suffered the havoc of violence, but our democracy has not been brought to its knees. It lives on, eager to become ever stronger, ever more transparent.

Without a doubt, if democracy in Colombia were weak, it would already be a thing of the past. But this is where our strength lies, with the free and decisive participation of our people in political decisions and in our republican institutions.

Colombia's commitment to democracy and to the rules and mechanisms to preserve and strengthen it, established by the Organization of American States and other regional organizations such as the Rio Group and the Andean Community, and global programs, is firmer than ever today. We offer our firm support to the initiative to pull all these efforts together into one great guiding chart that will systematize and unite the various instruments of the Americas to defend and promote democracy.

My country is a link in the long chain of democracy in the Americas — a strong and secure link, which courageously confronts the threats that surround it and menace its future.

Colombia has been the victim of a world problem, illegal drugs, and of an internal conflict that feeds on this scourge, but it does not renounce its right to live and make progress in peace, nor its obligation to help build greater solidarity into the inter-American system.

The groups that cause violence in Colombia are not struggling to deliver the people from a tyranny or a dictatorship that violates human rights, as has happened in other parts of the world. Our conflict has been stirred up by minority groups that have wrongly resorted to arms and have provoked unthinking violence in their opposition to a state and a society in which the majority is convinced that democracy and its peaceful methods of reform are the better way.

In Colombia today, we live at a crucial juncture when society is offering the armed groups a chance to join the democratic system by political and civilian means and to break free from their links to drug trafficking, whose resources have helped to fuel all this violence and the worsening of our conflict.

I have been acting on the mandate of my fellow citizens in taking the lead in a peace process that seeks a political solution to the internal conflict. But we must be realistic about it: while the world problem of drugs continues to be rooted in our countries, choking us with its long tentacles, any effort of ours will be smothered by its enormous power to corrupt and destroy.

The problem of illegal drugs and the implied threat to our democratic systems and the fabric of our societies is not a problem for Colombia alone. Its epicentre lies in each and every one of our countries, which in one way or another form part of the chain of death and grief.

The consequences, which Colombia suffers today more than any other country, are a hidden danger to the whole continent. Not because Colombia is a threat — it is essentially a victim and a combatant — but because every country harbours one symptom or another of this global disease.

Each state should stop pointing at the others and should acknowledge its share of the responsibility before it is too late. Together, we must carry out a strong and integrated strategy to combat illegal drugs.

It is time to admit that no individual or even subregional effort will be strong enough to tackle a scourge of this magnitude on its own. We must therefore strengthen the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism and equip our strategy with an effective operational structure and with a body for political and judicial cooperation at the highest level, so that scrutiny and monitoring of the problem will be assured.

We must also make the crop substitution process economically and socially sustainable so that small farmers in the countries affected can earn a fair income from growing legal produce.

Colombia, like all countries who have watched the seeds of drugs take root in their soil, needs the open and equitable trade that will allow it to steer its economy in the right direction and to cope with the new imbalances of globalization.

Our country looks forward to the completion of the FTAA negotiations and the agreement's entry into force in 2005. With the same anticipation, we trust that free trade will allow for preferential access to markets for products derived from alternative development programs.

Only if this happens and we have a comprehensive strategy to combat illegal drugs, with international cooperation and equitable terms of trade, can we make common progress against an enemy, a disease whose germ lurks in all our houses, which could become the strongest factor in the destabilization of democracies in our continent.

I am also convinced that to strengthen democracy, it is necessary to achieve the economic stability and growth that ensure true human development. Our societies demand a clear and firm response from those of us who have the responsibility of leading them. A response that simultaneously guarantees the long-term well-being of societies and meets the needs that are basic for survival.

It is paramount for us to be realistic. When those needs are not met, it is very difficult to have faith in the long term. When hunger, misery and unemployment strike, it is very difficult to have faith in structural solutions and very easy to fall prey to irresponsible populism.

We must avoid the temptation of falling for short-term populism and the arrogance of thinking in terms of structural solutions alone, while our people suffer and wait. If populist options proliferate today or if social discontent grows, it is because of the political ineptitude of not having known how to balance the present with the future.

Those who offer heaven and earth right now are sacrificing a future of prosperity for their people. And nothing is more dangerous for democracy than this irresponsible populism. The return to this radical populism has proven, in the course of history, to be fateful for Latin American democracies.

On the other side of the coin, some voices argue that we should think only of the future, forgetting that our people's needs cannot wait. The advocates of structural reform or the famous Washington consensus must understand that an intransigent position, distant from social reality, has always been and can become again the breeding ground of critical or dangerous situations. Our America is living in the present and we cannot turn our back on it.

What I have sought in my government, and what I propose to all American governments, is that we move closer to a balance between the urgency of filling short-term voids and the importance of building stable growth in the long run.

Intelligent orthodoxy! Sensible orthodoxy! Not the first, second or third way, but the only way: the way to balance long- and short-term measures, striking a fair balance between structural reform and social justice. Therein lies the true foundation of democracy.

I believe in economic orthodoxy. I have fought to defend it in more adverse circumstances than any of yours. But I do not believe in political shortsightedness. That is why I am intent on finding a balance between the urgent and the important, between the advisable and the absolutely necessary.

Policy, my policy; the policy I propose to you, is the art of balancing the present against the future.

If we fight together, if we work in close cooperation, the future we are building today will in the end be the measure of our dreams.



Address by His Excellency Fernando de la Rúa President of the Republic of Argentina

The 1980s were an exceptional period in the history of the countries of Latin America, marked by a return to their democratic institutions. It was a time of change, of transformation and of commitment. It was a decade of institutional renaissance.

Government of the people, by the people, for the people, which was advocated by great Argentine constitutionalists, meant the decisive defeat of despotism. Representative democracy has now taken root in the region and a constant effort is needed by all to ensure it is fully operative.

Democracy is nourished by fundamental values that all our countries share, such as respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, economic and social progress in a context of freedom, etc. This system of government rejects fanaticism and violence, but it can be harmed by disinterest or failure to become involved. Its strength depends on the enthusiasm with which citizens participate in the possibilities it offers them.

Democracy leaves a stamp on nations, a style that is reflected in their international activities. It brings transparency and behaviour based on consistent rules that are known and respected by all.

On the American continent, where military coups interrupted the democratic system for decades, the re-establishment of democracy has helped to give a decisive impetus to regional integration processes. Mercosur is a clear example. It reflects the abandonment of obsolete theories of conflict and a shift to policies of cooperation among the partners.

Democracy and peace, as the pillars of this process, have translated into the *Ushuaia Protocol on Democratic Commitment* in Mercosur, Bolivia and Chile, which has been incorporated as one of the basic documents into the *Treaty of Asunción*, together with the Political Declaration of Mercosur, Bolivia and Chile as a Peace Zone and the Buenos Aires Charter on Social Commitment in Mercosur, Bolivia and Chile.

The *Ushuaia Protocol*, signed in July 1998, reiterates the content of the 1992 *Presidential Declaration of Las Leñas*, which states that the full effectiveness of democratic institutions is an essential condition for inclusion of the party states and that any rupture of democratic order in one of them is an unacceptable obstacle for that state to continue in the process.

As a result, the Political Consultation and Concertation Forum of Mercosur, Bolivia and Chile has spoken out repeatedly in cases in which democratic institutions have been threatened.

Under the framework of the OAS, we adopted the Santiago Commitment to Democracy and Renewal of the Inter-American System in Chile in 1991, on the occasion of the 21st OAS General Assembly and Resolution 1080 on representative democracy.

The amendment to the OAS Charter known as the *Washington Protocol*, based on an Argentine initiative, was adopted in 1992 and establishes that any member whose democratically elected government is overthrown by force will be suspended from the organization.

In the Rio Group, democratic legitimacy and its defence have become vital issues. Through the Contadora Group and the Support Group, this mechanism has been built from the outset on the restoration and consolidation of democracy. I need only mention the *Veracruz Act*, signed on March 19, 1999, which summarizes what has been called the “historical heritage” of the Rio Group.

The *Cartagena Commitment* was signed during the 14th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Rio Group in Cartagena de Indias in June 2000, reaffirming the intent to strengthen representative democracy as a system of government, to promote its values as a way of life and to defend democratic institutions and the rule of law in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Summits of the Americas should also be a tool for strengthening the basic values shared by our countries that I mentioned earlier — human rights and fundamental freedoms, representative democracy, the rule of law and economic and social progress in a context of freedom. In addition to economic freedom with social justice, these values are the foundation on which the continental integration we are attempting to build must be based.

These are the values that Argentina shares and is determined to achieve and protect on our continent.

The full effectiveness of these values, or what we call the institutional quality of democracy, is an objective that we must all work toward in common, since it can be achieved only if the countries of our hemisphere act in close cooperation.

The social, economic, judicial and security institutions of the Americas must also support these values and the concept of a world that prizes them, where their respect is directly linked to the legitimacy of governments.

Representative democracy is simply government by the people, through their elected representatives, for the purpose of satisfying their aspirations and rights.

Today, we are witnessing the triumph of openness and protection of individuals and their rights that has created a unique situation in our history, where it is possible to promote and defend these values on a continental and even a global scale. The characteristic national traits that are so enriching and that we must respect should not, however, be allowed to undermine the general principle of the indivisibility of fundamental rights and freedoms.

In this context, protection of democracy and human rights and fundamental freedoms is essential for guaranteeing a prosperous and free future for our people. This is the mandate that all the leaders present here have been given by popular vote, and no country on the continent can remain indifferent to serious violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any other.

This is the reason we believe today that any tampering with the constitution or the rupture of democratic order in any country of the hemisphere is an unsurmountable obstacle to participation by that country's government in the Summit of the Americas process.

The principle of non-intervention lies at the very heart of relations between independent states. The main purpose of this principle is to defend the sacred right of all countries to freely choose the political, social and economic system that is best suited to their expectations, with respect for minority rights and the rights of other countries. Therefore, when the people of a country are prevented from freely exercising that right, the others have the obligation of not remaining indifferent.

In short, "non-intervention but not indifference."

In recent years, a significant number of declarations have been made in the hemisphere in favour of the defence of democratic institutions, some of which I have mentioned. We must demonstrate that we have the political will to support those declarations with actions and adopt clear consensus on the principles they are intended to protect and show how far we are willing to go collectively to protect them. Last year at the OAS General Assembly in Windsor, the inter-American system set an example in this regard. Argentina is willing to continue to be an active promoter of high standards to defend these principles. We are convinced that the solidity of democracy and respect for individual rights in each country is inextricably linked to respect for all.

Therefore, acting jointly to assist countries in difficulty in these areas is not just an act of regional solidarity. It also protects our own collective interest in promoting a democratic, free and politically stable environment in our continent.

Representative democracy, the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, setting the stage for the moral and material prosperity of our people, etc., are elements that form the *raison d'être* of our governments. We must jointly protect ourselves from everything that threatens the fundamental values we believe in, which are the essence of good government. Our citizens should be able to enjoy the greatest economic, social and spiritual well-being we are able to provide in a context of freedom — in short, the institutional quality of democracy that I referred to.

Human rights and their international protection are a legitimate interest and responsibility for all of us. Our continent is in the vanguard in this field, and the inter-American institutions devoted to it are evidence of this. We must make them even stronger.

This new cycle of history that is beginning in the Americas should also be a time of progress, of justice and freedom in democracy for all our nations, thereby achieving the original objective of our liberators. It depends on us to accomplish this.



Address by the Honourable Kenneth Anthony Prime Minister of Saint Lucia

On behalf of the Saint Lucia delegation, the delegations of the English-speaking Caribbean, and the delegations of the CARICOM subregion, I wish to thank you for the warm and friendly welcome, and for the professional and efficient arrangements that the support staff of this summit have afforded to our delegations. The people of Canada have demonstrated amply to us that there is no effective correlation between temperature and temperament.

I speak today on behalf of the people of CARICOM — a people who come from the smallest and most vulnerable states of this hemisphere — but I address you on behalf of a community of states that enjoys one of the proudest and strongest traditions of democracy in the Americas.

Democracy in the states of the Caribbean Community was born in the struggles of the working classes for justice and recognition of workers' rights. It was nurtured in the crucibles of our movements for self-governance and self-determination. It has flowered in these early years of our postcolonial history; it has blossomed as we continue to grapple with the task of governing our own affairs and charting our own destiny.

There are those who are confounded by Caribbean democracy. How could a region of so many small states continue with an unbroken record of a vibrant democracy, despite the pressures of poverty, economic hardship and limited size and resources? Yes, we have had our blemishes, but democracy in the Caribbean community is a living, breathing thing and Caribbean people are so attached to its traditions that it is largely taken for granted.

We have no anxieties about our democratic track record. We harbour no feelings of guilt with respect to our commitment to human rights and the rule of law. There is no democracy clause in our regional integration schemes because Caribbean people do not expect anything else from our governments.

We have learned, Mr. Chairman, that democracy cannot be imposed. It has to be planted, allowed to germinate and to flower. There are societies in our midst whose experience with democracy is recent. While democracy will have core values, its manifestations will differ from country to country. Our business is to assist those countries as they struggle to create and establish institutions to sustain their fledgling democracies over time. President Bush has just reminded us, "democracy is a journey, not a destination." These words should have resonance for all of us as we cast judgement on our emerging democracies.

Mr. Chairman, recent experiences, however, have brought home to us some sobering realities about the sustainability of democracy in our societies. Our democratic traditions are being challenged, not by our internal policy failures, but by the effects of

external change on our socio-economic and political traditions. For years, Caribbean countries have warned that the strict adherence by great powers to the new gospels of globalization and trade liberalization, without taking cognizance of the special circumstances of small states like ours, threatened us with marginalization and exclusion. Those days are now upon us.

Democracy in the Caribbean is now threatened by the hundreds rendered unemployed through the doctrine of trade liberalization. It is attacked by the consuming fires of drug addiction, and the monopoly that drug czars and traders enjoy over the means of violence. It is undermined by the anger of disaffected youth and the disillusionment of the impoverished in the countryside. It is compromised by our preoccupation with maintaining law and order, at the expense of fighting poverty and social degradation.

Mr. Chairman, our message is simple: merely engaging in regular electoral exercises is not enough. Even the strongest traditions of democracy will pale in the face of overwhelming poverty, social exclusion and economic marginalization.

As surely as night follows day, human rights violations by states, though always unacceptable, will follow the human wrongs of the global economic system.

There are those who say that democracy brings prosperity, but democracy is compromised if the economic policies it champions deepen and accelerate poverty. Until we can wipe out poverty in this hemisphere, we cannot claim to have built successful democracies. Until the hemisphere as a whole can enjoy the fruits of trade liberalization, we cannot proclaim its glories. Until all the peoples of the Americas are free from hunger and free from the fear of unemployment, we cannot celebrate the benefits of trade liberalization. True, trade liberalization may bring new prosperity for some, but we must be honest and admit that it will destroy the lives of others.

It is in this spirit of concern about the fate of our democratic cultures that Saint Lucia and CARICOM approach this summit. We urge greater understanding on the part of our larger neighbours of the new economic and social realities that endanger our democracies and undermine our development aspirations. The problems, exacerbated by these new realities, must be tackled by all the states of the Americas. Recognition of the special circumstances of small democracies is not about compassion. It is about economic necessity, survival and security.

The opportunity now exists for us to create lasting structures of cooperation and to develop a genuine hemispheric approach to resolving our common trade and development issues. We are excited by the new possibilities for cooperation that the Summit process brings us. Let us all together build on the foundation that our emerging democratic traditions proclaim, so that we can deliver to the peoples of the Americas the futures they desire and deserve.



Address by His Excellency
Miguel Ángel Rodríguez Echeverría
President of the Republic of Costa Rica

With the precedents of the Miami and Santiago summits, optimistic because the Americas will be the “region of the future,” the countries of the hemisphere have enthusiastically gathered at this Third Summit of the Americas to set the stage for a new order of opportunities for the American family.

A new order in which democracy, peace, freedom, respect for human rights and the environment, coupled with personal responsibility and social solidarity, complement the scenario of opportunities for progress that is being built thanks to specialized production and competition, trade and investment flows, technological development and new scientific knowledge.

To build this new order is a fascinating and daunting challenge, but it is not a utopian or unattainable goal. Its materialization will not tolerate excuses or delays.

The time has come to turn the Americas into the “region of the future.” To turn this dream into a reality, we must cooperate to ensure that the countries of the continent have a strong rule of law, solid, participative and representative democracies, in which civil society in the broadest sense of the term can contribute increasingly to the decision-making process, with a system of accountability and checks and balances on the exercise of power.

The task is hard and painstaking. As a system for intelligent debate, democracy allows us to build consensus and ensure freedom, personal dignity, peace, governance and stability, which are indispensable conditions for the ideal climate needed for peace between countries, the primacy of individual rights, flourishing economies and success in integration processes.

Democracy is the political foundation for the hemispheric integration process we have embarked on, and we must strengthen it. Having eliminated our army in 1949, Costa Ricans are extremely pleased with the inclusion of the “democracy clause” in this summit — a Costa Rican initiative presented last October, to the effect that any alteration or rupture in the democratic order in any state on this continent is an insurmountable impediment to its participation in the Summit process.

Strengthening democracy means that ethics must be effectively applied in the public service. The *Plan of Action* promotes the signature and ratification of the *Inter-American Convention Against Corruption*. I respectfully ask the heads of state and government to amend the text to establish that the signature and ratification take place by the end of 2002 at the latest, or by the date we decide on here.

In the same way as we all support and agree on the merits of democracy, we must unite to strengthen the inter-American system of human rights, as recommended in the *Plan of Action* we are considering for approval. To do so, we must adopt proposals to bolster the system and adjust it to the new realities at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States to be held in San José, so that it will become the cornerstone of the new order we are creating.

Among the main proposals, Costa Rica urges the member states that have still not ratified the Convention, its protocols and related instruments, to do so and to accept the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in cases of dispute. This would mean that the system would no longer offer different avenues for conflict resolution depending on the country, which should not and must not continue to exist.

A second step is to gradually turn the Court and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights into permanent bodies and change the relations between them. Those relations should be fluid, constant and flexible, without unnecessary duplication of processes, so that the Court will not have to repeat procedures already carried out by the Commission.

We also propose to introduce a model under the OAS for tracking the sentences handed down by the system, which should act as a linkage between the OAS's human rights mechanisms and its political bodies. It is also important to give individuals direct access to the system, whose natural evolution should provide plaintiffs and victims with the possibility of protecting their rights autonomously.

The order we wish to build requires a counterpart. It is economic integration that will translate into more and better opportunities for poor families and developing countries. This venue has contributed greatly to negotiating the Free Trade Area of the Americas, a market of 800 million people, a dream that is coming closer to reality.

Costa Rica, as a country that advocates free trade by example, firmly supports the prompt entry into force of the FTAA. Seventy three percent of our exports, 79 percent of our imports and 94 percent of direct foreign investment in our country come from economic relations with countries in this hemisphere.

This is why we participate in the FTAA process with conviction, certain that the best option is openness, particularly for a small market that provides few opportunities to grow at a pace that is consistent with our aspirations for human development. We have worked hard, with capacity, demonstrating leadership that is unrelated to the size of our economy, to reach free trade agreements with strong and dynamic economies on this continent, which not only prepare us for the FTAA but contribute to the consolidation of hemispheric integration.

It is an honour for Costa Ricans to be signing a free trade agreement next Monday with Canada, the country ranked first in the world in human development. It is a bilateral agreement between a developing country and a member of the G-7. The treaty is a giant step forward for Costa Rica and is also an important contribution to the process of hemispheric integration. In separate documents, both Canada and Costa

Rica have undertaken to comply with the labour and environmental rules and procedures established in the legislation of each of our countries, without having to resort to fines, without the possibility of arbitrary decisions by either of the two countries and without this being an obstacle to trade flows. Without impositions, without affecting trade, without fines, but overseeing strict compliance with the labour and environmental legislation of each. All these decisions shed light on how these issues can be dealt with in the FTAA. We are also pleased to be part of the Central American Common Market, to have free trade treaties with Mexico and Panama, to have expanded the benefits of the Caribbean Basin Initiative, gaining access to the U.S. market on equal terms with the NAFTA members.

We have negotiated and approved agreements with Chile and the Dominican Republic. We are negotiating with Panama in conjunction with the other Central American countries, and we expect progress very soon in negotiations with Caribbean countries such as Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica. We are negotiating a new free trade agreement with Panama that updates and modernizes the treaty currently in effect.

This is the key word everywhere on the continent. Trade within the hemisphere has more than doubled in the last decade as a result of stronger subregional blocs, the negotiation of a large number of agreements and the efforts of the business community, which, with its initiative and work, is the engine of integration. To support the work of that engine — the private sector — governments must establish legal systems that facilitate, promote and deepen the process. We are all part of building the new order, which will be freer and provide more opportunities. We are part of an effort that should culminate successfully with the entry into force of the FTAA.

For our nations to reap the benefits of trade and investment opportunities, it is crucial for us to provide equitable access to education, which has been free and compulsory in our country since 1869, health care and new technologies to enrich human capital. We must close the digital gap, which is ominously widening the differences between countries and internal differences within them. All of this will make for progress and permit poor families to achieve better standards of living based on their individual skills.

We must work together responsibly to ensure that the growth we are promoting is sustainable. Costa Rica is an example in this field. Last year we generated 99.5 percent of the energy we use from clean and renewable sources, and we are developing a system of charging for environmental services as one more element in our environmental culture.

But the challenge is great and the efforts of a single country are not enough. Climate change is an alarming reality for all countries, without exception, since the atmosphere knows no borders. Our response must take a comprehensive and global view of the problem, which means we must use the most effective mechanisms possible to mitigate greenhouse gases. We need to establish market mechanisms that encourage, motivate and consolidate environmental protection. It is urgent to establish a world market for environmental services as quickly as possible. We will be successful only if we can establish world markets that force polluters to pay and reward those who protect the environment and mitigate damage to it.

The future is in our hands. It is a matter of vision and of accountability to present and future generations. It is a responsibility we all share; and if we fail to shoulder it, millions of poor families will never be able to exercise the right of human development. The Central American and Caribbean countries will be unable to solve their problems of vulnerability. Thousands of hectares of forests will be destroyed each year through subsistence farming, and very soon we will no longer have tropical forests to absorb the gas emissions that heat up the earth and alter climates.

This is a unique opportunity for making progress on issues of utmost importance for human development. Costa Rica has a commitment to them, which our poet Jorge Debravo put as follows:

We have the obligation to fight for a better future for human beings. For a marvellous future. We cannot remain silent. We cannot be observers or mere witnesses to the struggle of our people. In a time like this, being neutral is to betray the destiny of humankind.

Because we cannot remain silent, because we cannot be observers or mere witnesses, because we cannot be indifferent in building our destiny, as a small country, Costa Rica invites you to play an active role in promoting the progress and well-being of our peoples, through an effort by each individual and each nation, opportunities, international solidarity and mechanisms for cooperation that we can design to strengthen our relations as neighbours, friends and strategic partners in the task of building human development in the Americas.



Chairman's Statement

Remarks by the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien Prime Minister of Canada

We have had an intense and productive day. I was impressed by the quality of our frank and open discussions. We discussed the challenges that globalization represents for democratic countries, the very real and legitimate concerns expressed about the currents engendered by globalization and the need for governments to maintain their ability to respond to their specific needs and circumstances.

I am pleased to tell you that we reached agreement on a fundamental element for the development of the great family of the Americas. To be part of the process of the Summit of the Americas, a country must be led by a democratic government. That is an essential condition.

From this day forward, the benefits of any agreements we reach will flow only to those nations who abide by our democratic law. The clause will cover all elements of the Summit process, including the Free Trade Area of the Americas. We have also invited the governors of the Inter-American Development Bank to apply democratic laws to their activities.

The President of Costa Rica made a plea for the ratification of the convention against corruption by 2002. Canada and Costa Rica have already ratified a convention. Tomorrow, we will continue our discussion on the Summit themes of creating prosperity and realizing human potential. Then we will sign the *Quebec Declaration* and the *Plan of Action*.

Thank you very much.



Closing Ceremony

Address by the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien Prime Minister of Canada

Now that this Third Summit of the Americas is drawing to a close, I first wish to extend heartfelt thanks to the people of Quebec City on behalf of all our fellow Canadians and all my counterparts in the hemisphere for the warm, and above all patient, reception we have received. Holding a Summit of this size is no mean feat for the host city, and Quebec City has taken up this challenge with all of its customary know-how and graciousness.

My friends, when the curtain descended on our second Summit three years ago in Santiago, Chile, our host heralded the start of a new era in the Americas — an era marked by maturity and confidence. The experience of the past few years, and especially of the past few days, has proven just how accurate he was in his prediction.

We have gathered here as representatives of a community of democratic countries to extend and deepen the dialogue begun nearly seven years ago in Miami. We have had some frank discussions on a host of subjects of importance for the future of our hemisphere. And we have adopted an action plan to give substance to our common priorities.

The declaration we have just signed contains a clear, unequivocal commitment to democracy, making it an essential condition for participation in the Summit of the Americas process. This gesture clearly and eloquently illustrates our intention to ensure the protection of human rights and to move ahead together in freedom and stability.

We also noted that in some countries democracy remains fragile. The case of Haiti drew our particular attention. We acknowledge the problems that continue to limit the democratic, political, economic and social development of this country.

We note the efforts that President Aristide has made to resolve these problems. We are also aware of the efforts of other political parties and other sectors of political life, notably members of civil society.

We call on all parties to redouble their efforts, in a spirit of openness and conciliation, to overcome the difficulties caused by the election of May 21, 2000. And we ask President Aristide to take rapid action on all of the commitments made in December.

To facilitate the achievement of these goals, we have asked the Secretary General of the OAS, César Gaviria, to work with CARICOM, to hold consultations, to visit Port-au-Prince in the near future, to report his findings to the OAS before the next General Assembly, and to ensure adequate follow-up.

Our meeting has also enabled us to discuss our plans for the economic integration of the Americas, and measures that we can take to translate the benefits of growth into greater prosperity for all our fellow citizens.

With this in mind, our objective continues to be one of creating mechanisms and instruments of cooperation that will promote sustainable growth, increasingly equitable distribution of economic benefits and greater financial stability.

The creation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas is an essential part of our efforts. Within the framework of the Summit, we have reaffirmed our collective intent to establish and to apply, between now and 2005, clear and predictable rules for economic exchanges within the hemisphere.

Our efforts to strengthen democracy and promote prosperity must be accompanied by measures that expand and encourage participation by all citizens in the social, political and economic life of their nations and of our region.

We want to make sure that each citizen has an equal opportunity to live in dignity, to fulfil their full potential and to contribute to the development of society. This applies especially to those in our societies who have, too often, been marginalized or left out, among them youth, seniors, women and people with disabilities. It also applies to the indigenous peoples of the hemisphere, whose unique situation must be recognized by governments.

With this in mind, our *Action Plan* includes a recognition that we must continue to invest so as to provide our people with equitable access to quality education and health care.

We have also adopted a *Declaration on Connectivity*. It outlines how we plan to use information and communications technologies to facilitate contacts among people, promote participation in democratic institutions, create new economic opportunities, and deliver government services.

And I am pleased to announce today that, as a major contribution to fulfilling the goals of the 2001 Summit of the Americas, Canada will create the Institute for Connectivity in the Americas.

The Institute will build on the success of Canada's Connecting Canadians strategy as well as international experience.

We have made an unprecedented effort to make sufficient resources available to achieve the objectives that we have identified in our *Action Plan*. And we must continue to work with the multilateral development banks, other international, regional and subregional institutions, the private sector and civil society to fulfil our vision for the Americas.

This will allow us, the next time we meet, to look back on an even more impressive record of achievement.

This leads me to one final question. During our meeting, we formally accepted the generous offer of Argentina to host the next Summit of the Americas. I am delighted

to pass the Summit torch to Argentina. A nation with which Canada, and all the members of *la gran familia* of the Americas, have excellent relations.

Ladies and gentlemen, the time has come to close the Third Summit of the Americas.

As we leave, I want to say how much I look forward to seeing you in great numbers this coming September in New York when the United Nations convenes a Special Session on Children. A session that will give us a chance to reaffirm our commitment to meet the needs of our children.

And that will, I hope, attract the active interest of *la gran familia* of the Americas.

My friends, for both Aline and myself, and for all Canadians, it has been an honour to welcome you and to give you a taste of the many charms of our country.

Today, we begin a new era in hemispheric cooperation. The maturity and confidence we showed in 1998 has been enriched with unity and solidarity.

Such common purpose is a precious asset. An asset that we must use, from this day forward, to fulfil the hopes and dreams of the people of the Americas.



Address by His Excellency Fernando de la Rúa President of the Republic of Argentina

I am very pleased to address you once again, this time to refer to the results achieved in the process of negotiating the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Three years ago, at the previous summit, we instructed our ministers of trade to begin hemispheric negotiations and make concrete progress by the year 2000.

Today we can say with certainty that they have carried out their task to the fullest.

The work done in those 36 months of negotiations — 18 of which were my country's responsibility — has provided us with a first draft of the hemispheric agreement.

We are also implementing a considerable number of tools for business facilitation, tools that are highly useful for our business community and indicate that the integration process is under way.

This degree of progress clearly demonstrates the commitment of the 24 countries of this hemisphere to a continental free trade zone.

We are aware that without firm political will it would have been impossible to achieve these results, no matter how hard our experts worked on behalf of this initiative.

This new summit is a unique opportunity to confirm that we are on the right track, as we spell out the details of our objective of concluding the negotiations within the established time frame.

Therefore, we urge our ministers of trade to continue working to arrive at an FTAA agreement by January 2005.

Regional integration is one of the main foreign policy priorities of Argentina. Like all the countries of the Americas, we are aware of the growing importance of integration processes, not just because they strengthen the economies involved, but also because they promote broader and more comprehensive types of relationships.

That is why, through Mercosur, we have cooperated actively in the FTAA process, in the conviction that our effort at subregional integration is a valuable learning experience in integration.

We know that the road is not free from rough patches.

An agreement that benefits everyone requires a careful balance of interests and a general commitment to include, without distinction, all the issues on the negotiating agenda.

The entrenchment of hemispheric integration that takes account of the dissimilar interests of the 24 participants will be possible only through joint work, which continues to be the most effective way of surmounting current difficulties.

We also know that the hemispheric initiative cannot be concluded by governments alone. It also requires constructive contributions from all sectors of civil society, who will be the direct beneficiaries of continental integration.

The governments of the hemisphere are firmly committed to transparency, the guiding principle of all democratic exercises.

This commitment has led us to approve publication of the first draft of the agreement, and in this same spirit we will continue to keep our societies informed of progress in the FTAA negotiations.

Agreements of this kind are valueless if they are not understood as instruments intended to strengthen domestic economies — providing them with certainty and predictability — and, above all, to raise the standard of living of the people we represent.

This is why free trade and economic integration should be viewed as indispensable elements in the broader agenda of the Summit of the Americas.

The challenge is large, but we are convinced that broad integration based on common values and interests is an opportunity that the countries of the hemisphere must seize.

Therefore, we ratify our commitment to the integration process in the making and reiterate our willingness to work toward the success of the free trade area that we envisaged when we embarked on this difficult road at the end of 1994.

We hope that the next Summit, which we will host, will allow us to announce to the world that we have accomplished our original objective of achieving a continental free trade zone that will gradually eliminate barriers to trade and investment.

Then we will know that our efforts have been worthwhile.



Official Delegations to the Third Summit of the Americas

Heads of State and Government

Antigua and Barbuda

The Honourable Lester Bryant Bird
Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina

His Excellency Fernando de la Rúa
President of the Republic of Argentina

Bahamas

The Right Honourable Hubert Alexander Ingraham
Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Barbados

The Right Honourable Owen Seymour Arthur
Prime Minister of Barbados and
President of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Belize

The Honourable Said Musa
Prime Minister of Belize

Bolivia

His Excellency General Hugo Banzer Suárez
President of the Republic of Bolivia

Brazil

His Excellency Fernando Henrique Cardoso
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

Canada

The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien
Prime Minister of Canada

Chile

His Excellency Ricardo Lagos Escobar
President of the Republic of Chile

Colombia

His Excellency Andrés Pastrana Arango
President of the Republic of Colombia

Costa Rica

His Excellency Miguel Ángel Rodríguez Echeverría
President of the Republic of Costa Rica

Dominica

The Honourable Pierre Charles
Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica

Dominican Republic

His Excellency Hipólito Mejía Domínguez
President of the Dominican Republic

Ecuador

His Excellency Gustavo Noboa Bejarano
President of the Republic of Ecuador

El Salvador

His Excellency Francisco Guillermo Flores Pérez
President of the Republic of El Salvador

Grenada

The Honourable Keith Claudius Mitchell
Prime Minister of Grenada

Guatemala

His Excellency Alfonso Portillo Cabrera
President of the Republic of Guatemala

Guyana

His Excellency Bharrat Jagdeo
President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana

Haiti

His Excellency Jean-Bertrand Aristide
President of the Republic of Haiti

Honduras

His Excellency Carlos Roberto Flores Facuss
President of the Republic of Honduras

Jamaica

The Right Honourable Percival James Patterson
Prime Minister of Jamaica

Mexico

His Excellency Vicente Fox Quesada
President of the United Mexican States

Nicaragua

His Excellency Arnaldo Alemán Lacayo
President of the Republic of Nicaragua

Panama

Her Excellency Mireya Elisa Moscoso Rodriguez
President of the Republic of Panama

Paraguay

His Excellency Luis González Macchi
President of the Republic of Paraguay

Peru

The Honourable Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru

Saint Kitts and Nevis

The Honourable Denzil Douglas
Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

The Honourable Kenneth Anthony
Prime Minister of Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

The Honourable Ralph Gonsalves
Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Suriname

His Excellency Runaldo Ronald Venetiaan
President of the Republic of Suriname

Trinidad and Tobago

The Honourable Basdeo Panday
Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

United States of America

His Excellency George W. Bush
President of the United States of America

Uruguay

His Excellency Jorge Batlle
President of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay

Venezuela

His Excellency Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías
President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Heads of Partner Institutions

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Dr. José Antonio Ocampo
Executive Secretary

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Dr. Enrique Iglesias
President

Organization of American States (OAS)

His Excellency César Gaviria
Secretary General

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Dr. George A.O. Alleyne
Director

World Bank

Mr. James D. Wolfensohn
President



Roundtable with Civil Society

Transcript of a Speech by the Honourable John Manley Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am delighted to be here to participate in this further discussion.

As you have referred to, both the Minister for International Trade and I have had previous encounters with many of the people around this table. In addition to that, our officials have met many times — I think in total with 1000 representatives — in the months leading up to this important summit.

Many groups — in fact, I believe all of the groups around the table — have made important contributions to the work leading into the Summit. In fact, I have with me the book *The Civil Society Contribution to the Summit of the Americas*, which is a combination of the declarations and recommendations that have come in to us. This information was provided to the Summit, to the leaders of government that are participating in the Summit, and further information concerning the outcomes of various other summits including the Youth Summit, the Mayors, the Indigenous Peoples and the People's Summit have also been provided to them. So that input has already been transmitted.

The Minister for International Trade and I will be meeting with Prime Minister Chrétien following this discussion today so that we have an opportunity to brief him on what was discussed here and the information that we will be receiving.

I know he feels it is important to receive the information relating to the discussions here, and I am sure that in preparing the *Action Plan* there will be many things that will be represented in the submissions we have received so far.

I can tell you, for example, that there has been much discussion about the democracy clause. We consider it the crucial outcome of this summit. It was strongly supported over the course of many months by many organizations, many groups as diverse as the Carter Center, Participa of Chile, FOCAL of Canada, and many other groups.

We have seen the urging of Transparency International for the OAS Anti-Corruption Convention. Work will be evident on that. The indigenous leaders that met both in Guatemala City and in Ottawa urged action on education, on health, on corporate social responsibility.

I think you will see in the *Action Plan* responses to that as well as to so many groups that urged a strengthening of the human rights system throughout the Americas, promotion of gender equality, protection of cultural diversity.

It is worth mentioning that we believe these are essential points for the Summit because there are three themes: the themes of democracy, prosperity and realizing human potential. There are many things that touch directly not only on economic policy but also on social policy, and we understand and believe that it is not possible to have an effective international trade system without great respect for the principles of law and human rights.

Before I pass it over to the Minister for International Trade, Mr. Chairman, let me say that it seems to me fundamental that those things that are required in order to have a strong international trading system, respect for the rule of law, an independent judiciary, freedom from corruption — political and bureaucratic — protection from criminal behaviour, protection of the person, those are also the fundamental requirements to have a society that respects human rights.

Furthermore, the mentality of a state that exercises its economic rights arbitrarily without due process, without review by an independent judiciary, is exactly the same mentality that will imprison individuals without due criminal process. And so the agendas, if you like, of human rights and economic growth very fundamentally overlap in many of the things that we are trying to do here today.

We look forward to receiving your thoughts.



Transcript of a Speech by the Honourable Pierre S. Pettigrew Canadian Minister for International Trade

Thank you very much. I will want to be very short because we are indeed here to listen and hear what you have to say.

I think you already have a pretty good idea of what I have to say. I've often had the opportunity to address these very important themes.

First of all, I'd like to draw your attention, as I feel it is important, to our many colleagues, ministers of trade and ministers of foreign affairs, who have joined us today and who represent their countries, their governments, and who are also here to hear what civil society and our government have to say.

So I thank them for having agreed to participate in this meeting, and I think that we are in what I would call the spirit of Buenos Aires. I would also like to note the presence of the representatives, the leaders, to tell the truth, of the major organizations of our hemisphere. We have the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, who are represented here by Mr. Wolfensohn, Mr. Gaviria and Mr. Iglesias, and I thank them as well for participating in this meeting. So I think you see the importance we place on this roundtable.

We had a historic breakthrough in Buenos Aires, and I believe that, more than ever, we will be conducting international trade negotiations in the same way.

We decided unanimously, as international trade ministers, to release the draft of the agreement currently being negotiated, that is, three and a half years before the conclusion of the negotiations. That is a historic breakthrough.

I believe we will need, in a very responsible way, to establish a dialogue among ourselves on the basis of those texts, and I have to say that I consider that the unanimous support that was given to that recommendation is, in my opinion, very, very much a sign of progress in terms of the things we have often discussed together.

There is another point that I was extremely pleased about in Buenos Aires, and that is that trade ministers have agreed to really build and institutionalize a dialogue with civil society on the hemispheric level.

As you know, there were questions that some countries thought maybe we should do it country by country, governments should deal with their own civil societies, and I thought it was an extraordinary breakthrough as well that the Free Trade Area of the Americas will now institutionalize this dialogue with hemispheric civil society.

So I can tell that there has been substantial improvement in, I would say, opening the windows and opening the doors to these negotiations.

I believe that this is progress that we ought to be proud of. We obviously place great importance on a number of issues, including the environment.

I was pleased to participate earlier this week in a symposium on the theme of trade and the environment. We in Canada have felt it is important, as you know, that each free trade agreement be accompanied by an agreement on the environment. We did so in Chile. We also have an agreement on labour standards, and I honestly believe that we can make progress in all these areas.

But I really appreciate the responsible and constructive dialogue we're having. I was moved last night — and I'll conclude on this point because I don't want to take up too much time — at the opening ceremonies of this Quebec Summit to hear the leaders of government speak with such emotion — particularly when you know the history of the countries they represent — of this immediate and direct link between democracy, respect for human rights, economic prosperity, and the place of trade in all of that.

When you know what some of those countries have experienced, when we're told that an open economy is the best guarantee of an open political system and that an open political system is also a great contribution to an open economy, I feel that we've made great progress in the hemisphere and that we need to do so in a constructive and responsible way.

I thank you very much for your attention.



Transcript of a Speech by the Honourable Maria Minna Canadian Minister for International Co-operation

Mr. Chairman, I know we are running out of time. I will be exactly one half a minute.

I simply want to say that we have made great progress in this region in development, but poverty remains still the biggest disparity in our area.

Education systems in the region remain weak, both in the breadth of coverage, being primarily urban and elite-based, and in the quality of education of the fundamental institutions such as judicial systems, legislatures, elections, commissions and political parties.

Hemispheric integration can assist in the development of countries of the region; however, we should not consider integration as an end in itself but as a tool which, properly utilized, will help us achieve sustainable development.

At my department at CIDA, we believe strongly that constructive civil society organizations have a crucial role to play in the development of their societies as no development can be sustainable without the engagement of civil society.

I want to leave it at that, and I would like to listen to what our friends have to say. It's good to see all of you today.

Thank you for coming.



Transcript of a Speech by Mrs. Maria Soledad Alvear Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs

ENGLISH

Good afternoon and thank you for giving me the opportunity of attending this meeting. I would like to begin by saying that Chile attaches particular importance to civil society. President Lagos' government has taken on the option of including civil society in different institutions, as a key element for comprehensive, efficient and equitable community development. Why has this option been taken on as a state policy at the ministerial level? We have one ministry specially charged with enumerating civil society organizations and linking them to the different actions and policies undertaken in our country. This is because domestic and foreign policy in each of our countries is centred on people more than on governments or states — which is probably a key factor in defining the difference between the 20th and the 21st centuries. Placing people at the centre of policy definitions means that their views must be considered when defining those policies. What is civil society for us? We see it as a series of associations, groups, entities of all kinds born in the civil world, with the purpose of discussing problems that affect the different segments of society and promoting certain common values, which in modern political science is called "social capital." We all know that to progress, a society needs physical capital, represented by money, savings, machinery, investments, tangible goods. We also need human capital, represented by education, training, instruction; and last, we need this "social capital," defined as the set of networks and frameworks that exist in our society.

In the context of the summits, civil society has been playing a larger and larger role. I am proud to say that we have had contacts for preparing different documents, that we have had very active participation by groups that have coordinated to make proposals. Last year, on the occasion of the OAS General Assembly in Windsor, Canada, we were able to present a document produced by civil society. We are maintaining a dialogue and are working hard to perfect this approach, although there may be cause for concern about the communications processes at summits and the reasons for the kinds of reactions we are seeing.

To be able to listen to you and for you to listen to us, I would only remind you that the fruit of these Summits of the Americas has been significant progress for our countries. The process of moving toward a Free Trade Area of the Americas was born as an idea that seemed very difficult to achieve at the outset. Our Heads of State and Government will soon ratify an agreement reached 10 days ago in Buenos Aires on establishing an FTAA by 2005. But other objectives and other priorities were also established and turned into action plans in each of our countries. I am referring to education, which resulted in a series of public policies in each of our countries; or to the topic of justice proposed at the Santiago Summit, which led to very significant changes in justice

administration systems in other countries and our own, where we made a very substantial reform, the most important in the last 100 years; or to the field of drugs, which led to a novel approach based on the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism; or to the report on freedom of expression by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission.

This represents concrete progress in the wake of summit processes. Some countries, including Chile, are conducting a useful exercise in following up on the *Action Plan* through the different ministries to verify the extent to which the objectives proposed at the summits relating to domestic policy have been achieved.

A few days ago we made a public presentation on the work done by our country in that regard. Reflecting the contribution that society wishes to make to this process is undoubtedly a constructive and positive process, which we value.

And having made this review, allow me to mention the context surrounding this Summit. I refer, above all, to the great difference that exists between those of us who are here sitting around a table to listen to one another and those who are trying to protest outside against globalization and free trade.

Probably this is the result of the lack of good communication. We have been able to demonstrate — President Lagos said so yesterday — that free trade, democracy and integration are fundamental tools for making progress toward greater equality of opportunity and that free trade is not an end but an instrument.

It is also important to remember that the people demonstrating outside are expressing an emotion that we should not scorn. An emotion that is closer to frustration and isolation than violence. An emotion that is simply the expression of people's desire to participate in building the future.

When this aim — the desire to participate — is expressed through peaceful means, my government and my country welcome these expressions, since they help to improve the processes in which we are involved. However, when they take the form of violence, we condemn them with the same force.

Perhaps one conclusion that can be drawn from this Summit is the need to make an in-depth analysis of the subject of civil society, its relation to the world of politics and the creation of mechanisms for participation, that will permit us to put an end to this new and very painful culture of summits behind protective barriers.



Transcript of a Speech by the Honourable Robert Zoellick United States Trade Representative

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

First, I very much appreciate the opportunity to be here and to be with all of you. And I want to thank you because I think it is vital for us if we are going to broaden our base of understanding and, hopefully, support for issues of free trade, to be able to draw on the ideas of you and people like you.

In my view, the cornerstone of any effort in moving forward with trade will have two elements: transparency and dialogue. Within the United States' system, as many of you know, we have some formal mechanisms for this. As a guidance to our negotiator, we have advisory groups that now incorporate representatives of environment and labour.

And indeed, one of the first steps of the Bush administration, involving Secretary Evans of the Commerce Department, Secretary Veneman of the Agriculture Department and myself, was to expand that contribution to include some very technical-level groups where we wanted to broaden the base of our support.

Transparency, as Minister Pettigrew mentioned, is also going to be the hallmark of this FTAA negotiation, in part, because of something I have never seen before in dealing with international issues for well on 20 years, and that is the release of the draft negotiating text.

Here I want to pay a particular compliment to my colleague from Canada because I know that even before I was on the scene, Minister Pettigrew was one of the strongest voices of this, and I know that he was one of the leaders, even moving us to this when we were in Buenos Aires.

We also think there are other ways that we draw input, in part, after you have seen the text and you start to get your own ideas and suggestions on where this should go. One that we believe is important is to use environmental reviews, and the United States has already launched an environmental review process for the Free Trade Area of the Americas, and just this week we announced that, perhaps in a voice of hopefulness, about the WTO round, that we would also have a launch of an environmental review on the built-in agenda for the WTO. That is the services and the agricultural issue and I hope, once the round is launched, we will be able to move beyond that.

And frankly, we urge others to join with us. We urge other governments to do such reviews and we urge you, academic institutions and others, to complement our work because, frankly, from the free spirit of debate we will draw the best ideas on this.

As part of my daily practice now as a trade official, I have a host of informal meetings: labour officials, environmental officials, and onwards. And indeed, this week I was very much impressed that I met with a coalition that had been put together, again before I came on the scene, to deal with a bill that was passed last year with Africa. It is the AGOA Coalition: *The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act*.

And this coalition was particularly impressive to me because it drew in, not only some of the groups I have mentioned, but it also encompassed faith-based organizations, civil rights groups. There is an extremely broad set of constituencies, and what gave me particular delight is that not only do they want to support trade with Africa, but they seek possibilities to work with us on other problems with Africa, whether it be HIV/AIDS, whether it be economic growth, and they are now interested in a broader set of trade issues.

I think another core aspect of the FTAA will be this organized effort to reach out to civil society. Now, in some ways, this is an unusual process, to organize civil society, because the whole nature of the process is to make it a free flow in our democracy.

But I also think there is a flow-back mechanism, and while we will benefit from civil society, I firmly believe that free trade will benefit civil society throughout this hemisphere because the heart of free trade is freedom. It's freedom of ideas, it's freedom of people and exchanging thoughts, it's debate, it's openness, it's transparency, it's going and building trust in government institutions by shining the light of openness, and so we identify corruption related to regulation and red tape. And so ultimately I think our long-term success will be built on creating an environment in which local groups within the hemisphere can plant their own roots and develop their own connections to their political system's democratic relations, to be able to promote environmental causes, free trade unions, and a host of other civil rights and other organizations.

Let me just close with a point on this: I know that some people debate the role of NAFTA, and in this, to me, beyond the economic issues there is an extremely strong political point. I dealt first with Mexico in the mid-1980s during the debt crisis, and the Mexico of today is a very different country than the Mexico of the 1980s.

And the most striking example was the presentation by President Fox today. You now have the first elected president from the opposition since Mexico's revolution, and that man is changing the country along the lines that all us believe is important, not the least of which is the change on some of these transparency issues. And so you could have no better example of how the openness of trade changes societies.

My last word on this, for those who perhaps have less experience with Latin America, is: recognize how far we have come. This is the hemisphere that enshrined the *Calvo Doctrine*, in part in response to some of the actions of my country at earlier points.

The *Calvo Doctrine*, obviously, took an extremely strong view about the infringement of sovereignty by outsiders. And now, over the course of a decade, we have the democracy clause within the OAS, we have had it in Mercosur, and now we have it in this

Summit process, and that is a political device that has already made its effect known in countries like Peru and Paraguay and Haiti and even Guatemala early in the 1990s.

So the process of trade, in my view, is important for its economic efforts, but it's just as important in developing freedom in civil society. Thank you.



Roundtable with Civil Society

At the time of the Summit, a three-day program was organized for civil society representatives. The organizations and networks from Canada and the hemisphere, including business associations, that had led consultations, organized conferences and/or published articles to contribute to the development of the *Plan of Action* of the Summit of the Americas were invited to participate in this program and share their recommendations. Those recommendations had been included in a book, *Contribution of Civil Society to the Summit of the Americas*, presented to the Heads of State and Government at the beginning of the Summit. The Roundtable with ministers and the heads of the five regional partner institutions of the Summit was the main event of this program.

Projects:

AmeriContact 2001

Hamad, Sam
President
Metropolitan Quebec Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Colloquium on Inter-American Integration Beyond Free Trade

Bélanger, Louis
Director
Institut québécois des hautes études internationales
Laval University

Bernier, Ivan
Director of International Relations Masters Programme
Institut québécois des hautes études internationales
Laval University

Feinberg, Richard
Co-Director
Leadership Council for Inter-American Summitry

Mace, Gordon
Director of International Relations Research and Study Group
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Laval University

Pastor, Robert A.
Professor
Department of Political Science
Emory University

Rosenberg, Robin L.
Deputy Director
Dante B. Fascell North-South Center
Co-Director
Leadership Council for Inter-American Summity

Stark, Jeffrey
Director of Research and Studies
Dante B. Fascell North-South Center

Conference on Democracy in the Americas

McCoy, Jennifer
Director — Latin American and Caribbean Program
The Carter Center

Conference on the Summit of the Americas

Hakim, Peter
President
Inter-American Dialogue

Conference on Threats to Democracy in the Americas

Cameron, Maxwell A.
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of British Columbia

**Final Consultation Meeting with 900 Hemispheric
Civil Society Organizations**

Daubon, Ramon
Director — Civil Society Program
Esquel Group Foundation

Robinson, Nobina
Executive Director
Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL)

Sanhueza, Andrea
Executive Director
Corporación Participa

Hemispheric Symposium on Trade and Sustainability

Johnson, Pierre-Marc
President of Symposium

Leff, Enrique
Program Manager
UNEP-ROLAC

Runnalls, David
President
International Institute for Sustainable Development

Model General Assembly of the OAS

Gamache Hutchison, David
Secretary General
Model OAS

Panel on the Summit of the Americas 2001

Randall, Stephen
Dean of Social Sciences
University of Calgary

Symposium on Governance and Public Administration in the Americas

Comeau, Paul-André
Director of Symposium
École nationale d'administration publique

Coulon, Jocelyn
Director
Montreal Office of the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre

Morrison, Alex
President
Pearson Peacekeeping Centre

Symposium on Hemispheric Integration and Democracy in the Americas

Allmand, Warren
President
Rights and Democracy

The Second People's Summit

Anderson, Luis
General Secretary
Organización Regional Interamericana de Trabajadores

Barr, Gerry
Executive Director
Canadian Council for International Cooperation

Georgetti, Kenneth
President
Canadian Labour Congress

Massé, Henri
President
Fédération des travailleuses et travailleurs du Québec

The Summit of Aboriginal Peoples

Audette, Michèle
President
Native Women's Association of Canada

Coon-Come, Matthew
National Chief
Assembly of First Nations

Dewar, Veronica
President
Inuit Women's Association

Genaille, Sheila
President
National Council of Metis Women

Morin, Gerald
President
Metis National Council

Women's Leadership Conference of the Americas

Caivano, Joan
Director
Youth Forum of the Americas

Watt, Marie-Michèle
Youth Representative
Canadian Students Commission

Networks/Organizations:

Amnesty International Canada
Neve, Alex
Secretary General (English-speaking branch)

Anglican Diocese of Quebec

Stavert, The Right Reverend Bruce
Bishop of Quebec

Archdiocese of Quebec

Couture, Mgr. Maurice
Archbishop of Quebec

Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

Brown, Sally
Senior Vice-President

Business Council on National Issues

d'Aquino, Thomas
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Hughes Anthony, Nancy
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Canadian Council for International Business

Keyes, Robert J.
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Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters

Beatty, The Honourable Perrin
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Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL)

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Donahue, Tom
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Coalition for Cultural Diversity

Curzi, Pierre
Co-President

Confederation of Latin American Associations

Ramos, Victor
President

Conseil du patronat du Québec

Taillon, Gilles
President

Consejo Interamericano de Comercio y Producción (CICYP)

Estrany y Gendre, Antonio
President

Continental Afro-American Network XXI

Murillo, Hernando
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Council for the Americas

McNamara, Ambassador Thomas E.
President and CEO

Ostrovski, Halina
National President – Canada

EnviReform Project

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Graham, John
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Citizen Participation Program
Director
Partners of the Americas

Inter-American Institute of Human Rights

Cuéllar, Roberto M.
Executive Director

Inter-American Network of National Commission for Human Rights — Mexico

Soberanes, José Luis
President

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Schryer, Chantal J.
Chief, Public Affairs and Government Relations

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Huot, Paul-Arthur
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National Confederation of Industries of Brazil

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Executive Director

National Co-ordinator for Human Rights — Peru

Macher, Sofia
Executive Secretary

Nature Conservancy

Watson, Alexander F.
Vice-President and Executive Director

NETO-EDSAT

Weinstein, Shelley
President and CEO

North-South Institute

Culpeper, Roy
President

Oxfam-Quebec

Véronneau, Pierre
Director

Regional Coordination Centre for Economic and Social Researches

Jacomé, Francine
Director

Sierra Club of Canada

May, Elizabeth
Executive Director

Summit of the Americas Center

Gamarra, Eduardo
Director

Transparency International+

Cragg, Wesley
Chair and President — Canada

Zucker-Boswell, Nancy
Managing Director — USA

University of Alberta

Stevenson, Brian J.R.
Associate Vice-President (International)



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