



PARTICIPATION OF SOCIAL ACTORS IN THE
ACTIVITIES OF THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS
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STATEMENTS AT THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY, SOCIAL ACTORS,
AND HIGH-LEVEL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

(June 8, 2022)

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Introduction

In coordination with the Government of the United States as host country of the Ninth Summit, the Summits Secretariat arranged inclusive and diverse spaces for participation by civil society organizations and social actors in the days leading up to the Summit. They included the Civil Society Forum and the Dialogue between Civil Society, Social Actors, and High-Level Government Representatives.

The Civil Society Forum, held on June 6 and 7, offered the opportunity to (a) finalize the recommendations to be presented at the Dialogue between Civil Society, Social Actors and High-Level Government Representatives; (b) participate in talks with experts on Summit priorities and other related topics; and (c) provide a space to present projects related to the core themes of the Ninth Summit, helping to highlight their work and share best practices. The Dialogue between Civil Society, Social Actors and High-Level Government Representatives, held on June 8, offered civil society representatives and social actors, through spokespersons in the thematic working groups,¹ the opportunity to present recommendations and interact with high-level representatives of the countries taking part in the Ninth Summit.

The Forum and Dialogue were attended by some 300 representatives of civil society and social actors.

The following are the statements delivered by each of the spokespersons of the thematic groups at the Dialogue between Civil Society, Social Actors and High-Level Government Representatives:²



Health and Resilience

Statement of the Working Group on Health and Resilience

Spokespersons:

- Mesoamerica: Sandra Cerrato, *Instituto para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Mujer Lenca de Honduras*
- South America: Jackeline Ruiz, social actor
- Canada, the Caribbean and the United States: Kendale Trapp, Empower Yourself Belize Movement

My name is Sandra Cerrato Flores, and I am here today with my colleagues Jackeline Ruiz and Kendale Trapp. We are the spokespersons and representatives of the roundtables on Health and Resilience in the Americas. Today, in the framework of the Ninth Summit, we will present a summary

¹ For the purposes of the Ninth Summit, a "subregional thematic working group" is defined as a group composed of civil society organizations and/or social actors from each subregion of the Hemisphere (*Canada, The Caribbean, United States, Mesoamerica, and South America*); the focus of their work is oriented towards the core themes of the Ninth Summit (*Health and Resilience, Our Sustainable Green Future, Clean Energy, Digital Transformation, and Democratic Governance*). For more information on the subregional thematic groups, click [here](#).

of the recommendations of the civil society organizations of the Americas for the draft political commitment of the nations of the Americas to implement an action plan from the current year, 2022, until 2030.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we stopped administering treatments for chronic, infectious, and contagious diseases, as well as hormone treatments—including gender-affirming processes—and mental health treatments, and at this momentous event we present the following recommendations:

1. Achieve, by the Tenth Summit of the Americas, agreements and actions on health and resilience in the Americas, in order to evaluate health value chains at the national and regional levels, placing the person at the center of health and resilience policies, including both physical and psychological health. These include:
 - Women
 - Children
 - Adolescents
 - Older persons
 - Persons with disabilities
 - The LGBTI community
 - Indigenous and Afro-descendent communities
 - Faith-based communities
 - Migrants
 - Other groups in vulnerable circumstances
2. The Health and Resilience action plan includes the implementation of programs for leadership in sexual and reproductive health and family planning; international standards on human rights in health, including protocols of care for vulnerable groups, including pregnant women and the unborn.
3. Member states should guarantee in health emergencies attention to contraceptive requirements, infectious and contagious diseases (with the highest morbidity and mortality rates, such as HIV and tuberculosis), hormone treatments that include transgender persons, as well as patients requiring treatment for terminal illnesses. They should also see to it that people living with HIV receive their antiretroviral drugs in a timely manner to ensure quality supplies for special tests.
4. We consider it appropriate to immediately review any practice that modifies the sexual characteristics of intersex persons without reliable medical reasons and without the full informed consent of the intersex person.
5. Strengthen the expansion of education and training of professionals in the fields of medicine, comprehensive public health, and biomedical scientific research by establishing a selection system according to the needs of each region, based on the merits of the professional.
6. Health care workers should be guaranteed their labor rights, as recognized by the International Labour Organization (ILO).
7. Take advantage of the practice of evidence-based alternative medicine and harness the benefits offered by digital application tools (telemedicine, telehealth); and strengthen cooperation and exchange of better treatments for

the development and use of these techniques and technologies with professional ethics and confidentiality. Ensure the inclusion of the systems of indigenous and Afro-descendent populations and acknowledge their ancestral knowledge. Promote investment in scientific studies to identify and document COVID-19 and its complications.

8. Priority attention should be given to non-communicable diseases, as the drivers of health loss and mortality across the globe, by establishing universal access to health and the financial sustainability of public health systems, since such diseases are responsible for the majority of costs in public health systems.
9. Avoid water and environmental contamination and clean drinking water to allow for transition and adaptation in the wake of pandemics and natural disasters as circumstances require, adapting a crosscutting *one health* concept in other efforts to improve health outcomes throughout the region.
10. Create the conditions to strengthen capacity to manufacture and market safe, effective, and high-quality medical products in the regions, in order to adopt policies that support sustained multisectoral participation (health, science and technology, industry, and commercial sectors). Consider the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol and ILO Convention No. 169.
11. Create the conditions to obtain raw material for medicines in order to be able to strengthen, assemble, manufacture, transport and market such products for our customers. Health systems, in order to maintain transparency in the manufacture and marketing of safe medical products. With manufacturing respecting the law governing assembly. Of indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples.
12. Include a voice for patients and all the aforementioned vulnerable groups in comprehensive government consultations on health measures, regulatory approvals, and funding.
13. Urge member states to strengthen community-based mental health services for the prevention of problematic use of psychoactive substances, which should include sexual orientation and gender identity, with an emphasis on enhancing the response capacity in the event social and health crises and mental health care for groups in vulnerable situations.



Our Sustainable Green Future

Statement of the Working Group on Our Sustainable Green Future

Spokeswomen:

- South America: Laura Azucena Rossi Centeno, Coalición de Comunidades Afrodescendientes
- Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States: Onika Stellingburg, Social Actor
- Mesoamerica: Dallys Gutiérrez, Centro Familiar Afro Santeño

Esteemed civil society representatives, social actors, government representatives and others present:

On behalf of the working subgroups on Our Sustainable Green Future— South America, Mesoamerica, North America, Canada and the Caribbean— it is worth noting the consensus arrived at on the basis of arduous efforts, building on more than 25 years of negotiations between the parties, civil society organizations and commercial interest groups, and remarkable initiatives in the implementation of forums, partnerships, treaties, and environmental management strategies. Thus, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Framework Convention, the Plan of Action for the International Decade for People of African Descent and the Programme of Action for the International Decade for Indigenous Peoples, the Minamata Convention, the Paris Agreement, the Escazú Agreement, the Bonn Challenge, and the Lima Commitment, among others, make up a large part of the solutions mechanism for the global commitment to mitigate climate impact.

Therefore, we call on governments to reflect and reevaluate the procedural models with which they have been addressing environmental issues because as of 2022, the scope and results of the work implemented—which, according to reports presented by scientists and entities responsible for monitoring the behavior of the planet—are not at all favorable, leaving us with troubling questions about the role we play as thinking individuals in the face of an imminent deterioration of the planet.

Have you ever wondered:

What are we not doing right? Is it an effect or a consequence that lack of awareness of adaptation generates changes in the mental and emotional state of people, to the extent of propitiating massacres and murders of women and children in educational institutions?

After so much research and evidence, what needs to be done to prevent forest fires, the melting of the Arctic ice, the pollution of glaciers, different bodies of water, our 14 seas, our oceans, as well as many islands in the Hemisphere, the Pacific coast, mangroves, among others? What needs to be done to prevent the pollution of the entire ecosystem? Is it lack of political will? There are so many questions that arise from reflection on the events we are currently living in our daily lives, as well as impotence that we all feel against the voracious drive to grow economically.

Therefore, we propose to the Heads of State and Government of the Americas:

To engage different social, commercial, and governmental stakeholders, whether academic, scientific, economic or political, in order to develop and promote strategies with an ethnocultural, gender, technological innovation and social-investment approach.

Whose actions are ambitious, forceful, and demonstrate results in the short and medium term, creating alternative models for sustainable economic development, based on consistent public policy, whose mobilization and allocation of economic resources address environmental action mechanisms applicable in areas facing the conversion of ecosystems, involving the participation of civil society organizations (CSOs); incorporating the Our Sustainable Green Future Working Group, coordinated by the Organization of American States (OAS), under political action guidelines agreed upon by all the countries in the Glasgow Climate Pact, together with the Marrakech Partnership Platform and the Durban Platform, for the purpose of monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) of actions carried out by stakeholders.

As representatives of the Our Sustainable Green Future working subgroups, we call on countries to ratify treaties, implement the 2030 goals, and establish and formulate aggressive measures where oversight bodies have the power to prosecute those who do not comply with the duty to safeguard our planet, be they natural or legal persons, regardless of nationality, ethnicity or gender, since the greenhouse effect, temperature changes, pollution of water bodies, the air we breathe, and the environment as a whole, is not the responsibility of any nation in particular but of humankind; therefore, if there are human rights, there are also locations that, as human beings, we must fulfill for our homes, the places where we live, and for our planet Earth.



Clean Energy

Statement of the Working Group on Clean Energy

Spokespersons:

- Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States: Hernando Viveros Cabezas, Social Actor
- South America: Dineth Gisela Cujar, Social Actor
- Mesoamerica: Danilisa Peña, Social Actor

Clean Energy, an attempt to define the Summit of the Americas, from the point of view of the most vulnerable groups, strategies and actions.

In the transition to clean and affordable energy, why do we need a differentiated approach that takes into account racial/ethnicity, cultural, social, and environmental factors or membership of vulnerable communities and communities in extreme poverty?

Despite exposure to repeat severe weather events, these populations have demonstrated exceptional resilience and strength in recovery. The high vulnerability and exposure to climate change of Afro-descendent, indigenous, campesino and rural populations in the Americas derives in part from their history of forced migration and their resulting geographic concentration in coastal cities and urban population centers.

Situations linked to systemic and historical racism, cultural bias, and lack of inclusive policies and programs must be taken into account, so that government measures to develop policies, plans and programs on the clean and affordable energy transition focus on the most vulnerable populations.

Severe geological and weather events have had a disproportionately negative impact on coastal, riverine, and highland populations.

Opportunities to incorporate a collective response from the governments of the Americas to current challenges for a fair—in regional terms—energy transition must consider geographic locations for science, innovation and technology centers, so that adaptation and mitigation are a real possibility.

The world is on track to producing more than twice the amount of coal, oil and gas by 2030 than would be consistent with keeping the rise in global temperature to below 1.5 °C, according to the United Nations. In line with the International Energy Agency's Net Zero by 2050 Roadmap, we recognize the need for an immediate end to the exploration and expansion of new fossil fuel reserves.

Based on the draft political commitment for the Ninth Summit of the Americas *Accelerating the Clean Energy Transition*, we present the following recommendations to the Heads of State and Government of the Americas.

Accelerating the clean energy transition

Recommendations

1. We recommend that the countries of the Americas accelerate the implementation of all substantive international agreements and treaties to accelerate the clean energy transition and sustainable development, including: The Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the subsequent COP 21 conferences, the Kyoto Agreement, the Escazu Agreement as a tool for the protection of environmental democracy in the Americas, and the protection of the right to life of environmental leaders and their organizations that care for and protect our environment and habitat.
2. Take note of Principle 10 of the Rio+20 Declaration, develop and implement an action plan to advance the achievement of a regional agreement or other instrument to ensure the full implementation of the rights of access to information, participation, and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.
3. We call on the leaders of the countries of the Americas to adopt the necessary measures to reduce emissions, mobilize funds, and promote adaptation and resilience. In addition to presenting ambitious reduction targets for CO₂ emissions by 2030 that are aligned with reaching net zero by mid-century. Incorporate conservation of clean energy sources, climate resilience in new public infrastructure plans in all countries of the Americas.
4. Create follow-up, monitoring, evaluation and implementation mechanisms for the commitments signed in relation to the clean energy transition in the Americas. (Presentation of proposals and policies by each government in a period of 6 months for evaluation by a commission).
5. Secure land tenure for rural populations and the implementation of payment for ecosystem services programs; support forest management and coastal erosion programs.
6. Create trusts—with contributions from the public-private sector—to finance climate change adaptation and mitigation policies and programs and new forms of clean energy.
7. Ensure that actors implementing projects in the region include the ethnic-racial variable in all survey forms for collecting information on climate change,

including the Program for the Implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, Recognition, Justice and Development.

8. Implement the COICA Declaration on the protection of 80 percent of the Amazon Basin, forest and mangrove restoration; strengthen local and territorial governance systems, as well as the restoration of forests, wetlands and mangroves to favor carbon capture and storage, and that renewable energy sources are not contaminated.
9. That the replacement of coal and inefficient fossil fuels with clean energy technologies be done as part of an integrated economic development plan with the private sector in the medium term.
10. End public financing of new and unabated coal-fired power generation projects by the end of 2027 and implement financing mechanisms for business ventures based on the clean energy generation and use, including in the natural gas and the mining and energy sector.
11. Involve all stakeholders in the renewable and non-renewable energy sector to generate a consensus agenda toward clean energy transition.
12. Promote policies that stimulate the development of all clean energy sources, such as tax reductions, lower costs with energy payments, trade exchanges with countries in the region, and training in the energy sector, among others.
13. Promote and encourage public-private partnerships with the aim of developing more private sector investment in clean energy, creating economic conditions that favor development initiatives, access to financing, especially the global climate fund, and the construction of energy projects, among others. Regulations, tariffs, financing, and due process in relation to human rights and customs delays. Generate and propose efficient commitments by country based on clean energy policies, ordinances and programs in partnership with impacted communities.
14. Public institutions in the countries should develop training programs in the areas of the electricity sector with a focus on clean energy, so that young people can become professionals in clean energy technology, with the purpose of contributing and putting forward innovative ideas and stimulating research into the development of new technologies and investment in research, development and innovation (R&D&I) projects for the energy transition.
15. To work with the private sector and multilateral development banks to identify and finance infrastructure projects associated with science, technology and innovation for quality clean energy generation that follow international best practices for environmental and human rights standards and procurement and reach underserved communities.
16. Promote the implementation of the Global Methane Pledge, including through the development of conscientious, transparent, verifiable action plans at the country level for mitigating the effects of methane gas.
17. Share best practices in transportation infrastructure and the use of clean energy in public transportation and inclusive, equitable, energy-efficient urban designs that take into account the needs of populations with unmet basic needs and take

account of persons with disabilities with a gender perspective, as well as ethnic communities, who disproportionately bear the brunt of the climate crisis.

18. Support and promote the Renewables in Latin America and the Caribbean (RELAC) initiative and its objectives, which include significantly increasing the number of Latin American and Caribbean countries taking part in the initiative by COP28 in 2023.
19. Promote principles that foster the generation of strategies for good management in the mining sector, especially in the case of minerals and metals that drive the energy transition and are therefore experiencing rapid growth, particularly with the inclusion of sustainable mining management plans that avoid open-pit mining or mining on other scales.
20. Establish and implement sustainable development goals for scaling up offshore renewable energy, as appropriate, by 2023.



Digital Transformation

Statement of the Working Group on Digital Transformation

Spokespersons:

- Mesoamerica: Ronmel Lopez, White and Blue Support for Nicaragua
- Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States: Jorie Dugan, Equality Now
- South America: Mariano Mosquera, Social Actor

Emphasizing enforcement of the Inter-American Democratic Charter by the member states.

In 2011, the presidents of the Americas renewed in Canada their commitment to hemispheric integration and national and collective responsibility to improve the economic well-being and security of our peoples. At the Ninth Summit of the Americas the Digital Transformation project is a new political commitment to contribute to the development of technology in our countries that will benefit all our people equally, in all areas of government, education, health, manufacturing, communication, and entrepreneurship.

1. Consider digital transformation to encourage regulatory frameworks.
2. Recognize the key role of digital education.
3. Create a smart citizenry focused on social innovation and encourage and develop alternatives for the older persons.
4. Expand opportunities for businesses to adopt policies and regulations that encourage universal, equitable access to the Internet, including fair-market regulation that includes microenterprises, universal services, and licensing agreements without discrimination.

5. Recognize the Internet as a civic space.
6. Adapt technology to put it at the service of persons with disabilities, in order to improve their quality of life by facilitating access enabling them to lead a dignified life with equal rights.
7. Develop the gender approach in the area of inclusion and universal digital rights.
8. Consider the risks in digital justice mechanisms for the protection of human rights with an emphasis on rights defenders and minors, particularly in relation to crimes of violence with sexual content online.
9. Apply digital tools, including digitalization of television media and development of open communication network architectures.
10. Ensure transparency based on the accreditation of legitimate governments with the OAS and accountability in the use of digital technology with responsible governments.
11. Promote the creation of open-source tools in electoral matters accredited by the OAS, audited before, during and after an election using electoral technology.
12. Recognize the right to identity of citizens, so that they can access their identity and citizenship documents; the right to vote of for citizens living abroad (e-democracy); digital technologies and databases that protect identities and privacy.
13. Implement the international resolutions adopted at the OAS with the Network of E-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean or maintain the commitment to the Open Government Partnership, in order to promote measures that prevent and detect conflicts of interest.
14. Avoid shutting down, blocking or throttling Internet, telecommunications or social media platforms; the use of artificial intelligence to create disinformation.
15. Protect telecommunications, as a human right to freedom of expression in each country, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the constitutions of each country, in order to incorporate them into different digital platforms, in particular because they are linked to the broader achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, through the Broadband Commission and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).
16. Collaborate in the development and implementation of interoperable rule-based policies for cybersecurity, consumer protection, and consumer privacy.
17. Encourage cooperation between member states, the United Nations, the OAS, INTERPOL, the technology industry, and civil society organizations for the eradication of digital crimes.
18. Develop and implement by 2023 digital programs in the region for transformation in the Americas.
19. Establish the Digital Transformation Observatory of the Americas and develop and adopt clear universal digital rights with the participation of social actors.

20. In accordance with resolutions and the Inter-American Democratic Charter, ministers, competent authorities with the support of the members of the Joint Summit Working Group, and the OAS electoral affairs group, should seek to ensure that technology is used correctly in electoral processes, with auditing before, during and after elections in order to legitimize them.

The above recommendations have their legal grounding, as established by the OAS, in the following international treaties:

1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
2. Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression
3. Convention on the Rights of the Child, IACHR resolution 1/2020, "Pandemic and Human Rights in the Americas"; IACHR resolution 4/2020 "Human Rights of Persons with COVID-19."
4. Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities
5. Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará."
6. American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
7. Joint statement of the founding members of the OAS LGBTI Core Group
8. Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons
9. American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man
10. Inter-American Principles on the Human Rights of All Migrants, Refugees, Stateless Persons, and Victims of Trafficking in Persons
11. Declaration of Inter-American Principles on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy
12. Inter-American Convention on the Rights of the Author in Literary, Scientific and Artistic Works
13. Model Inter-American Law to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Violence against Women in Political Life.

Technological support:

1. Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
2. Universal Declaration of Human Rights to safeguard, prevent, address cybercrime
3. Inter-American Model Law 2.0 on Access to Public Information
4. Inter-American Convention against Corruption

Local legal basis:

1. Constitution of each member state

With implementation support:

1. Inter-American Cooperation Mechanism for Effective Public Management (MECIGEP)
2. Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)
3. Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)
4. Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCyT)
5. OAS Cybersecurity Program
6. Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime

7. Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG)



Democratic Governance

Statement of the Working Group on Democratic Governance

Spokeswomen:

- South America: Vanessa Neumann, Asymmetrica
- Canada, the Caribbean, and the United States: Gale Mohammed-Oxley, Social Actor
- Mesoamerica: Adela Panezo Asprilla, Centro Familiar Afro Santeño

Good morning to all of you who are with us today.

Our Americas region has changed; therefore, our nations are called upon to come together, join forces, engage in dialogue, and respect our peoples. We are concerned about the decline of democracy in the region, the establishment of authoritarian leaders, the persistence of structural inequalities, and the implementation of restrictive and regressive actions and/or policies on human rights that significantly worsen quality of life in all countries, including those that have not renounced the death penalty.

Governments exist with the consensus of the people for whom they work, not the other way around. It is their obligation to provide the necessary tools and opportunities so that all people can lead a dignified life while respecting the rights of others to do likewise.

After intense work in the regional subgroups and their unification, we, the representatives of the civil society and social actors for the topic democratic governance, present our proposals, which we have organized around three main issues.

First, human rights:

The civil society representatives participating in the Ninth Summit of the Americas condemn the dictatorships in Nicaragua, Cuba, and Venezuela, and urge States to condemn dictatorships and take the following steps to promote the right to democracy of the peoples of the Americas:

1. Eliminate all forms of political violence and arrange the immediate release of all persons deprived of liberty for political reasons in all countries.
2. Protect vulnerable and especially exposed groups, such as the Afro-descendent community, indigenous peoples, corruption whistleblowers, human rights and environmental defenders, LGBTIQ+ communities, persons with disabilities, children, women, adolescents, youth, older persons, migrants, refugees, stateless persons, academics, journalists, and those in mobility situations.

3. Eradicate harassment and discrimination in the workplace, sexual abuse and exploitation, forced labor, forced marriage and unions, and trafficking in persons; and eliminate all forms of violence, both political and that violates human dignity.
4. Ensure and protect the right of indigenous, rural and Afro-descendent peoples and communities to access land, territory, and a healthy and balanced environment, as well as their right to self-determination.
5. Achieve a regional agreement on migration, refugees, and internal displacement that also adopts structural measures to prevent the expulsion and exodus of migrants and respects the right to political asylum and international protection.
6. Ensure the independence of the different branches of government—particularly the judiciary and access to justice—and of national and subnational electoral bodies. Let there be no more impunity in the Americas.
7. Guarantee the physical security and juridical personality of civil society organizations, and the non-criminalization of national or international cooperation with them, including in the management and execution of these resources.
8. Stop the spread of organized crime within the political classes and state capture, which take advantage of populism to dismantle democratic institutions.
9. Expand the participation of civil society and social actors in the inter-American system, the Summits process, and the OAS General Assembly.
10. Ensure respect for freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, and freedom of opinion and expression.
11. Condemn the destabilizing actions of the Sao Paulo Forum and the Puebla Group in the Hemisphere, as well as the interference of the Cuban dictatorship in other States.

In the area of transparency and anticorruption

1. Adopt measures for transparency in the expenditure, management, and execution of the public budget.
2. Encourage and facilitate the reporting of irregularities and acts of corruption, including money laundering, while protecting whistleblowers and identifying and providing redress to victims of corruption.
3. Promote awareness and effectiveness of integrity measures.
4. Implement and disseminate public consultations through accessible and user-friendly technological platforms in legislative and public policy-making processes for community development.
5. Penalize corruption and demanding transparency in the management of public funds.
6. Guarantee resources to work in the fight for democracy and against corruption.
7. Prosecute State officials involved in acts of corruption and impose the appropriate penalties on them.
8. Demand that multilateral organizations and agencies condition financing and cooperation to respect for human rights and probity in public administration.
9. Strengthen PASCA by adding the Caribbean region, the United States, and Canada.

In the area of citizen participation and inclusion:

1. Increase international cooperation to ensure access to education, health, and justice for all, with special attention to the vulnerable.
2. Promote the inclusion of youth, identities, and persons with disabilities in the decision-making chain in States.
3. Promote strategies to encourage the nomination of diverse candidates and the integration of vulnerable groups in electoral processes in all countries.
4. Implement the necessary changes so that civil society organizations, social actors and the private sector have permanent representation in the SIRG and Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) processes, as well as active and collaborative participation in SISCA.
5. We urge member states to set up working groups that include representatives of civil society and national legislatures to implement the recommendations of MESICIC.

To follow up on the agreements of this Summit, strategies for dissemination and training in the use of the proposed mechanisms should be included, as should the work between the SIRG, the JSWG, civil society, and the private sector, in order to evaluate the progress made by governments in implementing of the plan of action prior to the Tenth Summit of the Americas.

In essence, good character nurtured by the values of faith, hope, charity, love, humility, perseverance, patience, fairness, non-violence, and non-discrimination are the antidote to corruption. Our governments need to create mechanisms that address human rights, transparency and anti-corruption issues, in order to achieve real, effective democratic governance. Nations have the great challenge of overcoming corruption and lack of transparency, while deepening unity, brotherhood, and cooperation among peoples and governments, taking into account the right to self-determination and dignity of each one. Respect for the rights of others is peace. Benito Juárez

Photo Gallery



