

Canada

|          | Country            | Leader                                                           | Spouse                              |                                         |
|----------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
|          | Antigua            | Lester BIRD                                                      |                                     |                                         |
|          | Argentina          | Carlos MENEM                                                     | Divorced                            |                                         |
|          | Bahamas            | Hubert A. INGRAHAM                                               | Delores Ingraham                    |                                         |
|          | Barbados           | Owen ARTHUR                                                      | Beverly Arthur                      |                                         |
|          | Belize             | Manuel ESQUIVEL                                                  | Kathleen Levy Esquivel              |                                         |
| X        | Bolivia            | Gonzalo SANCHEZ de LOZADA                                        | Ximena Iturralde de Sanchez Lozada  | Created fund'n health red'n             |
|          | Brazil             | Fernando Henrique CARDOSO <i>new, not inaugurated</i>            | Ruth Vilaca Correa Leite de Cardoso |                                         |
|          | Chile              | Eduardo FREI Ruiz-Tagle                                          | Marta Larraechea de Frei            | in cultural affairs                     |
| X        | Colombia           | Ernesto SAMPER Pizano                                            | Jaqueline Strauss de Samper         | 90, if not her background - cultural    |
| spkr X   | Costa Rica         | Jose Maria FIGUERES Olsen <i>back up to Chamorro (or Panama)</i> | Josette Altmann de Figueres         |                                         |
|          | Dominica           | Eugenia CHARLES                                                  | Not married                         |                                         |
|          | Dominican Republic | Joaquin BALAGUER                                                 | Not Married                         |                                         |
|          | Ecuador            | Sixto DURAN BALLEEN Cordovez                                     | Josefina de Duran Ballen            | involved. Opus rei?                     |
|          | El Salvador        | Armando CALDERON Sol                                             | Elizabeth Aguirre de Calderon Sol   | beg'ing to get involved                 |
|          | Grenada            | Nicholas BRATHWAITE                                              | Pansy Brathwaite                    |                                         |
|          | Guatemala          | Ramiro DE LEON Carpio                                            | Maria Eugenia Morales de de Leon    |                                         |
| chair? X | Guyana             | Cheddi JAGAN                                                     | Janet Jagan                         |                                         |
|          | Haiti              | Jean-Bertrand ARISTIDE                                           | Not married                         |                                         |
|          | Honduras           | Carlos Roberto REINA Idiaquez                                    | Bessy Watson de Reina               | more interest than sameq others - older |

|                                  |                              |                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jamaica                          | P.J. PATTERSON               | Divorced                                                                                |
| Mexico                           | Ernesto ZEDILLO              | Nilda Patricia Velasco Nunez de Zedillo <i>(frangor's perspective not partic. much)</i> |
| Nicaragua                        | Violetta Barrios de CHAMORRO | Widowed                                                                                 |
| Panama                           | Ernesto PEREZ Balladares     | Dora Boyd de Perez Balladares <i>- lawyer?</i>                                          |
| * Paraguay                       | Juan Carlos WASMOSY          | Maria Teresa Carrasco dos Santos de Wasmosy <i>statement at press conf.</i>             |
| Peru                             | Alberto FUJIMORI             | Separated                                                                               |
| Saint Kitts                      | Kennedy SIMMONDS             | Mary Simmonds                                                                           |
| Saint Lucia                      | John COMPTON                 | Janice Compton <i>active, not strong</i>                                                |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | James MITCHELL               | Divorced                                                                                |
| Suriname                         | Ronald VENETIAAN             | Liesbeth Venetiaan <i>gd.</i>                                                           |
| 7 Trinidad & Tobago              | Patrick MANNING              | Hazel Manning <i>gd - ed'm.</i>                                                         |
| * Uruguay                        | Luis Alberto LACALLE         | Maria Julia Pou de Lacalle <i>excellent</i>                                             |
| * Venezuela                      | Rafael CALDERA Rodriguez     | Alicia Pietri Montemayor de Caldera <i>children museum</i>                              |
| OAS                              | Cesar GAVIRIA Escobar        | Ana Milena Munoz de Gaviria                                                             |

# Summit Initiatives for Education and Health

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Endorse the work of the 1992 San Antonio Summit and follow-on efforts to achieve its objectives.
- Work individually and collectively to identify the region's narcotics trafficking and money-laundering networks, prosecute their leaders and seize assets derived from this criminal activity.
- Adopt effective national strategies to prevent or substantially reduce the cultivation and processing of illicit drugs, paying particular attention to the control of precursor chemicals.
- Support awareness, treatment and prevention programs to reduce demand for illicit narcotics and comprehensive interdiction strategies to limit their availability.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

- Convene a ministerial conference in 1995 to agree on effective steps to stop the transfer of illegal drug profits in the Hemisphere.
- Initiate discussions through the OAS with the European Union on measures to control precursor chemicals.
- Convene a hemispheric-wide conference of multilateral donors, including multilateral development banks and UN agencies, to adopt sustainable development strategies aimed specifically at curbing the production, trafficking and use of illicit narcotics.

## Universal Access to Quality Primary Education

Large segments of society in our hemisphere have not been equipped to participate fully in economic life, particularly women, minorities and indigenous groups. nearly one-half of the hemisphere's population lives in ignorance and poverty. Investing in education helps ensure that all members of society have the capacity to contribute to economic progress, thereby deepening the roots of democracy, promoting political stability and furthering economic growth.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Designate a representative agency to work with its private sector and NGOs to review current strategy and programs and to assess changes needed to attain by the year 2010 a primary completion rate of 100 per cent and a secondary enrollment rate of at least 75 per cent.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Create a hemispheric partnership, with a secretariat, to provide a consultative forum for governments, NGOs, the business community, donors, and international organizations to reform policies and focus resources more effectively.

## Ensuring Equitable Access to Basic Health Services

Despite impressive gains in the Hemisphere, child and maternal mortality remain excessive, particularly among the rural poor and indigenous groups.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Designate national health reform commissions, including public and private sector participants and donors, to promote efforts to reduce [from 1990 levels] child mortality by one-third and maternal mortality by one-half by the year 2000, in accordance with the 1990 World Summit for Children, the 1994 Narino Accord, and the 1994 international conference on population and development.

-- Endorse a basic package of clinical and public health services consistent with World Health Organization and World Bank recommendations. The package will address child and reproductive health interventions, including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, family planning information and services and HIV/AIDS prevention.



Summit of the Americas Spouses' Symposium

**Children of the Americas: Health and Education for a Prosperous Future**

**Purpose:** To provide the spouses of heads of state attending the Summit of the Americas with the opportunity to discuss issues on the official agenda of the Summit -- health and education -- as they affect children, to give them the opportunity to exchange experiences of challenges and achievements in these areas, and to present to the press and the public their concerns and views of how these issues can best be addressed in the Hemisphere.

**Structure:** Hillary Clinton and up to 30 spouses from the Hemisphere will attend the symposium. There will be a plenary session of roughly 1 hour and 15 minutes which Mrs. Clinton will introduce with a ten-minute speech summarizing how the Summit initiatives relate to children, calling attention to health and education issues in the Americas, and setting the stage for a constructive exchange about successful approaches. Next there will be a video prepared by UNICEF (description attached at Appendix A), followed by a presentation by an expert on the achievements and challenges in children's education and health in the Americas. Three of the participating spouses will then speak for five minutes each about achievements their countries have made or approaches that have worked to improve children's health and education. There will be roughly 15 minutes at the end of the plenary session for a brief discussion of these issues.

Next, the participants will break up into three discussion groups, one on health, one on education, and the third on cross-cutting health and education issues. These groups will discuss the challenges in these sectors and share information about successful models for addressing children's health and education needs. (Appendix B lays out particular issues these discussion groups may address.) Each group will be chaired by one of the participating spouses and will be facilitated by an expert in the field. (The chair and the facilitator will discuss the format and focus of the session before the symposium.) (See a list of potential experts at Appendix C.)

Participants will then attend a luncheon (1 1/2 hours), at which the chairs of the working groups will report informally to the plenary on their discussions. Mrs. Clinton will close the symposium with a summary of the issues discussed, tying them into the Summit as a whole, and laying out next steps.

After the lunch, there will be a press conference where several of the spouses (probably the chairs of the working groups) will present a statement reflecting the themes and

-- Develop country action plans for reforms to achieve health goals and ensure universal, equitable access to services. Reforms would encompass essential services for the poor and indigenous peoples; stronger public health infrastructure; alternative means of financing, managing and providing services; and making greater use of NGOs.

### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Strengthen the existing World Bank/Pan American Health Organization Economic and Financing network as an international forum for sharing expertise, information and experience on health reform efforts. The network will gather government officials, representatives of the private sector, NGOs, donors and scholars to share information on reform initiatives currently underway.

-- Convene a special meeting within PAHO to plan strengthening of the regional network.

### Nurturing Microenterprises

The hemisphere's poor have need for financial services. This particularly affects microentrepreneurs, a majority of whom are women. This need is not currently being adequately met by institutions in the "formal" economy. Providing access to market-price credit dramatically expands the ability of the poor to become entrepreneurs--to be more productive, earn larger incomes and contribute to sustainable economic growth. Establishing appropriate financial institutions both enables the poor to invest in their own future and affords those institutions a source of capital.

### National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Reform the policy, supervisory and regulatory environments within which financial institutions providing services to the poor must operate.

-- Minimize the burdens that current policies, laws and regulations may place on the formation and growth of microenterprises and small businesses, including access to credit.



conclusions of the morning and lunch discussions. The press release will tie into the broader themes of the Summit. (See Appendix D for some thoughts on the form and content.) (The content of the press release and the participants in the press conference will have to be finalized at some point during the program if not agreed on in advance.)

The participants will be provided with a briefing book with information on the issues to be discussed. (For an outline of a briefing book, see Appendix E.)

**Follow-up:** There will be a rapporteur's report on this meeting, the issues discussed, and the conclusions reached. This will be published as a booklet (with pictures, sidebars, quotations, etc., in the several languages of the Americas) to be distributed widely.

In addition, there are a number of possible options for instigating and monitoring progress on the health and education issues discussed, depending on the level of interest and resource availability:

- having the countries report to the spouses on their progress toward specific health and education goals (e.g. school attendance and immunization rates), possibly through the partnerships or commissions established to follow through on the Summit initiatives. Note that there is already an annual Minister-level Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Education, Science and Culture (CIECC--grew out of 1967 Summit of the Americas), at which the 34 OAS states discuss education issues and progress.

- an assessment of progress on the issues considered in Miami in the context of the existing annual conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas scheduled to be held in Paraguay next year. This organization has a mechanism in place for implementing and monitoring projects through the Office of the First Lady in individual countries. (Note that Cuba participates in this group and that in the past, the U.S. and Canada have participated as observers. The political aspects of this option will have to be explored further before proposing this follow-up.)

- an agreement that spouses of heads of state will consult with their countries' delegates to next year's World Summit for Children to ensure that their agenda is pursued in that forum.

- an agreement to hold future ad hoc discussions among interested spouses on particular issues considered in Miami. These discussions might be linked to other events in the hemisphere related to the particular issue.

- an agreement to have spouses visit counterparts in other countries to learn more about and highlight successful models or

to draw attention to and provoke action on particular issues.

--the establishment of a communications vehicle for the spouses of heads of state of the Americas. The vehicle could be a computer network (the spouses could be hooked into the Hemisphere-wide Inter-university Scientific and Technological Information Network already being developed by OAS as part of the Summit infrastructure initiative) or a publication highlighting activities of spouses involving the issues discussed in Miami and others of interest. This could be a means of creating a measure of solidarity and collaboration among spouses in the region. It could also serve as a focus of periodic publicity benefitting the spouses. Where there is enough enthusiasm, there might be possibilities of using hemispheric wide cable TV (Univision?) or other electronic communications facilities for periodic events focusing on the activities of spouses in the areas of health and education.



## **Appendix A: Description of UNICEF Video**

The UNICEF video will be approximately 10 minutes long and will provide a general overview of the problems facing children in our Hemisphere and the major efforts underway to address those problems. It will be produced by Steve Anderson, who produces the Rights & Wrongs piece on PBS. The basic outline is as follows:

1. One minute on major problems facing children in the Americas, including health, nutrition, sanitation, education, and violence.
2. Several minutes on this hemisphere's commitment to addressing these problems, focussing on the 1990 summit, development of national plans of action, the Narino Accord, and various initiatives in the hemisphere.
3. A listing of issues that need to be addressed, focussing on health and education issues.

## **Appendix B: Possible Topics for Discussion at the Summit of the Americas Symposium**

### **OVERVIEW**

In order to improve the health and education of children in the hemisphere, a variety of challenges remain. Among the most critical health issues facing mothers and children in the region today are the needs to improve basic services for children, to advance safe motherhood, and to improve equitable access to services through health care reform. Among the most significant challenges in educating the children of the Americas are providing children with adequate nutrition and nurturing in their early childhood, providing access to education to all children, and maintaining a quality of education that keeps children in school and prepares them for productive lives. In each of these areas, critical gaps remain. Nonetheless, there have been successes and, to a great extent, we know how to meet these challenges if we can mobilize the political will, creativity and resources to do so.

#### **Major Health Issues:**

Safe Motherhood  
Health Care for Children

#### **Major Education Issues:**

Early Childhood Development  
Primary School Education - Access and Completion  
Quality and Relevance of Education

#### **Major Issues Affecting the Youth:**

Behavioral-related issues

More detailed discussions of these issues follow.

## HEALTH FOR A MORE PRODUCTIVE HEMISPHERE

**Goals:** to reduce child mortality by one-third and maternal mortality by one-half by the year 2000

### **Topics:**

1. Safe Motherhood: Maternal deaths remain high in Latin America and the Caribbean, with average rates more than 20 times higher than those in the U.S. Moreover, because fertility rates are also higher in the Latin American and Caribbean region, a woman's lifetime risk of dying from maternal causes averages 35 times higher in the region, and, in some countries, is more than 100 times higher. Nonetheless, there are pockets of high maternal mortality in the U.S. as well and it is important to target these. To reduce maternal mortality, we need to improve and expand access to prenatal and postnatal care, safer delivery care with referral systems to deal with emergency obstetric complications. It is also important to increase access and use of quality voluntary family planning information and services.

Experience has shown that that maternal mortality is not reduced by socioeconomic development alone, and that an active program to improve and expand health care delivery systems and modify behavior is needed. Various approaches are being used, many in combination with each other. For example, community-based approaches such as family planning and training and deployment of midwives have reduced maternal mortality in some countries. Adequate referral and treatment to deal with emergency obstetric complications is a critical component of safe motherhood programs. A recent pilot program in Inquisivi, Bolivia, which utilized a number of these approaches, showed a decrease in maternal and perinatal deaths and a marked increase in modern contraceptive use. Another innovative program in Brazil is focusing on training traditional midwives and timely referrals to facilities equipped to handle complications. The program includes community participation and is supplemented by interim visits by medical professionals.

2. Health Care for Children: Infant and child mortality, despite steady declines, remain high in many Latin American and Caribbean countries, especially among disadvantaged populations. Rates among certain population groups in North America also are unacceptably high. Major achievements to date have been in the "soft" goals, related to high-impact yet simple technologies such as vaccinations and, to a lesser extent, controlling diarrhea through oral rehydration. The challenge now is to move to more difficult interventions such as managing pneumonia and improving nutritional status and the "hard" goals such as neonatal mortality, which require more complex interventions, while sustaining the gains already achieved. The region-wide effort to eradicate polio, which led to the recent achievement of interrupting transmission throughout the hemisphere was a model of cooperation, partnership and participation. Now we need to



expand and adapt this model to measles, which the region has committed to eliminating by the year 2000 and to focus on interventions to control diarrhea, pneumonia and neonatal infections, and to improve nutrition.

Children's health status varies greatly within countries of the region. For example, in one country, infant mortality is more than two-thirds higher among indigenous peoples. Among the contributing factors, major inequities in access to health services is an important one. In order to make services more equitable, efficient, effective and sustainable, many countries throughout the region are undertaking health-care reform efforts that will benefit children. These efforts include changes in health policies and institutions such as:

- promoting decentralization,
- reorienting budgetary priorities to favor essential services for the poor,
- exploring alternative means of financing, managing and providing services,
- making greater use of NGOs,
- shifting the role of ministries of health from providers to regulators and setters of quality standards.

There is no single formula that can be applied in all settings. The reforms have to take into account the cultural and institutional characteristics of each society. There have been successful approaches and we're learning how and where to apply them. The Prosalud experience in Bolivia, where a self-financing NGO program is delivering high-quality services to a variety of populations, is one example.

## EDUCATION FOR A PROSPEROUS HEMISPHERE

**Goals:** A primary completion rate of 100 percent and a secondary completion rate of at least 75 percent by the year 2010

### Topics:

1. Early Childhood Development: There is ample evidence that early interventions considerably improve the preparation of the child for school, improving future performance and reducing costly repetition and drop-out. Learning should be embedded within their family, their community, and their cultural values. Children's readiness for school and the composition of the learning environments they enter are shared concerns of both the United States and the Latin American region. Most children have access to school and mass media is permeating society; understanding of nutrition and active learning capacity make it possible to alleviate many of the effects of poverty and dramatically improve readiness for school.

Approximately 8.9 million children, 28% of the age cohort, participate in early childhood programs. These numbers and percentages have increased steadily over the past decade, even in the face of economic crises. There are at least 360 non-formal child development programs in the region, usually concentrated in poorer urban areas, with low coverage. Seventeen of the nineteen countries surveyed increased the percentage of children enrolled in early childhood programs. Regional progress in this area is a strength upon which primary education programs can be built and is a basis for regional cooperation and joint research.

2. Access to- and Completion of- Primary Education: Primary school enrollment of children (ages 6-11 years) has increased in all countries ranging from a minimum of 75% to a maximum of 93%, especially in population centers. However, enrollment levels are not consistent across all geographic locations and sub-populations (e.g., girls, ethnic minorities, the disabled). The emphasis is now shifting to the last 15-20% of children, in which a variety of learning difficulties, nutrition deficiencies and special learning needs must be addressed in addition to the poverty and isolation which limit education. These may be promising areas for regional collaboration and cooperation.

Efforts to reach remote rural populations which are culturally or ethnically different from the mainstream are often incomplete or nonexistent. Few concessions are made in some countries to the cultural contexts and needs of indigenous, native populations. Investments made in girls' and women's education have a huge and positive impact on a country's development across all sectors. Social disincentives to enrolling and keeping girls in school are real, and need concerted attention. Participation and advancement in school for all children is also furthered by good nutrition and health.

Components of basic education that contribute to the goal of lifelong learning are:

- 1) early childhood development provided by families, communities or institutional programs;
- 2) primary and secondary schooling as the main source of basic education outside the family;
- 3) a variety of alternative educational services that meet the learning needs of children in areas without adequate access to schools;
- 4) public information and communication about basic education

3. Quality and Relevance of Education: Repetition and dropout rates of school-age children in rural or disadvantaged areas leave pupils with functional capacities (reading, writing, critical thinking, problem-solving) well below age-group norms in many countries of the hemisphere, including parts of the United States. In some regions, half the children do not complete primary school. Economic costs increase substantially when pupils take extra years to complete primary grades. Schools and communities must address the needs of the child comprehensively rather than piecemeal, including the concurrent requirements for adequate nutrition and health, for appropriate curricula, for access to information and realistic opportunities to apply skills to problems.

A number of countries (Jamaica, Chile, Uruguay, and Colombia) have shown that repetition can be reduced significantly when national goals are set and relevant programs are implemented. Curricula reforms based on functional, performance-based teaching and testing can produce instructional efficiencies and reduce the dropout rates. Improved, continuous teacher in-service training must match curricula reforms.

Learner-centered teaching methods and a commitment to critical thinking and problem-solving are indispensable in making future workers productive, current in their skills, adaptable to changing work tasks and inclined toward democratic collaborative approaches in public life. At the secondary level, collaboration with major private-sector employers will assure a vocationally-oriented curriculum which is relevant to labor market needs.



## **SUPPORTING THE HEMISPHERE'S YOUTH**

Discussion on this topic may include behavioral-related issues such as drug abuse and drug prevention, street violence, HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), reduction of unintended teenage pregnancy, street children and relevant training and access to jobs.

*(Pres Salinas)*

## Appendix C: Potential Experts on Children's Education and Health in the Hemisphere

### Overview:

James Grant, Executive Director, UNICEF

~~Nancy Birdsall, Executive VP, InterAmerican Development Bank~~

Marta Mauras, UNICEF Regional Director for Latin America

### HEALTH

Dr. George Alleyne, Director-designate of PAHO

~~Dr. Ciro de Quadros, Immunization Chief, PAHO~~

Dr. Silvia Bomfim, Proais Project/Brazil

Dr. Barbara Schieber, Mothercare Project/Guatemala

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Economist/Public Sector Reform, North-South Center

### EDUCATION

~~Luis Crouch, Research Triangle Institute~~

Jeff Puryear, InterAmerican Dialogue

Rosa Maria Torres, UNICEF, Senior Education Advisor

Fernando Reimers, HIID

*youth*  
*marta - (complex win)*  
*Gracie*

#### **Appendix D: Ideas for Press Statement**

Today, (date) xxx First Ladies of the Americans participated in a Symposium entitled "Healthy and Educated Children of the Hemisphere."

The issues discussed by the First Ladies included (list). Both the challenges and successes of providing health and educational services were considered (details?)

The First Ladies agreed that over the past decade, major gains have been achieved in bringing adequate, affordable and quality health care and education to the xxxx million children of the hemisphere. Successes have been based on (examples of successful approaches).

However, important and difficult challenges remain (list).

The importance of these challenges and the need to address them is also recognized in the discussions of the Heads of State. (Mention relevant agenda items, conclusions and any new programs at Summit).

Recognizing the importance of the achievements of the pasts and the challenges of the future involving the health and education of the children in this hemisphere, the First Ladies agreed to (describe follow-up).

## **Appendix E: Outline for Briefing Book**

- A. Overall Summit Issues
- B. State of Children in Hemisphere
- C. Achievements and Challenges in Education and Health for Children
- D. Models of Success
- E. Remaining Needs
- F. Available Programs and Resources



**DRAFT**

SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS: DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

We, the elected heads of state and government of the Western Hemisphere meeting in Miami, Florida, on December 9 through 11, 1994, pledge to work together to enrich the quality of human life and increase prosperity in the Americas. Committed to defend our citizens' rights, culture, and sovereign destiny, we stand united in our determination to advance democratic values and to raise the standard of living of all our people within a framework of mutual respect under law. Convinced that building a stronger, more democratic, and more prosperous Western Hemisphere will best contribute to a more peaceful, stable world, we hereby collectively and unanimously pledge:

To assure the full and effective exercise of democracy.

Respect for human rights and the rule of law are the foundations of democratic society, and safeguard individual and community participation in government. We hold dear the democratic institutions our countries have built, and we are determined to preserve and advance them for the benefit of all citizens without distinction.

Through the Organization of American States, we will work collectively to strengthen our democratic institutions and to overcome authoritarian challenges. In the event of a threat to democracy in any member state of the OAS, we will act together with the democratically elected leadership of that state to restore and preserve democratic rule. We endorse OAS efforts to foster measures that enhance the security and stability of the region.

We recognize that our citizens earnestly seek to increase the responsiveness and efficiency of our respective governments. To ensure continuing faith in our democratic institutions, we pledge to increase transparency and accountability in the public sector and to combat corruption.

We confirm our responsibility to cooperate in upholding the primacy of law, and pledge to fight threats from international narcotics trafficking and international terrorism.

Recognizing the important contributions of private citizens to effective democratic government and to cooperation among the people of the hemisphere, we will facilitate full citizen participation in political, economic, and social activity.

**DRAFT**

To expand economic integration and free trade as the driving forces for the prosperity of our nations.

Economic freedom, opportunity, and prosperity are critical to democracy and the legitimacy of governments. We recognize that our continued economic progress will depend upon sound economic management and the dynamism of our private sectors.

We resolve to construct a hemispheric free trade zone. We will build upon and advance the historic movement toward economic integration and cooperation now taking place in the hemisphere and the world by taking concrete steps to realize this monumental goal.

Aware that private investment is the engine for growth in the hemisphere, we will aim to stimulate such investment by cooperating to build more open, transparent, and integrated capital markets.

To further advance economic integration, we will work to create a truly hemispheric infrastructure. A seamless web of telecommunications, transportation, and energy linkages will permit the free and easy movement of goods, services, capital, and information that is the lifeblood of democracy and prosperity.

We look to our own resources and ingenuity as well as to the international community to help us achieve these goals.

To overcome poverty and discrimination in our hemisphere.

The fruits of democratic stability and economic progress must be accessible to all. It is politically intolerable and morally unacceptable that some segments of our populations have not shared fully in the benefits of growth. Believing that democracy and dynamic economic growth offer the greatest opportunities to all people, we pledge to attain greater social justice by improving access to quality education and health services for all of our citizens. We undertake to invest in people so that individuals throughout the hemisphere will have the opportunity to realize their full potential.

We acknowledge our common interest in improving the incomes and working conditions of all our citizens. In addition to advancing our general concern for human rights, widely shared prosperity contributes to hemispheric stability and lasting peace and democracy.

To conserve our natural environment for future generations.

Social progress and economic prosperity can be sustained only if the health of our citizens is protected from environmental threats, our ecosystems are maintained, and our natural resources are used responsibly. Consistent with the commitments made at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, we announce the formation of a Western Hemisphere Alliance with Nature. We also agree to support the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development. We pledge to strengthen our capacity for environmental stewardship, promote sustainable energy production and use, and conserve our rich biological heritage. We will pursue our economic and social development goals in a manner that recognizes the environmental costs and benefits of our actions.

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Our Declaration constitutes a comprehensive and mutually reinforcing set of commitments. In accord with the appended Plan of Action, we pledge to implement them without delay.

-- To assure regional consultation and coordination, we call upon the OAS and the Inter-American Development Bank to assist countries in implementing our pledges, drawing significantly upon the Pan-American Health Organization and the UN Economic Commission on Latin America and the Caribbean.

-- To assure national political involvement, we will convene specific ministerial meetings to address topics such as trade and commerce, labor, transportation, counter-narcotics, and sustainable development.

-- To assure public engagement and commitment, we invite the cooperation and participation of the private sector and non-governmental organizations in both our national and regional efforts, thus launching a new era of partnership between government and civil society.

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Never in memory have our thirty-four nations shared a more fervent commitment to democratic practices and economic integration. Never have the conditions for hemispheric cooperation been more propitious. Never have our people been more able to express their aspirations and to learn, share, and benefit from one another. To the people of the Americas, in whose name we affix our signatures to this Declaration, we pledge to seize this historic opportunity.



**DRAFT**

PLAN OF ACTION ADOPTED BY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT  
AT THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS 1994

The heads of state and government participating in the 1994 Summit of the Americas in Miami, Florida, desirous of furthering the broad objectives set forth in their Declaration of Principles and mindful of the need for practical progress on the vital tasks of enhancing democracy, achieving economic integration, improving the lives of their people, and protecting the natural environment for future generations, affirm their agreement to this Plan of Action.

1. Hemispheric Free Trade

Opening markets generates economic growth and prosperity, enhancing our nations' abilities to promote social progress, benefits to people, effective government and sustainable development. We seek to reduce restrictions limiting trade and investment.

[Note: Trade will be a central element of the Summit. During the week of October 21-28, a high-level U.S. team will consult with Western Hemisphere trade officials and will seek their views on the U.S. proposal and any additional ideas they may have.]

2. Capital Markets Liberalization

Capital market restrictions fragment financial markets and increase the cost of capital for investors. The absence of comparable, sound banking and securities regulations in the hemisphere reduces investor and depositor confidence and the availability of capital, also increasing the cost of capital. The availability of capital at competitive rates is essential to finance private sector investments -- the key to economic development.

National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Take concrete steps to accelerate capital markets liberalization.

-- Support the work of the Association of Latin American and Caribbean Bank Supervisors and the Council of Securities Regulators of the Americas to ensure comparable financial regulations and sound financial markets.

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## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Negotiate a Hemispheric Capital Movements Code that provides for a standstill on capital restrictions and for the progressive liberalization of these barriers.

-- Form a Committee on Hemispheric Capital Markets, comprised of financial officials, to meet in 1995 to initiate negotiation of the Code and to meet semi-annually thereafter to facilitate progressive liberalization of capital movements.

### 3. Hemispheric Infrastructure Protocol

Governments throughout the hemisphere have begun to invite private concerns to build and operate infrastructure projects and to assume the commercial risk associated with infrastructure development. Since governments do not participate directly in these private investments, they do not provide sovereign repayment guarantees. To ensure the greatest possible private sector participation in the development of the hemisphere's infrastructure development, governments need to find ways of providing the "political risk" coverage that is a normal feature of public sector project financing.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Enunciate the policies and principles they will follow to support infrastructure development by the private sector.

-- Establish procedures for airing investors' concerns when policy changes are being considered.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Develop a protocol or other suitable mechanism to encourage private investment, both domestic and foreign, in infrastructure projects that contribute to sustainable development.

-- Encourage the IDB and possibly other multilateral development banks to work with governments, and as appropriate private concerns, to develop mechanisms to deal with political risk-related lending and investment issues.

#### 4. Developing the Information Infrastructure of the Americas

A country's information infrastructure--telecommunications, information technology, and broadcasting--has a significant effect on its ability to generate sustained economic growth, to provide for the health and education of its population, and to promote democracy. However, the telecommunications development needs in most countries of the Americas are immense. Guiding principles in meeting these needs are private sector investment, flexible regulatory regimes, competition, open access, and universal service.

##### National Actions

Individual governments will:

- ensure that their domestic policies and regulations are conducive to private sector involvement in telecommunications and use the five principles of the Global Information Infrastructure [described above] to guide telecommunications development.

- Review the availability of Internet connections and applicable laws and regulations in order to facilitate wide use and a competitive market for Internet access providers. make government information more publicly available via electronic means.

- ensure that their country's major universities, libraries, hospitals and government agencies have access to the Internet and means to easily communicate throughout the hemisphere by the end of 1995.

##### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

- Via the OAS Inter-American Telecommunications Commission [CITEL], develop a work program to:

- o Encourage competition in the telecommunications sector and explore means of increasing private sector participation in the telecommunications sector.

- o Evaluate regulatory, technical and legal barriers to liberalization, standards harmonization and interoperability.

- o Develop procedures for harmonization of telecommunications equipment certification processes among member countries.

- o Develop regional guidelines for the provision of international value-added network services [information services].

- Support a meeting by 1996 of the region's senior telecommunications officials. CITELE would be invited to present a report on its work.

#### 5. Enhancement of the Capacity of the OAS to Strengthen Democracy

The strengthening, effective exercise, and consolidation of democracy is the central political priority of the Americas. The OAS is the premier body for the defense of democratic values and institutions, but under Resolution 1080 has been mainly reactive when democratic order has been broken rather than preventive. The OAS needs to direct more effort toward preventing such crises.

#### National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Ratify expeditiously the Washington Protocol to the OAS Charter.

#### International Actions

Working together, governments will support efforts by the Organization of American States to build its capacity to promote democracy by:

- Making the electoral organizations of the hemisphere stronger and more independent and encouraging exchanges of election-related technologies.

- Making available to member states a multidisciplinary roster of consultants on such matters as legislative processes, government reform, and institutional change.

- Strengthening the capacity of the OAS to play an even more important role in political reconciliation and mediation.

- Creating a "Center for the Study of Democracy," devoted to teaching, research, and technical training.

-- Encouraging interaction between Member States' democratic institutions [Congress-to-Congress, judiciary-to-judiciary, etc.].

-- Tasking an OAS Working Group to work with the Secretary General to implement and monitor these commitments and changes.

## 6. Strengthening Civil Society

A strong and diverse civil society gives depth and durability to democracy. Non-governmental actors have assumed an increasingly vigorous role in the Hemisphere, and their bases of support should now be further developed. Strengthening civil society will promote responsible citizenship by non-governmental actors, foster responsive links between them and their societies, and encourage an environment conducive to civic philanthropy.

### National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Review the regulatory framework for non-governmental actors with a view to facilitating their operations and promoting private philanthropy.

-- Endorse the establishment of a hemispheric network of civic non-governmental actors devoted to improving the governance, effectiveness, and constructive engagement of these organizations.

-- Consider contributing additional support to non-governmental entities and creating mechanisms for dialogue with non-governmental actors.

### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Endorse development by the IDB of a new Civil Society Program to encourage philanthropy and civic engagement in public policy issues.

-- Establish an OAS annual Prize for Democracy, Governance, and Civil Society to recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals or groups.



## 7. No to Corruption

Corruption undermines democracy. It occurs where public accountability is lacking, where regular oversight and enforcement powers are weak, and where regulatory systems lack transparency. Corruption taints public administration and undermines civic morality. It raises the cost of public works and contracts, distorts public priorities and diverts resources from social development. Transparency and accountability are essential for public confidence in government.

### National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Ensure that citizens have timely access to public records and sufficient information to engage in meaningful scrutiny of government affairs.
- Review existing legal and institutional frameworks for oversight of public administration and make the changes necessary to ensure enforcement of applicable laws.
- Take appropriate steps to strengthen investigative and enforcement capacity with respect to acts of corruption, ensuring that acts of corruption are prosecuted as common crimes and that the proceeds of corruption can be traced and recovered.
- Review administrative and criminal penalties relating to conflicts of interest and ensure that they reflect the severe damage to a democratic structure that comes with the use of public office for private gain.
- Review current regulations affecting economic activity to determine which, if any, restrict competition and thus promote corrupt practices, and make necessary amendments to such regulations.
- Consider forming national commissions on public ethics, to include private individuals and relevant groups, to analyze these issues and to propose other steps that should be taken to make government operations transparent and accountable.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Insist that international businesses and governments worldwide subscribe to anti-bribery principles and enforce them in their dealings with the hemisphere.

-- Instruct the OAS Working Group on Public Ethics to establish liaison with the OECD Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions.

-- Cooperate with international financial institutions to improve public procurement, civil service, and business regulation.

-- Strengthen tax and customs administration and expand cooperative training in these areas.

-- Cooperate in criminal investigations and proceedings related to corruption, including extradition and other means authorized by international agreement.

## 8. Hemispheric Anti-Money Laundering Measures

Money laundering is an ever-increasing threat to the economic, political and social stability of the countries of this hemisphere. While drug trafficking continues to be the primary source of illegal proceeds, the money laundering industry increasingly deals with the proceeds of all types of criminal activity. A class of professional money launderers has emerged who operate on an international level, specialize in laundering proceeds of all kinds of criminal activity and have access to increasingly sophisticated computers and telecommunications equipment. These developments mean new challenges for the countries of our hemisphere, which must respond with new methods of enforcement and a broad, coordinated hemispheric strategy, with disruption, prosecution and seizure and forfeiture of assets as the objectives.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Ratify the Vienna Convention, and thereafter, make it a criminal offense to launder the proceeds of all serious crimes. Such legislation can be patterned after the model regulations drafted by the OAS experts group.

-- Enact legislation permitting the freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds of money laundering and the sharing of forfeited assets among governments.

-- Implement the 40 Recommendations of the G-7 Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, including the Interpretative Notes on the use of legal entities in money laundering and wire transfer identification requirements.

-- Require financial institutions to report suspicious transactions to appropriate authorities and require that information showing the beneficial ownership of all new accounts be provided at the time that the accounts are opened.

-- Adopt measures to require the recording or reporting of large currency transactions, including cross-border movements of currency.

-- Develop strategies to combat money laundering, with disruption, prosecutions, and the seizure and forfeiture of assets as the primary objectives.

#### International Actions

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Working together, governments will:

-- Hold a working level conference, to be followed by a ministerial conference, to agree on a coordinated response to identify and stop the transfer of illicit funds.

-- Develop an integrated and coordinated regional development strategy to stop the transfer of illicit funds throughout the hemisphere, predicated on an interagency, international and interdisciplinary approach, with the objective being disruption, prosecution, and the seizure and forfeiture of assets.

#### 9. Battle Plan Against Drugs

The narcotics trade poses grave threats to the societies, free market economies, and democratic institutions of the hemisphere. Drug use imposes enormous social costs; drug money and income are net drains on economic growth; and drug kingpins jeopardize democracy through corruption, intimidation, and violence.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Endorse the work of the 1992 San Antonio Summit and follow-on efforts to achieve its objectives.
- Work individually and collectively to identify the region's narcotics trafficking and money-laundering networks, prosecute their leaders and seize assets derived from this criminal activity.
- Adopt effective national strategies to prevent or substantially reduce the cultivation and processing of illicit drugs, paying particular attention to the control of precursor chemicals.
- Support awareness, treatment and prevention programs to reduce demand for illicit narcotics and comprehensive interdiction strategies to limit their availability.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

- Convene a ministerial conference in 1995 to agree on effective steps to stop the transfer of illegal drug profits in the Hemisphere.
- Initiate discussions through the OAS with the European Union on measures to control precursor chemicals.
- Convene a hemispheric-wide conference of multilateral donors, including multilateral development banks and UN agencies, to adopt sustainable development strategies aimed specifically at curbing the production, trafficking and use of illicit narcotics.

## 10. Universal Access to Quality Primary Education

Large segments of society in our hemisphere have not been equipped to participate fully in economic life, particularly women, minorities and indigenous groups. nearly one-half of the hemisphere's population lives in ignorance and poverty. Investing in education helps ensure that all members of society have the capacity to contribute to economic progress, thereby deepening the roots of democracy, promoting political stability and furthering economic growth.



## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Designate a representative agency to work with its private sector and NGOs to review current strategy and programs and to assess changes needed to attain by the year 2010 a primary completion rate of 100 per cent and a secondary enrollment rate of at least 75 per cent.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Create a hemispheric partnership, with a secretariat, to provide a consultative forum for governments, NGOs, the business community, donors, and international organizations to reform policies and focus resources more effectively.

### 11. Ensuring Equitable Access to Basic Health Services

Despite impressive gains in the Hemisphere, child and maternal mortality remain excessive, particularly among the rural poor and indigenous groups.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Designate national health reform commissions, including public and private sector participants and donors, to promote efforts to reduce [from 1990 levels] child mortality by one-third and maternal mortality by one-half by the year 2000, in accordance with the 1990 World Summit for Children, the 1994 Narino Accord, and the 1994 international conference on population and development.

-- Endorse a basic package of clinical and public health services consistent with World Health Organization and World Bank recommendations. The package will address child and reproductive health interventions, including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, family planning information and services and HIV/AIDS prevention.

-- Develop country action plans for reforms to achieve health goals and ensure universal, equitable access to services. Reforms would encompass essential services for the poor and indigenous peoples; stronger public health infrastructure; alternative means of financing, managing and providing services; and making greater use of NGOs.

### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Strengthen the existing World Bank/Pan American Health Organization Economic and Financing network as an international forum for sharing expertise, information and experience on health reform efforts. The network will gather government officials, representatives of the private sector, NGOs, donors and scholars to share information on reform initiatives currently underway.

-- Convene a special meeting within PAHO to plan strengthening of the regional network.

### 12. Nurturing Microenterprises

The hemisphere's poor have need for financial services. This particularly affects microentrepreneurs, a majority of whom are women. This need is not currently being adequately met by institutions in the "formal" economy. Providing access to market-price credit dramatically expands the ability of the poor to become entrepreneurs--to be more productive, earn larger incomes and contribute to sustainable economic growth. Establishing appropriate financial institutions both enables the poor to invest in their own future and affords those institutions a source of capital.

### National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Reform the policy, supervisory and regulatory environments within which financial institutions providing services to the poor must operate.

-- Minimize the burdens that current policies, laws and regulations may place on the formation and growth of microenterprises and small businesses, including access to credit.

### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Develop with bilateral donor agencies and international financial institutions regulatory environments conducive to:

- o creating and expanding market-oriented micro-finance institutions;
- o obtaining resources to develop these institutions; and
- o introducing and financing environmentally sustainable technologies on a small scale.

-- Support efforts by regulated financial institutions to lower the costs of originating and monitoring loans to small businesses and microenterprises.

-- Create and expand networks of local small business development centers to provide financial and management expertise to small enterprises in the hemisphere.

### 13. White Helmets

There is a global need for a capability to deal with disasters requiring immediate response such as earthquakes, droughts, other natural disasters etc. As a first step to the creation of a global corps, a hemispheric White Helmets volunteer corps consisting of doctors, engineers, rescue workers and others could be set up to respond to immediate emergency situations. The corps could eventually be expanded to a global corps which could also deal with chronic humanitarian problems.

### National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Create a national register of volunteers [doctors, engineers, rescue workers etc.] willing to participate in emergency relief efforts on short notice.

-- Establish procedures for mobilizing a rapid response and mechanisms for getting volunteers to the site.

-- Seek ways to finance these operations either through voluntary contributions, reimbursements from countries where assistance is provided or budgetary allocations from national governments or international organizations.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

- Cooperate with the United Nations and other international organizations and non-governmental organizations [NGOs] to ensure the effective use of the White Helmet volunteers.
- Collaborate with each other to exchange information and experience on inexpensive disaster mitigation measures.

## 14. Sustainable Energy Development and Use

Current patterns of energy use are neither financially nor environmentally sustainable. Sustainable energy development and use addresses environmental concerns by making energy consumption and production cleaner and more efficient, and increases economic development by providing services in a low-impact, least cost manner. It is vital that governments cooperate in identifying and developing economically viable and environmentally sound energy sources to promote the availability of energy supplies.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Implement by the year 2000 integrated least-cost national energy strategies, including the consideration of the general principles of Integrated Resources Planning.
- Develop, for discussion at the November 1995 annual meeting of OLADE, national work programs for capacity building in energy efficiency, non-conventional renewable energy and natural gas.
- Identify, at the November 1995 meeting of OLADE, at least one non-conventional renewable energy and energy efficiency project for priority financing and development.
- Promote, in cooperation with the private sector and NGOs, rural electrification through the utilization of non-conventional renewable energy sources.
- Ratify the Framework Convention on Climate Change.



## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

- Convene a ministerial meeting in April 1995 to address the entire range of hemispheric strategies for the future.
- Call on the multilateral development banks substantially to increase financing of energy efficiency and non-conventional renewable energy projects as a proportion of energy lending by the year 2000.
- Coordinate technical cooperation between countries through OLADE and REIA, including project identification and implementation, and training programs and exchanges to build national capacity.
- Encourage the IDB, the MIF and the GEF to work with OLADE, REIA and other organizations to finance regional and national programs.
- Encourage private sector identification and implementation of projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## 15. Partnership for Biodiversity

Our Hemisphere contains over one-half the world's biodiversity. To sustain the Hemisphere's social and economic development, we must intensify efforts to understand, assess, and maintain this living resource base. Lack of capacity, expertise, and funding have inhibited national and international efforts in this area.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Establish and strengthen the management of critical parks and reserves and devise mechanisms engaging participation of indigenous and citizens groups in decisions involving protection of natural environments.
- Develop means necessary for a detailed assessment of its biodiversity resources.
- Ratify, or renew their activities under, the Western Hemisphere Convention and the Biodiversity Convention.

## International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Promote cross-border parks and reserves essential to the conservation of biodiversity.

-- Establish in the OAS an office of Western Hemisphere Biodiversity Affairs to serve as the focal point for the renewal of activities under the Western Hemisphere Convention and, as appropriate, to help coordinate on a regional basis implementation of other international biodiversity agreements.

-- Call on the Global Environment Facility to work with the Western Hemisphere Biodiversity Affairs office to finance priority regional and national projects.

-- Develop a Western Hemisphere Biodiversity Network; adopt compatible techniques for researching and monitoring biological diversity; expand cooperation among "One Hundred Sites of Collaboration" associated with the UN Man and the Biosphere Program; and generally promote academic communication on biodiversity.

-- Support the International Coral Reef Initiative, the International Forest Initiative, the Regional Marine Pollution Action Plan and a hemispheric training program in wetlands conservation and sustainable biodiversity resources management.

## 16. A Western Hemisphere Environmental Partnership

Sound environmental protection is essential throughout the Americas and is an important building block for economic growth that contributes to the sustainable development of the region. Intensive efforts are needed to cooperate on environmental protection and compliance regimes, drawing on Principles agreed at the Rio Earth Summit, including priority efforts to phase out lead in gasoline and manage pesticides, as well as longer term activities to prevent pollution, and to improve the quality of air and water.

## National Actions

Individual governments will:

-- Strengthen or develop comprehensive environmental protection and compliance regimes, provide for public participation, and strengthen enforcement capacity.

- Develop action plans to phase out lead in gasoline.
- Develop, as appropriate, pesticide laws and regulations and strengthen capacity for enforcement.

#### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

- Establish a new Western Hemisphere Environmental Partnership to promote institution building, increased technical capacity, education and public involvement and information exchange. Initial efforts would focus on lead and pesticides.
- Create an interim panel of experts to develop a regional management framework for the Partnership.
- Encourage the IDB and the MIF to work with PAHO to finance priority regional and national programs.

#### 17. Council on Science and Technology for the Americas

Strong scientific and technological capabilities and their integration with other socio-economic sectors are essential to sustained development. There is a need for more regular interaction among the region's science and technology [S&T] ministers to identify target areas for enhanced cooperation; reduce barriers to collaboration; and generally improve communication among scientists. A Council on Science and Technology of the Americas, composed of the region's S&T ministers, could stimulate S&T interaction in the hemisphere and support efforts undertaken in other fora, including the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research and the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction. It could also serve to advance new initiatives such as the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment [GLOBE] program.

#### National Actions

Individual governments will:

- Confirm their national commitment to share science and technology information with others in the hemisphere.

### International Actions

Working together, governments will:

-- Establish a Council on Science and Technology in the Americas [COSTA] to meet in 1995 as the first step in promoting partnerships at the highest levels in science and technology.



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 24, 1994

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR MELANNE VERVEER

THROUGH: RICHARD FEINBERG 

FROM: BARBARA TERAJE 

SUBJECT: Spouses' Program for the Summit of the Americas

The proposed agenda for the event the First Lady will be hosting at the Summit of the Americas will focus on children in the hemisphere and the impact of the Summit initiatives on them.

In order to help you plan the agenda, attached is a list of the current initiatives for the Summit and statements on how each one affects children. Some of the initiatives have a direct impact on children, such as those on education and health, while some have an indirect, but still significant, impact, such as the economic development and environmental protection initiatives.

We also suggest that the U.S. Representative to the OAS, Ambassador Harriet Babbitt, be included in this event and the preparations. Her knowledge of the OAS and its member countries will be invaluable to the First Lady in planning and implementing this endeavor, since many of the proposed programs fall under the OAS.

Also attached is the text of the Declaration of St. Lucia from the Fourth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas, October 11-13, 1994, in Castries, St. Lucia, which provides further information on some of the issues in which the hemisphere's first ladies are interested.

Attachment

Tab A The Summit Initiatives and their Impact on Children

Tab B Declaration of St. Lucia

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# THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

## SECURING A PROSPEROUS FUTURE

### FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THROUGH OUR CHILDREN

#### INTRODUCTION

- The Hemisphere's leaders and their spouses are coming together not only as the heads of their governments and people, but also as parents and members of families who recognize that one driving force behind the Summit is to ensure children's well-being now and in the future.
- This memo identifies the many ways in which the proposed Summit initiatives affect children.
- The implementation of the Summit initiatives will bring about a better standard of living for the children of the hemisphere, through increased trade and jobs, improved access to health and education, and the protection of their rights.
- Future generations will be called upon to continue the work initiated at the Miami Summit--we must prepare today's children to be the leaders of tomorrow's integrated and democratic Western Hemisphere.

#### The Summit Initiatives: Impact on Children

##### A. Hemispheric Free Trade/Capital Markets Liberalization

- \* Creates more jobs, allowing families to enjoy a higher standard of living.
- \* Lessens need to depend on children to help augment the family's income, thus reducing child labor.
- \* Provides more commodity variety at more competitive prices, helping to decrease malnutrition in children.

##### B. Hemispheric Infrastructure Protocol

- \* Increases access of all sectors of society to better transportation, electricity, and clean water.

C. The Information Infrastructure of the Americas

- \* Increases communication throughout the hemisphere, which will foster greater understanding, cooperation, and integration.

D. Enhancement of the Capacity of the OAS to Strengthen Democracy

- \* Helps prevent political violence, which has a profound effect on the well-being of our children.

E. Strengthening Civil Society

- \* Encourages the growth of civic-minded non-governmental organizations, which will benefit children directly, at the grass roots level.

- \* Helps ensure that groups such as disabled, indigenous, and female children receive fair and equitable treatment.

F. No To Corruption

- \* Teaches our children that corruption is unacceptable by treating corrupt public servants and businesspersons as criminals.

G. Counternarcotics Initiatives

- \* Narcotics consumption, production, and trafficking threaten all children directly.

- \* In order to safeguard children's health and their futures, we must educate our children on the dangers of drug abuse.

- \* We must continue our efforts to protect children from this threat and prevent them from becoming involved in those criminal activities.

H. Universal Access to Quality Primary Education

- \* All children, regardless of economic or social situation, will receive the basic tools necessary to become full, participatory members of society, especially women, minorities, and indigenous groups.

- \* Requiring children to attend primary school will help eradicate child labor.

- \* Ensures that all children have the foundation necessary to compete in a modern economy and/or to go on to higher levels of education; secondary school will train students for more complex jobs, allowing them to be more competitive in the modern world economy.

#### I. Equitable Access to Basic Health Service

- \* Reducing child, infant, and maternal mortality rates will clearly benefit children, who are particularly vulnerable to illness and unhealthy living conditions.

- \* The success of immunization programs in eradicating the childhood diseases polio and the german measles demonstrate the importance of universal access to such prevention programs.

- \* A healthy child is more likely to grow up to be a healthy adult, requiring fewer health services over the course of his or her life.

#### J. Nurturing Microenterprises

- \* Helps families obtain the means to support themselves for the long term.

#### K. Sustainable Energy Development and Use

- \* Developing cleaner sources of energy will improve the health of our children.

- \* We need to ensure that our children are left with options for renewable sources of energy.

#### L. Partnership for Biodiversity/Western Hemisphere Environmental Partnership

- \* Ensures that we do not destroy the living resources or environment of our planet for the sake of future generations.



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A.E. Bridgetown  
PRIME MINISTER

**FOURTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE  
AND OF GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS**

11 - 13 October, 1994  
Castries, St. Lucia

**DECLARATION OF ST. LUCIA**

The Wives of Heads of State and of Government and representatives of governments of the Americas, meeting in Saint Lucia, recognize the need to work together and actively support initiatives and social policies addressing the most vulnerable sectors in society and declare that the strengthening of the processes of integration and cooperation among our nations will be the result of actions designed to improve the quality of life of the population.

The purpose of our joint efforts to further the social development of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean is to identify problems, suggest solutions, and strengthen national programs that will allow us to meet our objective of sustainable human development.

In adopting the analyses and concerns expressed at our previous meetings in Venezuela, Colombia, and Costa Rica, as well as the declarations and agreements on the appropriate steps to be taken, we call attention to the rapidly growing impoverishment of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

In keeping with the role women now play in society, our function has evolved over the past decade toward the promotion of technical and professionally designed actions, projects and programmes in the field of social development, and therefore we

**REAFFIRM** our commitment to supporting actions which further the full exercise of women's human rights and to promoting the legislative reforms needed to give effect to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

**RECOMMEND** signature and ratification of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women: known as the Convention of Belem do Para, adopted on June 9, 1994 at the twenty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Brazil, as well as support for activities designed to ensure that it is put into effect.

**APPRECIATE** the efforts made by those countries that have made specific progress in laws related to women, especially in areas connected with domestic violence, in which women, children and adolescents are the principal victims; and advances which benefit and recognize the rights of female heads of households.

**SUGGEST** encouraging actions capable of bringing about the changes needed to ensure equal opportunities for women, by identifying the cultural and socio-economic barriers that affect and discriminate against women, and at the same time taking steps to educate women in preparation for decision-making in all spheres.

**AGREE** to encourage steps to introduce the gender perspective regarding rights, political representation, resources, reevaluation and restructuring in national development plans, and within those plans, boosting projects specifically addressing the most vulnerable groups in society.

**PROMOTE** the formulation of policies, strategies and programmes of action that advance the situation of poor rural women in food security and sustainable development through multisectoral approaches and supporting actions leading to increased access to productive resources.

**REQUEST** international and bilateral cooperation agencies to support our projects and programmes and promote inter-institutional collaboration.

**PLEDGE** support for activities designed to increase public awareness and sensitivity towards the status of women through mechanisms that arouse and generate public opinion in favor of improving their situation.

**AGREE** that steps be taken to start executing and consolidating regional projects and initiatives put forward at this meeting, namely: Training Awareness to Prevent Illicit Use of Psychotropic Substances by Street Children (WHO) and the Rural Women Project (IICA-IDB), Proposed Framework Project on Child Labor in Latin America (ILO), Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy (UNFPA), and the project entitled "Latin America in the struggle against Cancer" (ALICC-European Commission).

Furthermore, we agree to discuss with the relevant entities the possibilities of undertaking projects in the following areas: Detection of Cervical and Breast Cancer, Support for a Literacy Campaign for Adult Women, Development Projects for Rural Women, and Awareness Campaigns to Combat Violence against Women, Children and the Family.

**COMMIT** ourselves to supporting actions designed to ensure that the proposals emerging from the preparatory meetings for the Fourth World Conference of Women to be held in Beijing are incorporated into our work agenda.

**AGREE** to establish a Pro Tempore Secretariat comprised of the previous, current and next country hosting the annual meeting. Its task will be to co-ordinate and organize the annual meeting in the country due to host it.

**AGREE** to adopt in future Conferences a central topic to be analyzed in greater depth by participants.

**RECOGNIZE** the seminal work done by former First Ladies and their technical advisors in founding and organizing these meetings of Wives of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas.

3

**ADOPT** the logo of this Fourth Conference as the uniform emblem for all these Conferences.

**CONGRATULATE** and thank Mrs. Janice Compton and the Government of St. Lucia for kindly hosting this Conference and recognize their great efforts in proceeding with the Conference notwithstanding the natural disaster tropical storm Debbie.

**THANK** the international organizations and the public and private sector of Saint Lucia for their technical and financial support of the meeting.

**ACCEPT** the kind offer of the First Lady of Paraguay to host the Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas, to be held in 1995, as well as the kind offer of the First Lady of Bolivia to host the Sixth Conference to be held in 1996.

Castries, Saint Lucia  
October 13, 1994.

November 9, 1994

TO: Hillary  
FROM: Melanne  
  
RE: Summit of the Americas  
Spousal Program

Tomorrow's meeting will be a chance to finalize the substantive program and agree on the procedures and participants for the spousal program at the Summit of the Americas. The focus will be the Summit initiatives as they relate to the well being of children in the areas of health and education.

Attached is a draft discussion paper for tomorrow's meeting. The following is a tentative design for the program:

Working Session

1. HRC makes welcoming remarks and introduces a video produced by UNICEF video (1-2 minutes)
2. The UNICEF video will frame the discussion around the importance of producing healthy, educated children in our hemisphere. (7 minutes)
3. HRC makes remarks relating the Summit initiatives to children and making a transition to health and education as the key themes for discussion. (approx. 10 minutes)
4. A Keynote speaker presents an overview of health and education initiatives in our hemisphere. (10-15 minutes)
5. Approx. 3 First Ladies make very brief remarks on initiatives in their home countries (the First Ladies will be chosen with a sensitivity to interest, geography and politics) (approx. 20 minutes)
6. A General Discussion session follows (approx. 20 minutes)

Break-Out Session

7. The spouses break into approx. three working groups to discuss sub-topics, one focusing on education, one on health, and one on cross-cutting health/education issues. A First Lady chairs each of the groups and an expert facilitator will be available. This will afford an opportunity for the spouses to discuss working models to deal with problems.
8. The program concludes and moves to the lunch session at another site



### Lunch

9. At the lunch site, each of the three First Lady chairs very briefly provide an overview of the discussion, followed by a summation by HRC that will essentially mirror the press release.

### Press Conference

- The timing will be worked out to fit into the overall Summit, but the press conference will involve your comments, those perhaps of other First Ladies and perhaps those who chaired the subgroups.

### Follow-up

As you know, the spouses of the leaders of the Latin, Central and South American countries have been holding an annual First Ladies summit. We are exploring the possibility of the United States and Canada joining as members of these gatherings to further show solidarity and working relationships among the nations in our hemisphere and to chart progress in the area of health and education.

## AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

320 TWENTY FIRST STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

November 1, 1994

Deputy Administrator

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Melanne Verveer  
Deputy Chief of Staff to the First Lady

Richard Feinberg  
National Security Council

FROM: Carol Lancaster

Subject: Summit of the America Symposium for First Ladies

*[educ'n & health]*

As follow-up to yesterday's meeting, I propose to have available for a discussion meeting on Wednesday, November 9 (preferably in the afternoon -- I assume you will arrange) a draft concept paper of the symposium, suggested themes for the discussion, a list of possible experts in education to act as resource people and/or speakers, an outline of the briefing book to be provided the First Ladies, if possible a (very rough) draft of a possible press release and a list of events relating to children and education involving the Western Hemisphere planned for the next 18 months.

I will distribute these materials by the end of the week. They will be preliminary drafts to help focus our next discussion and to help us refine/amend our thinking.

I do not see the need at this point to pull together an inter-agency technical group to engage in further planning of the First Ladies' symposium. That will be more appropriate once we are all in final agreement on our approach and on what materials need to be prepared, particularly for the briefing book. Meanwhile, I will have my staff talk to staffs of other agencies for the information we will need for next week's meeting.

It may make sense for the next meeting to have an advance person attend to ensure we include all needed materials and consider all relevant details in our plans.

Assuming this approach is satisfactory to you, I will proceed to assemble and distribute promised materials.

# THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

## SECURING A PROSPEROUS FUTURE

### FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THROUGH OUR CHILDREN

#### INTRODUCTION

- The Hemisphere's leaders and their spouses are coming together not only as the heads of their governments and people, but also as parents and members of families who recognize that one driving force behind the Summit is to ensure children's well-being now and in the future.
- This memo identifies the many ways in which the proposed Summit initiatives affect children.
- The implementation of the Summit initiatives will bring about a better standard of living for the children of the hemisphere, through increased trade and jobs, improved access to health and education, and the protection of their rights.
- Future generations will be called upon to continue the work initiated at the Miami Summit--we must prepare today's children to be the leaders of tomorrow's integrated and democratic Western Hemisphere.

#### The Summit Initiatives: Impact on Children

##### A. Hemispheric Free Trade/Capital Markets Liberalization

- \* Creates more jobs, allowing families to enjoy a higher standard of living.
- \* Lessens need to depend on children to help augment the family's income, thus reducing child labor.
- \* Provides more commodity variety at more competitive prices, helping to decrease malnutrition in children.

##### B. Hemispheric Infrastructure Protocol

- \* Increases access of all sectors of society to better transportation, electricity, and clean water.

C. The Information Infrastructure of the Americas

- \* Increases communication throughout the hemisphere, which will foster greater understanding, cooperation, and integration.

D. Enhancement of the Capacity of the OAS to Strengthen Democracy

- \* Helps prevent political violence, which has a profound effect on the well-being of our children.

E. Strengthening Civil Society

- \* Encourages the growth of civic-minded non-governmental organizations, which will benefit children directly, at the grass roots level.

- \* Helps ensure that groups such as disabled, indigenous, and female children receive fair and equitable treatment.

F. No To Corruption

- \* Teaches our children that corruption is unacceptable by treating corrupt public servants and businesspersons as criminals.

G. Counternarcotics Initiatives

- \* Narcotics consumption, production, and trafficking threaten all children directly.

- \* In order to safeguard children's health and their futures, we must educate our children on the dangers of drug abuse.

- \* We must continue our efforts to protect children from this threat and prevent them from becoming involved in those criminal activities.

H. Universal Access to Quality Primary Education

- \* All children, regardless of economic or social situation, will receive the basic tools necessary to become full, participatory members of society, especially women, minorities, and indigenous groups.

- \* Requiring children to attend primary school will help eradicate child labor.

- \* Ensures that all children have the foundation necessary to compete in a modern economy and/or to go on to higher levels of education; secondary school will train students for more complex jobs, allowing them to be more competitive in the modern world economy.

#### I. Equitable Access to Basic Health Service

- \* Reducing child, infant, and maternal mortality rates will clearly benefit children, who are particularly vulnerable to illness and unhealthy living conditions.

- \* The success of immunization programs in eradicating the childhood diseases polio and the german measles demonstrate the importance of universal access to such prevention programs.

- \* A healthy child is more likely to grow up to be a healthy adult, requiring fewer health services over the course of his or her life.

#### J. Nurturing Microenterprises

- \* Helps families obtain the means to support themselves for the long term.

#### K. Sustainable Energy Development and Use

- \* Developing cleaner sources of energy will improve the health of our children.

- \* We need to ensure that our children are left with options for renewable sources of energy.

#### L. Partnership for Biodiversity/Western Hemisphere Environmental Partnership

- \* Ensures that we do not destroy the living resources or environment of our planet for the sake of future generations.



October 10, 1994

## **IDEAS FOR THE SUMMIT IN RELATION WITH FIRST LADIES**

### **I. FIRST LADIES' MEETINGS**

#### **Purpose**

The first ladies' meetings were created as an alternate integration channel for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Such a channel would allow for the flow of knowledge and of information about social policies and programs, the discussion of social issues of common interest, the diffusion of successful experiences, and the promotion of horizontal cooperation and of regional projects.

#### **Background**

The "1st Meeting of First Ladies from Latin America and the Caribbean" held in Caracas, Venezuela, was conceived on April 1991, at the "Andean Pact and Central America's First Ladies' Meeting" in Cartagena, Colombia. In the first meeting, which took place on August of 1991, projects and programs carried out by the first ladies in their own countries were presented. This presentation had the purpose of organizing an inventory of projects that would allow for the subsequent exchange of experiences and opinions and of cooperation among the countries.

The second first ladies' meeting was held on September 1992, in Cartagena. At the meeting, reports on the subjects of "Childhood, Youth, and Woman" were presented. These subjects had been previously identified as three topics of shared interest by a preparatory technical commission that had met in April. In addition,

the first ladies performed a follow-up of the agreements and of the actions carried out during the previous year. Finally, the first ladies made an overview of different regional projects that received support from their own governments and from multilateral cooperation agencies. These projects included: i) a "women foodstuffs producers policy" financed by the IDB and the IICA ; ii) a "teenage pregnancy prevention program" financed by UNFPA; and iii) a "maternal lactancy promotion program" and a "neo-natal tetanus elimination program," both financed by UNICEF and PAHO.

The different subjects and projects were formulated and described within their governments' social policy frameworks as well as within the different commitments acquired by their governments at forums such as the Children's Rights Convention, the Summit for Childrens, 1990 through the National Plans of Action, and the Summit of First Ladies for the Economic Advacement on rural women's in 1992 endorsed by ECOSOC.

As a complement to the first ladies gathering, a meeting of international NGOs interested in Latin America and Caribbean projects was organized.

The 1993 First Ladies Meeting was held in San Jose, Costa Rica. Its main focus was the family, following the United Nation's declaration of 1994 as the "International Year of the Family." In that meeting, work was centered around the interchange of experiences, the exposition of policies, and the discussion of such subjects as the "Family and Women Household Heads," the "Family and the Mass Media," and the "Family and the Working Minor." A follow-up of earlier commitments was also carried out.

The 1994 meeting will be held this month in the Caribbean island of St. Lucia. Its main focus will be the condition of women. Besides the presentation and discussion of previously implemented programs, new regional projects -such as one on cancer with the support of the European Union and PAHO, one on the working minor with the

support of the WWO, and action plan in favor of drug-consuming minors will be promoted.

## **II. SUMMIT PROPOSAL**

### **Outcome**

The First Ladies Meeting, concomitant with the Summit, could have three different outcomes:

- The simple discussion of experiences.
- A political declaration expressing the political will to mobilize, promote, and coordinate regional programs in which all the First Ladies have a common interest. Moreover, the First Ladies declaration or recommendation could be endorsed by the Presidents.
- The structuring of a regional project to be presented at the meeting.

### **Topics for the Meeting**

The topics of the meeting should be confined to the subject area of the First Ladies, namely, social affairs. These could include:

*Childhood.* This subject would be approached within the context of the different Action Plans in favor of Children; the Nariño Agreements of Bogota; the different governmental agreements; health, education, and nutrition problems; and the condition of children in particularly difficult circumstances (working children, street children and children of the war). <

*school drop outs  
recreation*

*Youth.* The topics could include: Reproductive health (early pregnancy); education; violence; school dropout; recreation; insertion into the productive system and training.

*Women.* Democratic participation; economic development; social development.

### **III. OTHER ASPECTS TO KEEP IN MIND**

*Profiles.* The first ladies are very different from each other. Their participation will be diverse and will vary according to their commitment, education, interests, skills, and ultimately, according to the indigenous characteristics of their own country. Their only unifying trait is their interest and will to work for their countries, to have things done, to learn about new ideas that could be carried out, and to transmit their own.

*Workforms.* The first ladies work in different ways. Some chair or direct NGOs that they have created themselves or inherited from their predecessors. Others work within the government, coordinating, promoting, or organizing the follow-up of different social areas or programs.

*Responsibility.* Despite their involvement, the political responsibility for their programs falls on the government.

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON  
REMARKS FOR THE FIRST LADIES' SYMPOSIUM ON  
CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAS  
MIAMI, FLORIDA  
DECEMBER 10, 1994

Welcome to all of my colleagues and friends from across the Americas, and to all of our distinguished guests.

It is an honor and privilege for me to host this wonderful symposium here in Miami. Let me begin by expressing my gratitude to the First Ladies of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada for your help and guidance in preparing for this session. Your extraordinary efforts in previous First Ladies' meetings in Colombia, Costa Rica, and most recently in St. Lucia, have provided a foundation for all of our work -- today and into the future.

I hope that in the course of our gathering here, and in the weeks and months ahead, we will learn much from each other and find new inspiration to address the needs of children, families, and women across our hemisphere.

Today, we live in an age of great promise -- and great peril -- for the 130 million children of the Americas. Great promise because our children are our lifeline to prosperity and democracy in the decades ahead. And we all take pleasure in knowing that there are millions of happy, healthy children across the Americas whose futures are filled with hope.

But there are perils too, because from the Queen Elizabeth Islands to Tierra del Fuego, our children are shouldering burdens rarely encountered by older generations.

Children suffering from hunger, poverty, homelessness, inadequate health care, disease, illiteracy, violence, and abuse are not confined to a single nation or a single continent. The cries of desperate children are sadly heard in every nation represented here. And it is the plight of those children that brings us together today, not just as the spouses of heads of state or as representatives of our governments, but as mothers, sisters, daughters, grandmothers, aunts, neighbors and friends who believe that every child in every country deserves a fair chance in life.

The political leaders convening at this historic summit have set forth an agenda to promote prosperity and democracy throughout the hemisphere through trade initiatives, sustainable development, and more effective government.



Today, summit leaders are outlining goals to ensure the economic, social and physical well-being of children, which Dr. Alleyne will outline later in greater detail:

The proposed Summit Plan of Action calls for universal access to education so that all children, regardless of economic or social status, racial or ethnic origin, or gender, will receive the basic tools necessary to become full members of society. The goal of requiring children to attend and complete primary school is also under discussion. If this goal is achieved, it will help eradicate child labor and give children a greater hope of acquiring the skills and knowledge needed in a modern global economy.

Beyond the important issue of school attendance, the Summit initiative on education also addresses the nutritional needs of children so they can learn more effectively.

The proposed Summit Plan of Action calls for equitable access to basic health services, which will be particularly beneficial to children, who are most vulnerable to illnesses and unhealthy living conditions.

Specific programs being recommended will address child, infant, and maternal mortality rates, as well as increasing immunization efforts to eradicate childhood diseases, such as measles, that still afflict too many children. We need only look to the disappearance of new polio cases in the Western hemisphere to know the success of these immunization programs.

We all know that the role of caregiver is crucial to the development of healthy and secure children. And we all know that the primary caregivers in society most often are women. The Summit proposal to strengthen the role of women will increase opportunities for women to participate in all spheres of life -- political, social, and economic.

Empowering women with economic self-reliance, access to quality health care and education is not only a valuable step forward in itself. It's an important step forward for children.

While we recognize that our political leaders are responsible for devising policies and programs to meet these important goals, we also know that, as First Ladies, we have a significant role to play.

Just as advocacy organizations, social institutions, and dedicated individuals are critical to progress, we, too, can help push the agenda forward in our respective countries.

When it comes to children's issues, women have a special calling. And that's why we have a duty to raise our voices for

the voiceless -- our children, the youngest and most vulnerable among us.

This week I've had particular reason to think about the difference one woman alone can make on behalf of children, even against extraordinary odds. My friend, Elizabeth Glaeser, died last weekend after losing a long battle with AIDS.

Elizabeth contracted HIV through a blood transfusion while hemorrhaging during the delivery of her first child, Ariel. Unbeknownst to her, her daughter, and then a son born later, also contracted the virus.

When Elizabeth learned that she and her children had been infected with HIV, she dedicated herself to raising awareness about AIDS. From a small office in Los Angeles, she created the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, which has raised over \$30 million since its founding in 1988.

Elizabeth often said she was motivated and strengthened by the memory of her daughter, who died four years ago at the age of seven. Her son, now 10, lives with HIV every day.

If Elizabeth could continue to contribute so much on behalf of children throughout her own illness, I know we can make our own contributions too. Of course, we will not all be involved in the same ways, or even on precisely the same issues. I know, for example, that AIDS is not as prevalent in many of your countries as it is in mine. That's why each of us must find a venue appropriate to our own situation as First Lady or government representative. But whatever role we choose represents a rare opportunity to make a difference in the lives of tens of millions of children -- and in the future of all of the Americas.

There is an urgency to our mission. More than half of our population in this hemisphere is under age 23. Ushering children into the world is, of course, the province of families. But building safe and nurturing communities for them to grow up in . . . making sure they have access to schools that teach them to read and write . . . protecting them from avoidable diseases . . . training them for productive adulthoods. . . and honoring their rights in the face of violence and abuse -- these are our collective responsibilities.

This concept was eloquently expressed in a pastoral letter issued in the United States several years ago by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. In that letter, entitled *Putting Children and Families First*, the bishops said:

"No government can love a child, and no policy can substitute for a family's care. But, government can either support or undermine families. There has been an unfortunate,

unnecessary and unreal polarization in [the] discussion [of] how best to help families. The undeniable fact is that our children's future is shaped both by the values of their parents and the policies of our nation."

As adults, we must take responsibility for our children so that they can learn to take responsibility for themselves. And we must insist that society's most vital institutions -- family, school, and church -- create the conditions necessary for our children to fulfill all their God-given potential.

To be sure, our challenges differ from country to country, and our recipes for progress may require different ingredients. The purpose of this gathering is not to prescribe one solution, but to share ideas and opinions and learn from each other's experiences.

Here in the United States, for example, we are not doing enough to ensure that women receive adequate pre- and post-natal health care, particularly poor women and teenagers. In 1992, 22 percent of pregnant women in this country received no pre-natal care.

As the rest of the world knows all too well, my nation faces significant challenges in stopping an epidemic of gun violence that daily claims the lives of children in our cities and towns. Today, homicide is the leading cause of death for African American youth in the United States and violence is the second leading cause of death for youngsters between the ages of 10 and 14.

Combined with violence is an equally disturbing scourge of narcotics use among our young people. Illegal drugs are readily available in too many communities in the United States, and even in some of our schools. Studies show that as many as seven million children abuse alcohol and drugs to some extent.

At the same time, we are making progress on behalf of some of our children -- progress that is visible right here in Miami. Just yesterday I had the opportunity to visit Jackson Memorial Hospital and Drew Elementary School -- two institutions that have achieved remarkable successes in disadvantaged communities.

Jackson Memorial Medical Center, which is affiliated with the University of Miami, has the difficult task of caring for some of the poorest and neediest residents of this city. The newborn intensive care unit that I visited yesterday serves the highest risk population in Dade County -- but the hospital has achieved the lowest infant mortality rates in the state.

The hospital also has devised innovative ways of serving its community. A mobile van brings doctors and nurses to those who



might otherwise go without necessary treatment and care.

Drew Elementary School is located in a predominantly African-American neighborhood. Community leaders devised a cultural exchange program in which students from Drew and a predominantly Hispanic school called Seminole Elementary come together for a variety of activities that promote tolerance and understanding. To enhance communication across cultures, students at Drew take Spanish from the second grade on.

The positive educational climate at Drew is reflected in the student attendance rate: 95 percent of the school's students come to class every day.

Drew has succeeded because parents, teachers, the school principal and community leaders have worked hard to create an environment where children feel safe, secure, and confident that they will thrive. The adults have taken responsibility; and the children are learning to take responsibility as well.

In every one of our nations, dedicated, energetic, and caring people are battling on the front lines to solve some of society's most vexing problems. The purpose of this gathering is to educate each other about our challenges and our successes -- and to make our efforts more cooperative by sharing the knowledge and experience each of us holds within us.

When we return to our capitals, I hope we will not be guided solely by documents, policy papers, and official pronouncements, but also by the desire in our hearts to see that all children have the gift of hope in their lives.

In the words of Gabriela Mistral [Mee-strall], the visionary Chilean educator, poet, and Nobel prize winner for literature: "Let me be more maternal than a mother; able to love and defend with all of a mother's fervor the child that is not flesh of my flesh."

Her message echoes a feeling we all share: That no child can wait for tomorrow.

Thank you for coming to Miami, and for joining together in this important cause.

And now, let us go from words to deeds.

[Introduce UNICEF video]

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# INVESTING IN WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## A Contribution to the Summit of the Americas

### Background Document

#### INTRODUCTION:

During the 1980s, economic crises in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries virtually wiped out hard won gains in living standards made over the prior two decades. The gap between rich and poor widened in most countries, and the share of the population living in poverty rose sharply: from 26.5 percent of the population in 1980 to 31 percent in 1989, according to World Bank regional estimates, or from 41 to 44 percent in the same time period, according to the United Nations Economic Commission on Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).<sup>1, 2</sup>

Although the 1990s has seen renewed economic expansion--1994 is expected to mark the fourth consecutive year of 3 percent growth--this growth has benefited primarily the wealthy. U.N. economists project that if current trends continue, poverty and inequity will continue to grow between now and the year 2000, carrying with them the threat of rising social unrest.<sup>3</sup> There is a consensus among governments, international donors and NGOs that top priority for public and private sector social reforms is investment in people and, more specifically, in raising the productivity and income of the poor.

Investing in girls and women is key to any social reform package seeking to reduce poverty and promote growth in the region. Two decades of research links investment in girls and women with improved performance in economic development projects, increased child well-being, and democratic participation.

It is now the stated policy of international financial institutions such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank, and bilateral donors such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to promote policies and projects that enhance women's capacity to earn income. However, there is far to go before such efforts realize their full potential. As recent reviews show, there remains a wide gap between policies that call for investing in women as economic agents and action toward those goals.

Therefore, we urge the leaders of the hemisphere to promote progress by endorsing a major commitment to invest in the region's women and women-based organizations as an initiative on the agenda of the Summit of the Americas. To a large extent, this is a



commitment to reallocate international, bilateral, and national resources so that action will match stated policies. For rhetoric to become reality, the following is needed:

1. Reallocate national and international resources to invest in women and women-based NGOs throughout the region.
2. Reform policies and institutions to make concrete, measurable progress toward meeting women's needs. Strengthen women-based organizations throughout the region.
3. Establish mechanisms to assess and monitor progress toward enabling women to become full players in the economy and society at large.

### **WHY INVEST IN WOMEN?**

- Investing in women is vital to economic development. Investing in women has led to long-term gains in health and reduction in fertility--which in turn helped Latin American and Caribbean women pour into the work force during the "lost decade" of the 1980s. Economic activity rates for women in Latin American countries grew by 13 percent on average during the 1980s--compared with virtually no growth in economic activity rates among men.<sup>4</sup> By increasing their work force participation and their contributions to household income, women helped poor families weather the economic crises of the 1980s.<sup>5</sup>
- Investing in women reduces poverty, since women are disproportionately poor. Despite their increased economic activity, estimates show that both the absolute numbers and the proportion of women in poverty grew during the 1980s in urban areas, and stayed at a high (56 percent) level in rural areas.<sup>6</sup> Women are poor because they have restricted access to land, capital, and modern technology. They are more likely than men to work in the informal sector, where pay is often below minimum wage and no social safety net exists. Even in the formal job market, women currently earn on average only 60-75 percent of what men earn.<sup>7</sup>
- Investing in women is investing in the future. A "virtuous circle" exists between increasing women's income and increasing children's health and education. This connection exists because women prefer to spend more of their income on their families, resulting in better outcomes for children. In Brazil, for instance, income in the hands of a mother translates into a positive effect on child health 20 percent greater than income controlled by a father. Similar benefits have been found in Guatemala and Chile.<sup>8,9,10</sup>
- Investing in expanding women's economic and social opportunities helps increase equity between urban and rural, privileged and poorer people. While progress has been made overall during the last 20 years, sharp differences exist among women in life expectancy at birth, total fertility rates, and primary school enrollment, both

within and between countries. For instance, the life expectancy at birth varies by more than 20 years between countries. Similarly, the total fertility rate varies by up to five births per woman. The maternal mortality ratio varies from 5 mothers' deaths per 100,000 live births to nearly 500.<sup>11,12,13</sup>

- Investing in women contributes to free and stable democracies. Targeting women is an effective way to curb the poverty and hopelessness that is transmitted between generations of families and that can lead to social instability. Investing in women gives them the tools to increase their participation in civil society. No true democracy exists without the full participation of half the population.

## **WHAT TO DO NOW:**

### **INVEST IN WOMEN AS WAGE EARNERS:**

The ability of women to increase their work productivity and wages translates into greater economic output and better nourished, healthier children with a brighter future. Yet although women now make up some 29 percent of the region's labor force--close to 50 percent in some Caribbean countries--they have far less access to useful technical and vocational training or financial capital than men, and tend to be shut out of higher paying work.<sup>14</sup>

Conventional vocational training for women is inadequate as it channels them into low-paying, traditionally female work.<sup>15</sup> Lack of training partly accounts for the fact that women work in industry in lower numbers than men--except in the assembly lines of export processing zones (EPZs). Employment in EPZs in a number of countries more than tripled between 1975 and 1986, with the majority of jobs going to women. Such jobs, however, tend to be low paid, repetitive, and dead-end.<sup>16,17</sup>

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Promote labor-intensive economic growth policies.
- Legislate and enforce anti-discriminatory labor policies.
- Revamp technical and vocational training programs to help women gain non-stereotyped, higher-productivity, higher-paying positions.
- Provide tax and other incentives to the private sector to implement policies for the hiring and promotion of women.
- Design social investment funds and public works programs to ensure that women have equal access to funding offered and jobs created. Set target levels for women's participation in such funds and programs.
- Use intermediary institutions and social marketing techniques to inform women of their rights and new opportunities, and to challenge prejudices that keep women in low-paying, traditionally female occupations.

- Finance, from public and private sector sources, affordable and reliable child care options for working women.

## **INVEST IN WOMEN IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT**

Because of barriers to formal employment, women enter the informal sector in disproportionate numbers. There they operate the smallest marginal enterprises for payment that is often below minimum wage. In Bolivia, 61 percent of working women work on their own. In Mexico, women account for 52 to 62 percent of all informal sector workers.<sup>18,19</sup> While the informal sector grew throughout the region by about 20 percent during the 1980s, incomes in the sector dropped by 41 percent.<sup>20</sup>

It takes only modest funding to help women already in the informal economy to increase profits, generate more employment, and sometimes "graduate" into more stable positions in the formal sector. Increases in profits of women-operated enterprises range from 25 to 100 percent in some programs.<sup>21</sup> Pay-back rates approach 100 percent.<sup>22</sup>

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Make the necessary changes in the financial system, legal structure, and overall economic environment to increase low income women's access to financial services, including savings.
- Promote and fund lending programs designed to bolster the economic performance of low income women entrepreneurs and producers.
- Promote and finance strong private sector financial intermediaries and business NGOs that lend to women.
- Set aside a quota of funds for women's enterprises that includes training and technical assistance to increase the productivity of these enterprises.
- Reform social security to include a safety net for women in the informal sector.

## **HELP WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES RISE ABOVE POVERTY**

Evidence suggests that poverty is becoming "feminized." Estimates show that during the 1980s both the absolute numbers and the proportion of women among the poor increased.<sup>23</sup> This feminization is tied to increasing numbers of women-headed households, male abandonment, and a rise in unpartnered teenage motherhood. Causes of poverty also include lower wages across the board for women, traditional discrimination in the job market, gender biases in the distribution of credit and ownership of land, and environmental degradation in rural areas that increases women's work.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Target poverty reduction programs to provide jobs to poor women--especially indigenous women and female-headed households.
- Promote and enforce laws to ensure that biological fathers help pay for their children's needs.
- Foster growth of intermediary agencies that increase poor women's understanding of their legal rights and access to state services and productive resources.
- Target sex education to teenage girls and provide access to reproductive health services, including safe contraception.

## INVEST IN WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

Although they own little land, and are therefore not typically considered "farmers," nearly half of family income in the region's small farm sector is generated by women's work in agriculture.<sup>24</sup> And the proportion of women working in agriculture, both in subsistence and export crops, continues to rise. Yet, farm women are generally shut out of agricultural extension programs as well as access to land, credit, and new technology.<sup>25, 26, 27</sup>

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Balance policy reform in agriculture with sectoral strategies that raise women's productivity as farmers and wage laborers.
- Reform land tenure laws to eliminate gender bias in land acquisition and ownership and use.
- Make sure that agricultural research extends to food crops and processing done by women and includes women in farmer trials and studies.
- Increase women's access to agricultural extension services, credit, technology, and farmers' cooperatives.

## INVEST IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

Since women are key health providers and economic contributors to households, their illness or disability endangers the survival of the household. Investments in women's health pay off in terms of their economic productivity and their children's well-being.

Largely due to lack of access to safe and effective contraceptives, roughly four million clandestine abortions are performed in LAC countries each year, leading to high rates of infection, maternal mortality, and a burden on the health care system. In a number of LAC countries, including those where abortion is illegal, one out of three pregnancies ends in abortion.<sup>28</sup>

Out of wedlock adolescent fertility is on the rise as well in many countries. According to the World Bank, 16 percent of all births in 1992 in LAC countries were to teenage mothers.<sup>29</sup>

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Reform health policies to increase access by the poor to quality basic preventive and curative services.
- Improve women's health throughout their lives, not only during the reproductive years.
- Improve the access to information and quality reproductive health services for all women including adolescents and unmarried women.
- Adhere to the principles agreed to in the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development regarding access to safe abortion and management of complications arising from abortion.
- Devise strategies to insure that men share responsibilities for sexual and reproductive health.
- Target a greater proportion of AIDS-related assistance on reducing the risk of HIV infection for women, whose rates of infection are rapidly rising.
- Promote joint medical and social science research on diseases and practices that affect women specifically--sexually transmitted diseases, reproductive tract infections, domestic violence, and unsafe abortions.
- Provide governments with public health and social statistics disaggregated by sex.

#### **INVEST IN GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S EDUCATION**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights confirms that education is a basic human right. In addition, education for girls and women is one of the most cost-effective social investments. It increases wages, reduces maternal mortality, and increases the use of family planning and child welfare.<sup>30</sup> While overall, girls now attend primary school in comparable numbers to boys, regional discrepancies persist. And adult females are disproportionately illiterate, with rates in some countries as high as 50 to 53 percent.<sup>31</sup>

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Emphasize improving the quality of education for girls and women.
- Beyond the UN goal of universal primary education before 2015, help girls stay in school in secondary and higher education.
- Eliminate gender stereotypes from school curricula and materials.
- Encourage healthier school and community enabling environments for girls, including public awareness campaigns on the importance of schooling for girls.



## **FURTHER WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Democracy depends on an educated, informed electorate, with free participation by all regardless of sex. And it depends on respect for human rights. Women are currently underrepresented in government and political posts. And they suffer human rights abuses that endanger their health and keep them from fully contributing economically and politically.

The world community, in the Vienna Declaration of 1993, and again in UN Resolution 48-104, as well as the OAS Convention of Belem Do Para, recognized that violence against women is a human rights abuse. Yet it remains widespread in LAC as elsewhere. According to the World Bank, between one-fifth and one-half of women surveyed in many industrial and developing countries report that their partners have beaten them. In industrialized countries, rape and domestic violence account for nearly one out of every five healthy years of life lost to women of reproductive age. The burden on women in developing countries is similar per capita, although the percentage of healthy years of life lost to violence is smaller, due to greater health problems overall.<sup>32</sup>

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Encourage governments to eliminate barriers to women's running for office and provide incentives to increase the participation of women in politics.
- Promote women in non-traditional roles in the public sector such as in the ministries of finance, agriculture, and industry.
- As the OAS broadens its mandate to promote and monitor democracy, ensure that the OAS includes at least 30 percent women in all its staff training and exchange programs for legislators.
- As the OAS helps strengthen educational and civic activities of NGOs, ensure that at least 30 percent of its support goes to women's NGOs.
- Help spread knowledge about laws promoting gender equality and human rights, through intermediary institutions, "barefoot lawyer" programs, social marketing techniques.
- Promote laws against domestic violence, enforce those that exist, and finance innovative institutions that can prevent and address violence.

## **INCLUDE WOMEN AS FULL PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT**

While the educational level of many women in the region is high, women are rarely represented in high-level positions in the public sector, the international aid community, or lending institutions. This imbalance helps perpetuate a blindness to women's economic roles and needs. In traditional development projects, for instance, money for

jobs training is channeled to men, while money for "welfare"--health, nutrition, and social benefits--is targeted to women.

#### **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Ratify and implement the U.N. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- Review national legal systems to remove barriers to women's full participation in society and the family.
- In public sector and international agencies, clarify commitment to women's issues in mission statements, policies, and programs, as well as in recruitment and promotion of staff, professional, and management positions.
- Substantially increase loan and concessional funding for projects that invest in women and women-based organizations, including funding to monitor progress and evaluate project impact.
- Develop and fund, jointly with national governments and international agencies, a broad-based, independent commission to monitor the implementation of the summit initiative on investing in women.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SELECTED DONOR INSTITUTIONS:**

##### **WORLD BANK**

The World Bank first addressed issues concerning women in development (WID) in 1973, but instructed regions to appoint WID personnel only in 1990. Not until 1994 did the Bank approve the first policy paper and operational guidance on gender issues. Projects with some stated gender-related activities in Latin American and the Caribbean rose from 3 percent in 1985 to 33 percent in 1993. While this increase appears impressive, it is important to note that in most cases, gender-related activities form a very minor component of project objectives.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Gear up WID funding and staffing so that within 5 years, one-third of World Bank projects in LAC contain significant investment in women.
- To achieve this goal, the World Bank LAC regional vice-presidency needs to give priority to and provide strong endorsement for the implementation of WID policy in the region, assign sufficient financial and human resources to the task, and invest in evaluation research and monitoring of progress.
- Devote resources to assess the gender impact of macroeconomic reforms, and redesign these reforms so as not to penalize poor women.

## **INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

The IDB's operating policy on women in development was approved in 1987, and meaningful work on women's issues began after this date. Consideration of gender issues in project design increased from 6 percent in 1991 to 18 percent in 1992. During the Eighth Replenishment period, the IDB has made a significant commitment to civil society, the social sectors, and social reform.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Give priority to projects that address gender issues in the social sectors, so that at the end of 5 years, at least 50 percent of these projects invest in women.
- Similarly, by the end of the period, at least 30 percent of all concessional resources-- including funds for special operations and technical cooperation-- should flow to women and women-based non-governmental organizations.

## **UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

USAID has incorporated policies on women since 1974; a major policy paper in 1982 reiterated the agency's commitment to women. However, implementation "has been slow," as stated in a recent Government Accounting Office (GAO) report to the U.S. Congress.<sup>33</sup>

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Make investing in women and women-based NGOs explicit in LAC Bureau and Country Strategic Plans, in each of the five priority areas: population, health and nutrition, environment, democracy, economic growth, and humanitarian assistance.
- Allocate significant project and non-project assistance at the Mission level so that after 5 years, at least 30 percent of all Mission resources in LAC are devoted to women.
- To accomplish these goals, engage in broad consultation with women's groups in the countries, and take measures to research, monitor, and report progress.

## **CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA)**

CIDA developed a WID policy in 1984 and a five-year action plan in 1986. CIDA has excelled in WID policy conceptualization and support to women-only projects and women-based agencies. Least effective has been implementation in productive sectors. Expenditures on WID rose between 86-89 and declined rapidly thereafter.<sup>34</sup>

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Make the policy links between gender and poverty reduction, good governance and sustainability for LAC region and set WID priorities in country strategies and programs.
- Increase allocation of resources so that at least 1/3 of country resources flow to WID activities.
- Monitor progress and strengthen WID accountability.

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