



SUMMIT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW GROUP (SIRG)
Third Regular Meeting of 2023
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Washington, D.C.
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INTERVENTION BY CANADA

(Amb. Stuart Savage, Deputy National Summit Coordinator of Canada)

(in French)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Your delegation's vision, leadership and efforts before, during and after the Summit are commendable.

The many ad hoc technical meetings organized since last June have enabled our delegations to discuss the commitments made by our leaders in Los Angeles.

This monitoring process is essential to ensure that these commitments are implemented in our respective countries.

Your delegation has succeeded in drawing up five action plans that should help our countries to:

- strengthen democratic governance,
- build resilient healthcare systems,
- accelerate the transition to clean energy,
- reduce the effects of climate change, and
- ensure that all citizens of the Hemisphere benefit from digital transformation.

As we thank the United States for its leadership, today we have the opportunity to congratulate the Dominican Republic on the new role it is preparing to play.

With this in mind, we believe it important to reflect on the process to ensure its ongoing effectiveness and maximize results.

Canada has participated in all ad hoc technical working groups since June 2022.

We have learned from civil society organizations, academics, experts, and member states on a range of issues.

These meetings provide an opportunity for constructive dialogue on how best to deal effectively with issues of importance to the region.

They have also been a source of innovative solutions to our common challenges.

(in English)

Mr. Chair,

Canada believes that common regional challenges are best addressed through coordinated responses and collective action.

Canada is very pleased that the SIRG framework provides opportunities for civil society, youths, and the private sector to share the conclusions of the work accomplished during the Summit follow-up and implementation phase.

They play a key role in the important implementation of all outcome documents.

At the ninth Summit, women's organizations were also given the opportunity to make significant contributions prior, during and after.

They presented their recommendations on the five thematic areas to high-level government representatives.

They emphasized the importance of promoting women's rights and advancing gender equality and diversity in shaping policies and actions.

The ninth Summit served as a platform for women's organizations to assert their influence, advocate for change, and forge partnerships towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

Canada was pleased to work with the Summit of the Americas Secretariat in supporting the participation of well over 200 women's organizations in the different phases of the Summit process.

As the work on Summit outcomes continues, we encourage the ongoing inclusion of women's organizations, civil society, youth, and Indigenous Peoples so they can share their views with decision makers without fear of reprisal.

Doing so sends a powerful message not only to these groups but also to those who wish to silence them.

Their messages are important and we need to hear them.

Democratic values are equally reinforced when governments listen to and are informed by the recommendations from these organizations.

In June 2023, Canada was also pleased to co-host with the United States and Chile the second Ad-Hoc Technical Working Group on the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance, under the topic of disinformation during electoral contexts.

This event provided a platform to share challenges and best practices in ensuring information integrity and countering disinformation campaigns in electoral processes – an issue of increasing relevance to us all.

As said earlier, Canada would like to welcome the incoming Summit Host, the Dominican Republic.

Canada is committed to collaborate fully for the preparation of the next Summit process.

You can count on our delegation to engage early in the process to share our perspectives on potential priorities that might inform the host vision.

Given the significant work realized through the Summit outcomes documents and the ad hoc technical working groups, Canada values efforts towards increasing alignment between Summits.

Canada believes that building on lessons learned can lead to concrete actions.

For example, strengthening democratic systems and institutions, reinforcing progress on human rights, gender equality and inclusion, including Indigenous Engagement, and combatting climate change.

The Summit process is enriched by an open-minded approach, respect diverse perspectives and actively pursue opportunities to bridge differences and build trust.

Such approach should thereby foster a stronger, stable, and more unified hemisphere.

Lastly, we would like to sincerely thank the entire Summit of the Americas Secretariat for their dedication in keeping us on track throughout the Summit process.

That team has shown remarkable resilience and professionalism, and my delegation is extremely grateful for all the work done in the past years, which was key for a successful 2022 Summit of the Americas.

Thank you.