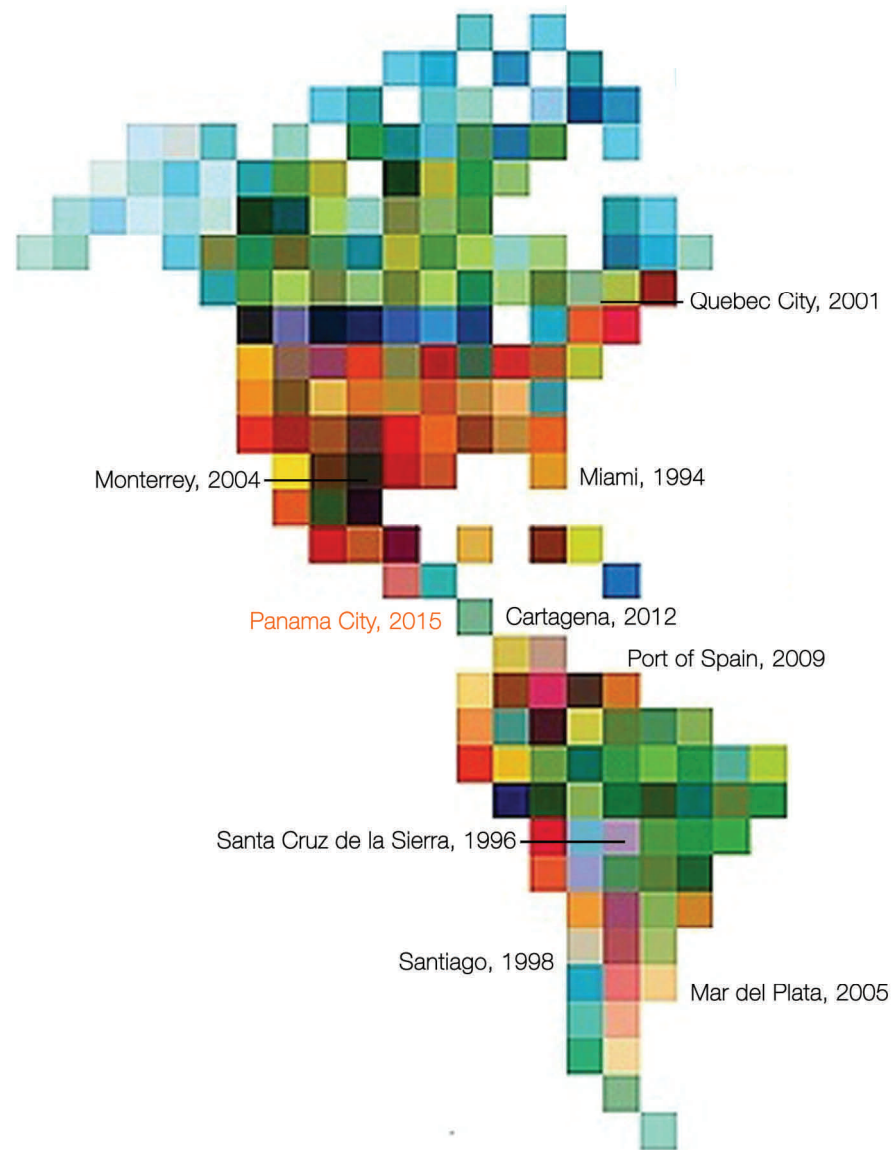


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Organization of
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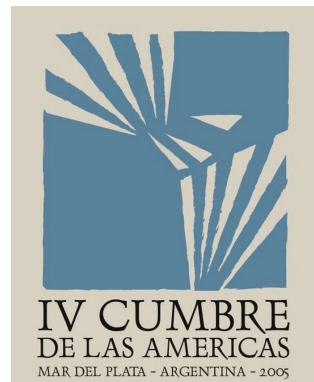
SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS
PROGRESS AND PARTNERSHIP



**CUMBRE
DE LAS AMERICAS
CHILE 1998**



1994
2014



**Cumbre
Extraordinaria
de las Américas**
Monterrey, México 2004

Sixth Summit of the Americas

April 14-15, 2012
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia



The Sixth Summit central theme, "Connecting the Americas: Partners for Prosperity", established specific mandates in five areas: physical infrastructure integration, citizen security, poverty and inequality, disaster relief, and access to technology. This Summit will be remembered for the greater opportunities afforded to the participation of the private sector, civil society and social actors; the debate over the global drug problem and the potential participation of Cuba in future Summits.

Highlights:

In response to a mandate issued in Cartagena, the OAS prepared a "Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas". The report consisted of two parts: an analysis of existing drug policies and possible scenarios and options for the future.

Launched in 2012, the Small Business Network of the Americas (SBNA) promotes entrepreneurship, innovation and small business growth in the Western Hemisphere. SBNA seeks to build connections between institutions providing counseling, training, financing and other support services to small and medium businesses.



Fifth Summit of the Americas

April 17-19, 2009

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago



The conversation at the Fifth Summit, hosted for the first time by a Caribbean nation, was centered on the three main pillars of the [Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain](#) - human prosperity, energy security and environmental sustainability. The Heads of State and Government also held discussions on, among other issues, developing a relevant response to the [global financial crisis](#).

Highlights:

Leaders endorsed the creation of the [Inter-American Social Protection Network \(IASPN\)](#), which enables countries to fight poverty through technical assistance programs and by sharing best practices.

Following a commitment to deepen regional security cooperation, the [Caribbean Basin Security Initiative \(CBSI\)](#) was launched by the United States in partnership with the Caribbean and the Dominican Republic to combat the drug trade and other transnational crimes that threaten citizen security.

Introduction

Twenty years ago, the democratically-elected [Heads of State and Government of the Americas](#) met for the first time in Miami to articulate their shared vision of the future of the region. Since then, six regular and two special summits have been held during which our leaders have considered a wide variety of topics, thus demonstrating that issues of interest and importance for the region are multisectoral and must be addressed collectively.

During the last two decades, we have also witnessed a process of change and maturity in relations among the countries of the region. In recent years, the Heads of State and Government have engaged in rigorous debates on political issues that previously had not been discussed. These transformations, together with their challenges, undoubtedly contribute to the progress of our people. During these eight Summits, Member States have engaged in frank and open dialogue within a framework of full respect and recognition of the heterogeneity of our region.

In this brief outline of the twenty years of the Summits process, we seek to recall the central themes addressed in each of the Summits and highlight some of the most significant achievements of the process. We also recognize the important contributions of all Summit stakeholders to the process, including [Member States](#), the [Joint Summit Working Group](#), the [private sector](#), [civil society](#) and [social actors](#), [academia](#) and [youth](#). We will continue to work to ensure that future Summits can contribute further to the progress and prosperity of the peoples of the Americas.

For more information on the mechanisms and initiatives that resulted from the Summits of the Americas Process, please visit: http://www.summit-americas.org/sisca/summits_outcomes_20_yrs_en.pdf



First Summit of the Americas

December 9-11, 1994
Miami, USA



The First Summit of the Americas - *Partnership for Development and Prosperity* - produced a Declaration of Principles and a Plan of Action signed by all 34 Heads of State and Government of the Americas in attendance. The leaders committed to preserve and strengthen democracy, promote economic prosperity, eradicate poverty and discrimination, and guarantee sustainable development.

Highlights:

Adoption of the *Inter-American Convention Against Corruption* to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the Americas.

Leaders instructed the OAS to convene a *Special Conference to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism*, which led to the formation of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE).



Fourth Summit of the Americas

November 4-5, 2005
Mar del Plata, Argentina



The Fourth Summit of the Americas concentrated on confronting the major challenges facing the region in employment, poverty and governance and was based on the theme, '*Creating Jobs to Fight Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance*'. The subsequent Declaration and Plan of Action of Mar del Plata resulted in 52 mandates.

Highlights:

Leaders called for the *Americas Competitiveness Forum*, an annual event that provides an opportunity for governments, the private sector, academia and international organizations to find solutions to greater economic competitiveness in the region.

The OAS, in collaboration with the ILO and other international agencies, launched the *Inter-American Labor Administration Network (RIAL)*. This is in compliance with the mandate to *strengthen the capacity of the Ministries of Labor* in the region through horizontal co-operation and technical assistance.



Special Summit of the Americas

January 12-13, 2004
Monterrey, Mexico



The Special Summit was held because, since the Quebec City Summit of 2001, one-third of the countries in the Americas had gained new leadership, poverty was on the rise, and economic growth was staggering. The governments signed the [Declaration of Nuevo León](#) which focused on three areas: Economic Growth with Equity to Reduce Poverty, Social Development, and Democratic Governance.

Highlights:

Leaders pledged to eliminate regulatory obstacles and reduced by at least 50%, the cost of [remittance transfers](#) to Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). By reducing the cost of transmitting money, more money is freed up, thus enhancing the developmental potential of remittances.

The Region met and exceeded the goal set by Heads of State to treat at least 600,000 people requiring [HIV/AIDS antiretroviral therapy](#) by the end of 2005. Over 680,000 people in LAC received antiretroviral medications through this PAHO/WHO initiative.



Summit on Sustainable Development

December 7-8, 1996
Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia



The objective of the Summit on Sustainable Development was to establish a common vision for the future according to the concept of sustainable development. This Summit resulted in 98 mandates focused on Health and Education, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Water Resources and Coastal Areas, and Energy and Minerals.

Highlights:

The [Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network \(IABIN\)](#) was established to promote the collection, communication, and exchange of information relevant to biodiversity conservation.

The [Inter-American Forum on Environmental Law \(FIDA\)](#) was conceived by Heads of State and Governments as a network of experts and officials in environmental law and enforcement, that serves as a forum to exchange knowledge and experiences in environmental law and to facilitate training and capacity-building in this area.



Second Summit of the Americas

April 18-19, 1998
Santiago de Chile, Chile



The Second Summit of the Americas was prepared with the active participation of sub-regional organizations such as the [Caribbean Community \(CARICOM\)](#) and the [Rio Group](#). The result of these deliberations produced a Declaration and Plan of Action of Santiago which contained 27 initiatives grouped into the following subjects: Preserving and Strengthening Democracy, Justice and Human Rights; Economic Integration and Free Trade; Eradication of Poverty and Discrimination.

Highlights:

Establishment of a [Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism \(MEM\)](#) to improve the capacity of Member States to control drug trafficking and abuse and enhance multilateral cooperation.

The [Regional Education Indicators Project \(PRIE\)](#) was developed to monitor countries' progress toward meeting the education goals of the Summit of the Americas. It involves the use of comparable indicators to measure progress and improve the efficiency of education statistics systems in the region.



Third Summit of the Americas

April 20-22, 2001
Quebec City, Canada



The Third Summit of the Americas involved a preparatory process that included the participation of [Member States](#), [international organizations](#), [financial institutions](#) and [civil society](#). At the Summit, the Presidents and Prime Ministers of the region addressed common hemispheric issues and challenges such as improved access to education, poverty alleviation, strengthening human rights and democracy and economic integration.

Highlights:

The leaders instructed their foreign ministers to prepare an [Inter-American Democratic Charter](#) "to reinforce OAS instruments for the active defense of representative democracy". The Charter, adopted on September 11, 2001 in Lima, Peru is an affirmation of their shared commitment to democracy.

The [Joint Summit Working Group](#) was created in response to the Quebec City Plan of Action which underscored the need for the involvement of international organizations in the implementation and follow-up of Summit mandates.

