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# Action Plan on Health and Resilience in the Americas

#### Adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9, 2022

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas, looking toward the Tenth Summit of the Americas, commit to reach consensus on an Action Plan for Health and Resilience in the Americas, to be implemented by 2030, with the following actions:

Address, with solidarity and equity, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, in all its stages, through the aforementioned Action Plan, in accordance with national contexts, needs, and priorities with the aim of assessing and strengthening the capacity and resilience of health systems and health value chains at the national and regional levels, placing individuals at the core of health and resilience policies, the integration of the delivery of health services, including physical and mental health services, accounting for the amplified impact on and unique needs of members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law,

- promoting the implementation of universal health coverage for all, without discrimination, to further the wellbeing of current and future generations.1/2/
- 2. Address the wider economic, social, and environmental dimensions of resilience, including challenges resulting from COVID-19 and constraints to sustainable post-pandemic recovery, including limited fiscal space; unsustainable debt-burdens, where applicable; lack of access to financing; challenges to food and nutrition security; and limited capacity to mitigate and adapt to the challenges of the climate crisis.
- 3. Strengthen the resilience of our health and

<sup>1.</sup> The Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay support the phrase "women and girls in all their diversity" and consider that references in this document...

**<sup>2.</sup>** The Republic of Panama reiterates the importance of promoting national legislation to advance the human rights of all persons who are members of groups that have been historically...

education systems, our economies, and our communities, bearing in mind that the Americas share many challenges, made evident or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and that we need comprehensive and gender-responsive approaches. Likewise, work together to rebuild our economies and institutions in a resilient. inclusive, and equitable manner and with the full and equitable participation of all women in order to achieve growth. To this end, we note the importance of facilitating investments increasing the availability of critical and accessible infrastructure, strengthening supply chains and public procurement, strengthening international markets, and increasing commercial integration, which lay the foundation for long-term equitable growth and prosperity.

- 4. Develop an evidence-based Action Plan that takes into account the sociocultural, economic, and structural challenges facing the Americas region and includes, among others, identifying measures for national and international coordination and cooperation, taking into account the global commitments assumed by the states with respect to health and resilience, with a view to:
  - a. Expanding equitable access to comprehensive people-and-community-

centered health services of quality and strengthening primary care to move toward universal access to health services. To that end, promote the sharing of experiences and best practices regarding policies, regulations, and standards; strengthen intersectoral coordination in order to address the social determinants of health; and strengthen institutional structures, including building capacities for the regulation and evaluation of health systems to ensure health services and medicines are safe, effective, and of high quality; with due attention to building capacities to perform essential public health functions and implement the International Health Regulations (2005);

b. Strengthening educational programs in the fields of medicine, public health, nutrition, and biomedical science research, as well as recruitment and skills development of all professionals engaged in the field of health, through continuing education and training, promoting an increase in the number of people working in these specialties, with a comprehensive bio-psycho-social approach to meet the health needs of our populations; as well as retaining health personnel in developing countries, especially in the least developed countries and small-island and

- low-lying coastal developing states of the Caribbean and Central America:
- c. Examining financing mechanisms that guide the involvement of national and international financial institutions and the public and private sectors in strengthening health systems in the management of new financing models aimed at improving efficiency, effectiveness. transparency, sustainability, and equity in financing, increasing and improving public financing, and making progress towards eliminating out-of-pocket expenses, when applicable, as well as pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response, encouraging international financial institutions to grant financing to the developing countries;
- d. Strengthening regional and global health security and public health emergency preparedness for the future in keeping with previously established commitments, and increase health research and development funding, promoting regional actions to build and strengthen national and regional development and sustainable production capacities for raw materials, pharmaceuticals, and medicines, including safe and effective vaccines, medical supplies,

- and other essential health technologies; improving affordability and access; and responding to regional health needs, as appropriate, particularly during health emergencies;
- e. Encouraging regional activities to increase investment and foster industry, including voluntary technology transfer on mutuallyagreed terms;
- f. Using public procurement to simultaneously promote affordability, sustainability, expertise, and development of existing health budgets in an effective, efficient, and inclusive manner; promoting ethical conduct to prevent corruption in both the public and the private sectors; and taking into account commitments adopted regionally and subregionally;
- g. Leveraging digital tools and strengthen cooperation and the exchange of best practices for the development and application of these technologies, including the use of artificial intelligence; and safeguarding privacy in the handling of personal data, in order to facilitate access to actions for promotion of preventive and curative care, including treatment to bolster national and

regional capacities;

- h. Strengthening the capacities of health authorities and infrastructure and national epidemiological surveillance systems, as appropriate, to prevent, prepare for, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks and events with epidemic characteristics, through the fulfillment of the commitments under the International Health Regulations and other international instruments, and through international cooperation and technical assistance from international organizations such as the Pan American Health Organization;
- i. Redoubling efforts to accelerate achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including target 3.4 – to reduce by one-third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and wellbeing by 2030 – noting with concern that the leading cause of premature mortality in the Region of the Americas is NCDs, which disproportionately affect countries in the region, including small-island and low-lying coastal developing states in the Caribbean sub-region, accounting for the highest

- probability of death between the ages of 30 and 70 from any of the four major NCDs;
- Scaling up commitments to mobilize and allocate adequate, predictable, and sustained resources, through domestic, bilateral, and multilateral regional, channels. including international cooperation and official development assistance: and continue exploring voluntary innovative financing mechanisms and partnerships to effectively prevent, control, and treat NCDs, taking into account the major funding gap in addressing prevention and control of NCDs, and its impact on health and resilience in the Americas:
- k. Working to close the gaps in basic capacities among and within the countries of the region, considering in particular, impacts on access to health-related products, and the unique challenges of less developed countries especially land-locked and small-island and low-lying coastal developing states in the Caribbean and Central America.
- 5. Emphasize, without exclusions, the mainstreaming of human rights, equity, equality, and the interconnection of multiple and compounding forms of discrimination,

exclusion, and inequality, and the social determinants of health, with particular attention to the needs and challenges faced by members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law, in all aspects of the Action Plan.

- 6. Place persons and communities at the center of the Action Plan, addressing inequalities and inequities, promoting gender equality, to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences, as expressed in Target 5.6 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.3/
- 7. The responsible authorities commit to evaluate gaps and develop an evidence-based action plan,

prevent, rapidly detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks, especially those resulting from threats to health between human beings, animals, plants and the environment and vector-borne transmission, and recognizing the threat posed by antimicrobial resistance (AMR) to human, animal, plant and environmental health, food safety, and global food security, encourage the integration of measures to improve awareness and understanding of AMR through communication, education, and training and to strengthen the evidence and knowledge base through surveillance and research.

rooted, inter alia, in a One Health approach to

- 8. The responsible authorities commit to develop an Action Plan in consultation with diverse stakeholders, including civil society and other social actors and the private sector, as appropriate.
- 9. The responsible authorities develop and implement the Action Plan with the support of the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, and other members of the Joint Summit Working Group, as appropriate and consistent with other regional initiatives underway.

**<sup>3.</sup>** Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to international human rights treaties –legitimately agreed and ratified– in accordance with its domestic laws. The Political Constitution of the Republic of ...

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- 1. ...to "all women and girls, taking into account their various conditions and situations" fall short of the language that leaders should support at a Summit of the Americas which must aim for inclusiveness. "Women and girls in all their diversity" acknowledges the fact that women and girls are not a homogeneous group and embraces their different identities, including, for example, as part of the indigenous Afro-descendant, lesbian, gav, bisexual, transgender, queer and of two spirits (LGBTIO2), as well as other dimensions and communities. Likewise, it recognizes the need to adopt an intersectional and multidimensional approach to meaningfully respond to the needs of women and girls of different backgrounds, respecting and valuing the full diversity of their identities and realities. This approach underlines the interconnectedness of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusions and inequalities that impede their empowerment and the full enjoyment of their rights. Diversity as a concept has been recognized in numerous international and regional texts, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2001 Ouebec Summit of the Americas Plan of Action.
- ...marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, especially women in all their diversity

   forums for multilateral dialogue being ideal vehicles for this purpose.
- ...Guatemala and its internal legal system protects human rights while reaffirming the equality of all human beings, without discrimination or distinction whatsoever.

Guatemala dissociates itself from all terms contained in this Commitment that are not expressly included in the treaties to which it is party. Any interpretation of the language contained in the document shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Rights of Treaties.

Specifically, Guatemala dissociates itself from paragraph 6 and the language contained therein because they are contrary to domestic law and the recently-adopted public policy on protection of family life and the family as an institution. Furthermore, it reserves the right to interpret the term "reproductive rights" and "reproductive and sexual health services," which, for the State of Guatemala, do not include abortion.

There is no international consensus on the interpretation of reproductive rights, and Guatemala does have domestic laws that cover only sexual and reproductive health policies but not reproductive rights, which could be interpreted as a right to abortion or abortion practices, which is contrary to the country's domestic law.

# Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation

Adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9, 2022

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas,

AFFIRMING the essential role of dynamic and resilient digital ecosystems in supporting vibrant digital economies, enhancing preparedness for future health, natural disaster, and climate events, promoting digital inclusion for all peoples, encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, increasing innovation, competitiveness and investment, optimizing the provision of public services, and strengthening digital governance, transformation, and trust in the region by leveraging emerging and digital technologies;

EMPHASIZING that the pandemic caused by the coronavirus disease revealed the extent of the digital divide and underscored the importance of internet access, digital literacy, and protection of personal data, as well as leveraging the use of transformative technologies to drive our communities forward with a focus on traditionally underrepresented groups, particularly women and

populations or groups in vulnerable situations;

RECOGNIZING the need for greater regional cooperation across multiple stakeholders to increase regional economic growth and competitiveness, bridge the digital divide and skills gaps, and promote the responsible and ethical use of digital technologies in line with the recommendations and commitments of the Declaration of Jamaica from the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that the digital divide and skills gaps can disproportionally affect women, children, persons with disabilities, and other individuals who are in situations of vulnerability and/or marginalization, and that these gaps are deeper in developing countries,

#### **COMMIT TO:**

### A. Digital Ecosystems and Connectivity

- Encourage the development of national plans or strategies on digital transformation and innovation that also promote the secure, responsible, and lawful use of digital technologies, in line with international standards.
- 2. Encourage, in particular, such action with respect to persons with disabilities or with specific needs, as well as members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law, to broadly use digital platforms.1/2/
- Develop a set of public policies that will allow us to promote digital inclusion, citizen cybersecurity,

- and access to education and culture, to digital services provided in trustworthy and secure conditions, to open and public information, and to financial services to promote universal access and accessibility to digital content and products, as well as promote citizen participation through digital tools and means.
- 4. Promote national research and innovation networks and their regional and international integration, recognizing that information and communication technologies (ICTs), connectivity, and digital infrastructures are essential components for the economic, scientific, and technological development of countries.
- 5. Promote the dissemination and use of emerging and digital technologies.
- 6. To promote the appropriate, convergent, and progressive use of information and communication technologies, emerging technologies, and new technologies to promote sustainable and integral development, fostering innovation, inclusion, and competitiveness.
- 7. Promote the convergence of existing regional initiatives in this Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation in the Americas, based on

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current commitments and on the national strategies on the matter, as well as the collaboration of the relevant institutions of the inter-American system.

- 8. Request support from members of the Joint Summit Working Group for the process of defining and implementing the agenda via the Summit of the Americas process.
- Promote equality of all persons in cyberspace regardless of their country of origin and facilitate equitable, meaningful, affordable, and universal broadband internet access and connectivity, particularly for remote and rural communities of the Americas.
- 10. Promote the development of infrastructure that enables the deployment of interoperable, resilient, secure, and reliable telecommunications networks with open architecture and which are technologically neutral, as well as regulatory policies that expand coverage, facilitate connectivity, promote competitiveness, and drive digital innovation.
- 11. Support digital infrastructure- and connectivityrelated studies, national and regional networks, and projects currently underway that enable us to achieve greater integration within the region,

- and between the region and other continents and regions of the world.
- 12. Expand next generation broadband connectivity based on national capacities, promote enabling environments for new technologies, and strengthen interoperability by advancing regional harmonization on radio frequency allocation.
- 13. Expand the use of digital technologies for promotion of quality education, digital literacy, and digital citizenry for the future.
- 14. Foster the creation of smart cities and territories that enable integral development, digital government, reduce the digital divide, and further financial inclusion by expanding payment instruments, alternative financing mechanisms, and other digital financial services; and in this regard, acknowledge that building smart cities raises new challenges that require respect for citizens' security, privacy, and human rights.

### **B.** Digital and Open Government

15. Promote respect for human rights, including freedom of expression, as well as digital literacy, privacy of personal data, and the dissemination and secure, responsible, and

lawful development and use of emerging and digital technologies, in line with international standards, to address the challenges of content moderation and to fight against disinformation.

- 16. Foster the use of the internet in a responsible manner, while upholding freedom of expression, stability, security, and functionality, as well as the transparent and multi-stakeholder governance of the internet, provided that its use does not violate or impair human rights and fundamental freedoms, and it is otherwise in accordance with domestic legislation.
- 17. Accelerate digital government transformation and support the simplification of administrative procedures and modernization of public services, as well as strengthen the quality of digital literacy and digital citizenry, always taking into consideration the protection of citizens' personal data.
- 18. Continue to promote the use and leverage of information and communication technologies, with the digitalization of public service delivery to strengthen transparency, improve efficiency and accountability, as well as improve the quality of life of citizens, and promote democracy and citizen participation as protagonists of public management, respecting the sovereignty and

- integrity of each State.
- 19. Foster mechanisms for funding development of digital transformation policies in the Americas.
- 20. Promote the digitalization of citizen services to facilitate carrying out remote processes and services, as well as to establish technically efficient mechanisms, procedures, and standards for communication, openness and the interoperability of information among States, enabling the recognition of cross-border digital certificates, in accordance with each State's domestic legislation.
- 21. Further a strategy of open data and public information that facilitates interoperability in the region, strengthening collaboration and active participation among States, civil society, the private sector, and academia towards an open-government approach.
- 22. Promote transparency and accountability in the management, publication, and use of open data and digital technologies, including the responsible and ethical development and use of artificial intelligence systems and other transformative technologies, while protecting individual privacy and personal data and promoting equity and respect for human rights

and inclusive growth; and foster transparency and accountable use of algorithms that enable their auditing and technical evaluation, in a manner consistent with domestic legislation and international law.

- 23. Foster coordinated and transparent practices in the digital issuance of government permits by, *inter alia*, using digital one-stop shops as a measure to prevent corruption, promote competitiveness, and expedite the corresponding permits.
- 24. Improve and leverage the production of data and statistics by digital technologies with the aim of designing evidence-based equitable public policies as well as developing digital policy impact assessments.
- 25. Improve user-centered public service design and delivery, fostering cooperation with public, private, and civil society stakeholders to create public value.
- 26. Promote digital transformation of government through inclusive policy-making processes, the professional development of civil servants, and other institutional capacities, which reinforce public institutional leadership and public trust.

27. Promote regional efforts to share knowledge, tools, and digital solutions that could accelerate digital transformation of government across the Americas, reinforcing the central role of the collaborative networks.

### C. Cybersecurity

- 28. Coordinate, articulate, and strengthen cooperation actions with international agencies, regional public entities, and Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) to manage cybersecurity incidents and strengthen trust in the digital milieu.
- 29. Promote the development of digital talent specialized in cybersecurity in the region with the goal of strengthening the different stakeholders' cybersecurity risk management and identification capacities and of encouraging appropriate digital behaviors and practices by society at large.
- 30. Foster the discussion of standards and the exchange of best practices in the areas of cybersecurity and protection of users and consumers, as well as citizens in general, on cybercrime prevention in line with the provisions of international and regional instruments, such as the Convention on Cybercrime of the

- Council of Europe (Budapest Convention), where applicable, with participation of the private sector, academia, and other stakeholders.
- and strengthen international 31. Promote cooperation among States to effectively prevent, prosecute, investigate, and try cybercrimes, illicit use of data that belong to government, private institutions, and persons and other criminal activities furthered by the misuse of information and communication technologies, such as human trafficking, migrant smuggling, child sexual exploitation and other forms of sexual violence, and illicit drug and arms trafficking, as well as money laundering, inter alia, in a framework of respect for human rights and with a gender perspective.
- 32. Promote technical assistance, programs, projects, and transfer of capacity and experiences in preventing cybercrime in information and communication technologies among states, in accordance with each country's national legal system.
- 33. Support discussions at the United Nations and other global and regional fora, on existing and emerging threats, the development and implementation of the framework for responsible-state behavior in cyberspace,

- including respect for international law in activities in cyberspace, confidence-building measures, capacity building, and institutional dialogue to foster responsible use of ICTs by states, and international peace and stability.
- 34. Strengthen articulation with the private sector, academia, civil society, and other stakeholders to promote shared responsibility and cooperation, and design coordinated actions for digital security and trust in the face of risks in the digital world.

### **D. Economic Growth and Competitiveness**

- 35. Foster an inclusive, resilient, efficient, and equitable economic recovery, making use of digital technologies.
- 36. Promote the development of competitiveness indicators by using the digital economy and implementing digital technologies.
- 37. Support ICT intellectual property protection and entrepreneurship.
- 38. Promote and encourage the use of digital technologies in the health sector to improve, *inter alia*, patient accessibility, process efficiency, and service delivery, while accommodating those

who do not have digital access.

- 39. Strengthen regional cooperation on digital trade in goods and services, including commitments to facilitate the free flow of cross-border data, considering applicable regulatory frameworks, protecting privacy and user data.
- 40. Promote the development of smart industries based on the use of clean energies.
- 41. Expand opportunities and capacity for businesses, particularly micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), and entrepreneurs, to participate in e-commerce, utilize digital technologies or tools, and logistics services encouraging free competition to improve their operations and develop digital skills for the Fourth Industrial Revolution and access to markets to become more competitive.
- 42 Promote the use of digital technologies to develop a smart, sustainable, and resilient tourism sector.
- 43. Strengthen financial inclusion through the use of digital payments and other digital financial services.

44. Leverage and develop inclusive digital tools in providing immediate response to climate events, disasters, and other emergencies, while strengthening resilience and decision-making based on empirical evidence.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- 1. ... to "all women and girls, taking into account their various conditions and situations" fall short of the language that leaders should support at a Summit of the Americas which must aim for inclusiveness. "Women and girls in all their diversity" acknowledges the fact that women and girls are not a homogeneous group and embraces their different identities, including, for example, as part of the indigenous Afro-descendant, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and of two spirits (LGBTIQ2), as well as other dimensions and communities. Likewise, it recognizes the need to adopt an intersectional and multidimensional approach to meaningfully respond to the needs of women and girls of different backgrounds, respecting and valuing the full diversity of their identities and realities. This approach underlines the interconnectedness of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusions and inequalities that impede their empowerment and the full enjoyment of their rights. Diversity as a concept has been recognized in numerous international and regional texts, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2001 Ouebec Summit of the Americas Plan of Action.
- ...marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, especially women in all their diversity – forums for multilateral dialogue being ideal vehicles for this purpose.

# Accelerating the Clean, Sustainable, Renewable, and Just Energy Transition

Adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9, 2022

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas,

RECALLING Article 2.1 of the Paris Agreement, which includes the goals: to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change; to increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and to make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development; and further recalling Article 2.2 of the Paris Agreement, which states that the Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances;

ENCOURAGING increased attention with respect to members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law,1/2/

#### COMMIT TO:

 Promote energy efficiency in new public and private infrastructure plans as well as encourage the rational, efficient use of energy, contemplating the opportunities for energy integration to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, considering all relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG7,

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promoting the use of efficient energy-saving and energy-labeling technologies to achieve net zero emissions, as appropriate, following the requirements, circumstances, and each state's legislation.

- 2. Emphasize the need to incorporate an inclusive approach in the processes of digitalization, democratization, and decentralization, within the sustainable and just energy transition strategies of our countries, taking into account gender equity and equality, empowerment of women, and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, people of African descent, and persons with disabilities.
- 3. Advance implementation among participants of the Global Methane Pledge, through international cooperation including by strengthening technical and financial support, and the development of comprehensive and sectoral, transparent, and verifiable country-level methane mitigation action plans.
- 4. Recall that the Glasgow Climate Pact calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment, and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of

- clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phasedown of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable in line with national circumstances and recognizing the need for support towards a just transition.
- 5. Work towards implementing 2030 emission mitigation targets and develop, as far as possible, country-level roadmaps to accelerate the process of energy transition toward a low carbon economy, in line with nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement, in a timeline consistent with a pathway toward the objectives set forth in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement.
- 6. Share best practices on inclusive and equitable energy-efficient transportation infrastructure and urban designs.
- 7. Support and promote cooperation to increase the share of all forms and types of renewable energy in the countries of the Americas, according to their national strategies, including wind, solar, offshore wind, bioenergy, geothermal, hydroelectricity, and other low-carbon emissions energy, particularly in the

electric, industrial, transportation, and housing sectors, along with carbon capture, storage, and removal technologies, and emission abatement mechanisms, as well as low carbon hydrogen that may contribute to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

- 8. Promote multilateral cooperation to increase the use of all forms and types of renewable energy in the countries of the Hemisphere, including programs such as those of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Renewable Energy in Latin America and the Caribbean (RELAC) Initiative, and the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), among others, to include the participation of all States, as appropriate.
- 9. Encourage multilateral development banks and other key regional financing entities, including the World Bank, the IDB, the CDB, CAF, and CABEI, to consider identifying, developing, and advancing specific and distinct efforts to improve the mobilization of climate financing to increase the implementation of all forms of renewable energy, and reduce climate vulnerability in countries of the Americas, and

- to promote reporting on the implementation of these initiatives by the Joint Summit Working Group by the X Summit of the Americas. 3/
- 10. Advance sustainable, sustained, and responsible mining sector governance principles, particularly for those minerals and metals powering the energy transition and secure the integration of mineral supply chains within our Hemisphere.
- 11. Work with the private sector and other stakeholders to identify opportunities for manufacture or trade in clean energy goods and services, including through regulations, financing, and facilitation of trade and investments, and identify actions to facilitate reverse supply chains including recovery, recycling, and remanufacturing of post-consumer use clean energy goods.
- 12. Work with the private sector, multilateral development banks, and multilateral climate funds, as appropriate, to identify, facilitate access to, and finance quality energy efficiency and clean and sustainable energy infrastructure

<sup>3.</sup> The Bahamas is of the view that this Commitment document should serve as a powerful tool for advancing real and tangible climate ambition for our hemisphere, thereby, enabling our region to...

plans and projects, which use innovative technologies and follow international best practices for environmental and procurement standards that promote respect for human rights and reach underserved communities and public entities, considering the level of development and the mechanisms that best adapt to the reality of each country.

- 13. Set goals for the scale-up of renewable energy, where deemed appropriate, depending on each state's availability of natural resources.
- 14. Create favorable and fair conditions for the participation of public and private capital, both domestic and foreign, and multilateral organizations in the development of new, clean, and renewable energy sources, as well as the promotion of knowledge sharing in matters of energy efficiency and disruptive technologies that enable mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, such as the incorporation of the use of sustainable biofuels, and of low-carbon hydrogen and electric mobility.
- 15. Work towards developing just and inclusive energy transition strategies with a gender perspective that take into account specific geographic circumstances in the region, in particular the vulnerable situation of small island

developing states, which face economic and environmental resilience challenges, in addition to technical limitations to interconnecting their energy infrastructures.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- 1. ... to "all women and girls, taking into account their various conditions and situations" fall short of the language that leaders should support at a Summit of the Americas which must aim for inclusiveness. "Women and girls in all their diversity" acknowledges the fact that women and girls are not a homogeneous group and embraces their different identities, including, for example, as part of the indigenous Afro-descendant, lesbian, gav, bisexual, transgender, queer and of two spirits (LGBTIO2), as well as other dimensions and communities. Likewise, it recognizes the need to adopt an intersectional and multidimensional approach to meaningfully respond to the needs of women and girls of different backgrounds, respecting and valuing the full diversity of their identities and realities. This approach underlines the interconnectedness of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusions and inequalities that impede their empowerment and the full enjoyment of their rights. Diversity as a concept has been recognized in numerous international and regional texts, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2001 Ouebec Summit of the Americas Plan of Action.
- ...marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, especially women in all their diversity

   forums for multilateral dialogue being ideal vehicles for this purpose.
- ...better align the mitigation targets outlined by both the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Glasgow Climate Pact (COP26).

The Bahamas believes, however, that this Commitment document falls short of and lacks the ambition commensurate with the collective goals laid out in the Paris Agreement and Glasgow Climate Pact and the scale of the climate crises that our countries contend with on perennial basis.

In particular, this document is deficient in fostering

the required progress on Paris Agreement and Glasgow Commitment goals around ensuring efficient access to financial resources through simplified approval procedures, with decreased conditionalities, provision of enhanced readiness support for developing country Parties, in particular for the LDCs and SIDS, addressing the specific concerns raised with regard to eligibility and ability to access concessional forms of climate finance and the importance of the provision of scaled-up financial resources, taking into account the needs of developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

In order to address key issues related to prioritization, eligibility and application procedures to access climate finance to accelerate renewable energy provision across various member states of the OAS, multilateral development banks (MDBs) and other key financing entities serving the hemisphere can play a greater and more meaningful role in accelerating renewable energy provision through the provision of distinct finance access windows to fund climate related initiatives, response projects and programs.

Further, in order to facilitate equitable and sustainable development, the varying dimensions of socio-economic and climate-fueled vulnerability must be taken into account when assessing need for access to aid, technical assistance and concessional finance for climate and broader development finance.

# Our Sustainable Green Future

Adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9, 2022

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas,

RECALLING Article 2.1 of the Paris Agreement, which includes the goals: to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change; to increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and to make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development; and further recalling Article 2.2 of the Paris Agreement, which states that the Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances;

ENCOURAGING increased attention with respect to members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law; 1/2/

#### COMMIT:

 To advance the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forest and Land Use, national deforestation and conservation commitments, and regional efforts to halt and reverse deforestation and conserve, sustainably manage, and use ecosystems, we commit to strengthen our efforts to:

<sup>1.</sup> The Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay support the phrase "women and girls in all their diversity" and consider that references in this document...

<sup>2.</sup> The Republic of Panama reiterates the importance of promoting national legislation to advance the human rights of all persons who are members of groups that have been historically...

- a. Work, with the support of regional and subregional organizations, to stimulate sustainable development and promote equal opportunity for populations affected by climate change, including indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting, preserving, and maintaining knowledge, innovations, and practices embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, subject to domestic legislation;
- b. Develop national plans and new initiatives, as appropriate, with the participation of civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders, to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation and to conserve or protect 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030 (30x30), aligned with each country's nationally determined contribution (NDC) and net zero emissions target, as applicable;
- c. Adopt, as appropriate, national initiatives to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation, which includes the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems, implementing more ambitious actions in keeping with science and the goal of

- pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;
- d. Strengthen the role of all stakeholders in the agricultural sector in international and national climate efforts, and invite them to present their recommendations at a meeting of ministers of agriculture of the Americas before the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27), to be organized by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture;
- e. Cooperate, as appropriate, including in digital formats, in investigating, developing, and applying biotechnologies that contribute to the conservation, restoration, and promotion of sustainable use of biodiversity, while respecting relevant domestic legislation governing access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their utilization;
- f. Strengthen the protection of human rights defenders, particularly indigenous peoples and local communities working on environmental matters, in collaboration with stakeholders, to draw up and

approve plans by the Tenth Summit of the Americas to: 1) respond to and collect information from environmental defenders about threats or incidences of violence, in keeping with domestic legislation; 2) enact, as appropriate, and enforce laws to protect human rights defenders working on environmental matters and the resources they defend; and 3) carry out and implement environmental assessments, according to existing domestic legislation;

- g. Encourage scientific cooperation and step up investigation to increase knowledge and understanding of the importance of forest areas for preserving ecosystems that interact on the planet. Promote educational campaigns and programs to disseminate information regarding preservation of the environment and forest ecosystems and thereby make all peoples in the Americas familiar with these issues;
- h. Achieve significant increases in finance and investments from a wide variety of public and private, and international cooperation sources to enhance sustainable forest management, forest

- conservation and restoration, and support for Indigenous peoples and local communities.
- 2. To decrease the amount of greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere from agricultural, forestry, mining, and other landuse sectors, we commit to:
  - a. Promote policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen the adaptation and resilience of the agricultural sector to climate change, and enhance food security, as well as the development of sustainable agricultural practices that prioritize the health and well-being of local communities and stakeholders;
  - Seek to increase aggregate public investment in agricultural innovation for climate-smart agriculture and food systems over the next five years, including with the support of the private sector and multilateral mechanisms;
  - c. Pursue policies and develop mechanisms to improve the sustainable use and management of chemicals and technological practices, to promote the development of sustainable agriculture

practices that maintain productivity and food security, and avoid negative impacts on local communities, rural producers, and consumers, and that support healthy terrestrial ecosystems, water systems, and the health of human populations and of fauna and flora in general;

- d. Support indigenous peoples, farmers, and/or other people working and living in rural communities in strengthening their capacities to improve adaptation and mitigation, to counter the consequences of climate change, fostering actions to reduce emissions, promoting actions that have a beneficial impact on ecosystems, and promoting climate-smart and sustainable farming;
- e. Promote environmental justice, protection, and conservation, and prevention of environmental degradation in our communities, in keeping with domestic legislation;
- f. Sustainably use and foster the conservation and restoration of ecosystems, including those with high capacity of carbon capture and storage, such as wetlands, moorlands, grasslands, mangroves, secondary

forests, and tropical forests and in general terrestrial, marine, and coastal ecosystems, in consultation with stakeholders;

- g. Promote policies and actions that contribute to the implementation of sustainable solutions, such as nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches, and other management and conservation approaches, pursuing efforts to limit the increase in average global temperature to 1.5oC with the support of countries and relevant institutions;
- h. Promote economic recovery, in a socially inclusive manner, fostering low greenhouse gas emitting economies, with a view to conserving, managing, and ensuring sustainable use of natural resources with key actors implementing joint synergies among countries in the region.
- 3. To harness the role of oceans and other bodies of water to mitigate and adapt to climate change and to contribute to global efforts to combat plastic pollution, we commit to:
  - a. Coordinate efforts and facilitate exchanges among governments and stakeholders to support the environmentally-sound

management of plastic waste to take action against plastic pollution and the discharging of plastic into oceans, and welcoming the process launched at the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) to negotiate a legally-binding international instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment;

- Reduce plastic pollution by promoting sustainable consumption and production, as well as environmentally-sound practices such as, circular economy and waste management solutions, and supporting strong stakeholder engagement, including from populations in situations of vulnerability;
- c. Foster the implementation of pathways, including in the International Maritime Organization, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, *inter alia*, by establishing green corridors that use cleaner fuels and collaborating on reducing greenhouse gas emissions of regional sea ports;
- d. Strive to conserve, protect, and restore coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves, salt marshes, seagrass beds, and river grass

- beds that function as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gas emissions, thereby helping to capture and store carbon as an ecosystemic service for oceans;
- e. Engage and actively participate in the ocean-climate change dialogue within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) framework to promote adaptation and mitigation actions.
- 4. To accelerate measures on climate change adaptation, taking into account different national circumstances, we intend to:
  - a. Continue to scale up and enhance finance and investments in climate action from a wide variety of sources and to work towards enhancing capacity to access and benefit from these investments and finance flows, particularly by the most vulnerable countries;
  - b. Support the implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in all States, particularly in developing countries and with consideration for the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing states, by enhancing opportunities for training to strengthen

adaptation capacities and climate resilience across the Hemisphere, through cooperation among States and the work of the Joint Summit Working Group institutions, and report on these efforts through the Summit Implementation Review Group;

- c. Enhance environmental education, through research and active and inclusive participation from all stakeholders to build capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation for current and future generations, including youth, indigenous peoples, persons of African descent, civil society, women's organizations, the private sector, policymakers, practitioners, and persons working in related industries;
- d. Redouble efforts to incorporate climate risks in plans, policies, operations, and sectoral budgets in order to generate resilience in strategic sectors and reduce vulnerability to climate change;
- e. Develop efficient, transparent, exact, coherent, and comparable systems for monitoring and evaluating climate change adaptation and mitigation actions;

- f. Enhance and promote delivery of climate information services, decision-making support tools, and early warning systems to improve understanding and response to climate impacts and minimize loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change across sectors and different scales.
- 5. To strengthen and integrate regional cooperation networks to assist governments and for the building of resilience by means of using appropriate methodologies to:
  - Assess risk to mitigate and reduce the destructive impacts of disasters caused by earthquakes, droughts, hurricanes, storms, floods, and sea-level rise, among others;
  - b. Assess the efficacy of adaptation measures;
  - c. Monitor in real time emergency disaster preparedness.
- 6. To promote responsible production and consumption patterns, consistent with domestic laws, through the strengthening of government procurement systems and the inclusion of sustainability criteria, as appropriate, in the procurement of goods, services, and public

works; as well as through the promotion of initiatives to strengthen market capacities that reduce adverse effects on the environment.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- 1. ... to "all women and girls, taking into account their various conditions and situations" fall short of the language that leaders should support at a Summit of the Americas which must aim for inclusiveness. "Women and girls in all their diversity" acknowledges the fact that women and girls are not a homogeneous group and embraces their different identities, including, for example, as part of the indigenous Afro-descendant, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and of two spirits (LGBTIQ2), as well as other dimensions and communities. Likewise, it recognizes the need to adopt an intersectional and multidimensional approach to meaningfully respond to the needs of women and girls of different backgrounds, respecting and valuing the full diversity of their identities and realities. This approach underlines the interconnectedness of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusions and inequalities that impede their empowerment and the full enjoyment of their rights. Diversity as a concept has been recognized in numerous international and regional texts, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2001 Ouebec Summit of the Americas Plan of Action.
- ...marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, especially women in all their diversity – forums for multilateral dialogue being ideal vehicles for this purpose.

# Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance

Adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9, 2022

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas, meeting in Los Angeles, California, United States of America, June 8-10, 2022, for the Ninth Summit of the Americas,

UNDERSCORING that upholding our commitment to democracy has been an essential component of each Summit of the Americas, beginning with the first Summit in 1994 in Miami;

UNDERSTANDING that the effectiveness of democratic governance and democratic institutions is based on transparent, sustainable, and inclusive public administration for the population of our States as a whole, and that this includes the protection and promotion of all human rights;

ENCOURAGING increased attention with respect to members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law;1/2/

PLEDGE to implement by the Tenth Summit of the Americas the following actions, in coordination with civil society, the private sector, and other social actors, with the support of the Joint Summit Working Group, to strengthen confidence in our democracies by fulfilling our commitments on democracy, human rights, transparent governance and good regulatory practices, anticorruption, and the rule of law:

### A. Democracy and Human Rights

- Strengthen existing regional mechanisms for political dialogue to analyze and address challenges to democracy.
- Strengthen regional cooperation in support of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, including through the following measures, among others:

**<sup>1.</sup>** The Republic of Panama reiterates the importance of promoting national legislation to advance the human rights of all persons who are members of groups that have been historically...

<sup>2.</sup> The Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay support the phrase "women and girls in all their diversity" and consider that references in this document...

- a. Encourage regular multilateral meetings and foster inclusive discussions among countries in our Hemisphere about challenges to democracy that have arisen in the region over the past two decades since the adoption of the Inter-American Democratic Charter;
- b. Develop, strengthen and/or consolidate, in accordance with national legislation, the role of the Office of Ombudsperson (Public Defender, Citizen's Advocate or Human Rights Prosecutor or Commissioner) and/or other relevant national authorities with a view to strengthening democratic governance and respect for and promotion of human rights in the countries of the region;
- c. Recognize the provisions adopted by States Parties to the Escazú Agreement and invite the countries of the region to join efforts to act in keeping with it, as appropriate. 3/4/
- 3. Support free and fair elections with full respect for state sovereignty, through the following measures, in accordance with domestic law:
  - a. Facilitate conditions for all eligible voters in the Americas to vote in the elections organized in their respective countries, and

- also facilitate the participation of citizens residing abroad in general elections of their countries of origin, consistent with domestic law:
- Recognize the importance of the independent, impartial, and autonomous character of electoral bodies that certify election results;
- c. Implement measures to protect and strengthen the integrity of the electoral process and promote its accountability to the citizenry, transparency, and impartiality in domestic electoral institutions and oversight mechanisms, as well as transparency in the funding of political parties, electoral campaigns and candidatures for public office;
- d. Promote the rights of citizens to choose their leaders in free and fair elections, which are periodic, based on universal suffrage

<sup>3.</sup> Guatemala dissociates itself from paragraph 2.c. because the Republic of Guatemala does not adhere to any commitment or mandate established with respect to the Escazú Agreement, as it is

<sup>4.</sup> Colombia understands that all references to the Escazú Agreement are only binding for the States Parties to that agreement.

and the secret ballot, and carried out in a transparent manner, by implementing measures to facilitate the ability of all political parties, including those in opposition, to stand for election, promoting the full and equal participation of women, and removing, where applicable, barriers to women running for political office;

- e. Promote and encourage throughout the Hemisphere conditions such that candidates and elected officials better reflect the diverse composition of society without discrimination;
- f. Eliminate measures that create direct or indirect limitations in accessing the electoral process for members of specific groups, particularly opposition political parties and groups in vulnerable situations and/or historically discriminated against;
- g. Recognize the importance of electoral observation missions, carried out in keeping with the principles of objectivity, impartiality, transparency, independence, respect for sovereignty, and with access to information respecting the procedures established in the rules of the inter-American system, including the Inter-

American Democratic Charter, and without undermining the independence of missions, with States ensuring the conditions of security for electoral observers so they may carry out their duties independently and safely;

- h. Promote the adoption of measures to improve the security and well-being of candidates and their families, officials, and electoral personnel, as well as electoral infrastructure, in order to facilitate the unimpeded administration of elections.
- 4. Protect press freedom and the full exercise of civil rights, including freedom of association, freedom of peaceful assembly, and freedom of expression, and promote the free exchange of ideas, information, and thought as fundamental principles of representative and participatory democracies, in keeping with international human rights treaties, promoting the establishment, in all areas of government, of mechanisms that promote transparency and access to public information.
- 5. Call upon all stakeholders to counter the dissemination of false information and disinformation and to strengthen the quality and the integrity of information that is disseminated,

- as appropriate, and in accordance with the legislation of each State.
- 6. Take steps to prevent and sanction the use of violence against the press; and protect human rights defenders, journalists, and media workers and their families who face risks as a consequence of their work; and to promote laws that prevent and prohibit impunity in cases of violent attacks against journalists, the media, and anyone who exercises freedom of expression, so as to contribute to public deliberation.
- 7. Take concrete actions, with the participation and collaboration of civil society, to improve the promotion and protection of human rights defenders, including those working on environmental matters, to include:
  - a. The development of consultative processes, particularly regarding the enactment of laws, public policies, development projects, and the creation of a safe and enabling environment for civil society to work;
  - b. Public and inclusive participation and access to judicial and administrative procedures and to information on public policies;
  - c. The development and implementation of

- protection mechanisms for human rights defenders in high-risk situations;
- d. The conduct of investigations and criminal proceedings, where appropriate, regarding complaints and allegations of human rights violations or abuses.
- 8. Work with civil society, workers groups, and employer sector representatives to eliminate forced labor, child labor, and violence, harassment, and discrimination in the workplace; to decrease informality in the labor market; and to protect freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, including the protection of workers from reprisals for exercising these rights.
- 9. Recognize, respect, and protect the rights of all, in accordance with those international treaties to which each state is party and in accordance with its domestic legislation, with a particular emphasis on:
  - a. Indigenous and tribal peoples and their inherent rights, cultures, and traditions, as affirmed in treaties and other agreements or arrangements with States and, consistent with domestic legislation and international law, through their own representative

- institutions, and in accordance with their own procedures;
- b. Persons of African descent, taking into account their inherent human rights, history, cultures, and traditions, and taking into account, where applicable, and according to domestic law, public policy arrangements for their empowerment, inclusion, participation, and representation.

# B. Democracy and Sustainable Development 5/

- 10. Deepen the relationship between inclusive, democratic governance and sustainable development by:
  - a. Intensifying hemispheric cooperation to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;
  - b. Pursuing implementation of expanded hemispheric cooperation and investment
- **5.** Colombia, Canada, and Chile recognize the need to promote the economic autonomy of women by creating conditions for their access to the labor market and their participation in the generation of...

- programs to promote sustainable development as a key pillar and objective of democratic governance;
- c. Promoting the development of policies and programs to expand opportunities for economic and social empowerment and advancement for all peoples of the Hemisphere;
- d. Promoting policies and programs that address the structural causes of poverty and inequality and foster strengthened cooperation and the exchange of experiences and best practices in that regard;
- e. Promoting the creation of employment and decent work, as well as entrepreneurship, particularly among youth, and expanding opportunities for ongoing training and occupational retraining;
- f. Promoting the strengthening of supply chains, the facilitation of investments in the Americas, and the increase of commercial integration.
- 11. Generate initiatives that arise from the priorities of indigenous peoples, persons of African descent, women and girls and other historically

marginalized groups, as well as groups in vulnerable situations, to promote development for all persons, within the framework of intercultural dialogue.

### C. Transparency and Anticorruption

- 12. Continue meeting the commitments undertaken at the Eighth Summit of the Americas, in particular the Lima Commitment on Democratic Governance Against Corruption, while reaffirming our commitment to treaties such as the UN Convention against Corruption, the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, and taking the following actions:
  - a. Promote gender equity and equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and anticorruption measures, from the planning process through to implementation, followup, and assessment;
  - Establish measures, systems, and public awareness campaigns that generate incentives to improve the conditions for reporting of possible irregularities and acts of corruption, including the laundering of the proceeds generated by acts of corruption,

- as well as measures that provide effective protection from potential retaliation or intimidation, use of physical force or threats for reporting persons, victims, whistleblowers, witnesses, and justice and law enforcement officials, consistent with international obligations;
- c. Promote the use of open data to increase transparency, integrity, accountability, and citizen participation to prevent and fight corruption, particularly through the implementation of the Inter-American Open Data Program developed and approved in the framework of the Organization of American States;
- d. Implement key government policies, platforms, and tools for open, transparent, and accessible public procurement processes, in line with globally recognized practices, such as the OECD Recommendations on Public Procurement, and explicitly address anti-corruption in relevant public contracts, as appropriate;
- e. Establish and implement measures that enable the identification of conflicts of interest, ensuring their application in all stages of the process in question;

- f. Establish procedures and programs aimed at guiding, educating, and raising the awareness of public officials on challenging ethical situations, and public procedures in situations of potential conflict of interest;
- g. Identify, develop, and maintain statistics, including disaggregated statistics on gender and other relevant variables to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of transparency and access to information policies and provide for public access to these statistics for independent evaluation;
- h. Strengthen and guarantee spaces for citizen participation, such as citizen observatories or other social control and participation mechanisms, where appropriate, for the implementation of measures for prevention of and fight against corruption and impunity;
- Foster, as appropriate, measures to strengthen mechanisms aimed at preventing, detecting, and punishing acts of corruption, fraud, or unethical conduct, including those that are transnational in scope;
- j. Strengthen transparency and accountability mechanisms or processes regarding access

- to information related to the environment, in accordance with national legislation;
- k. Strengthen, as appropriate and according to domestic legislation, the entities responsible for preventing and combating corruption, as well as the normative frameworks and mechanisms that relate to access to public information, facilitating access and implementing policies on open data;
- l. Strengthen and promote the use of digital systems to ensure and improve transparency, dissemination, public accountability, and the fight against corruption;
- m. Actively participate in the Mechanism for Follow-up and Implementation of the Lima Commitment, contributing relevant information on the progress made towards delivering on the commitments outlined therein, and using the Database of Best Practices and Regional Capacities in Preventing and Combating Corruption.
- 13. Continue implementing recommendations received through the Follow-Up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC); reporting annually to MESICIC on progress

made addressing these recommendations; and fostering the participation of civil society, the private sector, and social actors in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including initiatives that encourage public consultations, education and awareness, promote citizen participation in decision-making processes, and enable civil society to engage in monitoring and oversight, as appropriate and according to domestic legislation.

- 14. Integrate commitments emanating from the Summit of the Americas and from other relevant forums relating to the promotion of transparency and combating corruption into Open Government Partnership National Action Plans, as applicable, including: actions to strengthen fiscal transparency and prevent financial crimes, and strengthen openness of public information and data in open formats from the design stage.
- 15. Seek into integrate in National Action Plans of the Open Government Partnership commitments by the legislative and judicial branches, constitutional bodies, and subnational governments, where appropriate, and in accordance with domestic legislation.
- 16. Carry out actions identified in the resolutions

- adopted by the IX Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), held in December 2021, to effectively follow up on the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, including by developing, putting in place and, where appropriate, improving and strengthening anti-corruption policies and strategies, consistent with domestic law, to provide for emergency preparedness and address corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, as well as the resolution "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption: follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly against corruption".
- 17. Adopt appropriate measures to address the political commitments in the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/S-32-1, which approved the political declaration "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation," as well as continue to advance the outcomes achieved in the preparatory process for this special period of this General Assembly,

including, as appropriate and according to domestic legislation, to:

- a. Develop and implement regulations and measures to collect and exchange information on the beneficial ownership of legal persons and legal arrangements to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of corruption, consistent with domestic law;
- b. Criminalize the solicitation and acceptance of bribes and the bribery of national public officials, foreign public officials, and officials of public international organizations;
- Establish, where necessary, a clear policy on gifts and substantial benefits, as well as an effective regulation on conflicts of interest;
- d. Develop and implement measures consistent with the UN Convention against Corruption that establish criminal or, when applicable, civil administrative liability of legal persons that engage in acts of transnational bribery offenses;
- e. Strengthen, as appropriate, and according to domestic legislation, the capacities of central authorities responsible for international legal cooperation and the processing of

requests for asset recovery, and continually take advantage of and expand relevant knowledge of experts and officials, in order to improve electronic processing of requests for international legal cooperation aimed at tracing, freezing, restraining, seizing, confiscating, and returning of proceeds and instrumentalities of crime, with a view to more effectively responding to requests relating to asset recovery;

- f. Analyze the applicability of exclusion or inadmissibility clauses to deny safe haven to persons who are administratively and/ or criminally convicted for acts or crimes of corruption, consistent with each State's domestic and international legal obligations;
- g. Empower young people to propose ideas with a view to preventing and combating corruption based on outcomes of the Youth Forum in the framework of the preparatory process of the 2021 special period of sessions of United Nations General Assembly Against Corruption.
- 18. Support young people's inclusion, as appropriate, in decision making, oversight, control, and supervision in all levels of public administration processes in order to improve good management

- practices with a view to preventing and combating corruption.
- 19. Promote transparency and reliance by our governments on good regulatory and administrative practices that protect people, increase accountability, predictability and inclusion, and support strong and resilient economies, through measures such as:
  - a. Establishing, maintaining, or improving our respective processes and mechanisms to develop regulations in an open and transparent manner with citizen participation, and take concrete steps to implement good regulatory practices across the region, including through cooperative activities, sharing best practices, engagement with the private sector, and bilateral and multilateral initiatives:
  - b. Using good practices for the development and implementation of regulations and processes, including through public consultations, analysis of regulatory impact, and stakeholder engagement.
- 20. Strengthen the public procurement and acquisition policies at the national, regional, and international levels, to include:

- a. Promoting strategic actions to ensure implementation of the recommendations made by the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP) via the declaration of "Public Procurement as a strategic area for the generation of greater public value and better access to citizens' rights," issued by its member states in 2021;
- b. Implementing, using open data, methodologies and technological resources to identify and mitigate risks of corruption;
- c. Establishing regulatory frameworks, measures, and indicators that are effective for countering conflicts of interest, favoritism, and corruption;
- d. Developing and implementing effective measures that address informality and job insecurity, and prevent and combat corruption and abuses, including forced labor and child labor in global supply chains, by developing transparent public procurement standards and compliance requirements or codes of conduct, related to the sustainable procurement of goods and services, as applicable and in keeping with domestic legislation and international

- obligations of States.
- e. Developing and implementing, as appropriate and in accordance with domestic legislation, mechanisms to prevent, investigate, or, where necessary, punish corruption, including bribery, trading in influence, child labor and forced labor in the procurement of goods and services of the public and private sectors in collaboration with the authorities responsible for law enforcement and other actors.
- 21. Consider the establishment or strengthening of solid regulations on lobbying.
- 22. Ensure, as appropriate, that the framework for upholding public integrity is based on, among other criteria, the risks of corruption, and is applied to all public servants and employees, in keeping with domestic legislation, independent of their contractual situation, and take measures so that the results of risk management are used to make strategic decisions and to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of oversight activities.

## D. Citizen Participation and Inclusion

23. Promote regional mechanisms to facilitate

- meaningful participation of civil society and social actors, including women's and youth organizations in monitoring the implementation of the Summit commitments.
- 24. Foster multi-stakeholder forums for dialogue among the public sector, the private sector, and civil society, including women's and youth organizations and social actors, to strengthen democratic practices, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, anticorruption, and open government efforts, including:
  - a. Participatory processes to promote government accountability and public trust in government, such as the development of informative communiques, social public commitments or citizen charters, as appropriate, which set forth what inhabitants can expect from public services and how to access them;
  - b. Community development planning processes, taking into account, in particular, the existence of inclusive processes, with a gender perspective, particularly with regard to post-COVID recovery and resilience to climate change that are inclusive of groups in vulnerable situations and/or historically discriminated against, and provide

- community members agency and oversight in the use of development resources;
- c. Open, free, informed, and prior consultations with indigenous communities, leaders, and authorities, as appropriate and in accordance with domestic legislation, especially in the development, planning, follow-up, and assessment of policies that affect their way of life:
- d. Establishing or effectively implementing laws or regulations to make consultation with stakeholders a systematic and essential part of the process of drafting laws and regulations, consistent with the domestic laws of each State;
- e. Improving access to information to respond to the needs and capacities of stakeholders in order to improve understanding of the problem in question and garner wellgrounded observations;
- f. Promoting parliamentarian engagement as an integral part of the Summits process through ParlAmericas, the interparliamentary organization of the Hemisphere, and other parliamentary organizations.

- 25. Promote strategic partnerships among the different sectors of civil society and social actors, and national and local governments, to prevent and fight against corruption, including anti-bribery and anti-corruption policies and programs, and to implement international best practices of transparency and accountability.
- 26. Increase efforts to ensure inclusion and diversity in all aspects of governance, through the following actions:
  - a. Increasing the use of tools that incorporate gender perspective in assessing and drafting legislation so that laws and policies are responsive to differential impacts on men, women, boys, and girls, including in efforts to address climate change, the digital economy, and healthcare, among others;
  - Ensuring that pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response are inclusive processes, including but not limited to the equitable and fair distribution of the provision of care, physical safety, equal digital access, and access to decent employment and wage equity and other economic opportunities;
  - c. Reducing social, cultural, structural,

economic, and legal barriers to full and equitable economic participation and opportunity, including but not limited to, access to financial markets and credit, access to natural and productive resources, non-discrimination in hiring and employment, and access to safe and reliable care;

- d. Addressing the impacts of sexual and gender-based violence on women's access to job opportunities, their ability to move and travel freely, and their opportunities to reach political, legal, social, and economic equality;
- e. Establishing and/or strengthening mechanisms and providing sufficient ongoing training and resources for the review and enforcement of anti-discrimination policies and laws in hiring practices, access to justice, finance, housing, employment, social protection, infrastructure, and services, and other social and economic opportunities;
- f. Facilitating access to public information and the internet for all individuals to enhance effective citizen participation, reducing the digital divide.

- 27. Collect and report municipal and/or local level demographic data through qualitative and quantitative mechanisms to inform and improve equitable access to community development planning processes and public resources and services, particularly among populations at risk and in vulnerable situations and that are underserved.
- 28. Collect data on corruption through qualitative and quantitative tools, originating directly from users of public services, and report them with a view towards identifying and preventing different modalities and corruption practices.

# E. Follow-up and Implementation

- 29. Request that the Joint Summit Working Group assist States with resources and technical capacity-building to implement the commitments undertaken at the Ninth Summit.
- 30. Take note of the recommendations of the Civil Society and Social Actors Forum, the Young Americas Forum, and the CEO Summit of the Americas.
- 31. Recognize the role of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat in support of the Chair of the Summits of the Americas process in following up on and

facilitating the implementation of the mandates and initiatives stemming from the Ninth Summit of the Americas and prior Summits, as well as that of the Technical Secretariat, which provides institutional memory of the process and serves as the coordinating body of the Joint Summit Working Group.

32. Instruct the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) to report through the Chair of the Summits of the Americas process on the implementation of this Action Plan.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- ...marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, especially women in all their diversity – forums for multilateral dialogue being ideal vehicles for this purpose.
- 2. ... to "all women and girls, taking into account their various conditions and situations" fall short of the language that leaders should support at a Summit of the Americas which must aim for inclusiveness. "Women and girls in all their diversity" acknowledges the fact that women and girls are not a homogeneous group and embraces their different identities, including, for example, as part of the indigenous Afro-descendant, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and of two spirits (LGBTIQ2), as well as other dimensions and communities. Likewise, it recognizes the need to adopt an intersectional and multidimensional approach to meaningfully respond to the needs of women and girls of different backgrounds, respecting and valuing the full diversity of their identities and realities. This approach underlines the interconnectedness of multiple forms of discrimination,

exclusions and inequalities that impede their empowerment and the full enjoyment of their rights. Diversity as a concept has been recognized in numerous international and regional texts, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2001 Quebec Summit of the Americas Plan of Action.

- 3. ...not yet a State Party to the aforementioned instrument.
- 5....wealth and employment in the region. To that end, multilateral financial institutions must promote greater direct funding to large, medium, and small female-owned businesses and encourage the inclusion of clauses that allow traceability in the financing they extend to governments in order to ensure that part of that funding is invested in women's education, housing, financing, and participation in government procurement and other sectors.

Only with greater participation by women in the economy will the Hemisphere be able to increase its GDP, reduce poverty, improve security, prevent violence, and achieve sustainable development through the full exercise of the rights of women and girls and, through them, attain benefits for society as a whole.

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