



SUMMIT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW GROUP
(SIRG)
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OPENING REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR ANTONIO GARCÍA REVILLA,
PERU'S NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR THE SUMMIT PROCESS

National coordinators,
Esteemed friends,

Thank you for your presence here at this first meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group for 2017, which is intended to follow up the mandates and initiatives from the Summits of the Americas process.

As you know, the Summits of the Americas process has been decisive for the region's progress on issues of common interest such as combatting corruption; combating terrorism; social development; combating poverty; and strengthening democracy.

Thus, for example, during the Miami Summit (1994) the Heads of State and Government agreed to negotiate within the framework of the OAS a hemispheric instrument for combating corruption, pursuant to the mandate from the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. In addition, during the Quebec Summit (2001) the mandate was adopted for developing the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which was approved at the initiative of Peru in Lima on September 11, 2001.

Thus, following up the mandates from the Summits of the Americas is essential for achieving substantial advances in the hemispheric agenda.

The Panama Summit held in April 2015 contains a series of mandates in the areas of education, health, energy, migration, security and other areas, intended to help eradicate poverty, ensure economic growth with equity, and promote social inclusion in the Hemisphere. Those mandates are aligned with and complement the 17 Sustainable Development Objectives contained in the 2030 Agenda adopted by the United Nations in September 2015.

In this regard, it is important to emphasize that the mandates from the Summits process and the 2030 Agenda complement each other. This also reinforces the idea that the OAS and the Summits of the Americas should be aligned with large-scale global processes, particularly the new

development agenda setting the standard for multilateral efforts in upcoming years. In addition, there should be an alignment between the Summit of the Americas and the ministerial meetings that in turn guide the work of the inter-American commissions.

In the case of my own country, with support from the OAS Secretariat, in January of this year we conducted a workshop with public sector officials to disseminate the mandates from the Panama Summit. This training allowed us to move ahead with preparation of our national report.

Dear colleagues,

Peru has accepted responsibility as the headquarters for the Eighth Summit of the Americas in Lima during the period April 13-14, 2018. We will carry out this assignment with the conviction that the Summits process represents an opportunity for open discussion to expand on cooperation regarding the issues of most concern for the region while promoting and strengthening democracy in the Americas.

We will announce the theme at the Ministerial SIRG in June in the context of the OAS General Assembly to be held in Mexico. On that date, we also hope to present to the ministers the Work Plan for the Lima Summit.

We hope that this process in preparation for the summit will be as inclusive, participatory, and transparent as possible, ensuring permanent channels for discussion and communication.

For this reason, we also hope to have the active participation of civil society; youth, women's and private sector organizations; as well the support of the Joint Summit Working Group.

It is up to all of us to ensure that the Summits process recovers the political relevance that the Hemisphere requires and to reaffirm the shared values and interests that support the inter-American system.