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SUMMIT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW GROUP (SIRG) Fifth Regular Meeting of 2022 May 30 to June 3, 2022 Los Angeles, United States

FINAL REPORT

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) of 2022 was held in-person, for the first five days, at the Intercontinental Hotel in Los Angeles, United States, from May 30 to June 3. The meeting was then extended for a further three days to address the paragraphs left pending in the draft political commitments. The latter part of the meeting was held virtually.

Mr. Kevin O'Reilly, United States National Summits Coordinator and Chair of the SIRG meeting, opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to the National Coordinators for the Summit Process, the distinguished delegates, and the representatives of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) institutions. The list of participants was published as document <u>GRIC/O.5/doc.52/22</u> rev. 1.

Opening remarks by Mr. Kevin O'Reilly, U.S. National Summit Coordinator

The SIRG Chair announced that the first events of the IX Summit would begin in seven days and that in nine days the SIRG would meet at the ministerial level. He explained that the five Draft Political Commitments presented by the Chair would be addressed at the meeting and he hoped that the proposed language would reflect the various positions put forward in recent months during the negotiations. He also informed that an adjoining room had been prepared for possible side discussions. He also stated that the document on democratic governance would be considered first, followed by those on digital transformation, health and resilience, our green future, and lastly on clean energy.

1. Consideration of the Draft Political Commitment "Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance"

Mr. O'Reilly said that the objective of the document was not to generate new commitments, but to identify measures to make existing agreements a reality. He then invited the delegations of Panama and Canada, as co-chairs of the Working Group on Democratic Governance, to share their progress.

The delegation of Panama reviewed the paragraphs agreed upon at the last meeting of the Working Group and noted the progress made on the first two operative paragraphs. For its part, the Canadian delegation called for levels of ambition to be kept high during the work on this political commitment.

Consideration of the document lasted throughout the first day of the meeting and, despite the progress made, the reading of the document was not completed. On the second day of the meeting, the Chair proposed that the democracy document be taken up at a later date, in order to focus on the digital transformation document.

This Draft Political Commitment was taken up again on the fifth day of the SIRG meeting. In addition to agreeing on the paragraphs that had been left pending from the first day of the SIRG meeting, the reading continued of those that had not been addressed, which were those found in the second part of section C, on transparency and anti-corruption, and section D, on follow-up and implementation. All the paragraphs left open from the first day of the SIRG meeting were agreed upon.

With regard to footnotes to be incorporated in the document, the delegations of Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay announced that they would present one, and Panama another; the footnotes were to appear in this and the other four documents in relation to mentions of groups in situation of vulnerability and women. These footnotes refer to the need to talk about women and girls in all their diversity, among other issues. Colombia and Guatemala said that they would also present footnotes in the paragraph dealing with the Escazú Agreement in which they emphasize that it is binding only on States parties. In addition, Colombia, Canada, and Chile submitted a footnote to the section on democracy and sustainable development, in which they recognize the importance of promoting women's economic autonomy and their participation in the economy through various measures.

Once consensus was reached on all paragraphs of the document, the Chair requested that consideration resume of the draft political commitment "Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation."

2. Consideration of the Draft Political Commitment "Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation"

On the second day of the SIRG meeting, Mr. O'Reilly explained that the Chair had presented a draft for this document after the third SIRG meeting. He also reiterated that this document, unlike the democracy document but like the other draft political commitments, was not an action plan per se, but rather a commitment to identify common priorities and implement them through a post-Summit action plan. Lastly, for paragraphs where the issue was mentioned, he proposed using the word "cybersecurity" instead of digital security or other alternative forms.

Consideration of the document lasted throughout the second day of the meeting, and consensus language was achieved for all paragraphs of the document, with the exception of those on vulnerable groups, women, and diversity. Therefore, the Chair asked the delegates to leave the relevant texts in this and the other documents bracketed, and to postpone the discussion on them. Discussion then turned to the health document.

The topic of vulnerable groups was taken up again on the fifth day of the SIRG meeting. It was decided not to insert the language that had been agreed upon for the democracy text, as delegations agreed that explicit mention should be made of people with disabilities in the digital transformation document.

3. Consideration of the Draft Political Commitment "Action Plan on Health and Resilience"

At the beginning of the third day of the SIRG meeting, Mr. O'Reilly thanked the delegations of Peru and Uruguay as co-chairs of the working group and reminded delegations that a chair's draft had been distributed, which restructured part of the text and made some edits to pending paragraphs. He also announced that the negotiation would begin with the paragraphs on non-communicable diseases.

The day saw progress on a number of paragraphs, although some issues remained pending. Discussion of this draft political commitment resumed on the fifth day of the SIRG meeting.

4. Consideration of the Draft Political Commitment "Our Sustainable Green Future"

Consideration of this draft political commitment began at 5:00 p.m. on the third day of the SIRG meeting. The Chair thanked the delegation of Ecuador as co-chair of the working group concerned and noted that as of the previous SIRG meeting, 50 percent of the text had been agreed upon. He also explained that in the draft presented the Chair had introduced nine revised proposed paragraphs aimed at facilitating the negotiation.

Consideration of the document on "Our Sustainable and Green Future" ran into the fourth day of the SIRG, where its reading continued. A side meeting was held to address issues pending agreement. The presentation of the outcomes of that meeting was made at a later date within the framework of the continuation of the SIRG.

5. Consideration of the Draft Political Commitment "Accelerating the Clean Energy Transition"

Consideration of the document began on the evening of the fourth day. Eight paragraphs were discussed, of which five were agreed upon and one was eliminated.

Continuation of the Fifth Regular Meeting of the SIRG

During the five days of in-person SIRG negotiations, agreement was reached on the draft political commitment documents concerning the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance and the Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation. These were forwarded to the Style Committee for review over the weekend. The Chair invited delegations to form the Committee and announced that the delegations of the United States, Brazil, Canada, and Colombia would meet virtually to ensure that English, Portuguese, French, and Spanish texts coincided. To finalize the remaining documents, on June 3 at 9:00 p.m., the Chair announced that the SIRG meeting would continue through the weekend in a virtual format.

On the first day of the continuation of the Fifth Regular Meeting of the SIRG, two pending paragraphs in the health and resilience document were addressed, and on the second day, agreement was reached on the last paragraph left pending in the document. Guatemala announced that it would submit a footnote to that paragraph, which addressed sexual and reproductive health and reproductive

rights. In its footnote, the country dissociated itself from the paragraph, saying that it ran counter to its national law and its policy of protection of life and the family institution. With agreement reached on all paragraphs of the health and resilience document, the meeting turned its attention to the draft political commitment "Our Sustainable Green Future."

During the consideration of the green future document, a number of paragraphs that had been discussed at an informal side meeting on June 3 were presented and largely met with consensus. Although agreement was reached on all paragraphs, the delegation of Barbados requested that it be marked as ad referendum on the second preambular paragraph, which was repeated in the clean energy document.

With agreement reached on all paragraphs of the draft political commitment "Our Sustainable Green Future," the Chair submitted the clean energy document for consideration. It was agreed to amend the title of the draft political commitment to "Accelerating the Clean, Sustainable, Renewable, and Just Energy Transition." Consensus was also attained on the items that had been left pending in previous days.

On the last day of its meeting the SIRG considered the pending paragraphs in the clean energy document and reached agreement on both. The delegation of The Bahamas announced that it would submit a footnote to the second of the two paragraphs, which it said did not go far enough and lacked a vision consistent with the objectives outlined in the Paris Agreement and the Glasgow Climate Pact.

Once the pending paragraphs had been agreed upon, the Chair inquired whether the delegations with ad referendums on this and other documents wished to remove them or whether they would submit footnotes. The delegations of Colombia and Guatemala informed that, given the impossibility of revising the paragraph of the democracy document that dealt with the Escazú Agreement, they would present a footnote, while the delegation of Paraguay reserved its right to do so. Similarly, the delegation of Guatemala announced that it would submit a footnote to the paragraph on sexual and reproductive rights in the health document. The delegation of Barbados was consulted on the status of its ad referendum in the second preambular paragraph, which was repeated in the green future and clean energy documents; it responded that it would keep it. Prior to the Ministerial Meeting of the SIRG, all ad referendums had been withdrawn, with the exception of those of Barbados.

6. Final considerations, other business, and adjournment of the meeting

The Jamaican delegation consulted with the Chair regarding the existence of other documents to be presented at the IX Summit that were not being negotiated within the framework of the SIRG. First, Mr. O'Reilly introduced the migration document, explaining that a subset of the countries most affected by the issue were addressing it. He said that the document dealt with concerns such as protection of migrants and challenges faced by States of origin, transit, and destination. He also spoke about the ministerial initiative on regulatory practices and noted that it was not a discussion of Heads of State and Government, but of national authorities on trade matters. Finally, he highlighted the conversations held on food security between the countries of the region most affected by rising prices and the current geopolitical situation.

There being no additional comments, the Chair thanked the delegations for their commitment, good faith, and cooperation in the negotiation process, and for working towards a proactive agenda for

the region. Lastly, he requested the Summits Secretariat to forward the remaining documents to the Style Committee.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. on June 6, 2022.