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MANDATES ARISING FROM THE SIXTH SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

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

INTEGRATION OF PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE AMERICAS

1. To reaffirm that the promotion and further development of physical infrastructure projects at the national, subregional, and regional levels are priorities for the public policies and development strategies of our countries, as appropriate, which contribute to sustainable development, social inclusion, and increased trade.
2. To promote the exchange of experiences and the participation of the public and private sectors, taking into account current and future national, subregional, and regional physical infrastructure programs and projects that connect and integrate the Americas, which should, in accordance with our respective needs and full respect for our domestic laws, contribute to the development of synergies of national physical infrastructure agendas.
3. To examine financing mechanisms with a view to encouraging and strengthening the further involvement of national, subregional, regional, and international financial institutions, and that of the private sector, in projects to promote physical integration of the Americas as well as horizontal cooperation between our countries to that end.
4. To promote, on the basis of the corresponding national policies and regulatory frameworks, compatibility and harmonization of institutional regulations that facilitate investment in infrastructure in the Americas.
5. To promote and/or optimize electrical interconnection and foster the development of renewable energy generation in the Americas.
6. To encourage the transfer of available technologies in energy under voluntary and mutually agreed terms, as well as the exchange of best practices.
7. To foster increased connection of telecommunication networks in general, including fiber optic and broadband, among the region's countries, as well as international connections, to improve connectivity, increase the dynamism of communications between the nations of the Americas, as well as reduce international data transmission costs, and, thus, promote access, connectivity, and convergent services to all social sectors in the Americas.

POVERTY, INEQUALITY, AND INEQUITY

1. To promote and encourage comprehensive, timely, and quality public policies on:
 - a. Early childhood care, education, and development.
 - b. Protecting children from economic exploitation and from any tasks that may interfere with their education and integral development, according to the principle of the effective abolition of child labor, which is contained in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998); as well as preventing and eradicating the worst forms of child labor according to Convention 182 of the ILO (1999)
 - c. Raising awareness about the adverse effects of adolescent pregnancies on the integral development of the adolescent and their offspring, as well as fostering their health and well-being.
2. To combat poverty, extreme poverty, hunger, inequality, inequity, and social exclusion through public policies that promote decent, dignified, and productive work; sustained economic growth; income growth; and access to comprehensive and quality education, health care, and housing, in order to achieve sustainable development with social justice in the Americas.
3. To ensure equal access to primary and secondary education for all, to promote improvement in the quality of education at all levels, increased access to tertiary, technical, and vocational education, as soon as possible, with particular attention to vulnerable groups and those with special education needs, using, inter alia, the modality of distance learning, and to promote strengthening of literacy programs.
4. To foster greater international exchange of students, in order to provide them with the greatest possible learning opportunities.
5. To reaffirm our commitment to advance towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and promote the financing of projects and programs to disseminate best practices in the communities that are most behind.
6. To deepen inter-American cooperation in the area of development and social protection with a view to strengthening human and institutional capacity-building efforts, and generating a skilled workforce, with a gender perspective and giving attention to vulnerable groups.
7. To promote economic growth with equity and social inclusion by strengthening cooperatives, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, including cultural industries, in addition to grassroots economic initiatives and other production units, innovation, and competitiveness in the countries of the Americas.
8. To strengthen public-private partnerships, and partnerships with all stakeholders, to promote the reduction of poverty and inequality as well as the economic and social development of the communities in which they operate.

9. To promote greater investment in, and access to, research, technological innovation, and capacity-building in order to strengthen and ensure a sustainable, comprehensive, inclusive, and competitive agro-food sector that would contribute to food security and the reduction of poverty and inequity, particularly in marginalized rural and urban areas.
10. To reaffirm our support for the objectives set out in the Declaration of the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (2006-2016) and its Plan of Action, by promoting equal opportunity for, and nondiscrimination of, persons with disabilities through their participation in our countries' social, political, economic, and cultural development processes, in order to ensure their well-being and the full enjoyment and exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms.
11. To advance in strengthening the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of older persons through promotion of public policies, programs, and services, thus safeguarding their dignity, their physical, mental and social well-being, and their quality of life, bearing in mind efforts underway at the inter-American level to draft a legally binding instrument for the protection of the rights of older persons and consideration of the issue at the international level.
12. To develop comprehensive public policies, as appropriate, to strengthen social inclusion of migrants in a bid to overcome marginalization, victimization, and poverty and, regardless of their immigration status, protect their human rights.
13. To promote the gradual formalization of the informal economy, recognizing its heterogeneous and multidimensional nature, through policies such as registration and information systems to facilitate formalization and access to credit, social protection mechanisms, improvement of occupational health and safety, strengthening of labor inspection, and effective enforcement of labor laws.^{1/}
14. To take specific steps to improve access to quality education for girls, especially in rural areas, as well as promoting improved capacities of schools, teachers, civil society, and communities to reduce the barriers to regular attendance for women and girls.
15. To take action on the conditions that negatively impact the health of our people taking into account the 2011 World Conference on the Social Determinants of Health.
16. To develop and strengthen, as appropriate, strategies and policies on youth employment, as well as to promote technical and vocational education and training opportunities in order to improve and increase the entry of young people into the labor market, the quality and stability of their jobs, as well as their social protection.

1 In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the definition of "informal economy" is broad enough to encompass certain activities that are illegal but which, nevertheless, have an impact on the local economy. Taking into account their domestic circumstance, St. Vincent and the Grenadines joins consensus on this paragraph with the understanding that "informal economy" refers wholly and solely to activities that are legally sanctioned.

17. To give priority to nutrition, particularly child nutrition, in the fight against poverty, hunger, and inequality and, in this context, we underscore the importance of joint efforts by the public and private sectors, civil society, and other social actors.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

1. To reaffirm that disaster risk management is a priority within our national public policies and development strategies.
2. To prioritize the allocation of resources and the design of financial protection strategies, as appropriate, aimed at mitigating the social, economic, and environmental impact of disasters, with support from, *inter alia*, subregional, regional, and international financial institutions.
3. To strengthen our institutional platforms for disaster risk management, in collaboration with subregional, regional, and international mechanisms, through strategies of mutual assistance and partnership, in order to facilitate joint research, the exchange of knowledge, information, best practices, lessons learned in this area, and technology transfer under mutually agreed terms.
4. To strengthen regional and subregional instruments as well as existing initiatives in the area of disaster risk reduction and management and humanitarian assistance as well as coordination and cooperation mechanisms to generate synergies, underscoring the importance of coordination.
5. To work with subregional, regional, and international financial institutions with the aim to strengthen financing mechanisms for adaptation to climate change, mitigation, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction, with a view to reducing and managing disaster risk and strengthening the resilience of communities and nations that are vulnerable to or affected by disasters.
6. To designate, where needed, and support, where already in existence, national and institutional focal points to promote more-efficient coordination among agencies of the inter-American system, international and regional organizations and entities, and subregional mechanisms, and to promote the use of on-line tools in this context, in order to bring a more rapid and effective response to disasters and catastrophes.

ACCESS TO AND USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

1. To foster participation and collaboration between the public and private sectors, social actors and communities to promote initiatives, in accordance with corresponding domestic legal frameworks, which enable our educational centers and health facilities, including in remote and rural areas, to enjoy equitable and affordable access to, and use of, expanded broadband, information and communication technologies (ICTs), and computers.
2. To promote and establish, as appropriate, programs to encourage the training of teachers for the inclusion and effective use of ICTs in education, and for the production and sharing of relevant educational materials in each country.

3. To promote the more intensive application of ICTs in health, with a view to improving the efficiency of our countries' health information systems, including accurate record keeping, and of subregional and regional alert systems for public health events of international concern; the expansion of continuing education programs for health workers and the population; and access to information on health services in those centers and communities that need it the most.
4. To promote the development, coordination, and implementation of strategies and projects, as appropriate, for expanding access to, and use of, ICTs with the support and participation of international organizations, the private sector, social actors, and communities, in order to achieve greater social inclusion and improve the quality of life of our peoples.
5. To promote and support, as appropriate, initiatives that expand the contribution of ICTs to innovation, entrepreneurship, productivity, competitiveness, the emergence of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, and economic growth, within the framework of sustainable development.
6. To strengthen our efforts to make government affairs more transparent and accountable by supporting ICT initiatives and projects that enhance citizen engagement and provide capacity building for the creation, accessibility, and sharing of on-line information and knowledge, as permitted by law.
7. To promote transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption initiatives in the private sector, with the support of ICT programs, activities, and projects, as appropriate, to improve the capacity of stakeholders to participate and access information, as permitted by law.
8. To further promote the cooperation of international organizations, specialized agencies, the private sector, and other social actors in the collection and analysis of uniform data on information and communication technologies, as appropriate, with a view to strengthening public policies, including the design of adequate strategies on the use of those technologies.

CITIZEN SECURITY AND TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

1. To strengthen and promote bilateral, subregional, regional, and international cooperation to prevent and combat violence, corruption, and transnational organized crime in all its forms and manifestations, and to promote institutional strengthening and, where applicable, rehabilitation and social reintegration, within the framework of the international conventions and instruments in force, with full respect for the rule of law, domestic and international law, and human rights, and, to that end, call upon all citizens to participate and lend their support.
2. To continue implementing comprehensive policies, strategies, and actions that seek to prevent crime and insecurity, taking into account links between security and development, as well as to address all causes of violence and promote peaceful coexistence and resolution of disputes among citizens, with special attention to youth and other vulnerable groups.
3. To implement policies containing measures to prevent, investigate, punish, penalize, and eradicate sexual and gender based violence.

4. To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of comprehensive public policies on citizen security through actions such as the generation and use of relevant and timely information and the strengthening of the capacity and coordination of institutions that participate in the management of citizen security.
5. To strengthen the system of hemispheric cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, taking into consideration the economic purpose associated with this phenomenon, through mechanisms that support the strengthening of the necessary national capacities, as appropriate, to confront these threats in a concerted manner, taking advantage of experiences and available resources from existing networks, bodies, and mechanisms, in accordance with international and domestic law.
6. To strengthen the administration of public security by governmental agencies through promotion of citizen and community participation, institutional coordination, and training and education of civilian and police personnel, with full respect for the rule of law, domestic law, gender equality, and human rights.
7. To promote and strengthen citizen and community participation in the promotion and sustainability of citizen security policies and programs.
8. To implement public policies in the realm of citizen security that make the human being their primary focus, within a framework of democratic order, the rule of law, and observance of human rights.
9. To strengthen our efforts to prevent and fight the smuggling of migrants and trafficking of persons, particularly of women, children and adolescents, and to promote cooperation among states to that end, respecting and fully protecting their human rights.