





The Seventh Summit of the Americas will take place in Panama on April 10-11, 2015 where the Heads of State and Governments will address the theme <u>"Prosperity with Equity: The Challenge of Cooperation in the Americas"</u>

The Summits of the Americas Secretariat and the Department of International Affairs of the Organization of American States (OAS) have planned a series of activities for civil society and social actor engagement in preparation for the Seventh Summit. The activities for the first round of this series include a Policy Dialogue, National Consultations to be held in different OAS Member States and a Virtual Forum.

- 1- The Road to Panama: Policy Dialogue on the theme of the Seventh Summit to be held at OAS Headquarters in Washington DC on October 21, 2014 from 11:30 am 1:30 pm. You may also view a live webcast of this dialogue at www.livestream.com/oasenglish2.
- 2- National Consultations: The first round of national consultations will take place in <u>Barbados</u>, <u>Belize</u>, <u>Bolivia</u>, <u>Costa Rica</u>, <u>Guatemala</u>, <u>Jamaica</u>, and <u>Peru</u> on October 21, 2014. The National Consultation will be centered on three key topics:
- a) Economic prosperity with equity
- b) Social prosperity with equity
- c) Democratic Governance and Civic Participation

During these consultations, participants will have the opportunity to interact and discuss the Seventh Summit theme, and with the guidance of a moderator, draft recommendations to be presented to the host country. If you would like to attend a consultation, please click on the name of the country listed above to register for that event.

3- Virtual Forum: The first virtual forum will also be centered on the same three topics as indicated in the National Consultations. The forum will be open from October 21 to November 11, 2014 and will provide civil society and social actor representatives the opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences, as well as offer comments and recommendations to the States on matters related to the Seventh Summit's theme.

Using the questions posted on the forum's introduction page as a guide, participants are encouraged to comment and provide suggestions on the abovementioned topics as they relate to the Seventh Summit's theme. The outcomes of the virtual forum will then be compiled, distributed and presented to the host country for their consideration during the preparatory process of the Seventh Summit of the Americas.

Civil society organizations and social actors that work in areas directly related to these topics are encouraged to participate in the virtual forum by registering at the following link: http://svc.summit-americas.org/?q=user/register.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Miguel Columna, Summits of the Americas Secretariat, via email at mcolumna@oas.org