



The Joint Summit Working Group

Collaborating to Implement the Inter-American and Summits Agendas

Introduction

Just over one year ago, the region's democratically-elected Heads of State and Government gathered in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago for the Fifth Summit of the Americas in order to come to consensus on the key areas to address the challenges facing the Americas. They were joined at the Summit by the partner institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG), who were there to witness the setting of the Inter-American agenda for the next several years and continue their support to Member States in the context of the Summits process. As such, our leaders, in Paragraph 93 of the Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain, called upon the JSWG "to further strengthen their commitment and to develop coordinated programs of action aimed at achieving the goals for the Americas" being agreed to at the Fifth Summit.

While the Summit itself is over, the process of implementation is ongoing. This report highlights some key JSWG initiatives with linkages to the Fifth Summit that demonstrate examples of ways in which the partner institutions are working together on multi-institutional, regional programs to assist OAS Member States in implementing hemispheric commitments.

The Fifth Summit main theme focused on the areas of Promoting: Human Prosperity, Energy and Environmental Sustainability, and included emphasis on Strengthening: Public Security, Democratic Governance, and the Summit of the Americas, Follow-up and Implementation. Just months before the Fifth Summit, the global economic crisis took hold and was the focus of much discussion and calls for action in Port of Spain. As such, the initiatives included in this report are organized according to these thematic areas.