



SUMMIT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW GROUP (SIRG)  
Second Regular Meeting of 2024  
May 2, 2024  
Washington, DC, United States

OEA/Ser.E  
GRIC/O.2/INF.47/24  
13 May 2024  
Original: bilingual

REMARKS BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS OF  
THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

*(Ambassador James Lambert)*

- Dear Secretary General, Luis Almagro
- Vice Minister Rubén Silié, National Summits Coordinator of Dominican Republic
- Distinguished National Summits Coordinators and delegates.
- Representatives of the Joint Summit Working Group institutions
- Representatives of civil society and social actors

Mr. Chairman, I would like to begin this presentation by greeting and thanking the States for their participation in the preparatory process for the Tenth Summit of the Americas. At the last session of the SIRG held on February 20, we analyzed the results achieved at the Ninth Summit. Agreed actions such as negotiating a Health and Resilience Plan, or launching from the OAS a group of friends to support the Inter-American Democratic Charter are proof of what the Summits can contribute to the functioning of the Inter-American system. Today, we begin the preparatory phase of the Tenth Summit, and it presents us with an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and opportunities we face in the hemisphere today, and those that can be anticipated towards the Leaders' Meeting in Punta Cana 2025. For the actors in the Summits process, it is imperative to move forward together in addressing shared priorities in the region and this second Meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) will provide this scenario for hemispheric reflection.

We are certain that, hand in hand with the Dominican Republic as Chair of the Summit Process, we will provide a committed, open, and inclusive space for dialogue to continue reaching solid consensus and transcendental mandates. Your presentation on the road ahead will be very valuable to us. The contributions that each actor in the Summit Process will provide in this phase of preparation for the Tenth Summit are necessary elements for the definition of the Summit's theme. The OAS, through the Summits Secretariat in its capacity as Technical Secretariat, will support and advise the Chair in all stages of the Process to achieve the proposed objectives.

Being a multi-stakeholder process, I must emphasize the support we expect from partners such as the private sector, civil society, and the institutions of the inter-American system. As Technical Secretariat of the JSWG, we are counting on this space to provide them with an important opportunity to share their perspectives. The institutions of the Group will be encouraged to continue their active contribution and commitment to this Process. Promoting synergies and collaboration among the international and regional organizations that make up the Group is very much at the heart of this unique hemispheric process, particularly in serving the Member States and addressing the challenges facing the region.

In this period, we are committed to collaborating with the Chair and the JSWG to energize their participation throughout the Summit Process. Beyond the SIRG and meetings of the JSWG at the technical and high-level, we will reinforce other ways to generate partnerships and strengthen collaboration.

In this same spirit, we are working to maintain a strong participation of civil society organizations and social actors throughout the Tenth Summit Process that we are undertaking. From efforts to strengthen capacities for advocacy and participation in the Process to promoting dialogue among and with these actors to nurture with their recommendations the process of deliberations of the States. Today we will hear from two spokespersons selected by their peers in the framework of subregional discussions organized a few weeks ago with the Chairmanship, the recommendations regarding the challenges and opportunities of the hemisphere for the next Summit.

If you will allow me, and without taking away the opportunity of the civil society representatives, who will speak later, I would like to present a video prepared by the Summits Secretariat that demonstrates the enthusiasm of our civil society partners.

As we celebrate the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Summit of the Americas, we will have the opportunity to reflect on the added value of the Summits for our hemisphere. We urge the JSWG entities to collaboratively seek ways to include this topic in the political dialogues that their entities are planning for the second half of 2024, thus contributing to strengthen the narrative of the Summits Process, its validity and relevance in the Americas.

From the Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs, and in particular from the Summits Secretariat, as Technical Secretariat of the Summits Process, I reiterate our commitment to continue working shoulder to shoulder with the Chair, the Government of the Dominican Republic, and the participating States of the Process, for a successful preparation of the Tenth Summit.

Thank you very much.