The Second Regular Meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) in 2024 was held on Thursday, May 2, in the Simón Bolívar Room of the Main Building of the Organization of American States (OAS). The meeting discussed the region’s thematic priorities and the Tenth Summit’s challenges and opportunities. The outcomes of the most recent inter-American ministerial meetings were presented, and the schedule and working methodology proposed for the Tenth Summit of the Americas by the Government of the Dominican Republic in its capacity as Chair were examined and adopted. The list of participants was published as document GRIC/O.2/doc.72/24.

1. Opening

The inaugural session heard remarks by Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Rubén Silié, National Summits Coordinator of the Dominican Republic and Chair of the SIRG, and Mr. Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the OAS. Ambassador James Lambert, the OAS Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs, also addressed the meeting. The Chair of the SIRG noted that since its inception in 1994, the Summits Process had been closely linked to the strengthening, effective exercise, and consolidation of democracy in the region. He said that democracy as a form of government and of conceptualizing the exercise of power was not only facing serious threats, but was also experiencing a declining level of popular support. He notes that the remarkable level of economic development achieved in the region had not coincided with a proportional reduction in social inequality. He said that shortcoming was the cause of rising levels of violence and polarization, and therein lay the breeding ground for the emergence of authoritarian leaderships which, in certain cases, end up imposing themselves on solid institutions. Given that context, he called on the delegations to contribute, through the Summits of the Americas Process, to preserving and strengthening the Hemisphere’s democratic community. The SIRG Chair’s opening remarks were published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.45/24.

The OAS Secretary General said the Summits of the Americas represented crucial opportunities for reaching political consensus at the highest hemispheric level and for addressing the Hemisphere’s challenges. Almost three decades after the First Summit, he highlighted their achievements in democratic governance, the fight against corruption, health, the environment, and energy, as well as the participation of a range of actors, including states, civil society, and the private sector. He called on the Summits Process stakeholders to make reflection and inclusion the bastions of the preparations for the next Summit in Punta Cana, enabling it to conclude with an agenda that benefits

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1. The agenda and schedule were published as documents GRIC/O.1/doc.69/24 and GRIC/O.1/doc.70/24, respectively.
the entire Hemisphere. The OAS Secretary General’s remarks were published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.46/24.

The OAS Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs highlighted the role of the Organization’s Summits of the Americas Secretariat as the Summits Process’s technical secretariat and institutional memory. Looking forward to the Tenth Summit, he said that the Summits Secretariat would support and advise the Chair and the participating states at all stages of the process so that the proposed objectives could be attained. Regarding the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG), he said that work would continue with its other 12 member institutions and that they would be encouraged to continue making contributions. He also emphasized that efforts would be made to maintain the active participation of civil society organizations and social actors. The remarks of the OAS Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs were published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.47/24.

2. Presentations on the region’s thematic priorities by the institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG)

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) addressed the region’s thematic priorities through the lens of its institutional strategy, which has three main objectives: fighting poverty and inequality, combating climate change, and promoting sustainable regional growth. To achieve those goals, seven operational focus areas have been established: social protection and development of human capital; gender equality and inclusion of diverse population groups; institutional capacity, rule of law, and citizen security; biodiversity, natural capital, and climate action; sustainable, resilient, and inclusive infrastructure; productive development and innovation in the private sector; and regional integration. The IDB noted that those priorities were in line with the objectives of the Summit Process. It also said that based on the recommendations presented during the Ninth Summit’s preparatory phase, a revised version would be produced to update the region’s thematic priorities. Additionally, in its capacity as coordinator of the Americas Business Dialogue (ABD), which facilitates Summits Process participation by the private sector and involves more than 400 companies from across the Hemisphere divided into nine working groups, the Bank pledged to continue strengthening that forum in preparation for the Tenth Summit of the Americas. The Bank concluded by thanking the Chair for the trust placed in it for organizing the Business Summit and proposed fluid communications between the two processes.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) said that the region was facing multiple simultaneous crises that stood to exacerbate historical inequalities. The Commission first spoke of the crisis relating to the region’s low rates of growth, which had averaged 0.8% per annum in recent years. This structural trend affects the possibility of generating more and better jobs, and so the region must step up productive development policies with a focus on strategic and dynamic sectors and pursue policies to promote public-private investment and resource mobilization. Second, it spoke about the debt crisis, which is one of ECLAC’s main priorities. It argued that the current context leads to doubts about the sustainability of public debt, which is partly explained by the high interest rates currently prevailing in advanced economies. This problem must be addressed through committed public investment and the identification of refinancing mechanisms. Third, the Commission addressed the environmental crisis, with its economic and social implications. In this regard, it said that investments in adaptation were required to offset its socioeconomic, infrastructure, and population relocation effects, which could amount to between 10% and 12% of GDP by 2050 if timely steps are not taken. There was therefore a need to identify innovative financing systems for
climate change mitigation and adaptation that promote practices such as the circular economy, the bioeconomy, and sustainable tourism. Fourth, ECLAC addressed the digital transformation in the region, focusing on gaps in access to digital technologies. It said that although internet access had expanded in recent years, there were still access gaps between urban and rural populations, and between income quintiles; therefore, the Commission said, equal access to a “digital basket” should be a priority. In addition, there was a lack of access to basic technologies among private companies, which threatened long-term growth and productivity. With the emergence and consolidation of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, gaps in access to basic technologies will deepen the digital divide between developing and advanced economies. To address that problem, ECLAC said that agreements must be struck to promote public-private investment to boost productivity, improve education, health, and social security, and bolster institutional strengthening, all of which are essential components for the sustainable development of the region’s countries. Finally, it spoke about the gender inequality existing in the region: a phenomenon that arose on account of such factors as the sexual division of labor and the unequal distribution of care for children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, with implications for labor market insertion, earnings, and levels of social vulnerability. Accordingly, ECLAC proposed moving towards a care society that would not only dismantle gender inequalities but would also bolster efficiency and economic growth. ECLAC’s presentation was published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.52/24.

The focus of the presentation by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) was the need to include health considerations in all the region’s priority issues, including mitigating the health consequences of climate change, supporting the health of all populations affected by migration, and ensuring adequate food security to break the poverty cycle and promote economic development. On that point, PAHO argued that one crucial lesson from the COVID-19 pandemic was that health is central to social, economic, and development-related agendas. The organization stressed that as a cornerstone of well-being, health was a key factor in closing equity gaps, protecting human rights, and enabling a productive and peaceful society. It said the region was facing a challenging epidemiological scenario as it continued to suffer the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a heightened decline in immunization rates and the need to rebuild resilient health care systems with adequate financing, equitable access to medicines, and innovative digital technologies. PAHO concluded by calling on the region to resist giving up in the face of what it called “pandemic fatigue,” noting that the question of another pandemic was not a matter of if but of when. PAHO’s presentation was published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.48/24.

The Inter-American Institute for Agriculture (IICA) stressed the essential role agriculture plays in addressing such pressing challenges as food insecurity, poverty, the effects of climate change, and social instability. As the region tackled those multifaceted problems, the Institute said that an integrated approach to agriculture, food systems, and climate change action was increasingly essential. This could be seen in the direct impact that agriculture has on the region’s priority issues, such as food security, climate change, and the bioeconomy. It also highlighted such priority subtopics for the region as digital agriculture, innovation, international and regional trade, climate finance, the One Health concept as a strategy for agricultural health in agrifood systems, rural family farming and rural development, and gender and youth issues as essential components for transforming the agrifood systems of the Americas toward greater sustainability, resilience, and productivity. IICA’s presentation was published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.49/24.

The Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) said that in keeping with its objective of being the region’s green bank, it was confident that its proposal for sustainable and
inclusive regional development would resonate naturally with the themes of the Tenth Summit. It said that in line with its commitment to respond comprehensively to the needs of the member states, the Summit’s Process provided a venue for agreeing on agendas to bridge gaps with other regions, through which the scale and impact of actions could be improved. The Bank concluded by stating that the added value of the Summit’s Process lay in coordination.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) stressed the need to consider migration as a cornerstone for people’s development, prosperity, and progress. It said that the countries of the Americas—with places of origin, transit, and destination for migrants—were witnessing an unprecedented level of mobility that had doubled over the past 15 years (from 7 to 15 million people on the move), making it the region with the fastest migration growth rate in the world. The Organization said that the global approach to migration was at a turning point, a fact that underpinned the IOM’s new strategic direction designed to address the challenges so that migration can be a comprehensive and powerful force for development, prosperity, and progress. In turn, considering that migrants account for 3.5% of the world’s population and produce approximately 9.4% of global output, it argued the need to embrace the promising potential of migration as part of the solution to the substantive transformations being experienced globally, such as climate change, demographic transition, urbanization, and digitization. The IOM highlighted three main priorities on which its work was focused: saving lives and protecting people on the move; proactively promoting solutions to displacement; and facilitating regular migration channels, discouraging the commission of crimes, and providing greater security for migrants. It concluded by stating that in an increasingly interdependent world, there was a need for collaborative and multisectoral work involving states, international organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector, and migrants and their communities.

The Chair thanked the JSWG institutions for their presentations and said they were contributions that would guide the Chair’s work and reflections in selecting the theme for the Tenth Summit, which would be presented in due course. He then offered the floor to the delegations.

The delegation of Brazil expressed its confidence that the Tenth Summit would contribute to the strengthening of democracy and the development of the Hemisphere’s countries. While looking forward to receiving more information on the Summit’s preparatory phase in due course, the delegation expressed its willingness to participate as constructively as possible in the preparations for the Summit. It said that the Summits could be instrumental in forging hemispheric consensus on regional priorities to help the region’s states meet common challenges. It underscored the need to make efforts to coordinate the Summits’ Process, inter-American ministerial meetings, and the OAS’s regular activities, which would be beneficial to everyone involved. It argued in favor of efforts so that the Summits’ outcomes can find their natural path within the areas of the OAS General Secretariat, as well as in the agendas and calendars of the ministerial meetings. It asked the Summits Secretariat, once the Tenth Summit’s theme had been defined, to coordinate with other areas of the OAS and with the JSWG institutions to identify the work already done at the inter-American level, ensuring strategic decisions, the construction of synergies, and the avoidance of duplicated efforts. In addition, since the Summits Process was soon to be 30 years old, Brazil said it was necessary to update the commitments adopted at previous Summits. The delegation hoped that the celebrations planned for the end of 2024 on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the First Summit of the Americas in Miami in 1994 would enable stock to be taken of those commitments and the identification of mechanisms for updating them. Regarding the region’s priority issues, Brazil echoed those raised by the JSWG institutions and called for the selection to consider those priorities that affect the region in a more crosscutting manner. It also added an issue that it felt had not been addressed: the impact of informality on the region’s economies.
It argued that this question could be approached from different perspectives such as inclusion, vulnerability, inequality, women’s involvement, sustainability, migration, and so on.

The delegation of Costa Rica underscored the importance of the SIRG as a forum for exchange in which a variety of voices participated. It highlighted the involvement of the JSWG, which plays a fundamental role in advising the SIRG from a technical point of view and applauded the interconnections that existed within the JSWG among the 13 member institutions. Costa Rica expressed its intent to pursue joint efforts to strengthen advocacy capabilities, in the understanding that the Summits’ outcomes strengthened the democratic institutional framework of the participating states. It noted that the Tenth Summit Process was shaping up to be a very proactive and constructive one and was set to achieve tangible results.

The delegation of Peru said that as a former Chair of the Summits Process, it recognized the role that the Summit of the Americas plays in regional cooperation. It expressed its confidence that the Process would continue to provide a forum for collaborative efforts to overcome the region’s development and equality challenges. Peru agreed with PAHO on the need to be prepared to face health challenges and said that the Summit could be the venue for reaching consensus on public health policies for the Hemisphere as a whole. As a migrant-receiving state and echoing the IOM’s statement, it stressed the importance of the migration issue. The delegation concluded by reiterating its confidence in the ability of the Dominican Republic and the Summits Secretariat to lead the Tenth Summit Process.

The delegation of Chile said that the region was facing a countless number of challenges but suggested that the Tenth Summit address a limited set of priorities. Chile argued that the greater the number of issues included in the Summit Process, the more complex the negotiations became, leading to a loss of focus and a weakening of the meaning of the Process. In contrast, it argued, if the agendas were more limited, it would be easier to incorporate them into national public policies. It added that work must be done to link the Summit’s thematic priorities with the sectoral priorities addressed within the framework of the OAS and, echoing the words of the delegation of Brazil, it said it was necessary to think about how to create mechanisms to adjust the priorities and the annual mandates of the OAS in keeping with the agreements of the Summits as medium- and long-term priorities. The delegation concluded by calling for maximizing the time that the Heads of State and Government spend working together, so that projects and opportunities for joint work that benefit the peoples of the Americas could emerge from those meetings and working groups.

The delegation of Canada called for the adoption of an inclusive approach for the Tenth Summit that would leave no one behind, enabling it to respond to the needs of vulnerable people, such as women, indigenous peoples, people of African descent, immigrants, and so on. To that end, the presence of diverse voices in all phases of the priority-setting process was important. Canada added that consultations with those actors—including representatives of civil society organizations and social actors such as the private sector, youth, and others—should take place at an early stage of the Tenth Summit Process to ensure that their views and ideas are included from the outset. It also highlighted the importance of giving due consideration to the legacy of past Summits, ensuring that the actions to be taken complement past efforts and therefore build on what has already been built in order to achieve more successful outcomes. The delegation concluded by reiterating its commitment to the Summits Process and its willingness to work alongside the participating states in preparing for the Tenth Summit.

The delegation of the United States expressed its willingness to work on new objectives and commitments in the lead up to the Tenth Summit. It noted that the value of the Summit lay in bringing
together the leaders, businesses, and people of the Americas to address the Hemisphere’s most pressing issues. The delegation supported Canada’s motion on the participation of civil society and social actors from the early stages of the Tenth Summit Process in order to ensure that the Summit covered the issues of most concern to them. It thanked the JSWG institutions for their input and recommendations and highlighted their role in the Ninth Summit Process.

The delegation of Panama emphasized the urgency of the climate crisis. It argued that because of its rich geographical and ecosystemic diversity, the Hemisphere was particularly vulnerable to climate change and that coordinated initiatives were required to mitigate its effects, protect natural resources, and promote resilience in communities in the face of increasingly frequent and devastating natural disasters. Second, it highlighted the problems related to economic and gender inequality, which limit human potential: Panama said it was necessary to continue toward gender equality, in the understanding that this would have positive repercussions for economic efficiency, as ECLAC had noted in its remarks. Third, it said that citizen security and food security were also critical issues. Efforts must therefore be made to reduce violence and organized crime and, in addition, to ensure that all citizens have access to nutritious food to put an end to the food emergency. The delegation concluded by noting that given the interdependence of the region’s main thematic priorities, regional cooperation and multilateral diplomacy were needed in order to address joint problems, in line with the principle of joint responsibility among all states. It expressed its confidence that the Tenth Summit would provide opportunities to promote bonds of cooperation and solidarity among the Hemisphere’s nations.

The delegation of Jamaica stressed the importance of addressing priorities in a strategic and coordinated manner, building on the commitments adopted at the Ninth Summit. It expressed its willingness to work on preparations for the Tenth Summit and to identify new priorities. The delegation concluded by highlighting the role of the Cities Summit as a mechanism to ensure that the commitments made by the Heads of State and Government have an impact at the local level.

The delegation of the Dominican Republic expressed the Chair’s commitment toward dialogue and cooperation in addressing common problems, taking account of the voices of all the actors involved in the Summits Process and striving for an efficient and fluid process to achieve concrete results to the benefit of everyone. The Dominican Republic said that the Summit was a historic opportunity to support regional integration and coordination, thereby honoring the liberators’ ideal of building a region united not only by geography and trade but also by shared values, enabling differences to be overcome and constructing a genuinely regional way of thinking. It emphasized the Chair’s commitment to promoting the implementation of the mandates of previous Summits, which required involving the participating states in a process of synchronized implementation of the commitments assumed, creating synergies to share best practices. It invited the participating states and other stakeholders to become actively involved in the Summits Process in order to ensure that the Tenth Summit was inclusive and transformational.

The delegation of Mexico expressed its support for the thematic priorities identified by the delegations and the JSWG institutions. It supported the other delegations’ comments on the definition of priorities that could be addressed at the Tenth Summit and suggested focusing efforts on a limited number of documents in order to facilitate negotiations and increase the chances of success. Mexico reaffirmed the commitment to work together to achieve concrete and beneficial outcomes for all the Hemisphere’s people.
3. Presentations on the Tenth Summit’s challenges and opportunities by representatives of civil society and social actors participating in the Summits of the Americas Process

Representing the private sector, María Luisa Boyce, Vice President of International Policy for Global Public Affairs at United Parcel Service (UPS), said the region had faced substantial changes in entrepreneurship, logistics chains, and consumer behavior, particularly since the COVID-19 pandemic. Those changes, she said, demanded public policies based on principles of transparency and consistency for efficient logistics chains that are in line with the region’s various legal frameworks. She emphasized the need for public-private partnerships and said that linkages between the Tenth Summit and the Business Summit could foster such synergies. She added that the ABD, which coordinates the private sector’s participation in the Summit Process, was in the process of preparing recommendations for the Tenth Summit’s preparations. To this end, working groups had been set up to shape the vision, principles, and priority challenges. She highlighted the creation of two new working groups on artificial intelligence and semiconductors, in recognition of the current importance of those topics. She concluded by emphasizing the need to work together for the benefit of the region.

Representing youth, Diara Nadal, CEO of Piensa, said that at no other time in history had there been such broad and democratized access to free, high-quality, affordable education. She added that neither had so many global platforms been available to explore job opportunities, nor so many innovative tools for people to monetize their talents in diverse and creative ways. However, she noted that over the next 10 years, more than one billion young people in the global South would reach working age but that over the same period, the region was forecast to create only 325 million jobs. Given that worrying reality, she stressed the urgency of taking steps to guarantee a sustainable working future for the next generations. She argued that young people yearned to be able to live their lives in full on a healthy planet, in prosperous societies and economies that allowed them to attain their potential. She invited the participating states to consider the future and the well-being of their countries’ young people in the discussions leading up to the Tenth Summit. In addition, she noted young people were recognized as official social actors in the Summits of the Americas Process through the Youth Forum of the Americas, which gave visibility to youth actions and solutions. She therefore requested support to make youth participation, entrepreneurship, and investment in youth a priority. She also emphasized the importance of strategic partnerships and alliances that respond to young people and, for that reason, she also invited the JSWG’s international organizations to partner with the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) in carrying forward the process of the Seventh Youth Forum on the occasion of the Tenth Summit. The remarks made by the young people’s representative were published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.50/24.

The civil society organizations participating in the Summits of the Americas Process were represented by Patricia Moreno of the Soy Crear foundation and Alex Aguirre of the Institute for Peace and Development (IPADES). The representatives addressed a total of five priority thematic areas based on the results of the subregional consultations—“PrepTalks”—that took place in April 2024.

The first thematic priority dealt with was the deterioration of democracy and the rise of authoritarianism in the region. The strengthening of democratic values, with a focus on gender, intersectionality, and multietnicity, must be a priority in the Tenth Summit’s preparations. Various issues involved in the concept of democratic governance were mentioned, such as corruption and efforts to combat it, transparency, the use of data, and so on. Secondly, emphasis was placed on the need for a regulatory framework for artificial intelligence that takes account of its beneficial aspects as well as its potentially harmful repercussions. The third priority issue addressed was the crisis of human mobility
triggered by environmental, political, economic, and social causes. The organizations argued that dealing with the migration crisis in Latin America and the Caribbean required states to implement intergovernmental agreements to protect vulnerable people and guarantee their safety and well-being. They argued that the underlying causes of migration—including political, economic, and environmental problems—had to be addressed through policies that promote sustainable development and stability in the region. They also stressed that the human rights of migrants and refugees must be guaranteed, ensuring their access to a fair asylum process, their proper integration in transit and host communities, and addressing the structural causes that, in some cases, are the result of deliberate actions by states, such as persecution, denationalization, and politically motivated imprisonment. The fourth priority topic was the strengthening of health and education systems and ensuring comprehensive access to medicines and supplies. The organizations said that guaranteeing universal primary education was a priority, together with protecting academic freedom and educational quality, which—they claimed—were being repressed by authoritarianism in the region. In the area of health, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was necessary to ensure equitable access to quality services and essential medicines. The fifth priority topic was monetary and fiscal policies to promote employment and stability. The organizations said that economic policies should prioritize job creation and economic stability in the Americas, especially to address youth unemployment. They said that fiscal and monetary incentives should be implemented to promote business and economic activity, thereby creating job opportunities and guaranteeing all citizens a decent standard of living. The report on the outcomes of the consultations on the contributions of civil society and social actors in preparation for the Tenth Summit of the Americas (“PrepTalks,” held in April 2024) was published as document ASCA/doc.48/24.

4. Presentation of the outcomes of inter-American ministerial meetings by their chairs

Mr. Alfonso Rodríguez, Vice-Minister of Energy Saving and Efficiency at the Ministry of Energy and Mines of the Dominican Republic, presented the conclusions of the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), which was held in Punta Cana on March 14 and 15, 2024. He said that ECPA was a unique platform that enabled the progress of the Hemisphere’s countries with the deployment of clean energy to be assessed. He reported that the Sixth Ministerial Meeting had been attended by more than 700 participants from 28 countries of the Americas and that it had served to reaffirm the commitments of the region’s leaders toward a future of renewable, green, and clean energy, in line with the mandates of the Ninth Summit for accelerating the clean, sustainable, renewable, and just energy transition. At the meeting, he said, the Ministers of Energy had gathered together under the theme “Renewable Energies in the Americas: Integration and Innovation” to address different energy transition strategies toward clean energy in the Americas; and that his had involved exploring such topics as hydrogen financing, the methane agenda, the decarbonization of maritime transport, and strengthening electricity infrastructure against natural hazards. He added that the meeting had led to the signing of three bilateral cooperation agreements involving the Dominican Republic, Chile, and Panama for sharing experiences and best practices in areas of common interest: the just energy transition, universal access to energy, energy efficiency, decarbonization, digitization, sustainable mobility, and distributed generation. He concluded by noting that clean energy was not only a privileged vehicle for political and economic integration but also, because of the different issues involved, a sure way to consolidate and advance democratic systems. The presentation on the outcomes of the Sixth ECPA Ministerial Meeting was published as document GRIC/O.2/INF.51/24.

Ambassador Chet Neymour, Permanent Representative of The Bahamas to the OAS, presented the results of the Fourth Ministerial Meeting on Sustainable Development, held in Nassau on October 3 and 4, 2023. He reported that the meeting had resulted in the adoption of the Nassau Declaration for
Sustainable Development in the Americas and the 2023-2030 Inter-American Plan of Action on Climate Change: a set of commitments and strategic guidelines that sought to promote actions by the OAS and cooperation among governments, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to climate change that prioritize sustainability, resilience, and inclusion. The ministers and high-level authorities also endorsed the Declaration of The Bahamas on Climate Finance in the Americas agreed on at the meeting of the same name held prior to the Fourth Ministerial Meeting, which addresses access to climate finance and its affordability. The outcomes of the ministerial meeting were in line with the commitments arising from the 2030 Agenda, the 2015 Paris Agreement, and the mandates of the Ninth Summit of the Americas on our green future and clean energy. The results can be grouped into four main thematic areas: climate change, renewable energies, integrated water management systems, and disaster risk management. He highlighted the role of the OAS Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) in advancing climate action commitments and of its Executive Secretariat (SEDI) in implementing them in the Americas.

5. Presentation by the Chair and consideration of the Proposed Schedule and Working Procedure for the May 2024 to November 2025 period

The Proposed Schedule and Working Procedure for the Tenth Summit of the Americas proposed by the Chair and previously distributed by the Summits Secretariat as document GRIC/0.2/doc.71/24 was presented by the Chair. Covering the entire preparatory phase leading up to the Tenth Summit of the Americas, it was examined and duly approved by the members of the SIRG present at the meeting.

The Chair also stated that the draft Commitment of Punta Cana would be distributed and negotiated at the regular meetings of the SIRG. At the First Regular Meeting of the SIRG in 2025, the Chair will present the theme for the Tenth Summit, prior to which, with the support of the Summits Secretariat, he will distribute the concept paper for due analysis. This is intended to enable the delegations to share their impressions and comments on the document during their remarks at the First Meeting. Delegations may also send additional comments after the meeting by email. In mid-March 2025, the first version of the draft Commitment of Punta Cana will be distributed and delegations will have two weeks to submit their comments. An updated version of the draft, incorporating the comments received, is expected to be distributed by mid-April 2025. At the Second Regular Meeting of the SIRG in 2025, the Chair will submit, for the delegations’ consideration and due analysis, the draft Commitment of Punta Cana with the comments made by the states. This will enable consensus to be reached on the final document to be submitted for final consideration by the Heads of State and Government at the Tenth Summit of the Americas in November 2025.

Similarly, he explained that during the open sessions of the SIRG, the Chair will provide the necessary opportunities for civil society and social actors—including the private sector and youth—to present the Process with their recommendations. This will include a Hemispheric Dialogue with Civil Society and Social Actors during one of the SIRG’s regular meetings. He also stated that the Chair, in coordination with the Summits Secretariat, would assume rapporteurship responsibilities during the SIRG’s meetings. The Chair concluded by calling on the delegations to work constructively in order to identify consensus that would enable them to adopt concrete, action-oriented mandates.

Following the presentation, the Chair offered the floor to the delegations for their comments on the proposed document.
The delegation of Brazil emphasized the importance of focusing the negotiations on one key issue, avoiding a dispersion of efforts, and identifying commitments that could be translated into concrete actions, which would facilitate follow-up. It used the example of the Lima Commitment, adopted at the Eighth Summit, which enabled its follow-up to be linked to OAS activities within the framework of the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC). Second, the delegation reiterated the importance of exploring what it called the state of the art in the implementation of previous Summits and inter-American ministerial processes, understanding the dynamics and dissemination of what had already been achieved. The Chair replied that he shared the same concern about focusing the discussions on concrete issues and not ignoring decisions that had already been adopted. He said that the aim was to follow the precedent set by the Dominican Republic’s leadership of the 28th Ibero-American Summit in March 2023, which focused its discussions on concrete issues and achieved equally concrete results.

The delegation of the United States thanked the Chair for his leadership at the meeting and drew attention to the participation of civil society. He reiterated his willingness to support the Chair of the Summit Process.

There being no further observations, the proposed Schedule and Working Procedure for May 2024 to November 2025 was adopted. The Schedule and Working Procedure for the preparatory phase of the Tenth Summit of the Americas was published as document GRIC/0.2/doc.71/24 rev. 1.

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

There being no requests for the floor, the Chair thanked the delegations, the JSWG institutions, and the representatives of civil society and social actors attending the meeting. He added that he had taken note of the points raised at the meeting and would make efforts so that the vision and contributions of all the actors involved in the Summits Process were taken into account with a view to achieving a Summit with a high level of consensus and that reflected the interests of regional ties and integration. He thanked the OAS General Secretariat and adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m.