



SUMMIT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW GROUP (SIRG)  
Sixth Regular Meeting of 2022  
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REMARKS BY THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE OAS  
(Ambassador James Lambert, Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs)

Mr. Kevin O'Reilly, National Summit Coordinator of the United States

Distinguished National Summit Coordinators and Deputy Coordinators

Permanent Representatives

Representatives of the institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group

On behalf of the Secretary General of the OAS, I would like to begin by greeting and thanking the Chair of the Summits Process, the government of the United States, through its National Summits Coordinator, Kevin O'Reilly, who from the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) conducted a productive process of regional dialogue that finally culminated in Los Angeles, in June, with a successful Ninth Summit.

I also thank all States for their active participation in the preparation phase for the Ninth Summit, where they had the opportunity to analyze, negotiate and adopt significant mandates on the most pressing challenges we face in our Hemisphere, including the need to strengthen health systems for future hazards, establish a regional agenda for digital transformation, address the climate crisis hand in hand with an energy transition, as well as to address the growing threats to democracy.

As National Coordinators, you have been co-authors of the success of the Ninth Summit and, as such, you are keenly aware of the complexity of the challenges faced to date. The conclusion of the efforts in Los Angeles and the five political commitments or mandates adopted, together with the initiatives announced by the Chair, such as the one in the area of migration, represent a new peak in the Summit Process.

On the other hand, I greet the entities of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) for their notable interest and commitment in providing technical guidance in the identification of priorities for the Summit agenda, as well as their inputs in the framework of the SIRG meetings in which the political commitments that would be adopted by the Leaders of the region were negotiated.

The theme of the Summit "Building a Sustainable, Resilient and Equitable Future" together with the five political commitments adopted, provides a framework for action to address the most pressing problems in the Hemisphere, such as threats to democracy, the climate crisis, and the lack of equitable access to economic, social, and political opportunities, and allows us to give special emphasis to populations in situations of greater vulnerability and who have been historically marginalized.

This session gives us the opportunity to begin a process of collective construction that will allow us to guide the work for the coming years to address these matters jointly between the States and the entities present here. As Secretary Blinken mentioned at the Ministerial Meeting last June, both the problems and the solutions are interconnected. And for them to be effective, they must cross borders. This implies an articulated follow-up that allows us to deepen the work already started in these months.

Soon, we will be meeting in Lima for the Second SIRG at the Ministerial level, which will be held on the occasion of the 52nd General Assembly of the OAS. The General Assembly, with the leadership of Peru, will meet under the slogan "Together against Inequality and Discrimination", with the conviction that it is urgent to act to contain and reverse the deepening of social gaps increased by the pandemic. This is an opportunity to seek a greater agenda convergence that allow us to attend to the multiple needs of the region.

In addition to the above, we should not lose sight in this effort of the "Declaration of Los Angeles on Migration and Protection", announced by the Presidency in Los Angeles, which represents an important progressive step in the creation of a common language and the adoption of a set of actions to cooperatively manage migratory flows in the Americas, a region that has witnessed great mobility in recent years.

At today's meeting, we will have the opportunity to advance a working route that allows us to implement the mandates adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Americas.

I would like to conclude by emphasizing the commitment of the Summits Secretariat to continue providing substantive support to the Summit Chair and to the States in the current follow-up and implementation phase of the Ninth Summit, as well as to continue strengthening the participation of the institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group and civil society and social actors, as an integral part of this process.

Thank you very much.