

VIth FORUM OF MINISTERS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA

Chapadmalal, Buenos Aires, Republic of Argentina
7th, 8th and 9th of May

DECLARATION OF CHAPADMALAL

“WHILE BUILDING ITS FUTURE, LATIN AMERICA IS MOVING FORWARD”

The Ministers responsible for social development policies and the heads of delegations, who gathered in Chapadmalal on the 7th, 8th and 9th May 2007 at the occasion of the 6th Forum of Ministers of Social Development of Latin America, taking into consideration the commitments from the World Summit of the Millennium of the United Nation, of the Social Summits and of the Declaration of Santa Clara, Peru,

CONSIDER :

- That the political and social context of Latin America, which is one of solidarity and mutual understanding, make essential the consolidation of social policies of popular origins, in which the social, the economic and the cultural are the fundamental elements of the integral development of our countries.
- That it is only possible to progress in the processes of sustainable regional integration if economic growth is combined with social justice, with the unique objective of the well-being of our people.
- That these processes must be built on the basis of the principles of respect of human and social rights, of the construction of citizenship, of territorial, cultural, gender and generational equity and of social justice, which exercise is ensured by a participative society and guaranteed by an active State with true social engagement.

- That it is necessary to overcome the logics of clientelism, paternalism and assistantship which inhibit the full exercise of rights and undermine the dignity of people.
- That it is necessary to strengthen the institutionalism of public policies by transcending immediacy in order to consolidate and to organize the integral development of our people.
- That it is essential to promote, in the design and implementation of public policies, the perspective of rights which recognizes people and not recipients and which claims equal opportunity by endorsing the multidimensional nature of family and the community.
- That to achieve integral and sustainable human development it is necessary to guarantee the access to quality universal education while promoting the creation of dignified work.

To this end,

The Ministers **AGREE:**

- To promote articulated and integral social policies in the region as elements for the construction of new proposals for development, taking into consideration the complexity of social reality and its territorial specificities, so as to overcome fragmented and reductionist visions.
- To give impetus to regional integration starting with education and employment creation policies, guaranteeing food and nutritional security, the protection of the family, the gender perspective and other social rights of the people involved in the process.
- To look further into the social dimension of integration of Latin America by guaranteeing the development of a human policy of human and social rights - including political, cultural and economic rights.
- To support the existing efforts for the improvement of statistical systems as effective tools that guarantee not only comparability but also the design of adequate regional policies.
- To give priority in the execution of the social policies to an integral approach with an articulated participation of the domains involved, taking into account social advancement, local specificities, cultural

diversity, active citizenship, representative and participative organizations, academic knowledge and social responsibility companies in the search for solutions of collective construction to the problems that affect our societies.

- To firmly support the conviction and the willpower to affirm the Millennium Development Goals and those goals specific to each country as the reference to our public policies and our actions to promote regional integration in the framework of regional horizontal technical co-operation, going beyond the recipes that were proposed in the light of the neoliberal model and its “percolation theory”.
- To improve and reinforce the ties with the Foras of the Ministers for Social Development that are carried out in other areas of the world.

For this,
The Ministers,

- Will work on the regional exchange of the strengths of each country for the development of policies that aim at territorial rights and equity, through the concrete technical assistance of the countries able to provide it, and with the support of UNESCO and the countries capable of receiving it. Such assistance will consider the systematisation of experiences and will be formalised in an effective way during the next 12 months, provided that the evaluation of the first semester will be realized in the Republic of Ecuador in November 2007 by a multilateral technical team appointed by the Ministers, according to the program and the inventory of support offered by each country.
- Agree that the Permanent Technical Secretariat will have its headquarters in the Republic of Argentina to ensure the follow up to the achieved agreements, and that support will be provided by UNESCO.
- Agree on the proposal for a meeting on social and economic policies entitled « Our contributions to economic development ».
- Agree that the Republic of Argentina, the Republic of Ecuador and the Republic of Panama present their application to the General Conference of UNESCO in October 2007 for integrating the Intergovernmental Committee of MOST at UNESCO.

- The participants welcomed the proposal of the Republic of Bolivia as the site of the next Forum of Ministers of Social Development of Latin America.

SIGNATURE OF REPRESENTANTS

Mrs Alicia M. Kirchner
Minister of Social Development
Republic of Argentina

Mr. Gabriel Loza Tellería
Minister of Development Planning
Republic of Bolivia

Mr. Patrus Ananias de Sousa
Minister of Social Development and Fight against Hunger
Federal Republic of Brazil

Mr. Francisco Tellería
Consul of the Republic of Chile - Mar
del Plata

Mr. Carlos Jorge Rodríguez Restrepo
Technical Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Social Protection
Republic of Columbia

Mr. Fernando Zumbado Jiménez
Minister of Housing and of Human Settlements
Republic of Costa Rica

Mrs. Yleana Rey Vichot
Vice-Minister of the Economy and Planning
Council of Ministers
Republic of Cuba

Mrs. Nathalie Cely
Minister of Coordination of Social Development
Republic of Ecuador

Mr. Gerald Germain
Minister of Social Affairs and of Employment
Republic of Haïti

Mrs. Olga Doris Castro
Director of the Office of Social and Technical Assistance
of the Solidary Network
Republic of Honduras

Mrs. Maria del Carmen Roquebert León
Minister of Social Development
Republic of Panama

Mr. Federico Barrios
General Director of Social Policies
Republic of Paraguay

Mrs. Judith de la Mata del Puente
Ambassador of the Republic of Peru in Argentina

Mr. William Mantilla
Vice-minister of Participation
Ministry of Popular Power for Social Participation and Protection
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Mrs Marina Arismendi
Minister of Social Development
Oriental Republic of Uruguay

Thank you for noting that the representative of the Republic of Salvador
will not sign the present declaration as he does not have the required
authorization.