

BIENNIAL OF THE AMERICAS

DENVER
2010

The Americas Roundtable

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biennialoftheamericas.org

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The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable is the Biennial of the America's primary component of public dialogue. Roundtables on a variety of topics are scheduled, including education, poverty reduction, energy and climate change, women in leadership, health, trade, and philanthropy. Each roundtable will take place in front of large public audiences in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House in Denver. Each is expected to incorporate on the stage ten to twelve participants.

Engaged dialogue is the central element of the format. Once each roundtable gets underway, prepared remarks

thus give way to candid, spirited, and unscripted conversation. Roundtable participants will include senior government officials, business CEOs, non-profit leaders, academicians, journalists, and other professionals from throughout the Western Hemisphere. Involving citizens from most of the 35 countries in the Hemisphere, The Americas Roundtable is designed as a public call to action, all in an effort to identify common challenges, seek joint opportunities, and promote collaboration.

All Roundtables and the Transnational Summit will take place in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House in the Denver Performing Arts Complex at 14th and Champa in downtown Denver, Colorado.

The Americas Roundtable on Education: The Achievement Gap	Tuesday, July 6, 2010 9:00 to 11:30 am	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
The Americas Roundtable on Philanthropy: Private and Public Collaboration	Tuesday, July 6, 2010 1:30 to 4:00 pm	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
The Americas Roundtable on Women: Drivers of the New Economy	Tuesday, July 7, 2010 9:00 to 11:30 am	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
The Americas Roundtable on Health: Transnational Threats	Tuesday, July 8, 2010 9:00 to 11:30 am	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
The Americas Roundtable on Poverty Reduction: Politics and Strategies	Tuesday, July 8, 2010 1:30 to 4:00 pm	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
The Americas Roundtable on Trade: Leveraging Partnerships for Sustainable Economies	Tuesday, July 12, 2010 8:30 to 10:15 am	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
Special Event: Transnational Summit of Former Heads of State	Tuesday, July 12, 2010 10:30 to 12:00 noon	Ellie Caulkins Opera House
The Americas Roundtable on Energy and Climate Change Designing Answers for Today's Challenges	Tuesday, July 28, 2010 1:30 to 4:00 pm	Ellie Caulkins Opera House



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The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on Education:

The Achievement Gap

JULY 6th

9:00 to 11:30 am

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

The Roundtable on Education focuses on a pervasive achievement gap – a disparity in education attainment based on socio-economic status, ethnicity, and/or gender. With so much effort placed on education reform in the Western Hemisphere, is the achievement gap getting better or worse? Where can success be shared and replicated? What more can be done – by governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations?

Confirmed Participants

Michael Shifter, president of the Inter-American Dialogue (USA)

Laura Conde, director, Mexican Undersecretariat of Basic Education (Mexico)

Sen. Michael Bennet, U.S. Senator (USA)

Francisco Villagrán de Leon, Ambassador to the United States (Guatemala)

Eduardo Padrón, President, Miami Dade College (USA)

Laura Albornoz, Former Minister of Women's Affairs (Chile)

Andrea Taylor, Director of Community Affairs, Microsoft (USA)

Asha Williams, Program Manager, POETA Youth (Trinidad and Tobago)

Fr. John Foley, Executive Director, Cristo Rey Network (USA)

Paul Martin, Former Prime Minister (Canada)



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The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on Women:

Drivers of the New Economy

JULY 6th

1:30 to 4:00 pm

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

In almost all countries in the Americas, chronic diseases such as diabetes, cancer, heart disease, and respiratory conditions have now replaced communicable diseases as the leading causes of illness, disability, and death. Even so, communicable diseases such as the H1N1 flu virus and drug-resistant tuberculosis persist as growing threats, as well. What incentives can governments and companies provide to combat these transnational threats? What did the world learn from Mexico's proactive and public actions regarding H1N1? How do health care systems vary throughout the Western Hemisphere, and how can what works in one system be applied toward improvements in others?

Confirmed Participants

Rigoberta Menchu Tum, Nobel Peace Prize winner (Guatemala)

Amb. Carmen Lomellin, U.S. Representative, Organization of American States (USA)

Amb. Carolina Barco, Ambassador to the United States (Colombia)

Beth Brooke, Global Vice Chair, Public Policy and Sustainability, Ernst & Young (USA)

Mayu Brizuela, former Minister of Foreign Affairs (El Salvador)

Danielle Saint-Lot, Member, Vital Voices Global Leadership Network (Haiti)

Maria Hinojosa, moderator, journalist, NPR (USA)



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The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on Philanthropy: Private and Public Collaboration

JULY 7th

9:00 to 11:30 am

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

Many nations of the Western Hemisphere lack basic human services related to clean water, health care, education, transportation, public housing, and access to credit. In response, direct foreign aid by governments is one essential component of international engagement. Philanthropy is increasingly another. Today, philanthropists include well-established foundations as well as common citizens making contributions by way of the internet or their cell phones. How can philanthropists, government leaders, and international aid agencies work in a more integrated fashion, both within their own countries and abroad on behalf of other nations?

Confirmed Participants

Amb. Larry Palmer, president, Inter-American Foundation (USA)

Harriet Fulbright, president, The J. William and Harriet Fulbright Center (USA)

Rigoberta Menchu Tum, Nobel Peace Prize winner (Guatemala)

Martha Smith de Rangel, executive director, US/Mexico Foundation (Mexico)



The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on Public Health: Transnational Threats

JULY 8th

9:00 to 11:30 am

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

In almost all countries in the Americas, chronic diseases such as diabetes cancer, heart disease, and respiratory conditions have now replaced communicable diseases as the leading causes of illness, disability, and death. Obesity is an underlying condition of many of these diseases, and a recent study by the World Health Organization predicts an increasing trend in obesity as Latin American countries emerge from poverty. Even so, communicable diseases such as the H1N1 flu virus and drug-resistant tuberculosis persist as growing threats, as well. What incentives can governments and companies provide to combat these transnational threats? What did the world learn from Mexico's proactive and public actions regarding H1N1? How do health care systems vary throughout the Western Hemisphere, and how can what works in one system be applied toward improvements in others?

Confirmed Participants

Amb. Arturo Sarukhan, Ambassador to the United States (Mexico)

Dr. Patricia Gabow, CEO, Denver Health and Hospital (USA)



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The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on Poverty Reduction: Politics and Strategies

JULY 8th

1:30 to 4:00 am

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

Nearly 200 million Latin Americans, or 37 percent of the total population, still live in poverty, leaving the Western Hemisphere as one of the most income-unequal regions in the world. In response, a broad spectrum of governments, private enterprise, and non-governmental organizations have dedicated considerable time, talent, and resources to fighting poverty. Initiatives include: support for conditional cash transfer programs; improving social services such as education, health, and housing; spearheading social entrepreneurship, micro-credit, and other banking services; protecting and promoting human rights; increasing access to technology; and encouraging greater political participation. Where has success actually occurred? What initiatives have worked and why? What democratic institutions inside countries are most important to engage in order to ensure effective poverty reduction?

Confirmed Participants

José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General, Organization for American States (Chile)

Arturo Valenzuela, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs (USA)

Amb. Heraldo Muñoz, Chilean representative to the United Nations (Chile)

Daniel Yohannes, CEO, Millennium Challenge Corporation (USA)

Jorge Volpi, Casa de América and Premio Biblioteca Breve prize-winning writer, including his book "Bolívar's Insomnia" (Mexico)

Luanne Zurlo, President, Worldfund (USA)

Carlos D. Mesa, former President (Bolivia)

Oscar Morales, executive president, One Million Voices Foundation (Colombia)

Amb. Hector Timerman, Ambassador to the United States (Argentina)



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The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on the Trade:

Leveraging Partnerships for Sustainable Economies

JULY 12th

8:30 to 10:15 am

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

Combined GDP of the Western Hemisphere exceeds \$19 trillion. As a result, the 35 nations of the Hemisphere produce close to 30 percent of the world's GDP. Nevertheless, along with those of the rest of the planet, economies in the Hemisphere have recently suffered tremendous setbacks. To promote and sustain healthy economies in the region, trade is certainly one important catalyst. For that reason, one approach might be to write even more bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. Greater value might come, however, from attempting to leverage the trade agreements already in place. How could these agreements be refined to work more successfully? How might their economic gains to-date be consolidated and furthered? How can technology advancements be put to use more strategically?

Confirmed Participants

Alejandro Toledo, former President (Peru)

Francisco Sánchez, Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade (USA)

Amb. Albert Ramdin, Assistant Secretary General, OAS (Suriname)

Barry Featherman, Executive Director, Global Center for Development and Democracy (USA)

Beatriz Rangel, Former Chief of Staff, Office of President Carlos Andres Perez (Venezuela)

Amb. Luis Lauredo, former U.S. Permanent Representative to the OAS (USA)

L. Enrique García, President, Corporación Andina de Fomento (Bolivia)



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Special Event:

Transnational Summit of Former Heads of State

JULY 12th

10:30 to 12:00 noon

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Summit Focus

Perhaps no one is more knowledgeable or better equipped to comment on the needs of his or her country than a former head of state, now unrestrained by the confines of political office. In 2007, former President Alejandro Toledo of Peru gathered many of his colleagues from throughout the Western Hemisphere to initiate the drafting of a social agenda, the focus of which is the role of democracy in improving the lives of the Hemisphere's citizens. Session Two of the Americas Roundtable on Trade and Leadership features thirteen former heads of state as they describe the priorities of their nations, as they see them, in the promotion of democracy to reduce poverty, increase public health, advance education, and create employment.

Confirmed Participants

Alejandro Toledo, delegation leader, former President, 2001-2006 (Peru)

Fernando de la Rúa, former President, 1999-2001 (Argentina)

Carlos D. Mesa, former President, 2003-2005 (Bolivia)

Fernando Henrique Cardoso, former President, 1995-2003 (Brazil)

Hipólito Mejía, former President, 2000-2004 (Dominican Republic)

Rodrigo Borja, former President, 1988-1992 (Ecuador)

Gustavo Noboa, former President, 2000-2003 (Ecuador)

Antonio Saca, former President, 2004-2009 (El Salvador)

Vinicio Cerezo, former President, 1986-1991 (Guatemala)

Eduardo Stein, former Vice President, 2004-2008 (Guatemala)

Ricardo Maduro, former President, 2002-2006 (Honduras)

Vicente Fox, former President, 2000-2006 (Mexico)

Nicolas Ardito Barletta, former President, 1984-1985 (Panama)



The Americas Roundtable

The Americas Roundtable on Energy and Climate Change: Designing Answers for Today's Challenges

JULY 28th

1:30 to 4:00 am

Ellie Caulkins Opera House

Roundtable Focus

Of the many ties that could bind the Western Hemisphere together more closely, energy production surely is one of them. The Hemisphere has tremendous resources. Canada, Mexico, and Venezuela supply the U.S. with more than 40% of its crude oil. The U.S. and Colombia are among the top coal producers in the world, and Brazil is the world leader in producing and using ethanol as a transportation fuel. In the context of energy, however, the link between fossil fuel use and CO2 levels in the atmosphere is unquestionable. With little dispute, scientists believe that CO2 and other heat-trapping gases are influencing the climate. How might design be used to address the energy and climate change problems facing us therefore? Design levers likely include energy efficiency, renewable energy technology, markets, the use of natural gas, and reforestation, among others.

Confirmed Participants

Patrick Manning, Prime Minister (Trinidad & Tobago)

Ray LaHood, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation (USA)

Federico Peña, former U.S. Secretary of Energy and of Transportation (USA)

Amb. Jaime Alemán, Ambassador to the United States (Panama)

Senator Mark Udall, U.S. Senate (USA)

Luis Revillia Herrero, president, La Paz City Council (Bolivia)

Robert Hutchinson, moderator, program director, Rocky Mountain Institute (USA)

