



**DECLARATION OF THE FIRST SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT  
OF MEXICO AND OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY  
(CARICOM)**

**RIVIERA MAYA, MEXICO, FEBRUARY 21, 2010**

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of Mexico and of the Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) met for the first time in the Riviera Maya, Mexico, on February 21 2010, to examine the common challenges facing our region.
2. We affirm that this first Summit will be the starting point for more fruitful bilateral relations to foster a new phase of shared development and prosperity in a framework of justice and equity, building on the valuable contributions and concrete results of the five meetings of the CARICOM-Mexico Joint Commission.
3. We are determined to combine efforts towards strengthening our democracies and ensuring respect for human rights.
4. We reiterate our commitment to jointly tackle common challenges, such as climate change, security, and the international financial and economic crisis, with the main objective of improving the quality of life of our people.
5. Conscious of the fact that the Caribbean region is frequently affected by natural disasters that have a negative effect on the security and well-being of our citizens, we recognize the strong negative impact of environmental degradation and climate change on the quality of life of our people and, furthermore, on the survival of the countries of the region.
6. We underscore the importance of strengthening cooperation for development in order to attain the Millennium Development Goals in the Caribbean region.
7. We reaffirm our commitment towards the successful conclusion of the WTO Doha Round with explicit development-oriented trade measures and taking into account the texts presented in December 2008.

8. We recognize that the strengthening of our commercial, investment, tourism and cultural relations contributes to the sustainable development of our countries.
9. With the goal of deepening the economic relations between Mexico and CARICOM, we agree to convene an economic seminar, during the second semester of this year, organized by CARICOM, aimed at identifying commercial niches and investment opportunities for our countries.
10. We will promote consultations and information-sharing regarding the security sector, inter alia, in pursuit of the establishment of a Witness Protection Program and an Advanced Passenger Information System in the Western Hemisphere and also the fight against transnational organized crime and its related activities, taking advantage of the regional and multilateral mechanisms and fora that address these issues.
11. We will continue to develop educational, cultural, scientific, and technological cooperation programs in key, far-reaching areas between Mexico and the CARICOM Member States.
12. We endorse the CARICOM-Mexico Technical Cooperation Program and commit to explore financial mechanisms to support its implementation, including the establishment of a CARICOM-Mexico financial cooperation fund.
13. Recognizing the importance of youth as the future of our countries, we renew our commitment to prioritize and give special attention to the youth of our countries through a multidimensional, comprehensive and coherent approach designed to build sustainable social development. Furthermore, we welcome the effort and the invitation of the Government of Mexico to host the World Youth Conference, to be held in August 2010.
14. We express our commitment to the integration of Latin America and the Caribbean motivated by the main objective of improving the quality of life of our people, and look forward to the success of the Summit of Unity: Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in the Riviera Maya, Mexico, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2010. This

Summit represents an excellent opportunity to demonstrate our regional identity and the convergence of the goals and aspirations of our nations.

15. We agree to work constructively towards the strengthening of the Association of Caribbean States, to assist with the fulfillment of its mandate to respond to the new cooperation challenges and needs of the greater Caribbean region.
16. We agree to convene the Second CARICOM-Mexico Summit in 2012, hosted by Barbados, in order to follow up, at the highest level, the agreements adopted today.
17. The Member States of CARICOM express our profound gratitude and recognition to the Government and the people of Mexico for having hosted this Summit, for their generous hospitality, and for the courtesies granted which facilitated its successful outcome.
18. We endorse the present Declaration, in three original copies, in the English, French and Spanish languages, on the twenty-first day of February 2010.