



Organización de los
Estados Americanos

SECRETARÍA TÉCNICA DE LA RIAC



JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

Meeting of Ministers of Economy, Finance, Industry and Commerce

Friday October 7, 2011, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

WE

Ministers of Economy, Finance, Industry and Commerce welcome the document “Consensus of Santo Domingo” and its 10 competitiveness principles, approved by the high-level Competitiveness Authorities and Councils of the Americas, in the annual meeting of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC) held on October 5, 2011, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in the framework of the V Competitiveness Forum.

We emphasize the importance of the ten principles which can guide our actions at the regional, national and sub-national level according to the interest, context and competitiveness agenda of each country, to advance toward a more competitive and prosperous region.

The ten principles outlined seek among other things to promote high-quality education; strengthen the establishment of effective institutions responsible for promoting competitiveness; promote transparency in government administration; prioritize development of human capital; drive the development of a modern and efficient infrastructure; position innovation as a determining factor for competitiveness; improve access to capital for economic stakeholders; foment social entrepreneurship, social corporate responsibility and gender equity; stimulate commerce and integration; and promote efficiency and energy sustainability.

We support the decision of our high-level authorities and competitiveness councils to use the 10 principles as a tool to benchmark competitiveness actions undertaken by countries in the Americas and to include them in the “Signals of Competitiveness in the Americas” Report to be presented in the RIAC annual meetings in Colombia (2012) and Panama (2013) on occasion of the VI and VII ACF.

We congratulate the Dominican Republic for its efforts and leadership as Chair *Pro Tempore* of the RIAC during the period 2010-2011, as host of the 2011 RIAC Annual Meeting, the Meeting of Ministers of Economy, Finance, Industry and Commerce, and the V Americas Competitiveness Forum.

We welcome Colombia as Chair *Pro Tempore* of the RIAC for the period 2011-2012 and host of the VI Americas Competitiveness Forum in 2012 with our best wishes for a successful tenure.



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We recognize the importance of RIAC as a hemispheric mechanism to promote dialogue among our countries, to share experiences and best practices and the adoption of joint initiatives.

We highlight the importance of submitting the Consensus of Santo Domingo as an input for Inter-American political fora that deal with issues related to competitiveness such as education, science and technology, labor, tourism, sustainable development, among others, including specialized meetings of high-level authorities, Ministerial meetings, and the VI Summit of the Americas in Colombia.

We submit the Santo Domingo Consensus for consideration and reference to our leaders at the Summit of the Americas in Cartagena, Colombia.

We thank the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) for its support as the Technical Secretariat of the RIAC and the preparations for the annual meeting of RIAC 2011.