



Heads of State and Government of the Americas Reaffirm Commitment to Human Rights of Older Persons

During the Sixth Summit of the Americas, held on April 14 and 15, 2012, in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas reaffirmed their commitment to the protection of Human Rights of Older Persons in the framework of the negotiations towards an international instrument on the subject being held within the inter-American system.

In the chapter that makes reference to the mandates to combat poverty, inequality and inequity, the leaders pledged to "move forward in strengthening the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of older persons through the promotion of public policies, programs and services, thereby safeguarding their dignity, their physical, mental, social and quality of life, taking into account the efforts being carried out within the Inter-American sphere on the development of a legally binding instrument to protect the rights of older persons and the consideration of the subject at the international level".

In the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Organization of American States, a working group has been established, which has proposed a draft convention on human rights of older persons. For more information on the subject, please visit www.oas.org/olderpersons.