



SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ ON FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY

1. The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 3rd December 2011, within the framework of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), welcomed the progress made by the competent authorities of the countries in the social field, concerning food and nutritional security, in the framework of the 1st Latin America and the Caribbean Ministerial Meeting on Social Development and the Eradication of Hunger and Poverty, and:
2. They reaffirmed the principles and mandates of food and nutritional security, enshrined in the Presidential Declarations of Salvador de Bahia and Cancun, as well as in the Montego Bay Action Plan, and expressed their strong will to foster in the region a food and nutrition policy, supported by the processes of Latin American and Caribbean unity and integration.



3. Likewise, they recognised that a structural response to the problem shall include, among others: the development of agriculture, the improvement in the distribution of food, access to food for the most disadvantaged population groups; and must promote favourable conditions for investing and developing agriculture and other related issues.
4. They highlighted the importance of promoting agricultural development with the support of multilateral, regional and subregional banks and the specialized agencies of the United Nations System, bilaterally and through triangular or South-South cooperation and cooperation for development.
5. They noted that agricultural trade reform is still a pending issue in the multilateral system and they stressed that works must continue, in the framework of the WTO to promote the development of agriculture



6. They emphasized the importance of exchanging technologies and supporting small producers, family agriculture programmes, cooperatives and the organized indigenous communities in the region, highlighting their role in the preservation, conservation and sustainable use of traditional crops. They highlighted the importance of the culture of food production for self consumption and local markets, and stressed that this practice should take root in their countries.

7. They expressed their strongest commitment to promote regional coordination of initiatives on food and nutritional security based on the four pillars of availability, access, utilization and stability.

8. In this regard, they requested the *Pro Tempore* Presidency of CELAC to activate contacts with the Director-General of FAO, to establish guidelines for cooperation in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraphs.