

## Argentine presidential hopeful salutes meeting

*Carlos Saúl Menem, the candidate of the Justicialist (Peronist) Party for President of Argentina in next year's elections, sent this message to the conference in Panama:*

Dear comrades:

On the occasion of such a great event, and taking advantage of the journey of Peronist comrades who will participate in the same, I wanted to be present and together with you, at least through these lines.

I have asked my comrade Héctor Flores, Esq. to represent me personally, in my capacity as candidate of the Justicialist Party for President of the nation, and to be the bearer of a fraternal embrace to all of you and to the noble and courageous Panamanian people.

I wish to confirm my pledge, that next year when I assume the highest office by the mandate of my people, I shall continue working together with all my Latin American brethren for the definitive union of our peoples. Implementing with fidelity and humility the historical mandate of Bolívar, of San Martín, of Rosas, of Perón, and of Torrijos.

Wishing you full success in the culmination of your work, I am with you spiritually, reiterating my confidence that the year 2000 shall find us definitively united and not under domination.

Fraternally,  
Carlos Saúl Menem

to provide each of our nations with long-awaited food self-sufficiency.

In the second place, we propose the creation of an international court to deal with the issue of drug trafficking, or the creation of a special commission charged with the matter of the drug trade, to be included at the High Court of Justice at The Hague. The Hague, being a prestigious international institution, will be called upon to hear the complaints of accusing nations . . . for the purpose of defending our peoples and the peoples of the world from the scheme of hegemonic domination that uses the drug trade as an element of foreign policy, as we described earlier.

In the third place, we encourage meetings of Latin American legislators to lead to energetic actions in regard to the fight against the drug trade and the prevention and rehabilitation of drug dependency. This should include the interchange of different legislation on the matter and should lead

to the unification of legal concepts that will enable the frontal war against the drug trade to prosper.

In the fourth place, we propose that mechanisms of control be set up to prevent the laundering of money, flight capital, and the distortion of the economy that is caused by . . . the narco-dollars in the financial system of our countries. . . .

In the sixth place, in defense of our peoples, Latin America should create means of protecting itself from cultural penetration, by basing itself on the principles of family, of beauty, and of love, in counterposition to the hedonism of the rock counterculture, of pornography, drugs and the satanic sects.

Finally, we call upon Latin America's political leadership to deeply consider the fact that the drug trade . . . is intimately linked to other scourges, such as the foreign debt, poverty, and underdevelopment, and therefore, we will never be able to resolve these latter problems without defeating the former. All of this will help toward the creation of a new international economic order.

In sum, we maintain that there can be no compatibility between the drug trade and democracy, between the drug trade and sovereignty, between the drug trade and the *Patria Grande*.

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## Science and technology for integration

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The path to greater degrees of political and economic independence for a united Latin America has as one of its principal components the self-sustaining development of our own scientific-technological capacities.

The current state of disintegration of the scientific and technological efforts of the continent prove that the institutions charged with regional coordination have shown poor efficiency in structuring a successful program of Latin American scientific collaboration.

Therefore, the delegates meeting in the Commission of Science and Technology for Integration, recommend the adoption of the following points:

1) To emphasize the importance of scientific and technological development within respective national projects, an emphasis that should manifest itself in larger government budgets in the areas of science, technological, and higher education.

2) To promote the creation of a "Latin American Forum of Science and Technology," made up of governmental and non-governmental agencies, to permit the widest possible discussion and consultation for the purpose of orienting the respective national science and technology programs toward joint and complementary development.

Said forum will serve as a means of exchanging information on technology supply and demand and on the state of the principal research and development projects on the con-