

COA/53RD

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON THE AMERICAS

Opportunities in a New Global Reality



In its 53rd edition, the Washington Conference on the Americas continues to be the premier annual meeting on the Western Hemisphere, routinely hosting the most senior public officials and private sector representatives for real-time, agenda-setting discussions. Each year, this conference offers an opportunity to hear from the most senior-level officials while giving participants the chance to engage with business and policy leaders, members of the diplomatic community, and special invited guests from throughout the hemisphere.

Centered on the theme, “Opportunities in a New Global Reality,” this year’s conference convened senior United States government officials and hemispheric leaders from the public and private sectors to share their vision for reinvigorating regional trade, strengthening resilience and growth, and accelerating the clean energy transition.

Highlights included:

- Fully in-person conference at the Organization of American States that featured interactive interviews and panel sessions and was transmitted live through our digital platforms
- Sponsors-only keynote luncheon in the U.S. Department of State on November 8, 2023
- Exclusive meetings with senior government and multilateral officials



President Susan Segal interviewing President of the Inter-American Development Bank, Ilan Goldfajn and President of the World Bank, David Malpass, May 2, 2023

On the cover: Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund giving remarks, November 8, 2023.



Vice President Eric Farnsworth moderating the trade panel featuring Costa Rican Minister Manuel Tovar, Canadian Minister Mary Ng, and Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), May 2, 2023

For the first time, the conference was held at the Organization of the American States’ Hall of the Americas. On May 2, participants heard from U.S. government officials, including U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai and U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy David Turk, two U.S. Senators, two heads of international financial institutions, and foreign government ministers as well as private sector leaders.

The conference featured a panel on “Reinvigorating the Hemispheric Trade Agenda” moderated by Vice President Eric Farnsworth. U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Canada’s Minister of International Trade, Expert Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng, and Costa Rica’s Minister of Foreign Trade Manuel Tovar discussed the challenges trade faces today in the Western Hemisphere—and ways to confront those obstacles in order to promote trade-led economic growth to support post-pandemic recovery and build a more prosperous and equitable region.

In her keynote interview, Ambassador Tai discussed the importance of resiliency and inclusion in terms of supply chains and trade relations. “So much of what defines our opportunity is still about geography and about where we sit in the world and so I think that that is a foundational touchstone for thinking about the U.S. approach to international economic engagement with the Western Hemisphere” she said.



Vice President Eric Farnsworth interviewing U.S. Trade representative Katherine Tai, May 2, 2023

As the conference focused on growing hemispheric opportunities and sustainable recovery and growth, World Bank Group President David Malpass and Inter-American Development Bank President Ilan Goldfajn sat down with President Susan Segal to discuss new opportunities for strengthening resilience and boosting growth in the region.

COA Chairman Andres Gluski interviewed U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy David Turk to explore opportunities for the energy sector, particularly looking at the role that Latin America plays in the global energy transformation. “Latin America is a clean energy powerhouse, and the world cannot achieve its climate and energy security goals without this vital region,” added Deputy Secretary Turk.



Chairman Andres Gluski interviewing U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy David Turk, May 2, 2023



Conference co-host, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Brian Nichols giving remarks, May 2, 2023

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON

On November 8 we hosted our traditional by-invitation-only keynote luncheon at the historic Benjamin Franklin Diplomatic Reception Hall in the U.S. Department of State. The luncheon featured International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, and Senator Michael Bennett (D-CO) for keynote interviews and wide-ranging discussions. The speakers covered an array of issues from regional integration in the Western Hemisphere, to IFIs reform, and discussed crises around the world including the conflicts between Israel and Palestine and Ukraine and Russia.



Chairman Emeritus John Negroponte interviewing Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, November 8, 2023



President of Peru, Dina Boluarte, and President of Panama, Laurentino Cortizo Cohen, participating in the Conference via video.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS:

- **Dina Boluarte**, President of Peru
 - **Laurentino Cortizo Cohen**, President of Panama
 - **Kristalina Georgieva**, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
 - **David Malpass**, President, The World Bank Group
 - **Ilan Goldfajn**, President of the Inter-American Development Bank
 - **Luis Almagro**, Secretary General, Organization of American States
 - **Avril Haines**, U.S. Director of National Intelligence
 - **Katherine Tai**, U.S. Trade Representative
 - **David Turk**, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
 - **Brian Nichols**, Assistant Secretary, Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Department of State
 - **Mary Ng**, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development, Canada
 - **Manuel Tovar**, Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica
 - **Michael Bennett**, U.S. Senator (D-CO)
 - **Bill Cassidy**, U.S. Senator (R-LA)
 - **Bill Hagerty**, U.S. Senator (R-TN)
 - **Rodrigo Valdés**, Director, Western Hemisphere, International Monetary Fund
 - **Susan Segal**, President & CEO, Council of the Americas
 - **Eric Farnsworth**, Vice President, Council of the Americas
 - **Andres Gluski**, Chairman, Council of the Americas
 - **John Negroponte**, Chairman Emeritus, Council of the Americas
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FOR THE FIRST TIME,
THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE CONVENED THE
TOP OFFICIALS OF THE THREE MOST
PROMINENT INTERNATIONAL FINANCE
INSTITUTIONS: INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY FUND, WORLD BANK, AND THE
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

54TH WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON THE AMERICAS

Join us in May 7 and 8, 2024!

- New convenient hybrid format:
In-person conference with livestream
- Robust sponsorship opportunities
- New speakers and increased social engagement
- Sponsor-only activities, including access to Keynote Luncheon at the U.S. Department of State and high-level private meeting
- Special members-only ticket options

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