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10 Latin American Nations Develop Programs To Avoid Undermining Of Economic Policies By Increasing Poverty

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According to an Aug. 10 report by Notimex, 10 Latin American governments Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Jamaica, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia and Costa Rica have designed special programs to prevent the undermining of economic liberalization and structural reform programs by the increasing impoverishment of respective populations. These governments have solicited support from the Organization of American States (OAS) secretary general to establish an inter- governmental information exchange. Funding will be solicited from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP). The focus of poverty amelioration is to move away from simple provision of subsidized or free goods and services to the poor. OAS statistics indicate that Latin American per capita GDP dropped 10% in the 1981-1990 period, and real wages declined 25% between 1980 and 1989. Urban unemployment increased from 7.8% in 1980 to 10.6% in 1983-1985. (Basic data from Notimex, 08/10/91)

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