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Greater Integration, Central America's Challenge

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Consolidating unity and meeting the demands of the people are today two of the greatest challenges for the Central American Integration System (SICA, in Spanish), whose member States have agreed to push forward a sustainable development.

On closing last night in Managua the 48th SICA Summit, Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega said that the global economy imposes new challenges on the region's nations.

He suggested to work on re-founding SICA because despite advances the System is not meeting the demands of the regional people and those the global economy imposes.

Nicaragua has handed over SICA's pro-tempore Presidency to Costa Rica that will lead the bloc during the next six months.

Founded in February 1993, SICA is made up of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Belize and Dominican Republic.

In the face of today's challenges, the more integrated and united we are, the better and stronger we'll be to deal with global trade, tackle poverty, hunger and provide better welfare for our people, stressed the Nicaraguan President.

Ortega insisted that despite the region's economic indicators are not bad and they have been able to sort out the international crisis, we can do better and advance even more through integration a unity.