**INTER-AMERICAN AGENCY FOR COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (IACD)**

**MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD** OEA/Ser.W/XX.2

AICD/JD/DE-125/20

23 June 2020

Original: Spanish

MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISIONS

(Adopted at the meeting held on June 16, 2020)

The virtual meeting of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) was held on June 16, 2020.

Participants:

Participating in the meeting were the following members of the Management Board:

Ambassador Luz Elena Baños Rivas, Permanent Representative of Mexico, Chair of the Management Board

Members of the Management Board

* Maximiliano J. Alvarez, Alternate Representative of Argentina
* Iesha Eyvette Deveaux, Alternate Representative of the Bahamas
* Carlos Cuenca, Alternate Representative of Brazil
* Laura Pizarro, Alternate Representative of Costa Rica
* Jenny Caicedo, Alternate Representative of Ecuador
* Verónica Olivares, Director General of Cooperation and Development of El Salvador and Vice-Chair of the Management Board
* Miguel Ángel Guerrero Lechón, Alternate Representative of Mexico
* Yill Otero, Director of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Relations of Panama (via videoconference)
* Christina Bruff, Alternate Representative of the United States of America

Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development, as well as the delegations of Bolivia, Chile, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic and Venezuela, in attendance as observers.

The meeting began with the adoption of the order of business

Document: (AICD/JD/OD-61/20 ) - [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/od&classNum=61&lang=s) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/od&classNum=61&lang=e)

1. Cooperation for Development:
   * Approval of the  Draft 2020-2021 IACD Work Plan

The Chair submitted the Draft 2020-2021 IACD Work Plan for consideration, which had been modified in keeping with delegations’ proposals. Members of the Management Board and delegations in attendance took the floor to express their satisfaction with the document, incorporating the changes suggested by the delegations of Brazil and Argentina to point 7.1.4. They underscored the need to approve the document so it could guide the IACD’s work, in particular as regards the response to the health, economic, and social crisis unleashed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Decision No. 1: Approve the 2020-2021 IACD Work Plan

Document: (AICD/JD/doc-177/20 rev. 2)-  [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=177&lang=s) -  [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=177&lang=e))

1. Development Cooperation Fund (DCF):
   * Approval of the Area of Action for the programming cycle of the OAS Development Cooperation Fund (OAS/DCF) 2021-2024

The Chair reported that three delegations had presented area of action proposals —document: (AICD/JD/doc-179/20 rev. 1 [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=179&lang=s) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=179&lang=e))—and gave the floor to those delegations to explain their proposals to the Board: delegation of Argentina: *Science and Technology;* delegation of Costa Rica: *Inclusive Resilience for Effective Cooperation;* delegation of El Salvador: *Social Development and Productive Employment Generation*. Delegations emphasized that these issues were at the heart of member states’ urgent needs in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and the post- pandemic period. They emphasized that Board’s responsibility in aligning its work with these priorities and the importance of ensuring that cooperation in the framework of the OAS does not lose relevance at such a critical time. Following the interventions and deliberations, members of the Management Board noted the advisability of adopting an area of action with elements of the proposals presented, but that it should be narrower, in order to not water down the impact of the program. The Board then made the following decision:

Decision No. 2:     Recommend the topic: *“*Inclusive Resilience for an Effective Recovery, with a Focus on Science and Technology” as an Area of Action for the programming cycle of the OAS Development Cooperation Fund (OAS/DCF) 2021-2024, to be presented to CIDI for its consideration and approval.

* + Presentation of the Mid-Term Assessment Report on the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) Program implementation for the 2017-2021 program cycle

The Secretariat presented the Mid-Term Assessment Report on the Development Cooperation Fund Program Implementation in Education for the 2017-2021 Program Cycle (Document: AICD/JD/doc-178/20 - [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=178&lang=s) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=178&lang=e)). Pursuant to the provisions of the Statutes of the Development Cooperation Fund, and in keeping with Article 1.1.4 of the Program Execution Agreement, this Mid-Term Report has the purpose of reflecting to what extent the programs’ implementation is on target to fulfill the objective set out in the time allotted. The Secretariat emphasized strategic elements of the methodology of the programs’ design, including a clear definition of goals, institutionalization of programs to ensure sustainability of the same beyond the execution period, and leveraging of additional local resource and other donors. Additionally, the Secretariat presented information on the programs’ viability, level of commitment, and whether there were adequate resources to achieve the expected results. The Mid-Term Report will make allowances for the necessary changes in the programs’ execution in order to ensure its effective application.

* + Proposal to extend the programming cycle of the OAS Development Cooperation Fund (OAS/DCF) 2017-2021 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Secretariat explained that this proposal came out of discussions with member state Ministries of Education that are participating in the 2017-2021 programming cycle of the OAS/DCF. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the general consensus is that additional time is needed to implement the programs due to the delays that have occurred, especially given that the education sector has been one of the hardest hit by the crisis. The Secretariat noted that 9 additional months have been requested for implementation subsequent to the completion date stipulated in the Execution Agreement. In that respect the Management Board made the decision to approve the extension with the caveat that this would not delay the start of the next 2021-2024 programming cycle.

Decision No. 3:     Approve the extension of the OAS/DCF programming cycle 2017-2021 until December 31, 2021.

1. OAS Scholarship Program:
   * Proposal submitted by the delegation of Argentina to award scholarships not used by countries to other member states

The last item on the meeting’s order of business was a proposal by the delegation of Argentina to award scholarships not used by countries to other member states (document AICD/JD/INF. 66/20-  [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=66&lang=s) -  [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=66&lang=e)). The delegation of Argentina explained that the proposal was aimed at preventing unused scholarships from being lost by awarding them to other students for the benefit of all member states. Delegations deliberated the proposal and presented some concerns, including: the possible impact that its implementation could have on the budget approved for the Scholarship Program; the importance of not altering the current regulations; ensuring scholarships were widely distributed and not concentrated in just a few countries, and that beneficiaries comply with the corresponding selection criteria. There was consensus on the need to have more information and time to fully consider the proposal presented by the delegation of Argentina. In this regard, the Management Board made the following decision:

Decision No. 4:    Request that the Secretariat draft a technical/financial report that provides for the budgetary and operational implications of implementing the proposal presented by the delegation of Argentina.

The Chair concluded the meeting of the Management Board by reminding Board members that her term would end on August 26, 2020. The Chair thanked the participants and adjourned the meeting.

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| Ambassador Luz Elena Baños Rivas  Permanent Representative of Mexico | Kim Osborne  Executive Secretary for Integral Development |

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