**INTER-AMERICAN AGENCY FOR COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**(IACD)**

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

AICD/JD/DE-133/22

14 July 2022

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DECISIONS OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

(Adopted at the meeting of June 22, 2022)

The Meeting of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) was held virtually on June 22, 2022.

Participants:

The following members of the Management Board took part in the meeting:

Karla de Palma, General Director of the El Salvador Agency for International Cooperation (ESCO), Chair of the Management Board;

Members of the Management Board:

* Guido Pierri, Directorate General for International Cooperation, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs
* Felipe Aravena, Alternate Representative of Chile
* Felipe Abadia Castañeda, Coordination of Multilateral Cooperation

Directorate of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia

* Gertrudis Ernestina Reyes, Alternate Representative of El Salvador
* Julianna Aynes-Neville, Alternate Representative of the United States of America
* Larissa Karina Pineda, Alternate Representative of Honduras
* Salim Ali Modad González, Alternate Representative of Mexico
* Bruno Sotomayor Villanueva, Directorate of Policies and Programs, Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation
* Omari Seitu Williams, Deputy Permanent Representative and Alternate Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development; as well as the delegations of Brazil, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Paraguay, and Uruguay as observers. Cooperation authorities in the member states also participated, including those of: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico, and Uruguay.

The Meeting began with the adoption of the draft order of business

Document: AICD/JD/OD-67/22 [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/od&classNum=67&lang=s) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/od&classNum=67&lang=e)

1. Working groups of the JD/AICD (MB/IACD):
2. Presentations on the final versions of the draft work plan of each Working Group for discussion and consideration by the MB/IACD

At the beginning of this section, the Chair thanked the delegations for their active participation in the working groups and bilateral meetings that have been held with the support of the Secretariat.

Verónica Suárez, from the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI), representing the Uruguayan delegation as Chair of Working Group 1 (Updated model of the CIDI ministerial process and the role of the cooperation authorities of the region), supported by Mr. Marcio Correa from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, on behalf of the Co-Chair, began by explaining that, first of all, the group proposed reducing the steps in the structure of the ministerial meeting cycle, in order to endow the IACD with a more prominent leading role that included coordinating collaboration between the IACD Management Board, SEDI, and CIDI. The crafting and implementation of work plans, followed by monitoring and evaluation, as well as feedback to CIDI on the preparatory stage for the next ministerial meetings, constitute elements of the proposed structure, entailing: a) a clear distinction between the political bodies of the OAS and the implementation of cooperation initiatives; b) the approval and execution of all OAS cooperation projects and activities through the IACD; c) the return to their cycle of ministerial meetings of those projects that do not find a source of funding within a maximum period of six (6) months.

Regarding the governance role of the IACD, the Working Group recommends optimizing the participation of its Management Board with the support of the delegate assigned by the Permanent Mission to the OAS and another representative of the cooperation focal points of the countries that make up the Management Board; and considering transferring the corporation component included in the agenda of the Commission on Partnership for Development Cooperation Policies to the IACD.

The Group 1 work plan includes a schedule of concrete actions and expected results, with clearly defined objectives aimed at strengthening the IACD (document IACD/JD/doc.202/22 -[Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=202&lang=s)| [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=202&lang=e).).

In addition, Working Group 1 presented a proposed format for structuring IACD work plans, cross-referencing the priorities of the ministerial meetings with the specific projects, the financial contribution of the OAS, and other sources of financing (document (IACD/JD/INF.83/22 - [English](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=83&lang=e) - [Español](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=83&lang=s)).

At the end of her presentation, the Executive Secretary for Integral Development congratulated and thanked the members of Working Group 1 for their work and the specific way in which they propose to structure cooperation in an integral development context.

With respect to the structure of the ministerial cycle and reducing the number of steps it involves, the Executive Secretary stated that this had already been approved by the General Assembly; therefore, it would be more feasible to identify in which part of the structure the relevant points of the Working Group 1 proposal could be included. The Executive Secretary concluded by stating that the Work Plan clearly defines the role of cooperation, the IACD, CIDI, and SEDI.

The Chair of the Board congratulated Working Group 1 and emphasized the importance of joint work between the cooperation focal points, which would allow the topic of cooperation to benefit from constant advice and be geared to the need for monitoring and evaluation.

Before yielding the floor to the representative of Working Group No. 2 (Financing for development cooperation within the OAS/SEDI framework), the Chair paid tribute to the work of Mr. Bruno Sotomayor, the Representative of Peru, who, from the beginning, in the absence of the Chair, had assumed the leadership of Working Group No. 2 and she reminded him that the position of Co-Chair was still vacant. She then invited him to accept the proposal to serve as Co-Chair. Mr. Sotomayor thanked her and agreed to do so.

Mr. Sotomayor then presented the proposed work plan and outlined its objectives, including: (a) consideration of strategies to strengthen the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) and raise additional funds to carry out partnership for development activities, (b) development of a framework for cooperation between the IACD and the permanent observers and other States, as well as with national and international organizations and the private sector, and (c) consideration of the possibility that the IACD should join the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation and its Kampala Principles, in order to promote private sector participation.

An important point highlighted by Group 2 in the questions guiding the debate is the lack of publicity surrounding projects and information regarding the optimal functioning of the DCF; and the need to establish a list of demands to address the region’ vulnerabilities and divides, especially after the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the region's social and economic structures, and to provide for sectoral coordination opportunities highlighting the OAS contribution in each member country in order to convene other development actors who can support the initiative and supplement the seed fund provided by the OAS with greater financial resources.

The Group 2 Work Plan and the concrete actions associated with it can be found in the document:  (AICD/JD/doc.200/22 - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=200&lang=e) |[Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=200&lang=s))

Mr. Sotomayor ended his presentation, stressing that the Work Plan is a proposal document that could be enriched with contributions from the delegations, and thanking them for his election as Co-Chair of Group 2.

One issue that came up at the end of this presentation concerned the amount by which the OAS reduces the voluntary contributions for indirect costs (ICR), where the Vice Chair of the Management Board indicated that the issue is currently being discussed within the CAAP framework and the Executive Secretary reminded those present that for some years the Management Board had been asking the pertinent authorities to consider reducing or exempting the amount of the ICR, which would help to optimize the contributions to cooperation.

Another important point highlighted by the Executive Secretary is the fact that the IACD by-laws do not contemplate cooperation initiatives and agreements with the private sector and, given the current situation facing the region, she suggested that the Chair consider the proposal put to CIDI to modify the by-laws to that effect, with a view to submitting it to the General Assembly for approval.

The Chair thanked Working Group 2 and expressed its appreciation for the comments and contributions received and ended by describing a successful experience with the private sector in the country.

Mr. Felipe Abadía of Multilateral Cooperation Coordination, in his capacity as Chairman of Working Group 3 (on international cooperation for development), then presented that Group’s proposed Work Plan.

The document (IACD/JD/doc.201/22) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=201&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=201&lang=s) ) indicates that the specific objective is to: Execute actions to strengthen the working methods of the MB/IACD, both in its relations with external actors and with the member states. It also provides a table with concrete actions and expected results, together with the implementation schedule. They include: a) Establishing precise guidelines to govern approaches to other regional and international cooperation organizations; b) enhancing the general public’s knowledge of the IACD; c) presenting shorter internal reports; and d) strengthening Cooperanet as a forum for sharing cooperation experiences with a view to matching supply with demand.

Comments and contributions from some delegations alluded to the importance of making CooperaNet better known, the role of the cooperation focal points for access to information and as coordinators, and the need to include the issue of securing resources for cooperation activities in CAAP budget discussions. In this regard, the Chair indicated that she agreed with the contributions made and consulted the Secretary on the possibility of preparing the reports related to the topic of cooperation in a concise and executive manner and the implementation of a publicity campaign using the CooperaNet platform. The Executive Secretary listed the types of reports and activities carried out in previous years. She also congratulated both Working Group 2 and Working Group 3 on the work carried out.

As a result of the presentations and discussions under this agenda item, the Management Board took the following decisions:

Decision No. 1: To confirm as Co-Chair of Working Group 2 (Financing of cooperation for development within the framework of the OAS/SEDI) the delegation of Peru, represented by Mr. Bruno Sotomayor of the Directorate of Policies and Programs of the Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation.

To request that through Working Group 3 a campaign publicizing the CooperaNet platform be conducted for cooperation authorities in member countries.

To request the Secretary to distribute the Work Plans of the Working Groups, once they have been reviewed and adjusted by their respective groups.

1. OAS Scholarship and Training Program:
2. Presentation of the approved budget for the year 2022 for discussion and approval of the allocation of resources by the IACD Management Board

The Director of the Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment, Mr. Jesús Schucry Giacoman, presented a table with the estimated expenditure for the year 2022 and the projections through to 2026 for the OAS Scholarship and Training Program, based on resolution AG/RES. 2971(LI-O/21), in which it was resolved to recognize said resolution [(CIDI/RES.337 (LXXXVIII-O/19)] and to authorize the General Secretariat to use up to US$1,740,000 from the Regular Fund for OAS Scholarship and Training Programs in 2021 to finance the activities of the following programs: Partnerships for Education and Training Program (PAEC), Professional Development Scholarship Program (PBDP), and the OAS Academic Studies Program.

Following this presentation, the delegation of Brazil pointed out the need to make an adjustment to the English version of the document. Having addressed and settled the queries on this matter, the Chair thanked the Secretariat for the presentation and noted that the Secretariat would make an adjustment to the English version of the table presented. The Management Board took the following decision:

Decision No. 2: Approve the disbursement of the funds allocated to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs in the 2021 Program Budget, document (IACD/JD/inf.81/22 rev. 2) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=81&lang=e) - [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=81&lang=s), in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 2971(LI-O/21) [Español](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CIDSC00184S02.docx) -  [English](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_22/CIDSC00184E02.docx)

1. Development Cooperation Fund (DCF):
2. Report on the status of voluntary contributions to the DCF
3. 2021-2024 Programming Cycle: Report on the current state of implementation of the programs

Under this agenda item, the Chair reminded delegations that prior to the meeting the Secretariat had distributed a report on the status of voluntary contributions to the DCF (Document IACD/JD/doc.199/22) [English](http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2022/DCF-Contributions-May-24-2022.docx) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2022/FCD-Contribuciones-Mayo-24-2022.docx)); as well as the report on the status of implementation of the programs for the 2021-2024 Programming Cycle (Document IACD/JD/INF.82/22) - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=82&lang=e) - [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF&classNum=82&lang=s)) and asked those present if they had any questions regarding those documents.

The Executive Secretary took the opportunity to urge delegations that have not yet done so to contribute to the fund and take advantage of the benefits they could obtain as a participating country.

In addition, the delegation of Argentina reported that its country's payment for the 2021 and 2022 contributions to the Fund was underway and the delegation of Uruguay also indicated that its country made a payment for the year 2021, which was not reflected in the table. In this regard, the Secretary stated that the corresponding verifications would be carried out in order to circulate an updated report on the status of voluntary contributions to the DCF.

Subsequently, the Secretariat circulated an updated statement of voluntary contributions (document IACD/JD/doc.199/22 rev.1 - [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=199&lang=e) | [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=199&lang=s))

Following completion of the discussions on the last item on the agenda and attention to other matters, the Chair thanked the participants and declared the session closed.

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| Karla Majano de Palma  Director General of the El Salvador Agency  for International Cooperation (ESCO) | Kim Osborne  Executive Secretariat for Integral Development |
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