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

**(IACD)**

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

 AICD/JD/DE-136/23

 7 March 2023

 Original: Spanish

DECISIONS OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

(Adopted at the meeting of March 6, 2023)

 The meeting of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) was held virtually on March 6, 2023.

Participants:

 The meeting was attended by the following members of the Management Board:

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

Members of the Management Board

* Daniela Rey, General Directorate of International Cooperation, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs
* Ciro Leal, Alternate Representative of Brazil
* Minister Juan Manuel Escalante, Director of International, Bilateral, Multilateral, and South-South Cooperation, Ecuador
* Felipe Abadia Castañeda, Multilateral Cooperation Coordination Office, International Cooperation Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia
* Gertrudis Ernestina Reyes, Alternate Representative of El Salvador
* Ambassador Luz Elena Baños, Permanent Representative of Mexico
* Carlos Amezaga, 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; together with the delegations of the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay.

The meeting began with the approval of the draft agenda.

Document AICD/JD/OD-70/23 ([Español](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/od&classNum=70&lang=s) – [English](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/od&classNum=70&lang=e))

1. Nomination and election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the IACD Management Board (2022-2023)

This item was included in the agenda in compliance with Article 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the IACD Management Board, which specifies that the Management Board shall annually elect a Chair and Vice Chair at its first meeting following the meeting of CIDI at which the members of the Board were elected. As no candidacies for those positions had been received, the Chair informed the meeting that both she and the Vice Chair were willing to serve in their positions during the current period, in order to continue the efforts made in the previous period and to follow up on the mandates entrusted to the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development. The Management Board then adopted the following decision:

Decision No. 1: To re-elect by acclamation the following officers of the Management Board of the IACD for the 2022-2023 period:

Chair: Karla Majano de Palma, Director General of the El Salvador Agency for International Cooperation (ESCO)

Vice Chair: Omari Seitu Williams, Minister Counselor / Deputy Permanent Representative and Alternate Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

1. Management Board of the IACD:
* MB/IACD Working Groups:

Dialogue on the following topics:

* Extension of the Working Groups’ terms
* Proposals and courses of action for the implementation of General Assembly mandates
* Presentation of the proposed 2023-2024 work plan for discussion and consideration by the MB/IACD

 In addressing this point, the Chair reviewed the establishment of the working groups. They were created at the Third Specialized CIDI Meeting of High-Level Cooperation Authorities (December 2-3, 2021) with the purpose of defining a more strategic direction for the IACD—and, specifically, for its Management Board—in dealing with its mandates. The officers of the Working Groups were elected by the Management Board at the meeting of March 23, 2022, for terms of at least one year from the first Board meeting; and those terms may be extended or dissolved by the Board as necessary, according to the guidelines approved at that meeting (document AICD/JD/doc.194/22 rev. 2, [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=194&lang=e) – [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=194&lang=s)).

 She also stressed the importance of continuing the work of the working groups, so they can actively participate in the implementation of the General Assembly’s mandates. As a result of the working groups’ contributions and inputs. Several members of the Working Groups expressed their agreement and willingness to continue working with the Chair and the Secretariat to further pursue their Partnership for Development commitments and efforts.

In order to coordinate the implementation of the mandates, the Secretariat had prepared a proposed work plan for the 2023-2024 period for the Management Board’s discussion and consideration. In addressing this point, the Executive Secretary for Integral Development referred to the mandates and emphasized the importance of the mandates’ implementation roadmap being analyzed and defined by the members of the Board of Directors, through the Working Groups, with technical support from the Secretariat. Both the Chair and members of the Working Groups expressed their willingness to continue working on the efforts already underway and on the process of implementing the General Assembly mandates. As a result of the discussions, the Management Board adopted the following decision:

Decision No. 2: a. To extend the duration of the tasks entrusted to the three IACD Working Groups for the current period:

* Working Group 1: Alignment of cooperation with CIDI ministerial processes.
* Working Group 2: Fundraising to support OAS/SEDI partnerships for development.
* Working Group 3: Positioning the IACD in the international development cooperation landscape.

The Working Groups will continue to hold discussions and, with the assistance of and in coordination with the Secretariat, will work on the proposed methodologies and activities in accordance with the mandates assigned to each group.

b. To approve the proposed 2023-2024 Work Plan, which will serve as a guide for the implementation of the mandates entrusted to the Management Board (document AICD/JD/doc.205/23 rev. 1, [Español](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=205&lang=s) – [English](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=205&lang=e)).

1. Development Cooperation Fund (DCF):
* Status of the programs of the DCF 2021-2024 Programming Cycle

(document CIDI/JD/INF.91/23, [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=91&lang=s) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=91&lang=e))

* Consideration of extending the deadline for member states to make pledges and contributions to the 2022 Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) from October 31, 2022, to March 31, 2023.

 (document AICD/JD/doc-206/23 rev. 1, [Español](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=206&lang=s) – [English](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD%20XX.2.18/doc.&classNum=206&lang=e))

* Consideration of the payment of the cost of the external audit of the DCF accounts for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, for approval by the MB/IACD.

(document CIDI/JD/INF.89/23, [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=89&lang=s) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=89&lang=e))

At this point, the Secretariat gave a presentation on the nature, purpose, composition, and execution status of the programs in the 2021-2024 Programming Cycle. The Executive Secretary for Integral Development then provided a detailed explanation on the status of contributions to the Fund. She also made a strong appeal for the delegations to bring themselves up to date with their voluntary contributions and urged those member states that had not yet done so to contribute to the DCF. This would help grow the fund and allow the possibility of pursuing other forms of fundraising to be analyzed.

After thanking the Secretariat for the presentations, the Chair congratulated the countries participating in the DCF and reiterated the importance of contributing to the DCF and of taking advantage of what it offered and the benefits it represented for the region. She then submitted for the Management Board’s consideration the extension of the deadline for member states to make their pledges and contributions to the DCF, a request based on Article 16 of the DCF Statutes regarding the extension of the deadline in exceptional cases and when the member states faced particular challenges.

The other issue discussed under this agenda item was the payment of the cost of the external audit of the DCF for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, for approval by the MB/IACD.

The Chair explained that the General Secretariat requires that all the funds managed by the Organization finance the cost of their external audits. Thus, as in previous years, the Secretariat for Administration and Finance (SAF) had asked SEDI to pay for the cost of auditing the DCF for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024 (document CIDI/JD/INF.89/23, [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=89&lang=s) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=89&lang=e)).

Under the agenda item on matters relating to the DCF, the Management Board adopted the following decision:

Decision No. 3: a. To approve the extension of the deadline for member states to make pledges and contributions to the Development Cooperation Fund from October 31, 2022, to April 15, 2023.

 b. To recommend that CIDI approve payment covering the costs of the external audit of the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024 (document CIDI/JD/INF. -89/23, [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=89&lang=s) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=89&lang=e)) in the understanding that the payment for the 2022 audit will be made immediately and the payment for the following two years will be made when the audits corresponding to fiscal years 2023 and 2024 begin.

This recommendation is based on the provisions of Article 10.d of the DCF Statutes regarding appropriations intended for unplanned activities (document CIDI/doc.99/14 rev. 1, [Español](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=99&lang=s) – [English](https://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/doc.&classNum=99&lang=e)). Once CIDI has given its approval, SEDI will initiate administrative proceedings to transfer the funds to cover the 2022 audit costs to the SAF and to secure funds for the 2023 and 2024 payments.

1. OAS Scholarship and Training Programs:
* Presentation of the approved 2023 budget for discussion by the MB/IACD and approval of the allocation of funds

 Document CIDI/JD/INF.90/23, [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=90&lang=s) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=AICD/JD/INF.&classNum=90&lang=e)

At this juncture, the Chair gave the floor to the representative from the Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment, who explained the contents of the table with the estimated expenditure for the year 2023 and the projections up to 2027, in keeping with General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2985 (LII-O/22) ([Español](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_23/CIDSC00209S02.docx) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_23/CIDSC00209E02.docx)), together with the provision for the Language Proficiency Training and Certification Program, in keeping with the terms of resolution AG/RES. 2988 (LII-O/22) ([English](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_23/CIDSC00205E02.docx) – [Español](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_23/CIDSC00205S02.docx)). After answering questions on the topic, the Chair thanked the Secretariat for the presentation and the Board adopted the following decision:

Decision No. 4: To approve the disbursement of funds allocated to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs in the 2022 Program-Budget (AG/RES. 2985 (LII-O/22), [Español](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_23/CIDSC00209S02.docx) – [English](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_23/CIDSC00209E02.docx)).

1. CooperaNet Platform:
* Discussion of activities and strategies for the incorporation of experts and training to identify offers and active needs in the CooperaNet Platform

Under the CooperaNet Platform agenda item, the Chair reminded the meeting that the platform responded to the member states’ mandate to establish a venue for development cooperation that offers opportunities for interaction among policy-makers, optimizes partnerships, establishes contacts and networks, facilitates development assistance, and offers initiatives for leveraging development assistance, while at the same time providing technical cooperation based on the needs of the Americas.

The Executive Secretary for Integral Development thanked the delegations that had presented offers of cooperation and reminded the member states to present their specific offers and needs on the platform. She also stressed that one task related to the establishment of CooperaNet was the identification of potential experts. Thus, one of the year’s specific tasks was to hold a dialogue and design a strategy to incorporate experts, who will be key elements for the offers and needs of the CooperaNet platform.

At the conclusion of the discussions on this last item on the agenda and having attended to other matters, the Chair thanked the participants and declared the meeting adjourned.

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