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REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE

COMMITTEE ON PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICIES,

MRS. LILIA A. SANCHEZ DE MOREHEAD,

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

(Presented to CIDI at the meeting held on October 15, 2020) REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE ON PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICIES, MRS. LILIA A. SANCHEZ DE MOREHEAD,

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Mr. Chairman, members of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development,

Mrs. Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, (SEDI), good afternoon to all of you.

In my capacity as Chair of the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies, this afternoon I am honored to present a report on the work the Committee has done since the date of my election as Chair, August 27, 2019, up to Tuesday, October 13, 2020. The work of the committee was assisted by Mr. José Marco Rodríguez, Permanent Representative of Peru, in his capacity as Vice Chair of the Committee, and the representatives from all the OAS member states.

Mr. Chairman, in view of the hour, my report will be brief.

Between the months of September 2019 and October 2020, the Committee held twenty-four (24) formal meetings and sixteen (16) informal meetings to discharge the responsibilities assigned to it under the rules of procedure for regular and special meetings of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), as well as its responsibility with regard to the issue of responding to natural disasters entrusted to it by the Council Chair. I should also emphasize the numerous informal meetings that were held among groups of member states: working groups, discussions with the Chair and, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the creation of various groups using the WhatsAPP, Zoom, and other platforms, all intended to facilitate the most fluid and participatory processes and negotiations within the committee.

During our chairmanship, another of our objectives was to become more familiar with and learn more about the needs of and arduous work done by the departments and staff that make up the SEDI and the Department of Social Inclusion and the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE), seeking ways to work jointly with the departments and the Chair of the Policies Committee and consequently with the member states. The plan was that these meetings would be held every three months. A total of three (3) meetings were held until the pandemic began, which limited us to working on issues on an ad hoc basis.

I hope that my successor as Chair of the Policies Committee will be able to continue these meetings, given that they provide a great benefit by ensuring that the objectives of the work to be done are shared by all.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to recall that during the regular CIDI meeting held this past September 29, the Committee presented a specific report and its recommendations on the subject of responding to natural disasters. Accordingly, on this occasion I will not refer to that report except to indicate that the recommendations made by the Committee and accepted by CIDI are included in the draft omnibus resolution that we propose should be forward by CIDI for consideration by the General Assembly at its next regular session.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to state very briefly the main tasks carried out during the period covered by this report:

* We have followed up and monitored implementation of the CIDI Triennial Ministerial Cycle, with reports from the technical secretariats of each sector on progress made and difficulties encountered in implementing the guidelines for the preparation and follow-up of ministerial meetings. In this regard, I should report that we could see that an additional effort is still needed, on the part of the member states as well as the Secretariat, to ensure that all sectors adapt to the cycle approved three years ago, a cycle that has additionally been seriously distorted due to the postponement of ministerial level and inter-American committee meetings in response to the pandemic we are experiencing.
* We supported preparations for the ministerial meetings of the inter-American committees. In this regard, we considered, *ad referendum* of CIDI, relevant procedural questions such as preliminary agenda proposals.
* We considered and approved, based on the drafts prepared by sectoral authorities:
  + the 2019-2022 Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Education, document CIDI/CIE/RPA/doc.9/20 rev.3: [Español|](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/spanish/hist_20/cided00212s02.docx)| [English](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/english/hist_20/cided00212e02.docx); and
  + the 2020-2022 Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), document CIDI/CIC/RPA/doc.89/20 rev.2 [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.5%20CIDI/CIC/RPA/doc&classNum=89&lang=s) | [English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=XIII.5%20CIDI/CIC/RPA/doc&classNum=89&lang=e);
* In preparation for the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly, the committee considered the draft resolution “The Challenges to Food Security and Nutrition in the Americas in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic under the Framework of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019” presented by the Permanent Mission of Guatemala and co-sponsored by the delegations of Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela.

In this regard, Mr. Chairman, I am very honored to submit for consideration by CIDI the referenced draft, document CIDI/CPD/doc. 201 revision 2, which has the consensus of all the member states. We ask that CIDI send it to the General Assembly.

* The Committee devoted many formal and informal meetings, with the support of the technical areas of the General Secretariat, to preparing the draft resolution titled “Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience,” document CIDI/CPD/doc.195/20 revision 18. Although operative paragraph 27 is agreed upon *ad referendum* of the delegation of the United States, the rest of the document has the consensus of all the delegations and we are pleased to ask that CIDI forward it to the General Assembly.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to recognize the hard work done by the representatives of all the member states who, with responsibility, discipline, and collaboration, made it possible to complete the committee’s work on the draft resolution we are presenting, despite the problems posed by the current method for deliberation.

Mr. Chairman, esteemed colleagues,

I must acknowledge that our work experienced some delays due to the pandemic in which we find ourselves and we have had to adapt to new technologies and improvised procedures in order to continue our work. I am satisfied and pleased to note that we have achieved that goal. In my capacity as Committee Chair, I want to put on record my appreciation for each of the representatives of the member states on the committee for their tireless work and constant and decisive support, which made my own task possible.

I wish to acknowledge in particular the Permanent Representative of Guatemala, Ambassador Rita Claverie de Schiolli, and her excellent team in the Permanent Mission, for the work done to advance the deliberations that concluded with the agreement of all the member states on the draft resolution regarding the subject of food security and nutrition in the hemisphere that we submit today for CIDI’s agreement.

Allow me as well to reiterate my thanks to the Vice Chair of the Committee, José Marco Rodríguez, for his collaborative support, joint work, and advice in the search for formulas to align positions and respond to committee members’ concerns. This collaborative effort allowed us to secure an extraordinary degree of consensus.

I want to thank SEDI, its Executive Secretary, Mrs. Kim Osborne, as well as Mrs. Sandra Burns for their support, and above all, the Chief of the Policies Section, Mrs. Estela Díaz-Avalos. I want to recognize her, once again, for her great dedication, hard work, and her support at all levels during this very difficult period.

I cannot conclude without thanking the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic, led by Ambassador Josué Fiallo, for the respect and value they assign to the work of the Committee and CIDI, as well as my work, and the support they provide to me.

To the CIDI chairs who have been with us in all matters during this year and two months, Ambassador Claverie, of Guatemala, Ambassador Insanally of Guyana, and Ambassador Charles.

Thank you very much to all the teams who made it possible for our meetings to be effectively conducted.

To each of the representatives on the Committee, for whom I cannot find sufficient words of thanks, for their unconditional support at any hour and their words of encouragement, which brought us closer together to do the work better and allowed us to grow every day as professionals and as women.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to conclude, but not without expressing my thoughts on a slightly more personal level.

As these are my last words before this Council as Chair of the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies, I cannot fail to note that professional life and emotional life have come together, with the satisfaction of duty performed and the calling to serve in this multilateral diplomacy. It has been an intense year and two months, a period of great learning, of giving and listening, of seeking the middle ground and sometimes finding a conviction taking root that serves the common good. I thank my heavenly father, all my colleagues for the opportunity they gave me, trusting that I would bring the work of the committee during this period to a successful conclusion.

And finally, I thank those who should come first, and this is what this pandemic has clearly shown each of us -- the value of family. I want to express profound thanks to each of your families and particularly to my own family for granting us their time and allowing us to steal even more time to devote to the work that we are doing to contribute to a better future in the integral development of our peoples.

Thank you very much!

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