



**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

**Inter-American Council for Integral Development**

**(CIDI)**

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FORMAT FOR DELIBERATIONS ON THE

DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN BUSINESS CHARTER

(Adopted during the regular meeting held on January 26, 2021)

Introduction

Pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2954 (L-O/20) “Towards an Inter-American Business Chart”, adopted by the General Assembly, the following format will be deployed for the negotiation of the Draft Inter-American Business Charter.

- Establishment of a Working Group

- Election of authorities of the Working Group (election of the Chair by CIDI and a Vice Chair by the Working Group)

- Agreement of a format for deliberations

Establishment of a Working Group

As provided in the Rules of Procedure for Regular and Special Meetings of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) (the Rules of Procedure from here on), the “CIDI Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter” will be established. The task of the Working Group is to carry out preliminary deliberations and to support CIDI in considering different proposals for each section of the proposed Inter-American Business Charter and will conduct broad and inclusive consultations with interested stakeholders in the context of the discussion process.

In this regard, Article 51 of the Rules of Procedure specify that “Regular and special meetings of CIDI may establish such permanent and special committees and working groups as they deem necessary. Special committees and working groups shall be transitory and shall carry out temporary mandates that have not been assigned to other bodies.”

Furthermore, Article 53 of the Rules of Procedure stipulate that “Working groups shall be responsible for considering, developing or studying specific matters and shall function for a fixed period of time as defined by CIDI or the committee that created them.” In this regard, the term of the CIDI Working Group to Prepare the Inter-American Business Charter will be until CIDI agrees on the draft Inter-American Business Charter.

The Working Group will commence deliberations in February 2021 and will present periodic summary of the deliberations and recommendations to CIDI during its each monthly regular meeting.

Authorities of the Working Group

As per Article 70 b) of the Rules of Procedure, “CIDI shall elect a chair for each working group, which shall elect its vice chair. These shall serve for the duration of the mandate of the respective group or for up to one year. If the duration of the working group exceeds a year, CIDI shall elect a new chair at its second regular monthly meeting after the OAS General Assembly regular session.”

Meetings of the Working Group

In keeping with Article 70 d), 71 of the Rules of Procedure of CIDI, meetings of working groups shall be held following the procedures agreed upon by each working group; shall be open to the participation of all delegations and their meetings shall not require a quorum.

Likewise, as established by Article 72, within the Working Group, recommendations shall be adopted by consensus to the extent possible. If consensus is not possible, the chair of the Working Group shall present the conclusions of the discussions in their report to CIDI with no recommendations.

Due to the scarcity of resources, the Chair of CIDI proposes that deliberations of the Working Group be carried out in one official language of the Organization of American States, to be decided by the Working Group itself. However, the Secretariat will provide documents in Spanish and English for each meeting of the Working Group.

To facilitate deliberations in an orderly manner, each Chapter of the preliminary draft Inter-American Business Charter proposed by the Government of Colombia, will be addressed separately. A series of informal meetings will be allocated to deliberate on the articles constituting each Chapter, with a monthly review by CIDI.

Secretariat

The Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) will provide technical advice and logistical support during the deliberations of the draft Inter-American Business Chapter and will procure necessary technical advice from other areas of the General Secretariat, as required.

Schedule of meeting of the Working Group

Please refer to the following Annex

ANNEX

| SCHEDULE OF MEETING TO DELIBERATE ON THE DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN BUSINESS CHARTER | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CHARTER | ARTICLES BY CHAPTER | MEETING DATES FOR DELIBERATIONS | DATE OF CONSIDERATION BY CIDI | TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT |
| CHAPTER I.  RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE OF BUSINESSES AS DEVELOPMENT CATALYSTS | Articles 1, 2 & 3 | * Tuesday, February 2 * Wednesday, February 10 | Tuesday, February 23 | * Department of Economic Development |
| CHAPTER II.  STRENGTHENING LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS | Articles 4, 5, 6 & 7 | * Tuesday, February 16 * Tuesday, March 2 * Tuesday, March 9 | Tuesday, March 30 | * Department of Economic Development * Secretariat for Legal Affairs |
| CHAPTER III.  ROLE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE | Article 8 | * Tuesday, March 16 | Tuesday, March 30 | * Department of Economic Development |
| CHAPTER IV.  ROLE OF MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES | Articles 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 | * Tuesday, March 23 * Tuesday, April 6 * Thursday, April 8 * Tuesday, April 13 | Tuesday, April 27 | * Department of Economic Development |
| CHAPTER V.  Commitments to formalization, employment and education | Articles 14, 15 & 16 | * Friday, April 16 * Tuesday, April 20 * Tuesday, May 4 | Tuesday, May 25 | * Department of Human Development, Education and Employment |
| CHAPTER VI.  Business innovation, technology adoption, and creative economies | Articles 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 & 22 | * Tuesday May 11 * Tuesday, May 18 * Tuesday, May 25 * Wednesday, June 1 * Tuesday, June 8 | Tuesday, June 29 | * Department of Economic Development |
| CHAPTER VII.  PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING RESILIENCE | Articles 23, 24, 25, 26 &27 | * Tuesday, June 15 * Tuesday, June 22 * Thursday, June 24 * Tuesday, July 6 | Tuesday, July 27 | * Department of Economic Development * Department of Sustainable Development |
| CHAPTER VIII.  COMPLIANCE WITH COMPLEMENTARY OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW | Articles 28, 29, 30, 31 & 32 | * Tuesday, July 13 * Wednesday, July 21 * Tuesday, August 10 * Tuesday, August 17 | Tuesday, August 31 | * Department of Economic Development * Secretariat for Legal Affairs |
| Draft resolution |  | * Wednesday, August 25 * Wednesday, September 1 * Tuesday, September 7 | Tuesday, September 28 |  |
| Comprehensive review of the draft resolution and draft Inter-American Business Charter |  | * Tuesday, September 14 * Tuesday, September 21 | Tuesday, September 28 |  |
| Final consideration and approval by CIDI |  | | Tuesday, September 28 | |

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