

**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

Inter-American Council for Integral Development

(CIDI)



 OEA/Ser.W

CIDI/doc.315/21 27 April 2021

Original: Spanish

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE “CIDI WORKING GROUP TO PREPARE THE DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN BUSINESS CHARTER

(Presented at the CIDI meeting held on April 27, 2021)

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

As I am speaking to this Council for the first time, on behalf of my delegation, allow me to extend a cordial greeting to you and the distinguished delegates present at this session, as well as to Executive Secretary Kim Osborne and the staff of the Secretariat.

First, I would like to acknowledge the committed work of my colleague Carolina Schlessinger of the Colombian Mission who served as Chair of the Working Group, and who, having successfully completed her appointment to the Foreign Service, has returned to headquarters. In this regard, I would ask the Chair and the distinguished members to take note of this detail, as well as the request to recognize the Delegation of Colombia, in the abstract as the Chair of the Working Group.

Since the last report presented on 30 March, we would like to point out that on April 6, a session of the Working Group took place to resume the negotiation article-by-article from the preambular section.

It was previously agreed among delegations to halt the revision of the preambular paragraphs before receiving comments from capitals on the new draft distributed by the Chair. This to have a more concise and clearer document, avoiding the need for corrections to previously revised articles and also considering the need to focus on those parts of the document that guide to the approach and the achievement of a more concrete vision. of the preambular section.

In this way, Colombia suggested to review and simplify the preambular section with the help of a smaller informal working group, where with some delegations interested in taking part, it will be possible to identify as much coincidences as possible and present the Working Group with proposed version to facilitate a subsequent negotiation.

In this context, the informal sub-working group, consisted of the Chair of the Working Group, Carolina Schlesinger, and the delegations of Costa Rica, Argentina, Canada, Paraguay, and Mexico, met on Friday, April 9, to conduct an analysis exercise of the preambular section of the document.

On April 21, the subgroup continued with the revision of the preambular section to be compared with a proposal submitted by the Delegation of Mexico and the preambular matrix. In this way, paragraphs that could be deleted, as well as those that could be reformulated were identified in order to have a clearer document.

In conclusion, it was established, at the request of the delegations present at the meeting, that the Chair would draw up a document with the similarities identified at the two informal sessions, for review by the subgroup and subsequent submission to the Working Group. This session of the subgroup is expected to take place on Friday.

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On the other hand, we would like to thank the delegations of Brazil, Argentina, Peru and Guatemala for the operative section and to the delegation of Mexico for their proposal of the preambular section. According to the meetings calendar, the next session of the Working Group is scheduled for May 4th.

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

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