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ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA

NINTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE

INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

“Towards Building a New Hemispheric Educational Pact in Contexts of Change”

(Approved during the regular meeting held October 26, 2021)

1. **BACKGROUND**

During different dialogues on public policies and program initiatives being implemented in the framework of activities of the 2019-2022 Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE), and in the midst of a global health crisis that has led to the massive closure of educational establishments, educational authorities have demonstrated their commitment to the idea that education is a right and, as such, an unquestionable commitment of the State.

In this connection, through the CIE, Ministers of Education have focused their work on creating a scope of action that ensures the continuity of education at the different levels of the education system. Ministers have directed their attention to those who have borne the brunt of such circumstances, through a strategy based on the analysis and reality of actions taken by governments in the region. They have included multiple perspectives to move forward in reaching hemispheric consensus that drive regional collaboration, towards building a new hemispheric education compact in contexts of change which is able to rethink and reimagine the future of education systems to ensure their equity and resilience.

1. **PROPOSED TOPICS**
2. **Approval of the draft agenda of the meeting,** in keeping with Article 24 of the Rules of Procedure for the Inter-American Committees of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development
3. **Approval of the draft schedule**
4. **Progress report on implementation of the mandates of the Tenth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education**

In accordance with Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure for the Inter-American Committees of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the General Secretariat of the Organization shall support the officers of the Committees in the performance of their duties and shall provide secretariat services to the Committee in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

In this connection, the Technical Secretariat of the CIE will present a progress report on the implementation of ministerial mandates.

1. **Educational continuity under COVID-19: the role of ICTs and internet connectivity as key components for ensuring the right to education with special attention to vulnerable populations in developing countries.**

Through the adoption of the Inter-American Educational Agenda (IEA), furthered by the Plan of Action of Antigua and Barbuda of 2019, ministers of education resolved to encourage political discussion and cooperation among ministries in priority areas for action that will guide inter-American cooperation in education according to three pillars: quality, inclusive, and equitable education, strengthening the teaching profession, and comprehensive early childhood care.

In light of the current situation, the CIE proposed “**Educational continuity under COVID-19: the role of ICTs and internet connectivity as key components for ensuring the right to education with special attention to vulnerable populations in developing countries**” as the main topic for discussion.

1. **Contributions for developing the second phase of the Inter-American Educational Agenda (2022-2027) and the methodology for its definition**

The adoption of the Inter-American Educational Agenda (IEA) reflects an historical process of consensus-building among ministries of education of the OAS members states to address the most important challenges that affect educational development in the region and impact the right of children and adults to access quality, inclusive, and equitable education throughout their entire lives. What is more, the Inter-American Educational Agenda has been agreed upon by OAS member states as a tool to monitor and achieve implementation of Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The process that culminated in the adoption of the IEA at the Ninth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education, held in The Bahamas in February 2017, ushered in a process of regional consensus-building that continues to date through its sectoral authorities.

The second phase of the IEA consists of 3 basic components:

* Presentation of conclusions, lessons learned, and proposal for actions, stemming from the discussions on public policies and activities implemented in 2020 and 2021, which allow for developing a hemispheric proposal based on local experiences.
* Development of a hemispheric proposal with a multisectoral approach, including contributions from the labor and health sectors.
* Proposal for a methodology to define the second phase of the IEA 2022-2027.

1. **Election of CIE officers for the 2021-2024 term**

In keeping with the provisions of Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure for the Inter-American Committees of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development approved in May 2018, each Inter-American Committee of CIDI shall elect a chair and two vice chairs, who shall hold office for three years or until the next regular meeting of the Committee. Their terms shall begin on the date of their election and shall last until the election of their successors.

1. **Receipt of offers to host the Eleventh Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education**

Pursuant to item 8 of Annex I to the General Guidelines for Ministerial-level Sectoral Processes within the Framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), once the corresponding inter-American committee has defined the topic for the next ministerial meeting, the member state interested in hosting the event shall express its intent by means of a note to the OAS General Secretariat, via its Permanent Mission, indicating the venue and the exact dates (days, month, and year) planned for the meeting. The General Secretariat will inform the Chair of CIDI so that CIDI can finalize the convocation. If no formal announcement is received, the Committee may request that CIDI convene the ministerial meeting at OAS headquarters.

As a result of this meeting, it is expected that member states agree on the topics of the XI Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education and provide the Secretariat guidelines for preparing the preliminary draft annotated agenda, draft declaration, and draft plan of action. These guidelines may reiterate or revise/adjust the priorities established for prior ministerial meetings.

1. **PURPOSE OF THE MEETING[[1]](#footnote-2)/**

The purpose of the meeting, as provided for in the General Guidelines for Ministerial-level Sectoral Processes, is: (i) to analyze the progress and implementation of the ministerial mandates (implementation of the Plan of Action and Work Plan); (ii) analyze regional trends in this sector and the relevance of the work of the OAS in the priority areas; (iii) agree on the topic(s) of the next ministerial meeting and provide the Secretariat with guidelines for preparing the preliminary draft annotated agenda; (iv) receive formal offers to host the next ministerial meeting and forward them to CIDI for official approval and convocation. If no formal offer is received, the Committee may request CIDI to convene the ministerial meeting at OAS headquarters.

1. **EXPECTED OUTCOMES[[2]](#footnote-3)/**

Topics approved for the next ministerial meetings and guidelines provided to the Secretariat for the preparation of the preliminary draft annotated agenda and the draft declaration and plan of action. The guidelines may reiterate or revise/adjust priorities established at past ministerial meetings; definition of the venue and date of the next ministerial meeting; analysis of progress in implementing ministerial mandates and recommendations for adjusting the work plan if necessary.

1. **MEETING STRUCTURE**

The meeting will further the momentum initiated during the process of the ministerial cycle with sector authorities and will base its discussion on findings, lessons learned, common challenges, and proposals for action that have been shared since the approval of the CIE Work Plan in July 2020.

In this connection, the countries that have spearheaded these activities have submitted for consideration by delegations the working documents that systematize the topics discussed in these forums for sector policy dialogue over the last 18 months. The Secretariat will soon distribute those working documents for delegations’ consideration. Furthermore, the Technical Secretariat will provide a status report on progress in implementing the CIE 2019-2022 Work Plan mandates received and under execution in the context of the pandemic and in the framework of the Hemispheric Action Plan for the Continuity of Education (PHACE).

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1. . 2019-2022 Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Education, document CIDI/CIE/RPA/doc.9/20 rev.3 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. . 2019-2022 Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Education, document CIDI/CIE/RPA/doc.9/20 rev.3 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)