OEA/Ser.W

CIDI/INF.399/21

14 January 2021

Original: Spanish

NOTE FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA, CONVEYING THE PROPOSED THEME AND PROPOSED TOPICS FOR THE XXI INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF

MINISTERS OF LABOR, SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

***PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC***

***TO THE***

***ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES***

**OEA 219**

The Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic to the OAS presents its compliments to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) and, on behalf of the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of Argentina, has the honor to forward herewith Argentina's proposal for the theme and topics for the XXI Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor, scheduled to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September 2021.

Accordingly, the Mission kindly requests that this matter be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI).

The Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic to the Organization of American States avails itself of this opportunity to convey to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C., December 18, 2020

To the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI)

Organization of American States

Washington, D.C.

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE

XXI INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF LABOR (IACML)

OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

(Presented by the delegation of Argentina)

**THEME OF THE XXI IACML:Building a more resilient world of work with sustainable development, dignified employment, and social inclusion**

**TOPICS:**

1. **The contribution of the world of work to post-COVID-19 recovery and to the building of more resilient, just, and equitable societies**

* This includes:
* Active policies to reduce and/or eliminate inequality, poverty, unemployment, and job insecurity post-COVID-19; breaking the COVID-19 inertia that produces inequality
* Strengthening, universalization, and substantive changes toward inclusion in social security and social protection
* Combating inequality in all its dimensions: income, access to opportunities, and rights, education, gender
* Labor inclusion and non-discrimination in the world of work; redirecting efforts towards serving the most vulnerable populations
* Active strategies and policies to formalize employment and reduce/eliminate the informal economy
* Promotion of sustainable enterprises
* Coordination involving labor ministries, social actors of the world of work, and civil society organizations
* Boosting regional integration in value chains to create and guarantee decent work.
* Special and separate sub-theme:
  + Gender-specific effects of COVID-19
  + Gender equality, inclusion of women in the labor market on an equal footing and without any form of violence, empowerment of women
  + Sharing of housework and sharing of responsibilities
  + Active policies to develop and formalize the care-giving economy

1. **Better coordination of the economy, education, health, and labor to face the effects of the crisis and achieve the future of work we want**

* This includes:
* Coordination and cohesion of macroeconomic, labor, health, and employment policies to tackle the economic crisis, restore jobs, and ensure full recovery in the medium term with decent work and sustainable enterprises
* Strengthening occupational health and safety, reinforcing a preventive approach; updating of protocols and regulations for dealing with health emergencies
* Lifelong learning; development of relevant skills, including soft skills, for a changing world of work
* Technical and vocational education and training (TVET); job training; the role of new technologies in education and training
* Youth employment; employment services
* Coordination between professional training and the formal education system; entrepreneurship
* Linking labor demand and training supply; national and regional qualification frameworks.

1. **Social dialogue to recover from the crisis and secure a future of work with social justice**

* This includes:
* Social dialogue as an anchor for solutions to revive the economy and jobs post COVID-19
* Social dialogue in public policy formulation, as a driver of trust between the government and social actors
* Social dialogue for effective compliance of fundamental principles and rights at work
* Social dialogue to strengthen sustainable enterprises and responsible business conduct
* Social dialogue as a conflict resolution mechanism;

1. **Strengthening ministries of labor to address emerging changes in the world of work and the effects of the pandemic**

* This includes:
* The role of the ministries of labor in reviewing, formulating, and adjusting public policies on employment and labor
* Training and building human capacity; challenges faced by ministries in light of new forms of work, especially teleworking
* Fostering regional cooperation in areas and issues related to the future of work (skills development, technologies, sustainability of social security)
* Enforcement of labor laws and effective observance of fundamental principles and rights at work (freedom of association, trade union freedoms; effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labor; effective abolition of child labor; and elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation)
* Promotion of social inclusion policies for children and adolescents through education and integrated support policies
* Labor migration
* Labor inspection, including enhanced inspection in view of increasing levels of insecurity stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, and new forms of work (teleworking, digital platforms, etc.)
* Drafting of legislation to address the issue of teleworking, work via digital platforms, alternating workplaces, and working remotely, designed and implemented with the participation of unions, employers, and government.

CIDRP03058E04