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CONCEPT NOTE

Regular meeting of THE

Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI)

25 JANUARY 2022

(Prepared by the Chair)

THEME: **The role of the OAS in a sustainable and inclusive post-COVID-19 recovery in the region**

1. **Background/Justification**

As we begin the activities of the first semester of 2022 for the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), it is relevant to consider where we are today in the context of the ongoing challenges presented by the COVID-19. While the pandemic has impacted member states in many ways, there are concerns and realities that are common to all member states of the Organization of American States (OAS).

We are well aware that our region is the most unequal and among the most significantly hit by the socio-economic effects of the pandemic. Therefore, we now confront regression in the slight advances that had been made towards the 2030 Agenda, including economic inequality, lack of effective social protection mechanisms, inadequate access to education and technology. To this, we should add the particular risk faced by our region from its exposure to the effects of climate change and natural disasters.

These factors are beyond the control of our countries individually and lead us to an understanding that we must come together in collective and integral efforts. In this context, multilateral spaces can provide platforms for conversations based on our countries’ realities, collaborative spirits, and solidarity, to design new dynamics through which we can support regional development objectives rather than just national or individual efforts.

From its inception, CIDI has been in the position to promote cooperation based on solidarity between member states to support integral development. As Chair of CIDI for the January-June 2022 period, Panama (the “Chair”) recognizes the importance of engaging member states at the highest levels in the discussions and work that arises from the CIDI agenda. Furthermore, faced with the challenges in resources and the importance of promoting an institutional approach that is more efficient and collaborative, the work during this semester can be premised on an inclusive approach, that looks to connect efforts and insights from across areas of the OAS, to exchange, cooperate, provide tools, and support the work of CIDI.

1. **Purpose of the meeting**

The first meeting of CIDI of 2022 will serve as an opportunity for the Chair to set the tone for the CIDI deliberations that will take place during the semester, by introducing thematic areas, and inviting other areas of the Organization to participate in the work of CIDI throughout this cycle. The meeting will also address procedural matters including the presentation of reports of meetings of ministers and high-level authorities held in 2021

1. **Structure of the meeting**

The first part of the meeting will focus on procedural matters. For the second part of the meeting, the Chair will invite SEDI to conduct a panel/discussion with other areas of the OAS to highlight how the work in development and CIDI agenda connects with the work of other areas, as well as the challenges, and proposed focus of those areas on topics pertaining to integral development.

Member states will be invited to share experiences on their work on CIDI agenda during 2021, lessons learned and their perspectives of the most salient upcoming topics, guided by the Chair. The floor will also be open to delegations that wish to provide feedback, make suggestions based on their national or regional experiences, and offer to collaborate on the proposed work plan.

 Following the presentation of reports a panel discussion will ensue on CIDI agenda connection with other areas of the OAS Secretariat. The panel discussion will be moderated by the Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Mrs. Kim Osborne.

 **Panel/discussion**

* The Executive Secretary for Integral Development will introduce the work of SEDI and will invite each area listed below to indicate how they will contribute to the discussions and deliberations of CIDI over the semester.

* SEDI: Mrs. Kim Osborne: introduction to the work and relevance of CIDI, thematic areas that will be addressed in CIDI’s upcoming meetings for the first semester of 2022 as outlined by the CIDI Chair. The presentation will focus on the most salient challenges faces by the region and SEDI’s current activities to address them.
* Panelists:
* CIM – Ms. Alejandra Mora Mora – Executive Secretary Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), OAS. – Outlook on the current situation of women in the context of challenges for development in the region, and the potential role that women can have in efforts of recovery and building resilience following COVID–19.
* SARE – Ms. Maricarmen Plata – OAS Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity – Introduction to thematic areas of social development and migration and how best to address challenges within the context of CIDI.
* REDESCA – Ms. Soledad García Muñoz - Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights (SRESCER), Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, OAS. – Importance of a multidimensional approach to recovery and building resilience, that incorporates proposed initiatives to connect the work of the inter-American system that places a focus on ESCER.
1. **Outcome of the meeting**

It is expected that the session will contribute:

1. With inputs from member states, to prioritize the main topics proposed in the Draft Work Plan to be covered during this semester’s CIDI sessions, according to their relevance for the region at this time.
2. To showcase the work methodology that looks to create a collaborative environment to ensure efficiency and broaden the scope of what the OAS can provide as a key player in multilateral efforts to promote development.
3. To encourage member states to become more engaged with the work of CIDI by providing opportunities for high level discussions, cooperation initiatives and collaboration on issues that are of collective importance.

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