



For Official Purposes

Conferencia Interamericana de Seguridad Social

Inter-American Conference on Social Security

Conferência Interamericana de Seguridade Social

January 17th, 2019

English – Original Version in Spanish

RECORD

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

PERMANENT COMMITTEE

MEXICO CITY

English – Original Version in Spanish

**2019 INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL SECURITY PERMANENT
COMMITTEE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

On January 17th, 2019 at 11:03 hours, the following people, in the capacity of members of the Committee, met in order to hold the Extraordinary Meeting of the Inter-American Conference on Social Security (CISS) Permanent Committee: In person: Mr. Adalberto Mendez Lopez as proxy of the Conference Chairman Mr. German Martinez Cazares appeared as to chair the Permanent Committee Extraordinary Meeting. This act is verified via the Appointment Letter attached hereto for any and all applicable purposes; Mr. Alejo Maxit on behalf of Vice-President Emilio Basavilbaso; Sub-Region II Central America Coordinator Ms. Vilma Morales Montalvan; Sub-Region V Mexico and Spanish-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator Ms. Yamira Yusimi Campos Suarez; Associate Members Representative Mr. Jorge D'Angelo; CISS Controller Mr. Eduard del Villar; and Inter-American Center for Social Security Studies (CIESS) Director Mr. Reginald Thomas. The following people joined the Meeting remotely via Videoconference: Ms. Lupe Velasco on behalf of Vice-President Mr. Juan Carlos Novoa Flor; Mr. Cristian Olivares on behalf of Sub-Region III Southern Cone Coordinator Ms. Maria Jose Zaldivar; and Sub-Region IV North America and English-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator Mr. Timothy A. Hodge.

1. Quorum Check

As the first item on the Agenda, the Chairman Representative asked Acting Secretary General and Secretary of this Committee Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes to check the quorum as to hold the meeting pursuant to the provision in Article 16, Sub-Section III, of the CISS Permanent Committee Rules.

Taking the floor, Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes concluded that the required quorum quota was met as to hold the meeting since eight voting members were in attendance, with five of them attending in person and three others attending the meeting remotely.

2. Permanent Committee Agenda Approval

This item involved reading the Agenda proposed for the Meeting, which is as follows:

AGENDA

1. Quorum Check
2. Agenda Approval
3. Permanent Committee Members Introduction
4. CISS Chairman's Welcoming Remarks
5. Formal Appointment of Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes as Acting Secretary General
6. Acting Secretary General's 2019 Work Program
7. Reviewing Committee's Works on the Secretariat General Rules
8. Acknowledgment to Mr. Omar de la Torre for his work as Secretary General
9. Date and Venue for the Next Meeting of the Permanent Committee and General Meeting
10. Miscellaneous
11. Meeting Closure

The Chairman's Representative submitted the following Decision for consideration:

DECISION ONE: The Permanent Committee approved the Agenda.

The Chairman's Representative asked the Acting Secretary General, in his capacity of the Meeting Secretary, to report the results of the voting process.

Decision approved.

3. Permanent Committee Members Introduction

To transact this item of the Agenda, the Chairman's Representative asked the members of the Permanent Committee to take the floor as to introduce themselves.

Attendees Introductions:

1. Mr. Eduard del Villar – National Board of Social Security (CNSS) of the Dominican Republic Deputy General Manager and CISS Controller.
2. Ms. Yusimi Campos Suarez – Deputy Minister of Social Security of the Ministry of Labor

and Social Security of Cuba and Sub-Region V Mexico and Spanish-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator.

3. Ms. Vilma Morales Montalvan – President of the Honduran Institute of Social Security and Sub-Region II Central America Coordinator
4. Mr. Jorge D’Angelo – Honorary President of Mutual Agent Association of Senior Citizenship Organisms (AMAOTE) and Member States Representative.
5. Mr. Reginald Thomas – Inter-American Center of Social Security Studies Director.
6. Mr. Alejo Maxit, on behalf of Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso – Executive Director of the National Administration of Social Security (ANSES) of Argentina and CISSS Deputy Chairman
7. Mr. Cristian Olivares, on behalf of Ms. Maria Jose Zaldivar – Deputy Minister of Social Security of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security of Chile and Sub-Region III Southern Cone Coordinator.
8. Ms. Lupe Velasco, on behalf of Mr. Juan Carlos Novoa Flor – Ecuador Banks Superintendent and CISS Deputy Chairman.
9. Mr. Timothy Hodge – Director of the Social Security Board of Anguilla and Sub-Region IV North America and English-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator.

4. CISS Chairman’s Welcoming Remarks

Taking the floor, Mr. Adalberto Mendez Lopes, on behalf of the Inter-American Conference on Social Security Chairman Mr. German Martinez Cazares, stated his support to the new Secretary General and emphasized that Mexico and Latin America were experiencing a transformation in terms of social security. Furthermore, Mr. Mendez Lopez said that CISS is spearheading on this arena. Moreover, Mr. Mendez Lopez said that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, where the human right to social security is recognized, is effectively a mandate that safeguards people welfare and wellbeing. That was the reason why it was important to empower the Inter-American Conference on Social Security. Mr. Mendez Lopez also praised the new Acting Secretary General for his natural talents as a negotiator, as well as his humane, political and technical virtues as one of the best Mexican political scientists of the last decade.

5. Formal Appointment of Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes as Acting Secretary General

Taking the floor, Mr. Adalberto Mendez Lopez mentioned the Communication CISS/P/006.2018 issued by the Inter-American Conference on Social Security Chairman Mr. German Martinez

Cazares, whereby it was informed that Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes had been appointed as Acting Secretary General in order to complete the 2017-2019 term.

Mr. Mendez Lopez said that was the results of the positive comments expressed by the members of this Committee, which are listed in item five of the file that was made available to everyone in both its hard and digital versions so they could check it for the entire duration of the Meeting.

Then, Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes was formally appointed as new Acting Secretary General in front of this Permanent Committee, and Mr. Mendez Lopez opened the floor in case any of the attendees wanted to say something.

6. Acting Secretary General' 2019 Work Program

For item six of the Agenda, Mr. Adalberto Mendez Lopez, on behalf of the Permanent Committee Chairman, asked the Conference Acting Secretary General Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes to submit the Secretariat General 2019 Work Program for consideration.

The Acting General Secretary thanked each and every single one of the attendees, and proceeded to present the program, stating that works would be continued on some strategic lines set by the previous administration, working under the international organization's agreement in the widest sense of the term, which is no other than a sense of welfare and wellbeing. Mr. Ramirez Reyes also said that the plain will be submitted to the members of the Permanent Committee for discussion.

The Acting Secretary General said that the program includes eight items, all of which revolve around developing personal capabilities and a strong institutional identity in order to complete research and technical assistance projects.

2019 WORK PLAN OVERVIEW – GENERAL ACTIVITIES

General Activity 1

Develop the 2030 Agenda on Social Security for the Americas. Systematize and find relevant pathways to set public policies aimed at addressing each of the countries' public policies considered priorities, positioning the agendas from the affiliate institutions.

Assess the continuous social security reporting IT system that will be created based on the information made available by the members in order to create a single go-to resource.

CISS Mapping. Create a user-friendly platform that does not require buying licenses and is found useful by the academia and the general public.

Create systematized technical assistance. Systematize information from technical assistance projects that have already been completed and any experiences the members would like to share. Regardless of their own differences, all the people involved are to present contributions to solve problems, irrespective of their own personal social security model.

Create the Inter-American Network on Social Security. This network will gather institutions and the academia so that sufficient intellectual human capital is available in order to face the different challenges experienced in our countries. Moreover, engage people with enough technical experience and know-how in social security matters. This is intended to build rapport with and integrate them in the works made by our countries as to build new relationships.

General Activity 2

Solidify thematic documents. Create reports on the 2030 Agenda that will be mainly created for the first two quarters. Furthermore, reintroduce one of the CISS Products: Social Security in the Americas Reports, focused on wellbeing and centered around successful public policy endeavors with relevant takeaways about what is happening in our countries. Also, develop the first stage of the Disaster Relief Protocol in order to share successful experiences that will be shared with the other members.

General Activity 3

Information Dissemination and Spaces. Continue the Inter-American Pensions Forum as this is a relevant topic for all the countries in the Americas given the demography of all of our countries. Hold events such as the Permanent Wellbeing and Welfare Seminar of the Americas – meeting as of March 2019 –, and organize Forums of the Inter-American Commissions on Social Security.

General Activity 4

Continue with the reach-out efforts that have already been deployed, such as the framework agreements, and strive for executing specific agreements, especially with OPS, SOCIEUX and ECLAC, and enforce the agreements executed with SELA and the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the OECD. Moreover, a cooperation and affiliation document repository will be created.

The Acting Secretary General emphasized the intent of the Inter-American Project, inviting all the countries in the Americas to join CISS irrespective of political orientations since CISS is a place for dialogue and mediation. Furthermore, the Acting Secretary General said that Social Security is the main paradigm in the center of mediating wellbeing and welfare. Therefore, it is important that the international sphere is shown all the things we have in common, in addition to providing input for the sake of wellbeing and welfare in each country.

General Activity 5

Reach out efforts made by the Secretary General to connect with the members of the Conference and the statutory bodies. A Work Plan will be created with the American Commissions on Social Security and the Sub-Regions. Such plan will list pathways to strengthen our works via six diagnosis that will allow us to learn how proposals should be created and further developed.

General Activity 6

Assess the CISS Pilot Office and Decentralization Model.

General Activity 7

Digital strategy and communication plan. Create the *Revista Bienestar* (Wellbeing and Welfare Magazine) as a specialized publication that has the most stringent assessment system and deals with the most pressing topics of debate from a perspective of dialogue with the big institutions and international organizations. Also, create the *Gaceta de la CISS* (CISS Journal) so all the members are informed about the activities done by the CISS and member institutions see that has been made successfully.

General Activity 8

Institutional strength. It is important to share successful experiences. This is intended to give way to a significant improvement in partnering and reach-out. Recover a historical memory of works completed by the CISS. Create a repository for the historical memory about all the most important social security initiatives in the Americas. Streamline the works done by the Reviewing Commission for amend the Rules.

The Chairman's Representative thanked the Acting Secretary General for his presentation, and proceeded to ask to the members of the Committee if anyone wanted to comment.

Permanent Committee Members' Presentations.

Social Security Board Director of Anguilla Mr. Timothy Hodge asked about the progress made in organizing and developing the contents for the Inter-American Forum on Pensions, which would take place on March 26th and 27th, 2019. Mr. Hodge particularly expressed his concerns of not seeing officers or directors of social security institutions in the list of participants. In that regard, Mr. Hodge suggested and all the material and contents for the Forum was to be translated into English. Mr. Hodge also mentioned the importance of including all of the English-Speaking Caribbean countries. Project Director Mr. Jose Antonio Hernandez Sanchez said that the progress made by the previous administration in terms of the Forum's organization was picked up again, and new proposals would be taken into account.

Mr. Jorge D'Angelo proposed to put the Pensions Forum date off to 2020. Conversely, Mr. Alejo Maxit thought that the best option was not putting the date off as it was necessary to continue with the timeline listed in the November 2018 Work Plan (previous Permanent Committee meeting). Mr. Jorge D'Angelo's proposal was submitted to voting and was approved by the great majority. It was concluded that the Secretariat General had to suggest a new date to hold the Pension Forum. Moreover, Acting Secretary General Mr. Gibran Ramirez added to the proposal and said that the relevant topics would still be discussed, and that is why the Permanent Welfare and Wellbeing Seminar would take place in March 2019.

Later on, CISS Controller Mr. Eduard del Villar mentioned that the plan was methodologically correct since it had been created under a structured work planning and continued working on the activities that had been approved in the November 2018 Work Plan and the 75th Anniversary Meeting. However, Mr. del Villar said it was necessary to add the preparations for the next session of the

General Meeting (2019) to the Work Plan, plus new relevant activities, such as picking up Social Security Reports once again. Mr. del Villar congratulated the Acting Secretary General on his vision about the importance the CISS Historical Memory had as the Ibero-American Code of Social Security states that social security is ever-changing in nature. In this regard, the historical memory helps learn other systems' good practices. In other words, the historical memory would be a valuable asset. Additionally, Mr. del Villar said that CISS added value is learning from what other countries have through the CISS Discussion Fora as this would allow us not making the same mistakes twice. Mr. del Villar also emphasized the importance of strengthening institutionality and concluded that CISS should particularly be the bridge that helps countries.

In this sense, Acting Secretary General Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes proposed to add item 8.5 "General Meeting Organization." This proposal was approved.

Additionally, Sub-Region Central America Coordinator Ms. Vilma Morales Montalvan agreed with their Work Place since it takes significant matters listed in the Strategic Plan, in addition to new ideas that will give way to a new institutional mechanics within CISS. Ms. Morales Montalvan said that it was a good thing that the Work plan would include an item about institutional strength as to review the amendments to the rules.

Finally, CISS Director Mr. Reginald Thomas said that all the work that was still pending would have his support. Mr. Thomas also recognized the effort made in the Work Plan and said that there are challenges emerging in the hemisphere in regards to the poorest countries. Mr. Thomas expressed his support to the proposals listed in the Social Security Indexes and Report, always referring to the Cancun Declaration. Mr. Thomas also said it was important to pay special attention to the lack of public policies, the challenges faced both in social security and operativeness, particularly in the Caribbean region, and social ostracism, that entails negative impacts and results in the lack of appropriate public policies.

The Acting Secretary General thanked for being given the floor and consider his intervention completed.

Since there were not any other comments, the Chairman's Representative submitted the next Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration.

DECISION TWO. The Permanent Committee hereby considers the 2019 Work Program as presented. Furthermore, it was agreed that the revisions that would be implemented to the Work Plan, which had already been mentioned during the interventions, had been included in the relevant record.

The Chairman's Representative asked the Acting Secretary General, in his capacity of the Meeting Secretary, to report the results of the voting process.

Decision approved.

7. Reviewing Committee's Works on the Secretariat General Rules

Mr. Adalberto Mendez, on behalf of the Permanent Committee Chairman, asked the Acting Secretary General to address the next item in the Agenda.

Acting Secretary General Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes thanked for having been given the floor and proceeded to report that the Secretariat General had received a proposal for the Rules, which was created by the previous administration. Such proposal was still being under review. In case the Acting Secretary General had any comments, the Permanent Committee would receive a communication.

Permanent Committee Members' Presentations.

As a participant of the Reviewing Commission, Mr. Jorge D'Angelo mentioned that all the new suggestions would be taken into consideration as it is important to tackle the new reality and react accordingly. CISS Director Mr. Reginald Thomas also said a Reviewing Commission Secretary should be appointed. Ms. Yamira Yusimi Campos Suarez nominated Mr. D'Angelo as the Commission's Secretary. Such proposal was approved by the Permanent Committee.

The Acting Secretary General thanked for being given the floor and consider his intervention completed.

Since there were not any other comments, the Chairman's Representative submitted the next Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration.

DECISION THREE. The Permanent Committee approved Mr. Jorge D'Angelo appointment as Secretary of the Reviewing Commission of the Secretariat General Rules in order to start working.

The Chairman's Representative asked the Acting Secretary General, in his capacity of the Meeting Secretary, to report the results of the voting process.

Decision approved.

8. Acknowledgment to Mr. Omar de la Torre de la Mora for his work as Secretary General

Mr. Adalberto Mendez, on behalf of the Permanent Committee Chairman, gave the floor to the Acting Secretary General in order to transact the next item in the Agenda.

Upon the Permanent Committee's request, the Acting Secretary General acknowledge the former Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre, particularly for three reasons: 1) The efforts made to strengthen the institution, which are yet to crystallize; 2) Strategic planning; and 3) all the room for improvement this International Organization has yet to work on.

Permanent Committee Members' Presentations.

Mr. Jorge D'Angelo asked the Acting Secretary General to draft a note that would be eventually sent to Mr. Omar de la Torre thanking him for his tenure as CISS Secretary General.

The Acting Secretary General Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes would send an acknowledgement note to Mr. Omar de la Torre.

9. Date and Venue for the Next Meeting of the Permanent Committee and General Meeting

Mr. Adalberto Mendez, on behalf of the Permanent Committee Chairman, gave the floor to the Acting Secretary General.

Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes, in consideration of the agreement reached during the November 10th, 2018 Meeting, proposed that the Permanent Committee and the

General Meeting met on September 20th, 2019 in Mexico City, where the CISS headquarters are located.

The Secretary submitted the proposal for the Committee's consideration.

Since there were not any other comments, the Chairman's Representative submitted the next Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration.

DECISION FOUR. The members of the Permanent Committee approved that the Permanent Committee and the General Meeting met on September 20th, 2019 at CISS headquarters in Mexico City.

The Chairman's Representative asked the Acting Secretary General, in his capacity of the Meeting Secretary, to report the results of the voting process.

Decision approved.

10. Miscellaneous

Mr. Adalberto Mendez, on behalf of the Permanent Committee Chairman, gave the floor to the Acting Secretary General in order to transact the next item in the Agenda.

Using the floor, the Committee Secretary asked all the attendees if they had any other item they wished to transact under Miscellaneous, for which Mr. Jorge D'Angelo asked for the floor.

Mr. D'Angelo said that it was necessary to reach an agreement in terms of how frequently the Permanent Committee would meet all the way through the next date of the Permanent Committee Ordinary Meeting session.

The Acting Secretary General thanked Mr. D'Angelo for bringing that up and said he would send a frequency proposal in February, at its latest.

Since there were not any other comments, the Chairman's Representative submitted the next Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration.

DECISION FIVE. The members of the Permanent Committee approved the proposal of holding frequent meetings via virtual tools and the Secretariat General would send the schedule proposal in late February.

The Chairman's Representative asked the Acting Secretary General, in his capacity of the Meeting Secretary, to report the results of the voting process.

Decision approved.

Finally, as there were not any other items to discuss and having already transacted all the items listed in the Agenda, the Extraordinary Meeting of the Permanent Committee of the Inter-American Conference on Social Security was declared closed on January 17th, 2019 at 12:35 hours, pursuant to the provision in Article 17 Sub-Section VI of the Bylaws. This record has been sent to the members of the Permanent Committee for their consideration and authority has been bestowed upon Acting Secretary General Mr. Gibran Ramirez Reyes in his capacity of the Permanent Committee Secretary as to formalize this Permanent Committee Meeting Record with a Notary Public. -----
