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CISS/CP/O/01/2018

**Inter-American Conference on Social Security
Inter-American Conference on Social Security
Conferência Interamericana de Seguridade Social**

November 09th, 2018

English – Original Version in Spanish

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Permanent Committee Annual Ordinary Meeting

Record of the Permanent Committee Ordinary Meeting

November 9th, 2018

**English – Original
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INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL SECURITY (CISS) PERMANENT COMMITTEE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

In order to hold the Inter-American Conference on Social Security (CISS) Permanent Committee Extraordinary Meeting, the following members of such body met on November 9th, 2018 at 9:30 hours: Deputy Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso on behalf of the Conference's Chairman Mr. Tuffic Miguel Ortega, as per the provision in Article 20 of CISS Bylaws; Ms. Lupe Velasco on behalf of Deputy Chairman Mr. Juan Carlos Novoa flor; Sub-Region II Central America Coordinator Ms. Vilma C. Morales Montalvan; Sub-Region III Southern Cone Ms. Maria Jose Zaldivar duly represented by Mr. Christian Olivares; Sub-Region IV North America and English-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator Mr. Timothy A. Hodge; Associate Members Representative Mr. Jorge Isaac D'Angelo; Sub-Region I Andean Coordinator Mr. Miguel Angel Cardozo Tovar duly represented by Ms. Natalie Bernal who participated via video conference; Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre de la Mora; Controller Mr. Eduard del Villar Liranzo; and Inter-American Center of Social Security Studies Director Mr. Reginald Thomas.

Using the floor, the Inter-American Conference on Social Security and Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre said that, pursuant to the provisions in the regulations, the meeting would be chaired by Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso in his capacity of Acting Deputy Chairman. He then proceeded to thank him for joining us and acknowledged his efforts to formally hold the Permanent Committee meeting as per all the due protocols and provisions.

In his capacity of Permanent Committee Chairman, Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked Mr. Omar de la Torre for his words and mentioned he was honored to chair the meetings. He took the opportunity to thank Mr. Reginald Thomas for the excellent presentation he had made before the CISS Board of Directors.

He said that there is an actual solid progress made in terms of the matters pertaining to the Conference, especially regarding the training sessions that would take place in 2019 whereby several matters important for several countries would be addressed. He recognized the work he had been doing and said he was confident that it would only grow stronger.

Later on, he proceeded to inform the Committee that, given that the Conference Chairman Mr. Tuffic Miguel Ortega was absent, and pursuant to Article 20 of the CISS Bylaws and Article 14 of the Permanent committee Rules, he would be chairing the meeting as he was the acting Deputy Chairman.

He then proceeded to welcome the members to the Inter-American Conference on Social Security Permanent Committee Annual Ordinary Meeting. Moreover, he took the opportunity to thank him for his presence and participation in the ordinary meeting as it was crucial to follow through to the commitments assumed during the last meeting of this governing body, which took place last November 10th, 2017. Such meeting saw that some commitments were reached that had allowed us to strengthen the Conference's works to develop social security and protection systems across the countries in the Americas.

The Chairman asked the Conference Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre to check the quorum as to hold the meeting, pursuant to the provisions in Article 16 of the Permanent Committee Rules.

Using the floor, the Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre said that seven voting members were in attendance. Therefore, the required quorum to hold the meeting was met as per the provisions in Article 17 of the Permanent Committee Rules.

The Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked the Secretary for his words and confirmed that the required quorum was met as to hold the meeting. Additionally, Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso confirmed the meeting had the necessary quorum and asked all the attendees to actively participate with comments and remarks.

1. Agenda

For item number one of the Agenda, Permanent Committee Secretary and Conference Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre proceeded to read the agenda that was proposed for the meeting, which was:

AGENDA

1. Agenda Approval.

2. Read and approve the November 10th, 2017 Permanent Committee Ordinary Meeting Record.
3. Inter-American Center of Social Security Studies (CIESS) 2019 Activities Report, Work Program and Budget Project.
4. Report on activities and finances by the Secretariat General.
5. Controller's Annual Report.
6. Work Program and Budget Project for 2019 by the Secretariat General.
7. Miscellaneous.
8. Date and Venue for the Next Meeting of the Permanent Committee.
9. Chairman's Remarks and Session Closure.

The Chairman submitted the following Decision for consideration:

Decision One. The Permanent Committee approved the Agenda.

In his capacity of Meeting Secretary, the Secretary General was asked to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre asked the members to cast their votes. This decision was approved.

2. Reading and Approval of the Record of the November 10th, 2017 Permanent Committee Ordinary Meeting.

To transact the next item in the Agenda, the Chairman asked that the record should be voted, skipping the part of reading it, as it had already been sent to the members of the Committee in October 2018.

The Chairman submitted the following Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration:

Decision Two. The members of the Permanent Committee fully approved the record of the November 10th, 2017 Permanent Committee Ordinary Meeting held in Mexico City, as per the provisions in Article 16, item 1) of the Conference Bylaws.

In his capacity of Meeting Secretary, the Secretary General was asked once more to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre said that the record of the 2017 Permanent Committee Annual Ordinary Meeting had been approved by the members of the Permanent Committee.

3. Inter-American Center of Social Security Studies (CISS) 2019 Activities Report, Work Program and Budget Project.

For the next item in the Agenda and in his capacity of Permanent Committee Chairman, Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso asked the Inter-American Center of Social Security Studies Director Mr. Reginald Thomas, pursuant to the provisions in Article 27, items j) and k) of the Conference Bylaws, to submit the 2018 Activities Report, as well as the 2019 Work Program and Budget Project of the Inter-American Center of Social Security Studies (CISS) for the Permanent Committee's consideration. These documents had already been sent to the members of the Committee. Therefore, his presentation would only focus on discussing their highlights due to the time constraints there were to transact this item during the meeting.

Using the floor, Mr. Reginald Thomas said he felt honored to submit the summarized version of the report since it had already been presented to the CISS Board of Directors the day before for approval purposes. As an introduction, Mr. Thomas said to all the people in attendance that after 55 years since CISS had been created, it had impacted and been involved with all the member countries, among many others, as it had completed 1,675+ activities and trained 852K+ people.

Mr. Thomas said that there are many global challenges to face, that the Conference itself has been around for 75 years while the Center was also being renewed as a result of the Cancun Declaration. The renovation bolstered that should be developed through social security and protection. In this regard, environmental matters highlighted that social protection is an instrument for social wellbeing and welfare and peace within our Institution. This is due to the fact that we tried to be in a good position during the last year so that we could assess and face the critical challenges posed by the 2017 works, especially because these works were related to the Sustainable Development Goals the different countries in the Americas had.

After presenting this background information, the Chairman and the members of the Permanent Committee would be presented with a summary of all the 2017 and 2018 activities, and a presentation would revolve around an overview of what our pathway is, where we were standing, and why we were following that pathway.

He mentioned that 428 courses had been taught across the entire hemisphere, which included onsite activities for different post-graduate workshops and studies. Additionally, he mentioned how important the costs of e-learning were, as this was

a program that started in El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, and Antigua and Barbuda. Furthermore, there were 82 students receiving training in the Dominican Republic while the students from El Salvador and Antigua and Barbuda had been referred and received training.

He mentioned that CIEES needed to build more strategic partnerships with the members and the presentation would revolve around a summary of the visits that had been paid to the afore-mentioned countries.

The results showed that we were found to be much closer to our countries in the hemisphere and had a much more deeper understanding of the needs and how we should position the Center of Social Security Studies. In this regard, the Master's programs had proved to be very fruitful.

For the budget, he reported that 1.97M had been approved, out of which 6.4% were for 2017. That was why an excellent performance was seen. In that regard, he showed a comparative chart for 1Q17 and 1Q18 (Exhibit 1).

He proceeded to explain how these forecasts should be protected (Exhibit 2), and showed that for the USD 1,790M Budget, 699,913 had been spent as of June this year. He also said that the closure is expected to be of USD 1,632M by late December. He further said that this was taken carefully to make sure the budget was used in such a way that more would be done with less.

He highlighted the fact that the Committee had shown what it is like to be an organization in the center of constant change, progress and strategies. That was why CIESS had been capitalizing on this to reposition the Institute.

He said that the required results would be obtained. Therefore, the administrative efforts aimed at ensuring that this partnership improved the level of personnel distinction and resources used, how efficiency was being handled, how the quality of the activities was being ensured, and how the organization had been operating all in all. He also commented that if the afore-mentioned matters were not listed as top priorities, it would be impossible to meet the goals. Furthermore, he discussed the assessment process where strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats had been detected. That was why we had several opportunities to repackage the Center and be consistent with the mandates.

For the strategic administrative measures that had been adopted, an effective update of the communication plan had been put in place, which would help define how we are supposed to speak and share information with the countries as to highlight the most important point and stay in touch with all of them. Moreover, there is a code of Conduct in place to see how CIESS is represented across all countries that must be compliant with international standards.

Finally, he discussed the effort to create a work plan, aiming at contributing to the Conference's strategic goal. In that regard, the 2017-2023 Strategic Plan was presented, which consisted of four critical pillars:

- 1) Relationships and Partnerships – The strategic goal is to position CIESS as the main Inter-American institution in terms of training, teaching and knowledge development in social security-related matters.
- 2) Internal Control and Organization – It is intended to align the CIESS operations as a consistent governing model to the best international practices.
- 3) Research, Training, and Professional Education – It is mainly intended to build on capabilities, knowledge and gold standards.
- 4) Innovation – This intended to a) strengthen and position CIESS as a model of academic excellence through the use of new educational and IT technologies; and b) build a culture of rights, responsibilities and quality of life by designing state-of-the-art educational programs based on the use of innovative educational methodologies, new IT and communication technologies.

In addition to the strategic plan, the pillars, environment and assessments completed, he highlighted the importance of building partnerships as a supportive tool to have research that is all representative and top-notch. He further mentioned that the last two are the next steps to start recreating, repackaging, being held accountable, and providing solutions for the country members.

Next, Mr. Thomas proceed to present the accountability framework that shows planning, organization, and execution as an institutional foundation. Mr. Thomas told the Permanent Committee that they could rest assured of the commitment we had for 2019, which would start off with the efforts made by the staff and the work plan for the first half of the year based on the Board of Directors' approval and ratification. He further commented that the what he was presenting to the Permanent Committee

was the need to make CISS responsible and provide solutions to the different challenges that had been previously pinpointed.

Following through the mandate under the 2018 Cancun Declaration, he discussed the School Calendar. He started off by saying that the partnership sought after with the Caribbean, what we are trying to build is a special regime in Brazil, which would eventually focus on the Governance in Mexico City. He continued by saying that the Population course would be a sub-regional activity working on Migration, Mortality Rate and constructions. These are matters that are considered for social security purposes by institutes, something that will take place in Costa Rica while resilience and human security would be addressed at the Mexico City location. Additionally, he discussed the Financial Sustainability course that will be held in Ecuador while the Risk Management course will be taught in Mexico. He also said that the in-person block of the Worker Occupational Health and Safety and Work Environment Course is about to take place.

He said to the Committee that the Conference's work will not only be focused on courses as it will be deal with the fact of making sure that these special projects meet the country members' needs and built upon on a case-by-case basis.

He then proceeded to present the 2019 Work Program, discussing the special projects:

- 1) Library Improvement – It is intended to extend the online learning platform. He also said that the resources necessary to reorganize the library were already available, which would help improve the classification and access process. Additionally, the Center, along with the Argentinian National Administration of Social Security had started working on building a specialized social security library network through a single website where the online catalogs, digital repositories, and different IT services provided by each center would be listed.
- 2) E-Learning Platform – It is intended to improve the Online E-Learning Platform that will help extend the launching of the “Educando en Seguridad Social” (“Educating in Social Security”) courses. We are still waiting for the agreement with the International Labor Organization as to follow through the request for including the “Educando en Seguridad Social” (“Educating in Social Security”) course on the platform.

He further commented that we were looking to streamline sustainability among the country members. In this regard, it is important to report to the Permanent Committee that the role of this Institution has increased, which helps complete a review that had started in Antigua and Barbuda in October. Additionally, we were trying to extend the operating software platform. That is why we signed an agreement with Tec de Monterrey to work with IT tools that are actually useful based on the country members' needs as to eventually build a social security platform that is operational so that solutions could be proposed.

For the Caribbean region, he said that works had been started through an agreement signed with Bloomberg International in order to improve and ensure that the institutes understand the market needs.

For occupational risks, the Center has been spearheading in this arena. That is why a support security service will be made available at our location to safeguard for social protection and the databases of our countries.

He further commented that the last two items are related to sustainability. That is why we are trying to work with the International Labor Organization, where the country members are provided with a easily reachable tool that they can use to assess the Sustainable Development goals and contributions made to social security in order to make financial feasibility a reality.

For partnerships, he mentioned that the Center has entered into a new agreement to put a mechanism in place where key skills are available as to meet the specific needs of the country members that are part of the Permanent Committee.

He further mentioned some of the institutions that would work with us as partners, such as:

- 1) NY Rory Meyers College of Nursing. Intended to improve healthcare, nursing, leadership in healthcare and research on dementia in the Caribbean region.
- 2) Caribbean E-Risk Consultancy. Aimed at helping countries handle risks, strategic planning, compliance, and financial situations.
- 3) University of Fredericton. A Canadian institution that has all the ergonomics certificates necessary to work on management, occupational psychological problems, and resilience maximization at work.

- 4) Pacific Coast University. We have a Memorandum of Understanding in place so we can work on standardizing how to treat people with disabilities, occupational injuries and their impact, more engagement of people with disabilities in rehab courses, all of which could be adapted to the ministries and departments of occupational health and safety.
- 5) Canadian Centre of Occupational Health and Safety. We will work on online occupational health and safety courses that may be related to social security, the Department of Health, the Ministry of Health, ergonomics, mental health, and psychologically healthier work places.
- 6) Tec de Monterrey. The partnership focuses on designing an outreach platform between the citizens and his social security system in order to improve the coverage and place where they could pay their social security contributions.
- 7) Ever Co-Sourcing. Design of e-security for IT, program management, and disaster relief.
- 8) Fair All. It will provide IT support to CISS in current affairs; collaborating with Farrel Consulting.
- 9) Standards Council of Canada. It works on security standards through accreditation and assessment via academic activities.

It proposed improving operating efficiency, helping with the critical maintenance, providing solutions, and streamlining and maintaining the system's sustainability. It has been said that without social, security, there can be no peace. For this purpose it is necessary to improve coverage and platforms, face the emerging challenges, and increase how our members interact.

Process renewal has already produced results on ICT arena. Additionally, during this time, we were trying to improve IT resources and make them available for the Center. In this regard, we have strategic technology and partnerships to do more with less. For this reason, it was said that determination, and a strong and a stringent commitment are required. All of this will allow CISS to be repositioned and build strong and appealing relations as to provide solutions to our country members.

Mr. Reginald Thomas asked the Committee for their support and trust in the budget he had presented. He further added that the initiatives that were explained are listed in a final work. For the major functions, the priorities were laid out and a budget of 1,679,142 (one million, six hundred seventy-nine thousand, one-hundred forty-two

American Dollars) was defined. This is thanks to the earnings perceived in efficiency that are expected.

Finally, the CISS Director thanked the Permanent Committee for the opportunity of presenting the report.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Reginald Thomas for his presentation and then proceeded to ask the attendees if they had any comments.

Using the floor, Timothy Hodge greeted the members of the Permanent Committee and expressed his joy about the CISS report. He said that he would expect an alignment to take place so that the goals go through the countries' committees. He also added that Reginald Thomas has been very efficient in light of the budget he had presented, that is better than the one submitted last year. However, he asked to be informed about the percentage and how he had come up with that budget.

As a response, Mr. Reginald Thomas said that what he was presenting to the Permanent Committee was a crucial part and how it will be possible to identify costs that would be presented to the organization since it is not seen, as it will be reflected on the general statements. However, we had been asked specifically if we could include the number 1,679,142 (one million, six hundred seventy-nine thousand, one hundred forty-two American Dollars) as the total. That is our forecast for 2019. He further added that most of the income entries for the entities are still being discussed.

For the pensions in case of disabilities, he further commented that this matter would make more financial sense if rehabilitation was considered, which allowed them to return to work. For this reason, it is necessary that people receive specialized training in rehab. In this regard, the Center is considering the possibility of working on the disability assessment framework via tools for rescaling purposes.

He discussed the aspect of prosthetics with the members of the Permanent Committee, especially for the Caribbean region. There is an agreement signed by social security institutes and the German social security entity in order to provide prosthetics. He further mentioned that the Universidad de la Costa del Pacifico is the entity responsible for providing us with the prevention, protection and reintegration components. For this reason, he further added how relevant building a partnership with this institution was.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Timothy Hodge for his words and asked if any of the members wished to make any further comments. Since there were no further comments, the Chairman submitted the following Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration:

Decision Three. The member of the Permanent Committee hereby considers CISS Annual Report as submitted, along with the activities programs and 2019 budget, pursuant to the provisions in Article 27, item j); and Article 35, item f) of the Bylaws.

In his capacity of Meeting Secretary, the Secretary General was asked once more to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre de la Mora asked the members to cast their votes. The decision was approved.

4. Report on activities and finances by the Secretariat General.

To transact the next item in the Agenda, the Chairman asked Mr. Omar de la Torre to submit the Secretariat General Activities Report, which included the works report, the 2017 financial report, and the 2018 Preliminary Report, the 2017 Profit and Loss Balance, as well as the external audit report, pursuant to the provisions of Article 22, item g), of the Bylaws.

Using the floor, Conference Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre de la Mora thanked the Chairman and greeted all the members of the Committee who were in attendance: Controller Mr. Eduard del Villar; Inter-American Center of Studies Director Mr. Reginald Thomas; Ecuador VP Office Representative Ms. Lupe Velasco, and the Sub-Regions Coordinators: North America and English-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator Mr. Timothy Hodge; Central America Coordinator Ms. Vilma Morales; Southern Cone Coordination Representative MR. Christian Olivares; and Associate Members Representative Mr. Jorge D'Angelo. Additionally, he informed the Chairman about the participation of the Colombian Ministry of Labor Ms. Natalie Bernal, as a representative of the Andean Coordination, via videoconference. He greeted them all.

The Secretary General said he had sent the Conference Activities Report for the 2017-2018 period, which included details on the activities and progress made in such

period. In that regard, he proceeded to present an activity chart showing the activities that were developed.

He mentioned that we were making small progress since the 75th Anniversary of the Conference. It was an event that was put off due to a series of natural disasters where 27 out of 37 countries that are part of the Conference declared a state of emergency. This situation posed both an opportunity and a challenge for the conference, where we tried to have elements in place as to fully renew it and reposition CISS as the national spearhead on these matters.

For the Cancun Declaration, he said he saw the members' will reflected as to continue the Conference works, and to renew their commitment through a series of expressions of everything the countries had to face. This has paved a way to define how these problems could be addressed via a clear and straight-forward mandate for the Secretariat General all the way through the Conference central areas. He further said that this Declaration was unanimously approved and it reflected the guiding principles of social security: Solidarity, Universality, Engagement, Fairness, Integrity, and Joint Responsibility.

The Secretary further discussed deconcentrating the Conference services, thus compliant with the 2016 Permanent Committee mandate to open – for the first time – a regional office. He also thanked, on behalf of the Conference, the Argentine Government, particularly the National Administration of Social Security (ANSES) and Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso for making this office a reality. He also said that the Associate Member Representative Mr. Jorge D'Angelo had been appointed as the head of that office, commenting that this project would be working as a pilot program. He further said that this is an effort that will be reported to the General Meeting the next year. In that case, a decision had been made to open other offices across several regions in the continent.

The Secretary General explained that the last two years have seen the works on an Integrated Work Agenda. This is the result of all the activities completed by the members of the Permanent Committee, the Sub-Regions, and the Social Security Commissions in the Americas. This helped identify the priorities around the CISS renovation and resulted in the Commissions and Sub-Regions engagement to continue working on this Agenda along with the Secretariat General and CISS. Additionally, he said he Conference Controller's support and oversight is something we could count on. Moreover, he said that this Work Agenda is taking CISS towards

having a 2030 Agenda as it allows having a planning process supported via a long-term strategy.

For the next item in the Agenda, the Secretary discussed the improvements reached at Institutional Transparency and Governance. This has helped transform the Secretariat General Administrative and Financial Coordination's works with the Controller's support. He explained that, in order to seek new sources of funding, the Conference has to be fully transparent. This means that in case an evaluation is completed before any international organization authorized as an official auditor, it is possible to get an optimal score as to gain access to a financing or fund market. To seek external sources of funding, it would be necessary to be totally transparent and report accurately our actions, especially in terms of financial control, in full adherence to the activities.

The next highlight was working on partnerships since efforts have been made to foster the Conference's presence and ultimately build the right partnerships. The Secretariat General has had an important contact with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) since it is the main public technical consultant in the world. In that regard, he discussed the OECD interest in supporting social security institutions through its policies, methodologies and information. He further commented that a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed in early September. Additionally, he said that OECD does not currently have any contact with any other social security organization in the world. He recognized that a lot of work had to be done before and after finally getting the chance to work with it.

In addition to the OECD, we are also working with the Organization of American States (OAS), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the Mexican Organization of Social Security Institutions, with whom we have 20+ different projects across the Mexican states that have joined forces to build this partnership with CISS.

Next, he said that we had been working with SOCIEUX, the European Union instrument to fund social programs, and the European Union and the Italian Government.

For Technical Assistance, the last case was that of Paraguay's, where we started outreaching the then Institute of Social Security (IPS) President Mr. Benigno Lopez – who would later take office as Minister of Finances. We then continued working with the current IPS President Mr. Armando Rodriguez. In this regard, ANSES Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso's support has been requested as to get the best consultancy services IPS has to offer.

For statistics systematization and creation, SICRES has a reporting system for the entire continent. Its main goal is to make information available to the members. For this reason, we have been partnering with the OECD and OAS, so significant progress has been made.

For the cartographic platform, we have been working on geo-referencing of the different countries' dynamics, allowing us to draw many comparisons and capture information. We will start a selection process of five countries that will help with information. This is one of the first stages of the project. We are aiming at creating a world quality platform. That is why we had asked for some experts' support, who are working on it.

Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre proceeded to present the 2017 Budget Use Report, the External Audit Report, and the 2018 Preliminary Report.

He mentioned that, for the 2017 Finances, there was a surplus increase from 175,000 (One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand American Dollars) to 290,093 (Three-Hundred Ninety, Ninety-Three Thousand American Dollars) vs. 2016 Finances. This is the result of several measures that were undertaken. Some of these measures included setting a new procedure to recover member fees that allowed to better control the membership fees and accurately pinpoint those members who hadn't paid their fees.

Secondly, an income of 493,524 (Four Hundred Ninety-Three Thousand, Five-Hundred Twenty-Four American Dollars) for the events organized by the Conference was earned. We also received a surplus from technical assistance projects around USD 115K.

This allowed us to have a total number of 2017 income of 6,200,479 (Six Million, Two Hundred Thousand, Four-Hundred Seventy-Nine American Dollars) with a

positive variation of USD 300K+ over the budget. This allowed us to have a higher number of resources to pay for some of the Conference's major operations.

The Preliminary Financial Report for 1Q18 includes a summary of the financial year for the first half of 2018, where a comparative analysis is drawn vs. the budget approved by this Committee for this year. It should be noted that during the first half of the year, we reached the income goal for 2018 as a result of how good we performed the membership fee recovery procedure for 2017, as well as the activities that let us earn income for surpluses earned through special technical assistance projects and events organized and managed by the Secretariat General.

For expenses, the Expenditure Report records a 45% of what was originally budgeted for 2018. That is why we expect to close the fiscal year with a positive balance in the Conference's financial operations.

For the external audit report, the procedure was followed for the 2017 Fiscal year as required by the Bylaws. The full results were reported to the members. In summary, the results have been positive. The implementation of a Quality Control System for the Secretariat General Administrative and Financial Processes that started in 2017 has allowed us to have a well-performing financial control system that is helping us make progress in terms of our organization's transparency and accountability.

The Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked the Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre for his presentation. He further commented that the report had been positive, especially in terms of technical assistance, which could look into the future as to continue improving the work done by the Conference. He repeated how important it was to modernize the cartographic maps in a region as extensive as the one where the Inter-American Conference works. Then, the Chairman asked if any of the members of the Permanent Committee wanted to say anything.

Controller Mr. Eduard del Villar Liranzo took the floor, greeted the attendees, and congratulated the Secretary General for the work he had done within the conference, as it was led by the Secretariat General along with the CISS Direction and the Controller's Office.

He said that this administration will be a turning point for the Conference. We have been working on a long-term vision for the institution and the strategic plan shows

that we are not only thinking about what will be done in this three-year period, but what we had envision for this organization, which goes beyond that: Making sure there is growth, strength, and above all, endurance of a social security organization.

He said that this effort is intended to walk in the same direction as social security and the needs of our peoples, which revolve around responding in support and companionship in social security as this is a matter that behooves us all.

Additionally, we have been working within the institution to make it stronger on an administrative and financial bases. Acknowledging the vision and efforts made by the Secretary General through the Financial Coordination as to make this happen, actions that range from making progress towards being ISO certified to reviewing all the regulations and procedures, and creating new policies to ensure the required sustainability and institutional administration, all of this is intended to show CISS as a transparent organization in the light of any potential review.

This vision is a crucial element of this organization, a great legacy we will be in place as a pillar of this institutional strength. This is mainly due to this vision and commitment we had at the Secretariat General. The Controller expressed his gratitude for the invitation and congratulated the Secretary General once more.

The Chairman thanked the Controller for his words and gave the floor to the Associate Members Representative Mr. Jorge D'Angelo.

Associate Members Representative Mr. Jorge D'Angelo said that, following up on Mr. Eduard del Villar's comments, he would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate for the efforts made and further added that the Conference has a sense of direction, a future vision and the Secretary General and his team, along with the CISS and his team, are two pillars we can count on for these projects within the Conference in a moment that is pivotal for social security in the continent. He further congratulated Mexico that has maintained the Conference for so many years, not only by being the HQ, but also harboring us, wonderfully catering to the Committee's needs as every time the Committee holds a meeting. Mexico has also turning the Conference into an organization that is truly international in nature, respecting the institutionality that provides strength to the organizations, especially for them because they are not just part of a country, but international organizations where people from all across the Americas meet.

Once Mr. Jorge D'Angelo had finished with his remarks, the Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked him for his works and asked if anyone would like to make any comments. Since there were no further comments, the Chairman submitted the following Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration:

Decision Four. The Permanent Committee hereby considers the Secretariat General Work Report submitted pursuant to the provisions in Article 16, item g) of the Bylaws; Article 3, number 2 of the Secretariat General Rules; as well as the Financial Report and Profit and Loss Report pursuant to the provisions in Article 16, item k) of the Bylaws and Article 3, number 17 of the Secretariat General Rules; and the External Audit Report as per the provisions of Article 16, item g) of the Bylaws, and Article 4 of the Financial Rules.

The Secretary General was asked to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre de la Mora asked the members of the Permanent Committee to vote as to decide if the report could be considered submitted. The decision was approved.

5. Controller's Annual Report

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked the Conference Controller Mr. Eduard del Villar Liranzo for his presentation of the Annual Report to the Permanent Committee, an action that had been included in the file delivered to the members for review purposes.

Mr. Eduard del Villar Liranzo thanked the Chairman, and greeted the Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre and CISS Director Mr. Reginald Thomas, as well as all the distinguished members of the Permanent Committee.

The Controller started off with his presentation by saying that, pursuant to the provisions in Article 25, letter b) of Section X of the Conference Bylaws, the Controller's Office would issue the relevant report of the end of the 2017 Fiscal Year for the Permanent Committee's information.

He reminded the attendees that, in his capacity of Acting Controllers of the 2016 General Meeting, he took office as of October that same year. Along with the

Secretariat General, an external audit firm was hired as required by the Bylaws, which issued its report in record time this year. He said that the results show a 16% increase in annual income, something that is very important for this institution's financial sustainability. For the 2016 period, he mentioned that the situation among the members has improved as result of a better collection and control over membership fees since the new specific procedure was first introduced in 2017.

The procedure allowed the identification and collection of 5,156,367 (five million, one-hundred fifty-six thousand, three-hundred sixty-seven American Dollars) for the 2017 membership fees, and 101,470 (one hundred one Thousand, four-hundred seventy American Dollars) vs. previous periods. The new procedure allows having a better control over the members' contributions as to draft individual payment stubs for payments made in an open banking account that was used exclusively for this purpose. This has allowed us to identify the income earned through membership fees and draft a payment stub, something that used to be difficult during previous fiscal years and we were unable to accurately pinpoint these payments.

For the surplus earned via events held by the Secretariat General, the 2017 collection accounted for 490,768 (four hundred ninety thousand, seven-hundred sixty-eight American Dollars). This represents a positive balance vs. 2016 that accounts for 23%, this in benefit of the Conference's major earnings.

For the analyzed results included in the Financial Balance, it should be noted that Deloitte, the external audit firm hired for this task, drafted the report in USD at the exchange rate for the end of the 2017 Fiscal Year – December 29th of that year. For the Conference's Accounting system, the registration is made at the exchange rate of the day when each transaction took place, regardless of whether it is a credit or debit. Therefore, there are certain differences in the USD results that are only related to the daily accounting book-keeping vs the post-accounting review conducted by the external auditor.

When comparing profits and losses vs. the 2017 Budget, attached hereto as Exhibit 2, it is possible to see the total profits account for 6,200,476 (six million, two-hundred thousand, four-hundred seventy-six USD). This represents 5% more than the budgeted amount and a surplus of 390,093 (three-hundred ninety thousand, ninety-three USD). This is something that has allowed CISS to funding additional major activities that are part of the strategic planning that was made throughout 2017,

along with the planning made by the Conference's Sub-Regions and Specialized Social Security Commissions.

For income, in addition to the afore-mentioned increase in membership fees, we could see a positive balance in the budget for CISS Course Earnings, which show a surplus of 57,029 (Fifty-Seven Thousand, Twenty-Nine USD). Moreover, there is a positive balance in the earnings earned through the Secretariat General events, which accounts for 493,524 (four hundred, ninety-three thousand, five-hundred twenty-four USD). Additionally, another important aspect worth mentioning is the earnings earned through technical assistance projects completed by the Secretariat General, which accounted for 136,711 (one hundred thirty-six thousand, seven-hundred eleven USD). Therefore, there is a surplus bs. The previous budget of 73,588 (seventy-three thousand, five-hundred eighty-eight USD).

For losses, while reviewing the expenses accounts for 2017, several significant variations were observed vs. the budgeted amount. The most significant ones have been those about warehouse rentals and commodities that, once the relevant transactions and activities had been analyzed, show the following features:

For warehouse rentals, the 2017 budget had considered 4,693 (four thousand, six-hundred ninety-three USD) while commodities accounted for 365,897 (three hundred sixty-five thousand, eight-hundred ninety-seven USD), and the budget for warehouse rentals represented (two-thousand, two-hundred ninety-seven USD) while the commodities budget was 226,747 (two-hundred twenty-six thousand, seven-hundred forty-seven USD). When drawing a comparison against the budget, there was a significant variation that almost doubled. However, this variation had to do with a budgetary mistake since the budget showed one that was lower than the one from the year before. In other words, the budget should at least reflect the expenditure. This was a mistake that had already been corrected. When we pinpoint the variations, we realized that the mark-ups are not unreasonable. In these cases, we could observe that deviations on the expenditure were due to a budgetary error for the 2017 Fiscal year since, when drawing a comparison with the actual fiscal year of the previous year (2016), the deviations are considerably lower.

It should be noted that in 2017 a procedure was first introduced to create an annual budget that is part of the Quality Control System that this Coordination implemented. Consequently, these measures introduce a continuous improvement process that is being carried out across the entire Conference.

For the 2017 CISS General Balance, it is possible to see that the general balance included in the external audit report shows that the Conference's financial situation at the end of 2017 was healthy.

As part of the Audit Firm Report, the CISS Financial Statements show the financial highlights as of December 31st, 2017, as well as the results of the activities and cash flows for the year ended on that date, as per the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). This audit process concluded with one opinion, no exceptions, from Deloitte, Galz, Yamazaki, Ruiz Urquiza, S.C.

On the Controller's opinion, the CISS financial and budgetary control for 2017 allows making an efficient financial decision by the Conference. This is why the Controller's Office sees that the expected results for 2017 were met, and recommended the Permanent Committee to approve the Financial Statements for such Fiscal Year.

Now let's move onto the 2018 financial matters. The preliminary comparative budget report for profits and losses during the first half of 2018 shows that the budget entries are found to be at 100% for profits and 45% for losses vs. 2017. This is considered to be a financially health status, with the exception of completing the relevant audits for this year. We are about to hire the audit firm for this year so that we would get the relevant external audit report for 2018 as early as 1Q next year.

It should be noted that the profit section showed a significant decrease in the yields earned from the technical assistance projects completed by the Secretariat General, which accounted for 329,252 (three-hundred twenty-nine thousand, two-hundred fifty-two USD) as a result of the projects done since 2017, all of which were completed during the first half of this year.

For losses, it was possible to notice an overdraft due to financial expenses that, once the relevant transactions had been analyzed, it was possible to explain this effect thanks to the banking commissions debited on the Conference's accounts for making international transfers. This section showed that expenses for 2017 were of 11,278 (eleven thousand, two-hundred seventy-eight USD). Therefore, the Financial Coordination has been suggested to make the relevant adjustment to the budgetary forecast expected for the next fiscal year.

The audit includes a series of constructive comments and recommendations in their external audit report, including the ones listed below:

One – Accounting Policies. Changes in Accounting Estimations and Errors. As of December 31st, 2016, the unfunded provisions in the entry Employee Benefits, Reserve for Seniority and Indemnifications did not consider the effects of submitting the general balance. This is due to the fact that as of January 1st, 2017 the submission was changed as to reflect the effect the employee benefit obligation had. Some other revisions have been made to change the Conference's cumulative results. The effects borne by these revisions were applied on a retrospective basis to the General Balance of January 1st – December 31st, 2016. Based on the AIS-8 Accounting Policies, these are changes in accounting estimations and errors, which are specifically mentioned by external audit.

For internal control, they also suggest and comment that an unrecorded situation had been left unidentified. This was a trip that was cancelled due to Force Majeure on September 19th, 2017, the day of the Mexico City Earthquake that made flying for the remainder of the day impossible. In this regard, it was said that the trip cancellation was not reported.

To remedy similar situations in the future, Management said that, as an opportunity to improve the Quality Control System, the trip and travel expenses management control procedure was amended in order to include a travel expense verification via a Commission's report and the relevant boarding tickets, a practice in place across other international organizations. This will allow us to detect cases when trips are suspended or cancelled as to complete the relevant procedures to reuse and refund the relevant expenses incurred. Moreover, a note has been included for new travel expenses and tickets guidelines that will be included and published online in the next few weeks.

For the fixed asset cleaning process, we are working towards having a property inventory program that would include controlling the location and identification of all the properties owned by the Institution and the person responsible for keeping it. During a first stage, we are trying to save properties whose features made them useless and purposeless, or that have already exceeded their depreciation life span as per the applicable regulations. Therefore, the relevant ruling of purposelessness is to be created. The asset capitalization and depreciation guidelines will also be determined.

Finally, he said that one of these actions undertaken by the Controller's Office is not solely overseeing figures, but also sending rules. The Controller's Office must remain vigilant in terms of risk management, control and governance as to use a systemic and disciplinary approach, a mandate included in Article 5 of this Institution's Rules. As per this mandate, this Administration has worked along the Secretariat General as to draft and redesign administrative regulations that allow handling the Conference's resources efficiently, appropriately, and consistently with the best management practices.

Additionally, Mr. del Villar further commented that there were some regulations that should be updated and submitted to the Permanent Committee's consideration for approval. For instance, setting new wage policies for the Conference in order to better strengthen and bring growth to the institution. That is why the Permanent Committee is requested to finally approved a wage policy that includes both the Secretariat General and the Studies Center.

It is necessary to approve organizational charts listing job positions and descriptions since the ones that are still available are already outdated and the social security context has changed. We are in need of new positions both at the Secretariat General and CIESS.

An administrative process to use the corporate credit card and petty cash funds has already been officialized. There is also a procedure that has been both published and approved to handle these administrative instruments appropriately, efficiently and transparently.

Additionally, it should be noted that as of January 2018, we implemented an IT system change as to better manage administrative resources. This system goes by the name of SEA Aspel. This system is already implemented and fully operational. It provides connectivity conditions and services to Secretariat General and CIESS' administrative departments. Additionally, as a chance to implement further improvements to our current development, we are issuing financial reports using the submission forms required by the Permanent Committee from the software COI. This is a module included in the new accounting system. Through this module, we would be optimizing the drafting and delivery times for reports.

The Controller finished his presentation by saying that administrative and financial procedures have been put in place in adherence to the authorized Bylaws, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines. Also, the room for improvement findings listed during the audit and the remarks made by the Controller have also been duly addressed. Finally, the Controller thanked the attendees for having him.

The Chairman also thanked the Controller for his presentation and asked the members of the Committee if anyone wanted to comment. Since there were not any other comments, the Chairman's Representative submitted the next Decision for the Permanent Committee's consideration.

Decision Five. The Permanent Committee hereby considers the Controller's report submitted as per the provisions in Article 25, letter b) of the Bylaws.

Next, the Secretary General was asked by the Chairman to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre asked the members of the Permanent Committee to vote as to decide if the Controller's report could be considered submitted. This decision was approved.

6. Work Program and Budget Project for 2019 by the Secretariat General.

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso asked the Secretary General to submit the 2019 Work Program and Budget Project.

Secretary General Mr. Omar de la Torre thanked the Chairman for opening the floor for him and proceeded to say that the 2019 Program presented a full overview of the daunting challenge we had ahead after the Cancun Declaration. After all the planning, this situation poses a challenge in terms of consolidating the projects during the third year.

First of all, he discussed the 2030 Action Plan. This plan is intended to align the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to the Conference. However, this is not only a drill. This is a program that the United Nations have set in motion, listing all the different actions that can be undertaken by the countries, institutions and organizations we would like to partner in the long run in terms of social security. In

that regard, he mentioned the commitment he had assumed to submit it in June-July 2019.

To strengthen the Commissions and Sub-Regions, this is also connected to planning. We have a clear diagnosis on where the Commissions and Sub-Regions are standing, as well as an idea on how to turn them as autonomous as possible so that they could become bodies that are actually feasible with a certain degree of technical autonomy.

He then proceeded to discuss opening spaces for debate through fora and diagnoses. The Secretary General mentioned all the fora and diagnoses that had already been scheduled: The Pensions Forum on March 26th and 27th. We have scheduled a Debate with PAHO for the first quarter. It will tackle consolidated procurement of medications. Also, during the first half of the year, we and the OECD will develop an environmental risk and financial recovery protocol. Organizations such as the UN, ECLAC and SELA, among many other international organizations present in the Americas are also chipping in.

For good practices identification, we are working on the implications the impact has on the environment, medication control, pensions, labor markets, among other priorities.

For outreach, we have three Memoranda of Understanding on the horizon. The first one is with the Pan-American Health Organization; the second one with the Organization of American States; while the third one is with the UE SOCIEUX.

For Regional offices, we would like to say that if the pilot program running in Argentina gets positive results, we are considering the possibility of having at least two more Regional offices opened during the last quarter. For the pilot office, we will continue working on measuring the assessment report and the guidelines white book as the decentralization model CISS should have. We will continue working on the model not just because it is a commitment Argentina's ANSES has – this is a commitment that the entire CISS should see through as having regional offices is a historical turning point for this institution.

For theme documents, we have a series of documents that will be circulated, including the Social Security Good Practices White Book for the Americas. This book will list cases of successful good practices. Additionally, it will explain what they

consist of, why they were developed, what social impact they have, and how they can be shared with the other countries. Its presentation is expected to be in 4Q19.

For SICRESS, we will deliver the results in the first semester of 2019. These will consist of indicators provided by institutions that are part of CISS. The first SICRESS report will be presented to the 2019 General Meeting.

For the cartographic map, we have started stage 2 with an operational platform that will start working on the first half of the year.

Additionally, at least nine comparative studies will be completed. These studies revolve around the topics that CISS has chosen for its Priority Agenda. For digital communication and strategy, a strategy will be created via YouTube so we could position CISS as an official flagship in social security. A series of clips will be produced – at least 50 clips initially. These clips will be produced along with CIESS so they are educationally consistent with the strategy.

The Secretary finished his presentation about the Work Program and proceeded to make a presentation about the 2019 Budget, as per the Conference's Regulatory Framework.

He said that the budgetary procedure that was put in place last year in the financial and administrative system has been followed. This procedure considers all the regulatory requirements and was created based on two basic inputs: The Immediately Prior Budgetary Performance, and the Work Programs of each area.

Additionally, he said that a new ordinance about the items listed in the loss balance was made as to better understand how they are used, namely significant, statutory and priority actions; administrative expenses; personal expenses; furniture and equipment expenses; financial expenses; and property rental.

For 2019, we are considering earnings of around USD 6M – USD 65K more than 2018. Losses are expected to be by 5.7M – USD 100K less than 2018. He mentioned how important it was to find a route towards projects and events that are more sustainable and profitable for the Conference. In that regard, he mentioned that he had reached agreements with the CIESS Director as to find a motor that is profitable for the Conference.

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

The Permanent Committee Chairman Emilio Basavilbaso thanked the Secretary General and submit the following resolution for the Permanent Committee's consideration.

Decision Six. The Permanent Committee hereby considers the Secretariat General 2019 Work Program submitted, and approved the Conference Budget for 2019 as per the provisions in Article 16, item k) of the Bylaws; and Article 6 of the Financial Rules.

He then asked the Secretary General, in his capacity of Permanent Committee Secretary, to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre de la Mora asked the members to cast their votes. The decision was approved.

7. Miscellaneous

The Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked the members for casting their votes and proposed to transact item seven of the Agenda. The Secretary General asked the Chairman to consider two proposals so they could be submitted for the Committee's review. First, the CISS director and employee compensation guidelines. Second, a proposal of amendments to the Secretariat General Rules. In that regard, the Chairman asked the Secretary General to submit both projects.

Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre thanked the Chairman once more. Additionally, he said that he was working on a new compensation policy since the current one was approved back in 2008 by the CISS 23rd General Meeting.

Now in 2007, the Secretariat General proposed that the Permanent Committee would be the body to set the criteria for certain compensations earned by the Secretary General and CISS Director, and give certainty to the organization and officers about such process. This policy proposed: One, the Secretary General and CISS Director's compensations; and Two, the organizational chart listing all the updated positions and compensation ranks for 2008. Back then, we consider the possibility of giving attendance awards, grocery coupons, 45-day Christmas bonus,

among others. This a series of items that were approved by the Permanent Committee.

A decision was made back then to capitalize on the experiences of different international organizations, such as the IDB, OAS, ILO, and OECD in terms of good practices as to implement a good compensation structure.

This structure is in effect to this date. However, the works completed by CISS in terms of planning that we have discussed have shown us that we need to work under a full sense of governance and transparency. Therefore, we need to guide our activities by strengthening our institution. In this regard, we need to align CISS to a good governance model with consistent practices in terms of policies, standards and processes intended to bring continuous improvement and a staff professionalization model at CISS. Implementing the actions to better manage human capital within the organization necessarily require reviewing items such as: Position catalog; compensation table; application rules; internship programs; and professionalization models to constantly develop the staff. We would like to implement all of this within a framework of best practices that have been developed by organizations such as the IDB, OAS, ILO, OECD.

The second item was the amendments to the Rules. The Secretary General said that this amendment was about positions as per the provisions in Article 16 of the CISS Bylaws, which states that the Permanent Committee is authorized to approve and amend the CISS Bodies Rules either totally or in full. The members were asked to approve this item. He also said that some of these changes had already been administratively set in motion. That is why, in order to continue being transparent, one proposal was presented that stated that the Secretariat General would have three executive directions.

In that regard, the current Coordination departments will be replaced by the following bodies: Executive Direction of Members' Services, Outreach and Communication; Executive Direction of Social Security Public Policies and Good Practices; and Executive Direction of Finances, Administration and Compliance. There will be two additional support units: One Economist in Chief, a figure that has been well received by the different international organizations as they understand that this would be eventually translate into a technical project that the Economist in Chief would be responsible for in terms of guides and sanctions – the Economist in Chief's Office. The second one will be the Consultant Coordination Office. He further said that such

areas are already working under different figures and he was trying to standardize their administrative operations without sacrificing the possibility of creating a working group to work on its implications.

Finally, the Secretary thanked the Chairman for the opportunity of presenting both projects.

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso asked for the Reviewing Commission to be created as per the provisions in the Rules. Then, he proceeded to write down the names of all of its members.

Later on, Mr. Eduard del Villar Liranzo asked to be given the floor to comment on this matter. Mr. del Villar said that it was important that, given the change in the Mexican authorities that would soon take office at the CISS and to shed some light on what the Institution was and what it does, he proposes to create a commission that meets with them and discuss how important this Institution is and the importance that our historical commitment has, the role it had played throughout the history of social security and in light of the new social security challenges faced by the countries, as well as the pivotal role it has.

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked him for his words and gave the floor to Ms. Vilma Morales.

Using the floor, Ms. Vilma Morales said how important it was to outreach the new administration in strengthening the aspect of institutionality, but most importantly, how important continuity was and how crucial it is to not interrupt the works done by the Conference and the different commissions.

That is why there is a need to create a strategy that work transversally in different lines of action. It is clear that all the matters that have been transacted and the results the different commissions have got. However, it is clear that significant progress has been made by the Conference, CISS, and the different commissions.

Using the floor, CISS Director Mr. Reginald Thomas presented his career as part of the Conference. Therefore, in his experience and based on the historical moment we were living, the thought that the rules and regulations should remain unchanged. Additionally, he said that the Conference should be presented a cohesive unit to the

president taking office, and emphasized how important the work it does is and how important this international body's integration to IMSS is.

Using the floor, Mr. Jorge D'Angelo expressed his support to Mr. Reginald Thomas and highlighted the changes undergone by the Conference. He mentioned that it is not only about continuity, but transformation. In this way, CISS has been transformed, something that has been a monumental work since both the institution and all of its bodies have undergone transformation.

The Permanent Committee Chairman gave the floor to the Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre, who proceeded to say that each and every single one of the team members working at the Conference is fully engaged in working in a cross-sectional fashion. He agreed to not prevent any agreement assumed by the Committee from happening. In addition, he ratified his commitment to fulfill his duties as Secretary, enforcing the Conference's mandate.

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso thanked him for his words and asked if any of the members of the Committee would like to add something. Then, he proceeded to give the floor to Mr. Jorge D'Angelo.

Associate Members Representative asked to have both proposals approved, one about creating the Reviewing Commission for the submitted documents, and the other about creating the Commission with new authorities.

Decision Seven. The Permanent Committee agreed to create a Reviewing Commission in order to study the proposal of amending the Inter-American Conference on Social Security Secretariat General's Rules. The Permanent Committee also agrees to hold a formal interview between the members of the Permanent Committee and CISS Chairman German Martinez Cazares.

The Chairman submitted Decision Seven for the Permanent Committee's consideration, which was eventually approved.

Using the floor, Mr. Omar de la Torre asked the members of the Permanent Committee interested in being part of the Reviewing Commission to express their intention. In that same regard, the Reviewing Commission was formed by Ms. Vilma

Morales Montalvan, Mr. Jorge D'Angelo, Mr. Eduard del Villar, Mr. Reginald Thomas, and the Secretariat General.

Then, the Permanent Committee Chairman proceeded to transact the next item in the Agenda; The Date and Venue of the next Permanent Committee's Meeting.

8. Date and Venue for the Next Meeting of the Permanent Committee.

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso gave the floor to the Secretary General.

Permanent Committee Secretary Mr. Omar de la Torre started his presentation off by proposing that the General Meeting and the statutory meetings of the Permanent Committee and the Board of Directors could be held in August or September. For the venue, he proposed that it could be Mexico City. However, he also considered the possibility of having a different venue in case any of the members of the Conference volunteered as host.

Mr. Jorge D'Angelo said that the Secretary General's comments were sustained and the meetings should be held in the HQ.

Permanent Committee Chairman Mr. Emilio Basavilbaso gave the floor to Sub-Region North America and English-Speaking Caribbean Coordinator Mr. Timothy Hodge. Mr Hodge said that he agreed with the proposal of the venue being at the Conference's HQ, and took the opportunity to extend an invitation to the Permanent Committee to hold the 2020 Annual Ordinary Meeting in Curaçao as that country's institution director had extended a warm invitation for the Conference at the occasion of its anniversary.

The General Secretariat thanked him for that proposal and left this matter to the Committee's discretion. Later on, the Chairman asked if any of the attendees had any further comments. Since there were not any more comments, he decided to submit the following decision for consideration:

Decision Eight. The members of the Permanent Committee hereby approve that the next meeting of the Permanent Committee is held in Mexico City. It is hereby noted that we could discuss the possibility of

holding it in Curaçao in 2020, which will be eventually decided next year.

In his capacity of Meeting Secretary, the Secretary General was asked to validate the number and sense of the votes, and eventually report the voting results. The decision was approved.

Finally, the Permanent Committee Chairman thanked the attendees for being present. As there were not any other items to transact, the Inter-American Conference on Social Security Permanent Committee Annual Ordinary Meeting was declared as closed on November 9th, 2018, at 12:15 hours, as per the provisions in Article 17 of the Bylaws.