

Declaration of Lima*

The delegations attending the Commemorative Acts of the 25th Anniversary of the Inter-American Conference on Social Security declare that:

-They recognise that the principle of solidarity, which gave rise to the works of this organization -for the purpose of promoting the development of social security systems and achieving the authentic well-being of the American peoples, based on the concept of the dignity of the individual, the worker, his family- continues to be the essential foundation of the present and future action of this matter.

-They consider it necessary to sanction the objectives of the declarations, recommendations, and resolutions of the Inter-American Conference on Social Security and its Permanent Committee, particularly as they refer to the dignity of the individual, the worker, and his family, and the broadening and improvement of Social Security systems.

-They deem that the introduction of social insurance in the countries of the Continent has meant the commencement of protection and well-being, organically, of the population, mainly the economically active one, thus establishing the beginning of a long-term Social Security policy and a more general and comprehensive action, in accordance with the guidelines and principles that govern its development.

-They recognise that in order to fully achieve the initially planned objectives, it will be necessary to renew the efforts, examine the current Social Security systems in light of the experience gathered and the reality of the Continent, and formulate new technical, financial and administrative solutions in relation to prevailing conditions in the American countries; taking into account, primarily, the urgency of extending protection to the non-salaried population and to other labour hubs still lacking such protection.

-They recognise that to reach the best achievement of the purposes that inform Social Security, it is a factor of importance to attain the highest degree of administrative and technical efficiency, to that effect and complementing the action of the Inter-American Centre for Social Security Studies, they must, in coordination with the latter, develop national training courses, which will also allow the most rational application of their resources.

-It is therefore necessary to establish the bases for an adequate coordination with other international organisations interested in the matter, in order to achieve a more rational

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use of the goods and services available, in order to achieve, in the shortest possible time, economic development closely linked to a correlative social progress that ensures the maximum well-being and social peace in the American Continent.

-They note in relation to the aforementioned effects, that the problems presented by the broadening of Social Security in rural areas and self-employed workers require other social, economic policy and community promotion mechanisms, which move away from the normative bases of typical Social Insurance.

-They consider that Social Security is an inseparable part of a development policy that is integrated economically and socially, and that in order to achieve a more effective contribution from the current regimes in this process, it is essential to plan their action, taking into account the necessity to guarantee an equitable redistribution of the national product for the benefit of the lowest income factors, and to intensify measures related to the defence of health; risk prevention; the stability and well-being of the family, and the improvement of living and working conditions of the population sectors that participate in the national productive effort.