

The Intern-American

Welcoming Newsletter

19th Model of the Permanent Council for OAS interns

Development with Social Inclusion

A Note from the Public Information Officers



Prepare yourselves, delegates, for the 19th MOAS/PC!

This newsletter begins by highlighting the opinion of the committee secretaries, who will be helping you draft clauses for the resolution. We asked them to detail their definition of development with social inclusion, the issues they would like to see discussed, and their expectations for the 19th MOAS/PC. They came up with some pretty cool ideas that we hope will get you

thinking!

Then, the head of the Department for Sustainable Development Cle-tus Springer reveals his take on development with social inclusion. in an interview with Public Information Officer Isabella Peraertz.

We close with a recap of the key messages put forth by the OAS Specialists, Mr. Noboa and Mr. Toro, in their briefing to the delegates on July 30th. We hope that this will help you keep the real challenges of development with social inclusion in mind as you prepare to tackle difficult issues in the Model.

We've enjoyed putting this together and look forward to a dynamic MOAS!

MOAS Love
Alyssa and Isabella



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- Increase awareness of the mission and work of the OAS.
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- Train committed leaders.

Bulletin Written and Edited By:
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Message from General Committee Secretary Adriana Oreamuno



In a few words the ideal definition of social inclusion to me would take into consideration access to basic services, sustainability, and education for all. It was once said by Franklin D. Roosevelt, “The test to our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.” To me this quote can apply to everything. Opportunities, resources and rights should be accessible to everyone. Thus, we

should all be able to take part in society, regardless of social and economic markers. Having the opportunity to share points of view with people from all over the continent, has enriched me in many ways. Social inclusion demands an active role from us all, and I strongly believe change starts within society first.

Ideally, society will one day come into the realization that empathy and tolerance are key to evolution. It should also take into consideration the environment; harmony between all elements is also base for a change. Clearly, there is a lot to be done in terms of social exclusion and inequality in the Americas, I encourage those with ideas that could make a difference to express them and, hopefully by the end of these MOAS sessions, a strong document filled with policy strategies and aim at to transforming structural inequity and exclusion into an inclusive and fair world for everyone. I believe there is a lot of capacity within our generation to change course, and I am looking forward to hear all the different view points, suggestions and resolutions that will come out of this MOAS. Make sure you take part!



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Message from CIDI Committee Secretary, Nickolas Merrill



The problem being discussed here is not a simple one. The government’s promotion of socially inclusive development is meant to end the urban-rural, the rich-poor, the educated- uneducated divisions in our society. Literacy campaigns are not taught to be a good in

itself and education is not provided for education’s sake, but rather these are methods governments can use to offer a means to eradicate divisions within society. The methods government can enact to promote socially inclusive development are not simply about expanding Wifi to every street corner, but rather attacking the direct causes of inequality, such as poverty and a lack of education, or government policies that benefit the affluent. The process to attain socially inclusive development is long, but to measure this progress, we cannot rely on economic measurements such as Gross Domestic Product; we must rely on measurements that determine the quality of education, the standard of living, and the opportunities available to those who want to innovate. The issue that interests me the most about socially inclusive development is literacy. The ability to read is a skill that is often taken for granted, yet it allows us to be politically active and learn from books, magazines, and the Internet; reading opens doors to more opportunities than any other skill that a person can learn at a young age. To measure this, the literacy rate among the general population does not paint a clear picture. On the other hand, the literacy rate among gender and race provides a clearer picture about social inclusion in our economy.



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Holistic Sustainability: An Interview with Mr. Cletus Springer, Director of the Department of Sustainable Development

For Mr. Cletus Springer, a native St. Lucian, development is a pressing issue. Not only is development the trick of his trade, but climate change, specifically, is a problem that requires swift and sustainable solutions for the smaller Caribbean islands. Mr. Springer went on to describe how climate change has recently emerged as an issue to which countries are paying more attention, but that is one of the most challenging problems. It is challenging for the small countries because of a lack of resources and the need to act now, but it is also challenging to the larger countries because it is “perhaps the costliest aspect of development—having to curb the use of carbon emitting sources and finding alternative energy sources.”

In our interview, Mr. Springer highlighted the necessity of some countries to realize how there needs to exist a more holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development. Mr. Springer declared that “[the] countries’ main challenge is to integrate resources with sustainable development goals, which is what you need in order to make sustainable development happen.” Moreover, Mr. Springer remarked on the need to bring together the environment, all of society, and resources in a coherent policy strategy. This in order to achieve truly sustainable development, which requires coordination amongst countries and within countries- a daunting and costly task, but a necessary one nonetheless.



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High Level Professionals Prepare Delegates for Challenges

To give delegates a better sense about the issues they will have to address during the MOAS, Mr. Santiago Noboa of the Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD) delivered a briefing on his department’s work. He began by outlining the legal framework for DESD’s initiatives, stressing the significance of the Inter-American Democratic Charter and the Social Charter of the Americas (2012). The first document, signed in 2001, recognized the fight against poverty as being “critical” for the advancement of the OAS’ goals in the Hemisphere. The Social Charter outlined the need to eliminate poverty altogether and recognized, in its article 15, the pressing importance of assisting indigenous groups.

Mr. Luis Toro of the Department of International Law, the second speaker of the briefing, detailed the difficulties of negotiating. Pointing to the institutional structure of the OAS, he stressed the ways in which voting procedures impact the OAS’ ability to draft and pass resolutions. Because such documents must be approved unanimously, reaching a consensus requires a great deal of skill and communication. However, he was very encouraging and confident that MOAS delegates would be able to resolve their differences.



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