**PLANNING MEETING 2016-2017 OF THE**

**INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF LABOR (IACML)**

Feb.25-26, 2016 - OAS Headquarters in Washington D.C.

**MAIN RESULTS AND DECISIONS**

(Feb.29th, 2016)

1. **PRIORITY TOPICS FOR THE WORKING GROUPS**

The IACML Working Groups provide follow up to the Declaration and Plan of Action of Cancun. In this sense, they should have the four central themes of the XIX IACML as a guide: 1) Education and labor: integrated public policy making to promote effective inclusion to the labor market; 2) Equity and labor inclusion: Inclusive labor policies and the generation of quality jobs and enterprises; 3) Labor Migration: Advancing the protection of migrant workers’ rights; 4) Hemispheric cooperation for the strengthening of the Ministries of Labor: The Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL) ten years after its creation.

Furthermore, they will have the following priority topics during 2016-2017, which were decided on during the meeting.

**Priority Topics for Working Group 1**:

1. Labor equality, elimination of employment discrimination and labor inclusion of vulnerable groups;
2. Promotion of decent work and full and productive employment in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Discussion on indicators;
3. Transition from the informal to the formal economy;
4. Reflections on the new world of work / 4th industrial revolution

Note: Topics related to youth employment, integration of education and labor policies, professional training and certification of labor skills will be addressed in a RIAL workshop.

WG1 will also be tasked with analyzing the possibility of requesting national reports on compliance with IACML commitments, and define its contents and requirements.

**Priority Topics for Working Group 2:**

1. Strengthen labor legislation and regulation compliance and effective exercise of fundamental principles and rights at work;
2. Social protection;
3. Occupational Health and Safety;
4. Strengthening the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL) – It was decided that 1 day during WG2 meetings will be devoted to talking about the operation of the RIAL, its tools, lessons, follow-up mechanisms, etc.

Note: The issues of dissemination of the rights of migrant workers and safe and orderly labor mobility will be addressed in a RIAL Workshop.

1. **POLITICAL MEETINGS**

**1st Meeting of Working Groups (2016)**

**Place:** Washington D.C.

**Date**: End of June, 2016

**Description:** This WG meeting (2 days) will follow-up on XIX IACML mandates. Its agenda will be defined by the authorities of each WG in coordination with the Technical Secretariat and will include the topics identified in the Planning Meeting.

**Funding sources**: To be defined. The Chair and the Technical Secretariat will explore possible sources of funding.

**2nd Meeting of Working Groups (2017) and First Preparatory Meeting of the XX IACML**

**Place**: Paraguay

**Date**: April, 2017

**Description***:* As in past years, this Meeting of the Working Groups will be held jointly with the First Preparatory Meeting of the XX IACML.

* The WG Meeting (2 days) will be centered on the priority topics for the groups identified in the Planning Meeting.
* The First Preparatory Meeting of the IACML will be a half-day session in which the topics of the IACML will be determined, based on a proposal that will be presented by Barbados, host of the XX IACML.

**Funding sources:** The Government of Paraguay will cover the cost of logistics and simultaneous interpretation, and will explore the possibility of covering some travel expenses for representatives of small economies, COSATE and CEATAL.

**Second Preparatory Meeting of the XX IACML**

**Place**: Washington D.C.

**Date**: September, 2017

**Description:** This is a three-day meeting to negotiate the draft Declaration and Plan of Action of the XX IACML.

**Funding sources**: Barbados and OAS

**XX IACML**

**Place**: Barbados

**Date**: Early November, 2017

**Description:** The Conference will gather Ministries of Labor, employers’ and workers’ representatives, accompanied by relevant international organizations to discuss and reach consensus around key issues related to labor and employment in the Hemisphere. The approval of a Declaration and Plan of Action is expected, which will be negotiated beginning in April 2017, during the First Preparatory Meeting. During the XX IACML, biennial meetings of COTPAL, COSATE and CEATAL will also be held.

**Funding sources**: Barbados and OAS

1. **TECHNICAL ACTIVITES - INTER-AMERICAN NETWORK FOR LABOR ADMINISTRATION (RIAL) WORKSHOPS**

**RIAL workshop on Youth Employment, emphasizing link between education and labor**

**Place**: Brazil

**Date**: December, 2016

**Description**: This event will focus on youth employment, including certification of labor skills and inter-sectoral coordination efforts between the Ministries of Education and Labor, in line with the XIX IACML’s priority theme of “Education and Labor: Integrated Public Policy Making to Promote Effective Inclusion Into the Labor Market”. It will follow-up on mandates 12, 13 and 15 of the Declaration of Cancun and 6) f, g and i of the Plan of Action. The conceptual proposal for the Workshop (objectives, thematic sessions, products), following RIAL process, will be jointly developed by the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the WG1, the Chair of the XIX IACML with support of the Technical Secretariat of the IACML and the Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE). It will be presented at the CIE meeting .

**Key partners**: ILO and other organizations – to be defined.

**Funding sources**: The Government of Brazil will cover the logistics and simultaneous interpretation costs. RIAL will allocate $25,000 to support travel for participants from smaller economies, COSATE and CEATAL.

**RIAL Workshop on Labor Migration**

**Place**: Costa Rica

**Date**: July, 2017

**Description**: Considering the priority given by the XIX IACML to achieving greater inclusion of vulnerable groups, as well Migration being another priority theme of the XIX IACML, this event will focus on the exchange of experiences on protection and dissemination of migrant workers’ rights, including topics connected to social security and fair recruitment. It will serve as a follow-up to mandates 6, 18, 25, 27 and 28 of the Declaration of Cancun and 6, h of the Plan of Action. The conceptual proposal (objectives, thematic sessions and products), following RIAL process, will be jointly developed by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the WG2, the Chair of the XIX IACML with support of the Technical Secretariat of the IACML.

**Key partners:** ILO, CISS and other organizations-to be defined

**Funding sources**: RIAL will contribute up to $25,000 that could cover costs of logistics and simultaneous interpretation, and some travel expenses for representatives of small economies, COSATE and CEATAL. It is expected that some of these costs might be covered by the Government of Costa Rica or other partners.

**COMPLEMENTARY EVENT –** Joint Celebration PAHO-IACML for the World Day for Safety and Health at Work - April 28, 2016

**CURRENT EFFORTS FROM THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT:** RIAL Call for proposals for bilateral cooperation, follow-up, web and Portfolio update, development of database on bilateral and multilateral social security agreements with CISS.

1. **DECISION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF RIAL RESOURCES**

- RIAL Workshop on Youth Employment / Education and Labor: $25,000

- RIAL Workshop on Labor Migration: $25,000

- Activities of the 9th RIAL Call for bilateral coop, (2016) $30,000

- Activities of the 10th RIAL Call for bilateral coop. (2017) $ --------

*(subject to contributions)*

**TOTAL\*: $80,000**

\*Currently RIAL has available resources of $61,000, and contributions for $20,000 have been already committed and are forthcoming.

