**MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUPS 1 AND 2** OEA/Ser.L/XIX.VI.1

**OF THE XXI INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE** CIMT-21/GT1-GT2/doc.2/23 rev.3

**OF MINISTERS** **OF LABOR**  19 September 2023

September 21 - 22, 2023 Original: Spanish

Washington, D.C., United States of America

DRAFT SCHEDULE

**Objectives of the Working Groups:** Advise the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) on the objectives of the Declaration and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires, approved by the Ministers of Labor at the XXI IACML in 2021. In this regard, the Working Groups seek to examine priority issues in greater depth, facilitate the exchange of experiences, provide relevant information and studies, and follow up on related hemispheric initiatives.

**DAY 1 – September 21st, 2023**

**Meeting of Working Group 1:**

“Integrated public policies to address the COVID-19 crisis and achieve a human-centered, inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery for a future of work with equity, social justice, and decent work.”

Authorities of WG1:

Chair: Ministry of Labor of Chile   
Vice-Chairs: Ministries of Labor of Costa Rica and Trinidad and Tobago

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. OPENING SESSION

* + Consideration and approval of the draft agenda
  + Consideration and adoption of the draft schedule
  + Welcome remarks:
    - Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development (SEDI), Organization of American States
    - Marcelo Tapia, Head of the International Relations Unit, Ministry of Labor and Social Security of Chile, Chair of Working Group 1 of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML)
    - Gerardo Corres, Director of International Affairs, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of Argentina, representing the Chair of the IACML

9:15 – 9:45 a.m. Report on compliance of the Work Plan 2022-2024 of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor and the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL), by María Claudia Camacho, Chief of the Labor and Employment Section of the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), OAS

9:45 – 11:00 a.m. PANEL 1 – Coordination between education and labor

Moderator: Marcelo Tapia, Head of the International Relations Unit, Ministry of Labor and Social Security of Chile, Chair of WG1

Presentations (40 minutes):

* **Chairs of the IACML and the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE).** Leonardo Di Pietro, Secretary of Employment of the Ministry of Labor of Argentina and Marina Larrea, National Director of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Education of Argentina
* **OAS.** Conclusions of the RIAL Intersectoral Workshop "Towards a Stronger Coordination between Education and Labor in the Americas", held in May 2023 in Buenos Aires and next steps, by Jesús Schucry Giacoman, Director of DHDEE, OAS
* **ILO/CINTERFOR.** Fernando Vargas, Senior Specialist

Space for open dialogue between all participants, based on Guiding Questions (35 min.)

**Guiding questions - based on the Declaration (art. 18) and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires (art. 7, e):**

1. Based on your national experience, what are some of the benefits of having collaboration between the Ministries of Education and Labor? Reference may be made to specific initiatives.
2. Taking into account your country’s experience in this area, what are some key elements which are required to foster greater collaboration between Ministries of Labor and Education?

11:00 – 11:15 p.m. BREAK

11:15 – 1:00 p.m. PANEL 2 - Work on digital platforms

Moderator: Rosa-Mae Whittier, Director of International Affairs, Ministry of Labour of Trinidad and Tobago, Vice Chair WG1

Introductory presentations from international organizations (45 minutes):

* **World Bank.** Namita Datta, Program Manager, Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE) and leader of the study "Working without borders. The promise and peril of online gig work"
* **International Labour Organization.** Philippe Marcadent, Chief of the Inclusive Labor Markets, Industrial Relations and Working Conditions Division (INWORK)
* **Inter-American Development Bank.** Oliver Azuara, Senior Economist, Labor Markets and Social Security Unit and co-author of the study "Improving the Lives of the Self-Employed: The Road to Effective Insurance"

Presentations by governments and social actors (30 minutes):

* Presentation from the Ministry of Labor of Chile
* **COSATE.** Marta Pujadas, President of the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council
* **CEATAL.** Ronnie Goldberg, Senior Counselor of the United States Council for International Business (USCIB) and Alternate Vice President of the Business Technical Advisory Committee on Labor Matters

Space for open dialogue among all participants, based on Guiding Questions (30 min.)

**Guiding questions - based on the Declaration (art. 25) and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires (art. 7, b):**

1. What legal or regulatory provisions exist in your country regarding work on digital platforms? What are the main rights and obligations of those who work on these platforms?
2. What are some of the challenges being experienced in relation to regulating platform work? Identify measures which have been undertaken to address these challenges. Where measures have not yet been implemented to address these challenges, possible measures may be identified.

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Lunch (open)

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. PANEL 3 - Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in labor and employment policies

Moderator: Marisol Bolaños, Head a.i. of the International Affairs Department of the Ministry of Labor of Costa Rica, Vice-Chair of WG1

Presentations (40 min):

* The progress of the RIAL/GENDER - Conclusions of the Hemispheric Dialogues and tools available to the Ministries of Labor by María Claudia Camacho, Chief of Labor and Employment Section, DHDEE, and Beatriz Piñeres, Specialist of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), OAS
* **Saint Lucia.** Hon. Virginia Albert-Poyotte, Minister for the Public Service, Home Affairs, Labor and Gender Relations (to be confirmed)
* **Guatemala.** María Isabel Salazar, Vice-Minister of Labor Administration, Ministry of Labor and Social Security

Space for open dialogue among all participants, based on Guiding Questions (50 min.)

**Guiding questions - based on the Declaration (art. 12) and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires (art. 7, i and 7, j):**

1. What is the degree of progress of your Ministry regarding the institutionalization of a gender approach in its operation, policies, and programs? Please specify if there is a gender unit, its institutional capacity, and any other element that promotes the institutionalization of gender within the Ministry.
2. What topics or initiatives would your Ministry require greater support from regional or other cooperation- to continue advancing towards the institutionalization of gender and, through it, achieve greater equality in the world of work?

4:00 – 4:15 p.m. Presentation of the conclusion of the RIAL Workshop on “Social Dialogue for a rights-based transition from informal to formal employment” held in Argentina in October 2022, by Diego Schleser, Undersecretary of Planning, Studies and Statistics, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of Argentina

4:15 – 4:45 p.m. Other Business

4:45 – 5:00 p.m. CLOSING OF THE MEETING OF WORKING GROUP 1 – Authorities of WG1

**DAY 2 – September 22nd, 2023**

**Meeting of Working Group 2:**

“Institutional strengthening of Ministries of Labor, and promoting institutionalized social dialogue to recover from the COVID-19 crisis and address emerging changes in the world of work”

Authorities of WG2:

Chair: Ministry of Labor of Colombia

Vice-Chairs: Ministries of Labor of the United States and Panama

9:00 – 9:10 a.m. OPENING OF THE MEETING OF WORKING GROUP 2

* Pavel Santodomingo, Deputy Director of Social Organization, Ministry of Labor of Colombia, representing WG2 Chair

9:10 – 10:30 a.m. PANEL 1 – Occupational health and safety

Moderator: Ahychel Elías, Head of the International Technical Cooperation Office, Ministry of Labor of Panama, WG2 Vice-Chair

Introductory presentations (20 minutes):

* Posthumous tribute to Dr. Julietta Rodríguez Guzmán (5 min.)
* **Pan-American Health Organization.** Introductory presentation by Dr. Gerry Eijkemans, Director of the Department of Social and Environmental Determinants for Health Equity

Presentations by government and social actors (30 minutes):

* **Uruguay**. Tomás Teijeiro, Labor Inspector General, Ministry of Labor and Social Security
* **COSATE.**  Marta Pujadas, President of the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council
* **CEATAL.** Juan Mailhos, representing the Presidency of the Business Technical Advisory Committee on Labor Matters

Space for open dialogue among all participants, based on Guiding Questions (25 min.)

**Guiding questions - based on the Declaration (art. 17) and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires (art. 9, b):**

1. Which are the main areas and actions of coordination between the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Health in your country? Please specify the progress and efforts made in updating guides and regulations related to health emergencies, the development of measures to promote mental health in the workplace, or the preventive approach in health and safety at work.
2. How is social dialogue unfolding in the definition and implementation of strategies to reinforce occupational health and safety? Is there progress in achieving a preventive approach to it?

10:30 – 10:45 p.m. BREAK

10:45 – 12:00 p.m. PANEL 2 – Social dialogue and respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining

Moderator: Sarah Morgan, Director, Office of International Relations and Economic Research, United States Department of Labor, Vice Chair of WG2

Presentations (35 min):

* **Colombia.** Conclusions of the RIAL Workshop "Social Dialogue for a sustainable, fair and equitable recovery", held in July 2022 in Bogota and next steps, by the Ministry of Labor of Colombia.
* **Bolivia.** Hon. Verónica Navia Tejada, Minister of Labor, Employment and Social Welfare
* **CEATAL.** Carlos Aldao Zapiola, representing the Presidency of the Business Technical Advisory Committee on Labor Matters
* **COSATE.** Marta Pujadas, President of the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council.

Space for open dialogue among all participants, based on Guiding Questions (40 min.)

**Guiding questions based on the Declaration (art. 21 and 22) and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires (art. 9, a and 9, k):**

1. What actions has your institution taken to support and promote institutionalized social dialogue?
2. What actions has your institution taken to strengthen respect, in the law and in practice, of the right to organize, freedom of association of workers and employers, and collective bargaining?

12:00 – 2:00 p.m. Lunch (open)

2:00 – 3:15 p.m. PANEL 3 – Strengthening and modernization of the Ministries of Labor

Moderator: Pavel Santodomingo, Deputy Director of Social Organization, Ministry of Labor of Colombia, representing WG2 Chair

Presentations (30 minutes):

* **Guyana.** Dhaneshwar Deonarine, Chief Labour Officer of the Ministry of Labour
* **Argentina.** Patricia Aragón Reyes, Undersecretary of Administrative Management, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security
* **OAS.** Presentation by the Technical Secretariat on the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL), by Maria Claudia Camacho, Chief of Labor and Employment Section, DHDEE.

Space for open dialogue among all participants, based on Guiding Questions (45 min.)

**Guiding questions based on the Declaration (art. 23) and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires (art. 9, i and 9, j):**

1. Is your institution deepening its digital transformation process, i.e., making more intensive use of new technologies in its processes and in the services it provides to workers, enterprises, and the general public? Please indicate concrete actions and examples.
2. What has been the impact of cooperation on the institutional strengthening of your Ministry? Please comment on how the definition and implementation of your Ministry's services and programs have been strengthened, as well as its capacities to fulfill its institutional mandate.

3:15 – 3:25 p.m. Presentation on the RIAL Workshop on Compliance with labor legislation and regulations included in the Work Plan 2022-2024 of the IACML, by the United States Department of Labor

3:25 – 3:45 p.m. Other Business

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. CLOSING OF THE MEETING OF WORKING GROUP 2 – Authorities of WG2

4:00 – 5:15 p.m. JOINT SESSION OF WORKING GROUPS 1 AND 2 – Preparation for the XXII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML)

Chaired by the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of Argentina, Chairmanship of the IACML

* Intervention by Hon. Gloria Inés Ramírez, Minister of Labor of Colombia, host of the XXII IACML in 2024
* Discussion and brainstorming on thematic areas to be considered at the XXII IACML

5:15 – 5:30 p.m. CLOSING SESSION – Chair of the IACML and Technical Secretariat

* Gerardo Corres, Director of International Affairs, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of Argentina, on behalf of the Chair of the IACML
* Jesús Schucry Giacoman, Director of the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment, SEDI, OAS

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