



**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**  
Inter-American Council for Integral Development  
(CIDI)



**TECHNICAL PREPARATORY MEETING  
OF THE XVIII INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE  
OF MINISTERS OF LABOR (IACML)**

April 19, 2013  
Nassau, Bahamas

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Letter from the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council (COSATE) and the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA) regarding the meetings related to the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) taking place in Bahamas on April 16 to 19, 2013 and their comments to the proposed Agenda of the XVIII IACML



CONFEDERACIÓN SINDICAL DE TRABAJADORES/AS DE LAS AMÉRICAS

CONFEDERACIÓN SINDICAL INTERNACIONAL



São Paulo, April 19, 2012.

Dear Mrs. Evelyn Jacir de Lovo

Director of the Department of Social Development and Employment  
Organization of American States  
Washington, DC

Dear Director,

On behalf of the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council (COSATE) and the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA), we extend a warm and cordial greeting to you and to the official delegations participating in the Second Meeting of the Working Groups of the XVII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) and in the RIAL Workshop "Towards fairer labor conditions: promoting labor inclusion with equity" that is taking place in Nassau, Bahamas.

We would like to take this opportunity as well to inform you that our absence in such an important forum is due to the structural difficulties that did not permit our presence in the different spaces. This leads us to reaffirm that in order to ensure effective equity in the participation of social actors (workers and employers), especially that of COSATE, the OAS should anticipate the necessary funding in all preparatory meetings and in the conferences.

Regarding issues to be debated in the Preparatory meeting of the **XVIII IACML**, which will take place in Medellín, Colombia under the slogan "50 years of inter-American dialogue for the promotion of decent work: progress and challenges," we would like to express our support of the main theme proposed. However, we also consider it important to include in the main theme a reference to the limitations to full exercise of decent work in our continent, because this clear identification will enable recognition of progress and definition of challenges.

On the proposed themes, we make the following observations, which appear in blue.



XVIII IACML Themes:

1. Articulation of economic and labor policies for the promotion of decent work and social inclusion. Inter-sectoral dialogue. [COSATE and CSA agree, as long as an effective debate and commitment of government economic operators, along with ministries of labor, is guaranteed.](#)
2. Employment and equity. Employment ([Decent Work](#)) as a factor in the quest for equality and development, [with effective policies to bridge the wage gap between men and women and reduce violence in the workplace.](#)
3. Protection of the rights of workers, [freedom of association, collective bargaining,](#) and promotion of social dialogue

We hope that these considerations can be taken into account among the distinguished representatives that are present in the preparatory meeting and we reaffirm that these elements can move forward to the extent that there is a clear option for sustainable development that places decent work at the center of a new economic model for our region.

We appreciate your attention and express our highest regards,

Sincerely,

**Víctor Báez Mosqueira**  
General Secretary TUCA