



IAMREC – Interamerica Regional Executive Committee
Panama City – August 1, 2 & 3, 2018

Preparatory document for discussion of IAMRECON 2019

The purpose of this document is to contribute to the discussions and decisions of the members of the Regional Executive Committee (IAMREC) as related to the 2019 Interamerican Regional Conference (IAMRECON). It is suggested that the following points be resolved at this IAMREC:

➤ **CENTRAL THEME**

The slogan "People over Profit" was adopted for PSI World Congress. Do we use this same slogan or something different? One alternative is to maintain and complement this slogan. For example: "The role of the State in the fight against poverty", or "The struggle against corporate power", or "Defending the State against corporate power".

➤ **PLAN OF ACTION**

It is expected that IAMREC will decide and approve the main points of the Plan of Action and regional adaptations that follow resolutions approved by Congress.

Logically, we will follow the World Plan of Action which was very well received by the delegates participating in the World Congress, particularly as related to the themes of global governance, trade union rights and equal opportunities. These elements should be included in the regional Action Plan, with the suggestion that the following points be strengthened:

- **Corporate power:** Various ongoing struggles can be directly linked to this theme including tax justice, free trade agreements, human rights, dispute resolution mechanisms, capture of democracy etc.
- **The future of work in the public service:** Technological innovations, computerization, decentralization, impact of precarization on women. We must define what kind of work we want in the future.
- **Climate Change:** global warming and its regional impacts including natural disasters. In recent years there has been a volcanic eruption in Guatemala, an earthquake in Ecuador,

an earthquake in Mexico, hurricanes in the Caribbean and Florida and floods in Brazil. How to better defend first-responders and emergency workers and how to face the issue of global warming in the region?

- **Sectoral organization in the region**

1- The advancement of organization has been a success in recent years, especially in Latin America, but now we need to make a more critical evaluation of the sectoral integration throughout the region and of the relationship between confederative organizations and PSI. How to reconcile this articulation with PSI structures?

2- There is an existing proposal to create a consultative council for the sectors.

3- We emphasize that in the composition of the Regional Executive Committee the differences between the different sectors will be considered.

Would these be good measures to improve integration?

- **Other points beyond what was presented in the Global Plan of Action?**

- **MAIN SPEAKERS**

We want to get closer to CEPAL-ECLAC (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean) due to the role this body has taken in the debate on Sustainable Development and in the analysis of growing conservatism in the region. We also want to strengthen relations with feminist organizations, considering the growth of the struggle of women throughout the region. Many of the organizations that are driving current struggles are not trade union organizations. With respect to the platforms of struggles against free trade agreements and for Tax Justice with whom we already have consolidated alliances, we need to improve consultation mechanisms and the coordination of joint actions. Other possible speakers and presenters: intellectuals who criticize the growing conservatism in the region and how this relates to the interests of a national elites and the interests of international capital? Suggestions are always welcome.

- **ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO IAMRECON**

In the complex variety of activities that lead up to IAMRECON, we would like to highlight and suggest the following:

- SUBRACs: Duration of up to one day - to be established in each case.
- Transversal and committee meetings – up to one day.

- Sectoral meetings: The regional PSI groupings will have meeting and coordination space (health, municipal/CONTRAM, water/CONTAGUAS, electricity sector, judicial/CLTPJ, legislative/CONTLAC, central government, universities and education administrative sector/CONTUA; State control/UITOC and others).
- Regional Women’s Committee: a morning.
- IAMREC: an afternoon.
- Other possible activities connected to projects.

➤ **CALENDAR LEADING UP TO IAMRECON**

It is suggested that IAMREC adopt the following calendar:

- The Conference would take place in the second half of June in Buenos Aires. Expected participation is from 300 to 350 people.
- First version of the Action Plan: end of October 2018.
- Presentation of amendments and other resolutions: end of November 2018.
- Second version of the Action Plan and sharing of all resolutions: end of January 2019.
- Second version of amendments and other resolutions: end of February 2019.
- Final version of the Action Plan, including resolutions and amendments to resolutions: end of March 2019.
- After March 2019, exclusively emergency resolutions.
- Registration of conference participants: up until the end of February 2019, with the disclosure of dates and criteria for participation in October 2018 (together with the first proposal of the Action Plan).

The following calendar integrates these proposals:

End of October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First version of the Action Plan - Disclosure of dates and statutory criteria for participation
End of November 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of amendments and other resolutions
End of January 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Second version of the Action Plan - Sharing of all resolutions

End of March 2019	- Final version of the Action Plan, including resolutions and amendments
After March 2019	- Exclusively emergency resolutions
Second half of June 2019	- IAMRECON (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

➤ **CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

The main issue that remains to be defined is the electoral process for IAMREC members, with emphasis on the issue of co-presidents who will also be members of the Board of Directors. We are clear that the Regional Conference will elect the members of the Regional Executive Council (IAMREC) but it is not clear what impact this will have on representation at the World Executive Council and the Board of Directors. We must also consider the representations of different sectors: presence beyond geography alone, by SUBRAC - also consider representation by sectors.

With regard to the number of youth representatives: following the World Executive Council doubling the number, would it be appropriate to do the same in the region?

In November 2018, the Executive Council will complete the clarification of points related to PSI statutes. In sequence, we will have clearer procedures for IAMRECON.

➤ **SPONSORSHIPS AND OTHER BUDGETARY ISSUES**

The conference budget is 140,000 euros. If we do IAMREC together with IAMRECON, we would have an additional 40,000 euros. In addition, there is the possibility of organizing some seminars with resources from the FES or the DGB. The subregions that organize their SUBRACs in Buenos Aires will add corresponding resources. That will allow us to sponsor around 100 or more participants. It is important to consider the difficult situation in the region. We will have to wait for the finalization of the 2019 PSI budget which will happen at the World Executive Council in November 2018. If we are clear about which projects may add meetings and activities to IAMRECON by February, the number of sponsorships will be clear.

Members will be sponsored by IAMREC, and according to possibilities, other sponsorships will be divided among the five subregions with emphasis on the participation of young people, always with a gender balance, guaranteeing sectoral presence among those sponsored in each subregion. By the end of February, the entire sponsorship proposal can be assembled based on budget proposals.

With respect to the organization of the conference, we will delegate it to a working group of Argentinian affiliates that will work in close cooperation with the regional office,

keeping the members of IAMREC and the subregional offices informed which in turn will keep affiliates informed. This working group will be responsible for organizing rooms for meetings, hotel, local transportation, food, equipment for interpretation, materials, etc. After this IAMREC, any remaining questions or decisions will be taken by the conference working group together with the regional office and in consultation with the co-chairs and other members of IAMREC as necessary.

➤ **OTHER POINTS SUGGESTED BY PARTICIPANTS**