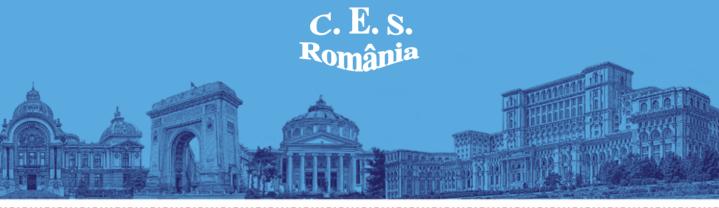


INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS

## **AICESIS PRESIDENCY**

**SEPTEMBER 2017-OCTOBER 2019** 

**President lacob Baciu** 





#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2017 AND OCTOBER 2019

**President lacob Baciu** 

I had the privilege and honour of being the President of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS) for a two-year term, from September 2017 to October 2019, and the main theme of my mandate was the digital revolution.

Industry 4.0, as named by Chancellor Angela Merkel in 2011, represents the fourth stage of the Industrial Revolution and has brought major changes in the economy, labour relations, labour market, education, significantly influencing social life.

The next industrial revolution finds itself on an unknown horizon and is difficult to predict.

Humanity has come a long way in seeking its solutions to the problems it faces; history has recorded all the achievements, hesitations, mistakes, conflicts and progress made.

Only if we learn from experience will we be able to avoid repeating the mistakes made.

The first industrial revolution began at the end of the eighteenth century and in the first decades of the nineteenth century first in England, which managed to remain the world's first industrial power until the end of the nineteenth century. In France, the industrial revolution evolved slowly, its beginnings dating back to the 1830s. The low demand for industrial products under a predominantly agrarian population meant that the true industrial era began only in 1890. Germany's industrialization was marked by its political fragmentation; the favourable conditions for the start of the revolution in this field were created during the years 1840-1850. US industrial development began in the mid-nineteenth century by applying a multitude of inventions and innovations. The massive arrival of immigrants after 1865 led to a strong development of the American economy and thus around 1900 the US be-

#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

came the first industrial country in the world. Discoveries in the scientific field have prompted the emergence of modern techniques and inventions:

- In 1698 Denis Papin invented the steam boiler under pressure;
- In 1712 Thomas Newcomen built a steam engine equipped with a piston and a cylinder, but it was not until 1784 that James Watt invented the improved steam engine that inaugurated the industrial revolution.
- This was particularly evident in the early textile field. John Kay invented the flying shuttle that allowed the fabrics to be much wider than before. Then in 1765, James Hargreaves invented the torsion machine and in 1789, Edmond Cartwright, the loom. At this moment, England receives the name of "the workshop of the world";
- Major discoveries are also made in other areas, such as metallurgy: Abraham Darby invents coke-based cast iron, Wilkinson steel rolling.

These advances have favoured the phenomenon of the "industrial revolution".

The Industrial Revolution was a complex technical process whereby manual labour was replaced by machines. In this mechanized process, the worker's role is to supervise, regulate and feed the machine and control the quality. The industrial revolution had the effect of increasing production, developing cities and science.

The first sector in which the steam engine was used was the textile industry.

The social impact of the industrial revolution marked the development of the social division of labour, new branches of production appeared, new industrial centres, capitalist economic relations were imposed before the feudal societies. There was also the middle class, a category that benefits from reasonable financial gains and has a cautious attitude towards bourgeois or aristocratic elites. There is a big change in clothing and investments for more comfortable homes. Of all social classes, the bourgeoisie asserts itself, which is a basic class of capitalist society.



James Watt's steam engine

The technical impact provoked a strong impetus in the field of inventions, factories appeared and manual work was replaced by mechanized work. An important invention was made in 1760, when James Watt invented the steam engine, which began to be used in various branches of the industry. British inventor and engineer George Stephenson built the first railway, and in 1829, the locomotive called "Racket", considered the first cost-effective locomotive used as a means of traction on the railway.

In general, it can be said that greater volume and diversity of products led to an increase in

the standard of living, but this affected at most the middle class. The lower class continued to have many problems. Wages were low and working conditions dangerous

and often unhealthy. Cities in constant growth had also become very unhealthy. With more and more people coming from rural areas to urban areas, the localities were overpopulated, with overcrowded sewage systems and homes also very crowded. This has led to a lack of hygiene, to pollution and the spread of disease.

In addition, manual labour was replaced by mechanical work, which resulted in a high unemployment rate. However, the conditions for these workers have improved since the middle of the 19th century, along with legislative measures in favour of the working class and the possibility of forming unions.

<u>The second industrial revolution</u> began in the late 19th century. Since the first part of the nineteenth century, discoveries and inventions



1912 Ford Model T

in the field of electricity and electric cars had experienced a fulminating dynamic. This made the electric motor to be used in the industry at the end of this century. On the other hand, the growing need for products forced the factories to develop continuously, which required different methods of production organization than those of factories / workshops at the beginning of the century. The use of electric drive of production equipment and mass production are based on the division and specialization of activities in the work process using the production lines. The first production line was used in 1870 at the Cincinnati abattoir in the United States. But the best known and most striking moment was the inauguration, in 1913, of the Ford T-series assembly line. In 1912, Ford T production was 40,000 pieces in 1914, after the introduction of the assembly line; it had increased to more than 260,000. Another feature of this revolution is the development of the internal combustion engine, which revolutionized transportation and opened the use of oil as a main source of energy.

The third industrial revolution began with technological developments after the Second World War, both in the field of machine tools and the automation of manufacturing processes, and particularly in the field of microelectronics and computing. That was in 1969, when the first logical programmable logic controller (PLC) was built and used, Modicon 084, which revolutionized industrial automation systems. It is a programmable device used to control machines and industrial processes. The third industrial revolution is characterized by the use of electronic systems and information technol-



Modicon 084, first PLC

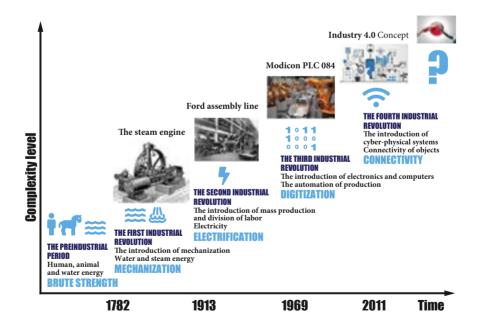
ogies, as well as robots in the automation of production. From an energy point of view, the use of nuclear energy is starting to increase significantly.

The fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0) began with the 8th and 9th decades of the 20th century, when significant progress was made in the field of computers, sensors, telecommunications and mass generalization of the Internet. This is characterized by the use of cyber-physical systems in the production processes and their connectivity. The concept of Industry 4.0 was introduced by the Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel in 2011, on the occasion of the opening of the Hannover Fair. The advanced technologies specific to the fourth industrial revolution are: the Internet of Things (IoT), data processing and, more recently, cloud manufacturing, additive manufacturing, augmented reality, Big Data, autonomous robots, process simulation, vertical and horizontal systems integration. By applying these new technologies, the moment when the application on the mobile phone will detect, through the sensors, a health problem and transmit the information to the (virtual) doctor, who will prescribe the prescription and transfer it to the pharmacy, which will "print" the medicines and will deliver them to the patient via a drone, it is not far. All of the technologies mentioned in the process described above are being developed or are being implemented.

The concepts of the Fourth Industrial Revolution are already included in the strategic development programs of all developed countries in Europe, America and Asia.

Basically, humanity has gone through three industrial revolutions so far, finds itself in the fourth revolution Industry 4.0 and is heading towards the fifth, which will be different from all four, and which will bring changes that are hard to imagine now.

By placing this evolution in a graph, we can schematically visualize the long journey that has been made by mankind and we can see that the stages of change are getting shorter.



Considering that the speed of implementation of a new invention in everyday life is increasing, the moment of the next revolution can be estimated to occur at intervals of several decades.

If we look at the history of technologies from the point of view of their adaptation to the consumer's requirements, we can periodize it in the next four stages, which generally overlap over the four industrial revolutions (the following graph).

The period before the first industrial revolution (the one of the artisan production) is characterized by the fact that each product was designed and made for a specific client (footwear, clothes, harness for horses, etc.). The industrial revolution of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries led to an increase in productivity and volume of production by product variants, which, at the beginning of the 20th century, shifted to another paradigm, that of mass production (introduced by Ford in the manufacture of the Ford T car model). At this stage a limited number of products are manufactured, these being made in a very large number (mass), assuming that there will be sufficient buyers for them.

The year 1955 is considered to be characteristic for mass production, being the year with the highest volume of production for a certain variant of product. Starting this year, the variety of products is increasing, and the number of products on one variant is beginning to decrease.

The year 1969 is the year of transition to a new stage, that of mass customization (mass customization), in which the customer selects the desired product, from a list of options, before making it (a classic example is the choice of the car configuration by the customer based on a list of variants and then launching it into production).

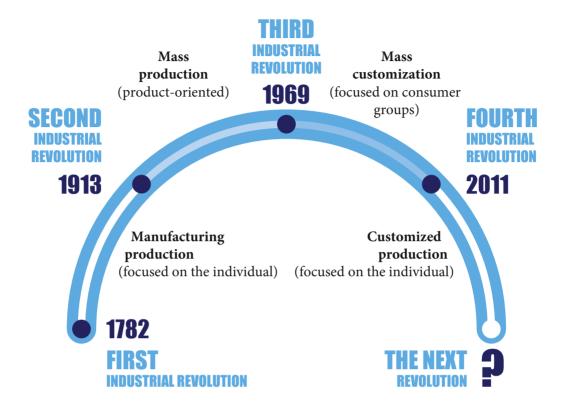
The fourth technological stage is that of custom production, which begins in the first decade of the 21st century. During this period, the product options are chosen by the customer, bought from the manufacturer and then realized with advanced processing systems.

It follows from the above that the technologies have undergone a cyclical development, from the personalized artisan production (oriented to the individual), to the mass production (oriented to the product), then to the personalized mass production (oriented to the groups of consumers) and returning to personalized production (focused on the individual consumer).

From this point of view, the next industrial revolution will emerge when each consumer will produce, within a reasonable time, the goods they need using technologies such as additive manufacturing and the necessary programs, downloaded from the Internet (Cloud).

In this way, the cycle presented closes completely to return to the type of production of the primitive commune, in which each individual produced only the necessary goods.

A graphical highlight of this cyclicity can be expressed by the following graph:



I felt that during my mandate, we can lay the groundwork for a constructive dialogue, based on realities and evidence, and spark discussions that would lead to the search for optimal solutions so that the fifth industrial revolution can bring out a safer world without wars, fair for all the states of the world, without poverty, without incurable diseases, with a healthy environment capable of ensuring a decent life for every citizen.

This is the message I tried to convey to you during my mandate.

If I have succeeded in doing this, it remains for each of you to decide.

Iacob Baciu,

AICESIS President for the 2017-2019 mandate

Bibliography: Alexandru Voiculescu, Academician Dorel Banabic, Wikipedia

#### CONTENTS

9	SANTO DOMINGO BOARD, GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND INTERNATIONAL MEETING		
<b>27</b>	ATHENS ILO-AICESIS-OKE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - SOCIAL DIALOGUE AND THE FUTURE OF LABOR		
41	ABIDJAN BOARD AND WORKSHOP		
<b>48</b>	EFORIE NORD AICESIS – ECOSOC COOPERATION		
<b>53</b>	PARIS BOARD AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY		
<b>63</b>	GENEVA COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN AICESIS AND THE ILO / INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION		
<b>79</b>	CHINA VISIT TO CHINA OF A DELEGATION OF THE ESC OF ROMANIA / VISIT TO ROMANIA OF THE GUANGDONG FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION		
<b>85</b>	CURAÇAO BOARD AND WORKSHOP		
<b>92</b>	ROME ANNUAL MEETING OF PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL ESCS IN THE EU AND THE EESC		
97	GENEVA THE ILO CENTENARY DECLARATION FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT THE 108TH SESSION		
112	OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF PRESIDENT IACOB BACIU 2017–2019		
141	STATUTE		
149	INTERNAL REGULATIONS		
153	S VISUAL IDENTITY MANUAL		
157	DECISIONS		





## **SANTO DOMINGO**

BOARD, GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND INTERNATIONAL MEETING
6-8 September 2017

#### INTERNATIONAL MEETING

Mr. Agripino Antonio NÚÑEZ COLLADO, President of the Dominican ESC and President of AICESIS, opened the 15<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of the ESC-SIs with the presence of Mr. Pedro BRACHE, President of the Dominican Council of Private Industry, Mr. Ernesto VILALTA, Deputy Minister of Energy and Mining, Mr. Andrés NAVARRO, Minister of Education, Dr. Milton RAY GUEVARA, President of the Constitutional Court of the Dominican Republic, Dr. Isidoro SANTANA, Minister of Economy, Planning and Development, Mr. Román JÁQUEZ, President of the Superior Court for the Electoral, Mr. Hugo Francisco ALVAREZ, President of the Audit Commission of the Dominican Republic.



According to the programme, the international meeting on the main working theme of the Presidency for 2015-2017 "The role of ESC-SIs in the fight against inequalities linked to poverty" took place on September 6.

The report, which addressed this main theme, that will be updated with comments made during the discussions by the general rapporteur, Mrs. CAPRILES (Dominican ESC) was adopted and it will be widely disseminated, including among the relevant international organisations.

For medical reasons, President NÚNEZ was forced to leave after the opening session.

#### **BOARD 1** / Wednesday 6 September 2017

Chair: Mrs. DIALLO RABIATOU SERAH (Guinean ESC)



#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY** / Thursday 7 and Friday 8 September 2017

#### **Chairs:**

Mrs. DIALLO RABIATOU SERAH (Guinean ESC) – *Points 1 and 2* Mr. Iacob BACIU (Romanian ESC)

#### 1/ Agenda

The agenda was adopted without any changes.

#### 2/ Presidency for 2017-2019

The Romanian ESC application to organise the 16th international meeting in 2019 was approved. The President of the ESC of Romania, Mr. Iacob BACIU, was unanimously elected President of AICESIS for 2017-2019.

The main working topic for those two years suggested by the Romanian Presidency is "The impact of the digital revolution on the future of mankind".

The Presidency roadmap – that will be focused on AICESIS development and its members, communication and exchange - will be sent to all AICESIS members soon.

#### 3/ Guidelines of the new SG

The new SG presents the main guidelines of his development program for AICESIS for his 2017-2021 mandate.

#### 4/ Activity report

The 2016 activity report was adopted.

#### 5/ Financial report

The GA adopts the financial report for 2016 and the 2017 provisional account and gave a discharge to the SG for his 2016 management.

#### 6/ Activities of the former SG

The former SG, Mr. VENTURINI, presents his activity report during his 2 mandates as AICESIS SG (2009-2017).

He is unanimously congratulated for the management of his 2 mandates.

#### 7/ Exchange of experiences

The topic "Good Practices in the day-to-day operation of the ESC-SI: Measurement of impact and added value" was introduced by the Spanish ESC and discussed. Representatives from China, Brazil, Buenos Aires (Argentina), Netherlands, Luxembourg, Morocco, Algeria, Greece, France, Jalisco (Mexico) took the floor to present their experiences.





#### 8/ Exchange of experiences: Choice of future working topics

After extensive debate, several working topic of general interest for the next sessions of exchanges of experience came up.

The general secretariat will send son to all to know the member preferences.

#### 9/ Partnership with ILO

The AG is informed by the ILO representative, Mrs. OKUMURA, of the positive and active development of this partnership and development prospects.

In particular, the AG notes the next conference organized by AICESIS, ILO and the Greek OKE in Athens (Greece) on 23 and 24 November 2017, on *Social Dialogue and the Future of Work*. ESC-SIs were called on to respond to the questionnaire that was distributed and to take part in the event.

#### 10/ Future of AICESIS

The SG presents to the members of the GA the orientations and the preparatory note that will be used for debates on the future of AICESIS and to open up paths of reflection.

After a debate, the GA decides to continue the debate, notably by setting up a working group - which will be concretized soon - in charge of thinking on AICESIS Articles and the holding an open international symposium to develop and deepen these reflections on the model of the one proposed in the past by the Algerian CNES.



### 11/ New Board and new deputy SG for 2017-2019

- -Africa: Benin, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Morocco, Senegal + UCESA (Mali);
- -**Latin America**: Brazil, Curaçao, Dominican Republic;
- **Asia**: China, Korea, Russia;
- -**Europe**: Spain, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Romania.

The GA also appointed AICESIS's deputy SG:

- -Africa: UCESA:
- -Latin America / Caribbean: Curação;
- -Asia/Eurasia/Near East: Mr. YOUN, Moojeong (ESDC of Korea);
- **-Europe**: Mr. Apostolos XYRAFIS (OKE of Greece).

After a long debate, it was decided to clarify and update the AICESIS Articles regarding the Board, its new members, its renewal, etc.

#### 12/ Miscellaneous

- Summer school: The GA is informed by the Algerian CNES representative that the 4th edition which should be organised in Algiers (Algeria) from 3 to 9 September 2016 then 2017 was postponed again because of the lack of participants.
- AICESIS activities at the UN (ECOSOC, CSW, Youth Forum): The SG informs the GA of the participation of AICESIS through its various members in UN activities (Benin at the Youth Forum January 2017 / Cameroon, Guinea and DRC at the Commission on the Status of Women March 2016 / Significant delegation led by Guinea at the ECOSOC high level segment July 2017) and positive meetings at the UN with senior ECOSOC officials.
- New members: The ESC of Jalisco (Mexico) applied to join AICESIS as observer member. The SG will contact soon the ESC representations to get the official documents and submit the application to the next AICESIS GA.
- Date and place of the 2018 GA: To be confirmed.
- Certificates of membership: For members which want it and need it at national level, the Presidency and the General Secretariat may issue official membership certificates to AICESIS and the Presidency in the format proposed and presented by the Dominican ESC.

#### 13/ AICESIS agenda for the end of 2017 - the 1st half of 2018

- 23-24 November 2017 (Athens, Greece): International Conference with the ILO and the Greek OKE on *Social Dialogue and the Future of Work*;
- February or March 2018 (Abidjan, Ivory Coast): AICESIS Board and open working workshop;
- **April 2018 (Algiers, Algeria):** Open international Symposium on AICESIS future;
- June 2018 (Geneva Switzerland): AICESIS intervention to the ILO's International Labour Conference;
- July 2018 (New York, USA): AICESIS intervention to the UN ECOSOC high level segment.



#### **BOARD 2** / Friday 8 September 2017

Chair: Mr. Iacob BACIU (Romanian ESC)

1/ Agenda: The agenda was adopted without any changes.

2/ Presidency: The President explained in more detail his program of action for his 2017-2019 mandate. In particular, he wants to strengthen cooperation with the ILO, among AICESIS members, communication and exchange of experiences between members at each meeting of AICESIS. He will send his program and roadmap soon.



- 3/ Exchange of experiences: The Board decided to strengthen the sessions of exchange of experiences. Spain agrees to continue to serve as Rapporteur-General in charge of the preparatory notes for the future sessions of exchange of experience. A roadmap and a working program will be sent to all.
- 4/ Future of AICESIS: The SG will prepare a working paper on the future of AICESIS to inform and summarize the main themes and comments expressed at the GA. This note will be sent to all members soon with the call for candidacy for the formation of the working group in charge of thinking on the future of AICESIS.

5/ **Next Board**: The next meeting will take place in February or March 2018 in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire). In parallel, an open workshop will be organized.



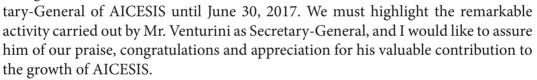
# ADDRESS GIVEN BY MR. IACOB BACIU, PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF ROMANIA, TO THE AICESIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT HIS INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF AICESIS FOR THE 2017–2019 TERM OF OFFICE

Dear President, Dear Secretary-General, Dear colleagues,

I am honored to be here, in Santo Domingo, to take over, as President of the Economic and Social Council of Romania, the important position of President of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions, during the 2017–2019 term of office.

On behalf of the Economic and Social Council of Romania and on my own behalf, I would like to express our gratitude and deep appreciation to Mr. Agripino Nunez Collado, President of AICESIS, for his outstanding leadership of our Association during his 2015-2017 mandate.

I would like, as well, to express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Patrick Venturini, Secre-



The Economic and Social Council of Romania is a founding member of AICESIS and has served its third term as member of the AICESIS Board of Directors.

The Economic and Social Council of Romania has always considered the work of AICESIS as highly important, and has been wholeheartedly involved in all the actions initiated by AICESIS.

The Romanian ESC participated in all the meetings of the AICESIS General Assembly and Board, as well as in numerous international meetings organized by the Association.

Our Council organized, in cooperation with AICESIS, two General Assembly meetings, in 2002 and in 2014.

Also, the Economic and Social Council of Romania organized in June 2016 an AICESIS international conference on "Migration in Europe: the role of ESC-SIs in addressing challenges, responsibilities and solutions". The conference was attended by members of Economic and Social Councils from 16 countries of Africa, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East.

I must note that this year it will be 20 years since the Economic and Social Council of Romania first appeared and began its work.

The Economic and Social Council of Romania is organized and operates under Article 141 of the Romanian Constitution and in accordance with the provisions of Law 248/2013, as subsequently amended and supplemented.



#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

The Economic and Social Council of Romania is a consultative body of the Parliament and of the Government of Romania in the fields of competence established by its Law, and an autonomous tripartite public institution of national interest, set up with the aim of achieving tripartite dialogue at national level between employers' organizations, trade unions' organizations and representatives of non-governmental associations and foundations of civil society.



The consultation of the Economic and Social Council on draft acts initiated by the Government and on legislative proposals of deputies or senators is mandatory. The result of this consultation takes the form of opinions on draft legislation.

The fields of competence of the Economic and Social Council are:

- economic policies;
- financial and fiscal policies;
- labor relations, social protection, wage policis and the promotion of equal opportunities and equal treatment;
- agriculture, rural development, environment protection and sustainable development;
- consumer protection and fair competition;
- cooperatives, liberal professions and independent activities;
- civil rights and freedoms;
- public health policies;
- education, youth, research, culture and sports policies.

All the fields of competence are coordinated by standing advisory committees, each composed of nine members, three per each group that is a constitutive party of the ESC.

The ESC Plenary is composed of 45 members, including the President and Vice-Presidents.

The nomination of the members of the ESC Plenary is made as follows:

- 15 members nominated by the employers' confederations representative at national level, representing the employers' Party;
- 15 members nominated by the trade union confederations representative at national level, representing the trade unions' Party;
- 15 members representing associative forms of civil society, appointed by the Prime Minister, upon a proposal by the Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Protection and Elderly.

The President of the Economic and Social Council is elected on a rotating basis from among the constituent parties of the ESC. Each constituent party of the ESC holds one vice-president position.

The Economic and Social Council is served by a Technical Secretariat, which represents the specialized technical and administrative apparatus. The Technical Secretariat is headed by a Secretary-General appointed by the ESC Plenary.

The Economic and Social Council of Romania proposes for approval by the Minister for Justice the persons who shall hold the positions of legal assistants in the Courts which settle labor disputes, following the nomination by the employers' and trade unions' groups that are part of the ESC.

Practically, the scope of the Romanian Economic and Social Council extends to the areas of activity of the three branches of state power: the legislative power (the Parliament), the executive power (the Government) and the judicial power.

The Economic and Social Council of Romania nominates the representatives of Romania, on the part of trade unions, employers and civil society, for the European Economic and Social Committee.

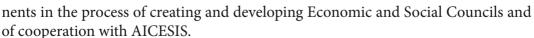
My intention during my term of office, between 2017 and 2019, is to take action for developing social dialogue as a main tool of information, consultation and negotiation between the social partners and the Government, with a view to drafting and promoting a fair and decent labor legislation capable of offering a predictable development for professional careers, social protection, job creation and job maintenance, poverty and social inequality eradication, social inclusion, prosperity.

I will encourage the members of our Association to be more actively involved in our fight for sustainable democracy, for the development of participative democracy, for poverty eradication and for the initiative and promotion of prosperity and economic development of the population, in accordance with the principles of United Nations and with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights..

As President of AICESIS, I will promote the strengthening of the collaboration with the European Economic and Social Committee, with the aim of correlating the activities of the two organizations in order to better achieve their goals, to encourage the reciprocal exchange of information on all subjects of common interest, to organize joint activities.

I will militate for the creation of Economic and Social Councils in countries which do not yet possess them. Particular attention will be devoted to the countries of North America, South America and Australia.

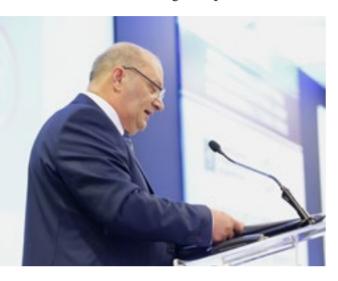
AICESIS needs to develop strategies to attract countries of the above-mentioned conti-



AICESIS needs to become an active voice, heard by global political and economic decision-makers. It needs to develop an active system for communicating and



providing information to member organizations and to the population. It needs to militate with force and determination for solidarity, by becoming actively involved in the analysis and drafting of the strategies for solving the problems facing mankind: poverty, discrimination of any kind, wars, social inequalities, lack of employment, wage inequalities, lack of social protection, social exclusion and terrorism.



Solidarity between states, solidarity within our Association, social solidarity represent the primary principle for which I will fight and which I will promote during my term of office.

Without solidarity, our work will be limited to statements and good intentions, expressed but never put into practice.

I urge you to make a solidarity pact, to show that we care that there is so much poverty in the world, that many, too many people live on or below the poverty line, that hundreds of thousands of people and children starve to death, that entire populations are deprived of medical assistance, that millions of people are illiterate, being denied the right to education, that there

are millions of refugees who have fled their countries, in search of haven from wars and discrimination.

I appeal to you to turn together our work into more action and less talk, I ask you that each of us would do something in his/her own country so that social dialogue might become the tool for reducing inequalities, for imposing fair working relationships, for guaranteeing peoples prosperity and safety. Let us advocate together, globally, within the international institutions, for a safe and prosperous future for all the countries of the world.

We are in a time when history seems to be at a challenging crossroads. The industrial and technological revolution seems to have exhausted its resources and is being replaced by another one, less anticipative, less well known.

The digital revolution becomes more and more actual and announces major economic and social changes.

Old jobs are threatened to disappear, new jobs will be performed by machines rather than people, working relations will be affected.

Many people talk of the advantages the digital era will bring, and even more are worried that these changes will find us unprepared.

The great men of the world raise questions and expect answers from the experts. At the last congress of the European Trade Union Confederation, Martin Schultz, then President of the European Parliament, expressed his concern about the effects of the digital revolution and said: "Soon, our fridges will be filled up automatically, our cars will run without human drivers, and our health will be monitored by a computer. The digitalization of the world brings forth unexpected opportunities,

greater transparency and participation, greater access to knowledge and information, better medical care and better services. We need to exploit these innovations, if we want them to improve people's lives. However, digitalization does not come without risks and threats. The monopolistic targets of major global groups and the mass supervision of secret services may generate a fundamental debate in Europe. But we do not talk enough about the effects of digitalization in the world of work. This forces us, for the start, to raise some critical questions: Do we truly have more freedom when we have access to our Smartphones at any moment, and, consequently, are we more capable of working differently, without time limitation? How can we exercise our right to self-determination in relation to information, during a time of commercial exploitation of data? How can we protect our copyrights and how can all these guarantee us a fair pay for the work we perform?" End of the quote.

We are now in a delicate time, to say the least. This is why I propose as a working theme, during my term of office as AICESIS President, "The impact of the digital revolution on the future of mankind", which I would like to bring to your attention and ask you to reflect and debate upon it.

It is a theme that will ask for clarification concerning major issues that are or will certainly be raised more and more urgently.

First, we cannot imagine the future without considering the problems facing youth. In fact, youth is made up of active citizens who will live and work in our future.

Young people are especially interested in digital development on the labor market, being strongly dependent on the use of information technologies..

Today, there are over five million unemployed young people in Europe. Five million destinies at the beginning of their professional careers, which do not find their place on the labor market. This is an unacceptable situation, which calls for urgent solutions.

After a brief analysis, I can highlight a few of the causes of this tragic situation affecting young people, who are future citizens:

Many young people hold one or more university degrees or at least a technical qualification. Nevertheless, those who are active on the labor market work in occupations other than those they have been qualified for. We ask ourselves which might be the



cause of this phenomenon. Might the lack of correlation between their initial qualifications and the labor market demands be one such cause?

• Although many young people are highly qualified, they do not find a job. We ask ourselves, have the qualifications obtained in universities not been updated in accordance with the labor market demands?

#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

- Has anyone completed a serious study on young people's aspirations, on the problems they face at their work place, on the careers they wish to pursue?
- How can an employer compensate for lack of experience on the part of young people: by capitalizing on their enthusiasm, on their imagination, on their interest for novelty?

I strongly believe that young people are the key to success for a future without wars, a tolerant and prosperous future, which might offer all countries the possibility to define their identity and to develop their potential in harmony with the other countries.



What we need to do is simple. We only need to remember that these young people exist, that they have aspirations and fears, that they often face situations where they should not be left alone, that they need protection, education, our concern and care.

They seem to be most adapted to the new digital era, but they are also most vulnerable to the negative effects it could produce.

Second, we must raise the question: how safe will our life be in the digital era?

Of course, the daily use of information technology can have many advantages:

- rapid communication and information;
- reduction of routine activities;
- accurate product design and imple mentation:
- rapid communication and informa- supervision of dangerous activities;
  - accurate medical diagnosis;
  - transport safety;
  - non-invasive surgical procedures;
  - ocean and space exploration etc.

It can also have many vulnerabilities concerning:

- the right to private life;
- manipulation of information;
- communication safety;
- protection of goods;

- safety of interbank or private financial transactions;
- data protection safety.

The latest events surrounding the election of the president of the United States and the possibility, suggested by some experts, that these might have been manipulated through a misinformation virtual campaign can serve as an example of negative side effects that can arise due to lack of legislation concerning the use of virtual data and information.

This is why we need to raise the attention of the national and international authorities to the need to draft clear rules regarding the access to and the use of data, the information transfer and information control, clear regulation concerning the limits and conditions of supervision, clear regulation concerning the level and extent of the use of digital information in public and private life, in economy, administration or in the army and security.

Third, the evaluation of the impact of generalized digitalization is mandatory.

Traditional trades might disappear and be replaced with other trades, automated and performed by machines.

In this context, unemployment will rise at high levels and workers will have only one alternative: professional requalification, which is costly and more difficult for persons over 50.

Labor relations will undergo important transformations, as the use of information technologies and the substitution of people with machines will no longer require salaries and labor contracts.

The major groups controlling global economy will have new and more efficient levers of power in the process of globalization and of resource access, due to the protection of information and data access and to advanced technologies that make the security of data maintenance by national authorities vulnerable.

The gap between poor and rich countries will widen, the access to new technologies being limited and conditioned by those who possess them.

All these scenarios must be avoided.

We all need to sit down at the negotiating table: political decision-makers, trade unions, NGOs, employers, experts in all fields, scientists, and to think of how to make the impact of the digital revolution upon the future of mankind advantageous for people, how to make it safe, secure, controllable, adjustable, easy to correct and oriented towards human values: solidarity, peace, tolerance, civic spirit.

The digital era has begun. It is only up to us to understand it, to anticipate its effects and to exploit them.

At the end of my speech, I would like to thank once again Mr. Agripino Nunez Collado for his remarkable and efficient work as President of AICESIS.

I wish with all my heart that he would give me the privilege to stay close to me and to continue to watch over the activity of AICESIS.

Dear colleagues, representatives of Economic and Social Councils and of Similar Institutions, thank you for the confidence you have placed in our council at the AICESIS Board meeting in Luxembourg, on March 2, 2017, when it was decided that Romania should take over the AICESIS presidency for a two-year term.



During my term as President of AICESIS, I intend to continue the work of my predecessors and to bring my contribution to the development of AICESIS, to the promotion of the activity of our Association, to the implementation of AICESIS missions and to the strengthening of AICESIS at international level.

May the force of solidarity be with us and guide us.

#### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION
	MEMBRES AICE	SIS
A1 / ·	M. Boubakeur ABBES	Conseiller
Algérie	Prof. Mohammed BAKALEM	Chef de la Division des études économiques
Argentine	M. Gerardo CELSO LUPPI	Conseiller
(Buenos Aires)	M. Roberto DESTEFANO	Conseiller
	M. Vazgen MANUKYAN	Président
Arménie	M. Hovik MUSAYELYAN	Membre
	M. Grigor BADIRYAN	Membre
Aruba	Mandat donné à Curaçao	
D / 1	Mme Patricia AUDI	Secrétaire du Secrétariat
Brésil	Mme Patricia COSTA	Secrétaire adjointe du Secrétariat
Bulgarie	Mandat donné à la Grèce	·
Burkina Faso	M. Moïse NAPON	Président
C	M. Luc AYANG	Président
Cameroun	M. Samuel Emmanuel WONYU	
	Mme ZHANG Qiujian	Vice Présidente
	M. LI Xueming	Secrétaire Général Adjoint
	M. HUANG Youyi	Membre
Chine	M. LIU Qiang	Membre
	M. XU Ge	Directeur du département international
	Mlle LI Shang	Interprète
Corée	M. YOUN, Moo-jeong	Directeur des relations internationales
	M. Koffi Charles DIBY	Président
	M. Hervé Dominique Dié ALLIALI	Membre
CAL DI .t	Mme. Rose Agnès RICHOMOND	Membre
Côte d'Ivoire	M. Alain Pascal MENANN-KOUAME	Directeur des Etudes
	M. Jean-François YAO	Chargé d'Etudes
	M. Alex KONE	Chargé de Mission
0	M. Raul HENRIQUEZ	Secrétaire Général
Curaçao	Mme Miloushka SBOUI-RACAMY	Conseillère
T.	M. José CAMPOS	Vice Président
Espagne	Mme Margarita BRAVO	Directrice des relations internationales
France	Mme Carole COUVERT	Vice Présidente
0.1	M. Georgios KARANIKAS	Vice Président
Grèce	M. Apostolos XYRAFIS	Secrétaire Général
Ci i	Mme DIALLO RABIATOU SERAH	Présidente
Guinée	SAIDOUBA KISSING CAMARA	Secrétaire du Bureau
Jordanie	Mandat donné à l'Espagne	
Liban	Mandat donné à la France	
Luxembourg	M. Daniel BECKER	Secrétaire Général
	M. Tarik AGUIZOUL	Vice-Président
Manaa	Mme Zahra ZAOUI	
Maroc	M. Abdelhai BESSA	
	M. Mohamed DAHMANI	

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION		
MEMBRES AICESIS				
Monaco	M. Rodolphe BERLIN	Vice-Président de la Section "Commerce et Tourisme" - Représentant du Président GARINO à l'étranger (Consul Honoraire du El Salvador à Monaco)		
Pays Bas	Mme Véronique TIMMERHUIS	Secrétaire Générale		
République	M. Agripino Antonio NÚÑEZ COLLADO	Président		
Dominicaine	Dr. Iraima CAPRILES	Directrice Exécutive		
	M. Iacob BACIU	Président		
	M. Dargos MIHALACHE	Vice Président		
Roumanie	M. Bogdan SIMION	Vice Président		
	M. Liviu APOSTOIU	Membre		
	Mme. Eugenia STEFANESCU	Chef des relations internationales		
Russie	Mandat donné à la Chine			
Saint Martin	Mandat donné à Aruba			
Sénégal	Mandat donné à la Guinée			
	Mme Bui Thi Thanh	Vice Présidente		
	M. LE THIEN THANG	Chef des relations internationales		
Vietnam	NGUYEN ANH DUC			
	NGUYEN TUAN ANH			
	TRAN VAN TUAN			
	M. Francisco GONZALEZ DE LENA	Secrétaire Général		
AICESIS	M. Patrick VENTURINI	Ancien Secrétaire Général		
	Mme Samira AZARBA	Administratrice		

	INVITES	
OIT - Département de	Mme Yuka OKUMURA	Spécialiste en administration et programmation stratégique
la gouvernance et du tripartisme	Mme Angelika MULLER	Spécialiste en dialogue social et droit du travail
Mexique (Estado de Jalisco)	LIC. MARIO DAVID MORA VAZQUEZ	

## MEETINGS OF MR. IACOB BACIU, AS PRESIDENT OF AICESIS, WITH THE PRESIDENTS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE, MR. GEORGES DASSIS AND MR. LUCA JAHIER

During the second Board of AICESIS held in Santo Domingo, in September 2017, the newly elected President of the Association, Mr. Iacob Baciu, presented and explained in detail the action program for the mandate of his presidency.

Among the points presented in the roadmap of his presidency, President Baciu expressed his wish to strengthen cooperation with the institutions that used to and continued to play an important role in the activity of AICESIS, namely the ILO, ECOSOC, but also the EESC (European Economic and Social Committee).

In this connection, the new President of AICESIS expressed the view that not only the communication and exchanges of experience between the members of the Association should be improved, but also between AICESIS and the three institutions mentioned above.

In order for the relationship between AICESIS and the EESC to resume and continue on an upward trend, President Baciu announced that he had foreseen several meetings with the Presidents or representatives of the three organizations to convince them of the opportunity to continue and develop the collaboration between the two institutions, profitable for both sides.

Regarding the relationship with the EESC, in order to achieve this objective of the roadmap of his presidency, Mr. Iacob Baciu first met with Mr. Georges Dassis, President of the EESC between 2015 and 2018. The meeting took place on the occasion of the ILO-AICESIS-OKE International Conference on the "Social dialogue and the future of work", in Athens, on 23-24 November 2017.



On that occasion, the President of AICESIS had many significant meetings with important representatives of some European institutions, including with Mr. Dassis, in order to promote and develop the Association and, last but not least, to obtain logistical and financial support for the benefit of the Association.

A first success of these discussions was the promise of the EESC President to consider the return of the institution he represents within the AICESIS and to reiterate the cooperation agreement concluded between the two institutions in 2009.

Another important encounter between the AICESIS President and the EESC President was the meeting Mr. Iacob Baciu had with the current President of the European ESC, Mr. Luca Jahier. This took place on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Presidents and general secretaries of the European ESCs and the EESC, on the theme of "The Future of Europe", in Bratislava, Slovakia, on 14 and 15 June 2018.

During the first day of the proceedings, Mr. Iacob Baciu had an hour-long meeting with the President of the EESC, Mr. Luca Jahier, during which, among other things, there were discussed and analysed the possibility of the EESC to resume links and collaboration interrupted



for a period with the AICESIS. President Jahier has shown his willingness to participate, as far as he has time, in the AICESIS meetings, and to support AICESIS with the expertise and experience of the EESC, whenever requested.

President Iacob Baciu invited the EESC President to visit the Romanian CES and, as President of AICESIS, also invited Mr. Jahier to participate in the works of the AICESIS General Assembly to be held in Paris, at the Council headquarters on 17 and 18 of September 2018, but also in the AICESIS AG to be held in Bucharest, in 2019.

The discussions continued in the same direction at the other two meetings that President Baciu had with President Luca Jahier, namely, in Bucharest, where the two Presidents participated in an event offered by the EESC on the occasion of the EC presidency taking over by Romania, and in Rome, in June 13 and 14, 2019 on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Presidents and General Secretaries of the European ESCs and the EESC, with the theme "The role of ESCs in the sustainable development and implementation of the Pillar of the European Social Rights "

If significant progress has been made in the relationship with the ILO and ECOSOC during the Romanian term of office of the Association, and, although all the meetings held by the President of AICESIS with the EESC Presidents were very satisfying and based on the wish on both sides to support and develop the collaboration between the two institutions, however, so far, a satisfactory result has not been obtained from this point of view.





## **ATHENS**

ilo-aicesis-oke international conference - social dialogue and the future of labor 23–24 November 2017

## THE ATHENS DECLARATION ON SOCIAL DIALOGUE AND THE FUTURE OF WORK BY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS

**Athens. 24 November 2017** 

We, representatives from Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (ESC-SIs), participating in the international conference on "Social Dialogue and the Future of Work", hosted by the AICESIS-ILO-OKE<sup>1</sup> on 23-24 November 2017 in Athens;

Considering that the Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions are established to advise the Executive authority/government and/or parliament on how best to ensure both complementarity and coherence between economic requirements and social needs so that they can advance decent work and social justice for all.

Recalling the Constitution of the ILO, which states that lasting peace can be established only if it is based on social justice;

Reiterating the fundamental principles on which the ILO was founded as described by the Declaration of Philadelphia<sup>2</sup> of 1944:

- " a) labour is not a commodity;
  - b) freedom of expression and of association are essential to sustained progress;
  - c) poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere
  - d) the war against want requires to be carried on with unrelenting vigour within each nation, and by continuous and concerted international effort in which the representatives of workers and employers, enjoying equal status with those of governments, join with them in free discussion and democratic decision with a view to the promotion of the common welfare."



Recalling the ILO Declaration on fundamental principles and rights at work of 1998, promoting principles and rights at work in four categories:

- 1) freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining
- 2) the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour
- 3) the abolition of the worst forms of child labour
- 4) the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations.

<sup>1</sup> The Economic and Social Council of Greece.

<sup>2</sup> Declaration concerning the Aims and Purposes of the International Labour Organisation, adopted at the 26th session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation, Philadelphia, 10 May 1944

#### In recognizing the above principles and rights, we affirm that:

Strong, sustainable growth and decent jobs for all are fundamental for society as reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which provides a global framework to achieve all its 17 Goals. Social dialogue and strong social dialogue institutions are key in shaping the future of work and to building a world of work and social protection in which no one is left behind. The involvement of social partners and other stakeholders in decision making and policy design is particularly important to ensure good governance at a time when the world of work is facing challenges stemming from the rapid transformations in technology, demography, climate change, globalization, as well as other factors such as wars and geopolitical issues. Social dialogue not only fosters democracy and peace, but it also contributes to harmonious industrial relations, reducing inequalities, boosting productivity and promoting inclusive growth. It is therefore important for governments, workers' and employers' organizations to renew their commitment to social dialogue and tripartism as well as to strengthen their capacities.

The ESCs and SIs have an important role to play in better preparing for the challenges and opportunities in a changing world of work by deepening their understanding of the transformations taking place and providing advice on effective policy responses that can help shape the future of work in a manner that best serves the interest of employers, workers and society at large.

#### We are determined to:

Reinforce actions at the national and international level and with regard to different relevant players (Government, Parliament, representative organizations of employers and workers as well as other appropriate representative organizations of persons and groups concerned) in order to promote the recognition of the strategic importance of social dialogue processes in responding effectively to challenges and opportunities resulting from the changes in the world of work;

#### We the ESC-SIs propose the following action:

As unique platforms for building national consensus on important economic and social policies and legislation, we the ESC-SIs will use our best endeavors to:

- Mobilize all available human and financial resources towards addressing the challenges and multiplying opportunities associated with the future of work, such as the: emergence of new forms of work, changing skills requirements, deficits in the enabling environment for sustainable enterprise, use of technology for safer workplaces, need for enhanced enforcement and adaptation of legal and institutional frameworks, growing level of inequality and income insecurity, and the adequacy of social protection systems;
- Further engage ourselves in the national debates on key challenges and opportunities surrounding the changing world of work and enhance our competencies and role as forums for consensus building;
- Enhance the role and capacity of our members, especially the social partners, on issues relating to the changing world of work;
- Give due consideration to the guidance contained in relevant ILO instruments of

social dialogue, especially Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144), Consultation (Industrial and National Levels) Recommendation, 1960 (No. 113), Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) that are essential for effective social dialogue;

- Advise policy makers to put in place policy frameworks that maximize the benefits and minimize the risks relating to the future of work, particularly those that promote:
  - ▶ Sound macroeconomic, fiscal and sectoral policies for inclusive growth and employment;
  - ▶ An enabling environment for enterprise creation, sustainable enterprises and innovative businesses;
  - ▶ Labour market, wage and social protection policies to promote decent work and ensure the protection of labour rights;
  - ▶ Enhanced participation of women, youth and disadvantaged groups in the labour market.

#### We as members of the AICESIS propose the following action:

- Support and facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practice amongst individual ESC-SIs with regard to action taken or identified to help shape the future of work;
- Undertake follow-up actions to the Athens Declaration, which will be presented at our General Assembly meeting in 2018 including specific initiatives aiming at reinforcing ESC-SIs' capacities to support the implementation of the Athens Declaration at country level;
- Expand their association to other tripartite/multipartite institutions and develop a partnership with such entities in collaboration with the ILO particularly in the framework of the Future of Work Initiative and the Centenary celebrations;
- Create and strengthen the global alliance between ESC-SIs (with special attention to Small Island Development States (SIDS)) with the aim to further advancing the objectives of decent work, social justice for all as well as the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### We request the ILO, as a strategic partner, to consider the following action:

- Support and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences on the formulation and implementation of policies aimed at addressing the impact of technological and demographic changes, climate change and globalization;
- Analyze global trends on social dialogue and provide policy tools and training to support national processes of social dialogue;
- Offer assistance and expertise to help ESCs-SIs to formulate strategies that aim at strengthening capacities of their members, especially the social partners, on social dialogue;
- Further advocate social dialogue and tripartism as an important means to maintain and rebuild social justice and peace within and between countries.

## OPENING SPEECH OF MR. IACOB BACIU, AICESIS PRESIDENT, AT THE ILO-AICESIS-OKE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Athens. 23-24 November 2017

Esteemed Presidium, Dear President of the Economic and Social Council, Dear George,

I wanted to come and meet you for the first time in your country and thank you for the message you sent me.

There is no secret, recently an AICESIS meeting was held in Santo Domingo, where I took over the presidency of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions. The main



working theme that I launched, as AICESIS President, was the impact of digitalization on the future of humankind.

I believe this is a topic that must be our focus, first of all, but also the focus of all the institutions that I have informed in this regard. I also have to say that such topics have been promoted at national level.

I believe AICESIS is a global association that, in turn, can promote the theme launched in Santo Domingo. AICESIS has constantly collaborated with the International Labor Organization (ILO), which, I believe, is the fundamental pillar of democracy, being the only global institution that has always promoted the ILO Conventions regulating labor relations and social dialogue. That is why I believe that the ILO and AICESIS must have a close relationship and build together the future of the world.

Taking into account digitalization, the future of the world and the fact that workers are often subject to violations of workers' rights, I think we should unite and take concerted action in these respects, because in some areas there is no legislation regulating different issues.

I believe that all AICESIS member councils need to pay close attention to the promotion of normative acts by their specific governments, as well as to the ILO Conventions and EU Directives, and to make sure that labor relations are respected.

As you know, I am the president of the ESC of Romania, a country where a revolution happened, and our goal was to ratify the ILO Conventions in order to achieve stability. It is true that other normative acts have been promoted, and we must ensure that the legislation promoted on Romanian territory takes into account the ILO Conventions ratified by Romania.

We have made efforts to enshrine our institution, the Economic and Social Council, in the Constitution, and now, Article 141 states clearly that "the Economic and

#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

Social Council is a consultative body of the Parliament and the Government of Romania". This means that all normative acts initiated or proposed by the Government or the Parliament must be transmitted first to the ESC, which in turn must issue opinions, favorable or unfavorable.



In 27 years, Romania has made tremendous progress. But now we have to turn our attention to the other ESCs and take examples of good practices, but I also think we can only build together.

First, I would like to thank all my colleagues from AICESIS member ESCs for making the effort to be here today. I believe that these days will remain in the history of AICESIS and will mark a new beginning of the Association. In my opinion, we should have global meetings with the ILO and not only. And we also need to have a permanent relationship with trade union and employers' representatives around the world, because the ESCs bring together the

three segments, trade unions, employers and civil society organizations, which need to collaborate globally and set clear targets, taking into account, as I said, the issue of digitalization. As AICESIS President, I undertake to support the promotion of labor legislation.

We are talking now of Social Dialogue, which is a fundamental issue.

First of all, we need to have credible partners, because otherwise we cannot engage in a constructive dialogue, and when I say partners, I mean both capital and labor.

We often need to treat issues in a sporting manner. I come from the trade union movement in Romania, and at global level I represent the three segments – employers, trade unions and civil society organizations. So, I think it is important that the three segments should have a sporting relationship, that is, each segment should prepare, so that, when the championship starts, each should know what to do. It is also important for partners to be representative in order to be able promote the interests and values they support.

It is an honor for me to hold the position of AICESIS President and to try to harmonize the three segments, which is difficult, but not impossible. This is why I appeal to all my colleagues from all ESCs to understand that it is only together that we can build. I received many congratulations and I thank all my colleagues who have sent me messages. Last but not least, I would like to thank my colleagues in Ukraine for their messages. I am glad to meet with you and I hope that together we will defend the values for which AICESIS is fighting, the values of legality, dignity and democracy.

I thank you and wish you success!

## CLOSING SPEECH OF MR. IACOB BACIU, AICESIS PRESIDENT, AT THE ILO-AICESIS-OKE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Athens, 23-24 November 2017

Esteemed Presidium, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me, first of all, to thank, as AICESIS President and on your behalf, the representatives of the ILO who have organized this seminar. I would also like to thank all those present who have participated in the seminar. I also thank my colleagues from the Greek ESC who have made possible our meeting here today. I thank you all and hope that together we will demonstrate that Social Dialogue is a part of democracy in the world.

I thank our guests from other areas of activity, especially the representatives of the Greek Parliament and Government and of the World Bank.



I am glad for the following reason: like you, I will leave with new ideas, convinced that we had a real dialogue, having been able to listen to one another and learn from one another.

Technology is a fundamental issue, treated differently by each state. The environment is also a fundamental issue, because if we do not take care of our environment, we do not take care of ourselves and of our health. In the context of digitalization, capital and globalization are very much discussed. If we look back 50 years ago, at the stage where industry and technology were, we find that we made huge technological progress. It was said here that robots will emerge, which is very possible, but I tell you that without people, robots cannot work, someone must invent them first.



We also talked about training. During the

first seven years of your life, you learn everything from mom and dad, goes a Romanian saying, and if you do not have this seven-year training, you will not achieve anything in life. Thus, training begins in the family. Graduating a school or university studies is not enough, we must train ourselves daily. There are permanent changes in all fields. We must understand that each of us has to make a contribution to a better life.

#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

I do not believe that those who control capital and power are always satisfied. Power comes and goes, capital comes and goes, only people stay. Of the three pillars of social dialogue, the most important is labor force, because without it there is nothing.



It has been noticed that many countries talk about the fact that ESCs and dialogue do not function. But the ILO has a fundamental role. The ILO adopts conventions on labor relations and if you advocate that they should be ratified by your states, labor relations will indeed be put in another framework. As long as some states around the world have not ratified the Conventions governing labor relations, there are discrepancies be-

tween us. The first thing we must put on a direct trajectory is education, next the legislative field. We need to create an environment and institutions that are governed by laws, and then everybody will win, those who manage capital, those who manage labor, and those who run the states.



I believe that the three pillars, labor force, capital and power, must have a dialogue for the purpose of progress and civilization. We also have to fight for social justice, because otherwise there is no social peace, there is no economic and social progress. Employers and trade unions should use their influence in the countries they represent and try to promote normative acts that should protect their own interests, the interests of employers and of employees, because both segments contribute to the state budget with taxes, and those who govern are those who manage our money and often do not try to promote laws that respect labor and capital. Therefore, we need education,

solidarity and unity.

Because a new year will soon begin and I do not know if I will have the opportunity to meet many of you before the end of this year, let me wish you and your colleagues health, prosperity, success and all the best.

Happy New Year!

## ILO-AICESIS-OKE CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DIALOGUE AND THE FUTURE OF WORK / Athens. 23-24 November 2017

The conference was attended by a large number of delegations of AICESIS member ESC-SIs, social dialogue institutions from countries that are not members of AICESIS, as well as representatives of international organizations and a large delegation from the ILO, chaired by the Director of its Social Dialogue and Tripartism Unit. During the opening session, the President of the Greek ESC, Mr Vernic-



os, the President of the European ESC, Mr Dassis, the AICESIS President, Mr Baciu (President of the Romanian ESC), the Director of the ILO Social Dialogue and Tripartism Unit, Mr. Oumarou, as well as the Minister of Labour of Greece and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs took the floor.

The work of the Conference was based on a preliminary report, prepared by the organizers based on the answers given by the ESC-SIs to a questionnaire distributed months before the conference. This document contains interesting information on how ESC-SIs approach the future of work, in terms of procedures and results, and, more generally, on the role of the partners regarding socio-economic transformations in progress.

The conference was marked by three types of interventions or analyses:

- 1. Identification of the main factors of change affecting the future of work.
- 2. Actions to be developed in order to ensure that changes in work are produced in such a way as to combine economic efficiency with equity and social cohesion.
- 3. Generic ideas, surpassing the more concrete issues related to changes in the world of work, need to be considered for an in-depth analysis: the limitations of the national frameworks to understand these phenomena; interconnection between the different major factors of work change; and the need to overcome the analysis of the future of work as the mechanical, almost fatal, result of a series of external and unmanageable factors.

#### THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF THE NETHERLANDS (SER)

- Labour market is changing: coping with different trends at the same time
- Central question: future employment and employee protection?
- Shared key concept: inclusive labour market & society
- Role of SER: analysis + finding common ground for concrete policies
- Future is unknown: constant need to monitor developments and take actions

- Increasing differences in opportunities for low skilled, medium and high-skilled workers
- Sectoral differences: some lose jobs, others create new jobs; mismatches on labour market
- Social security: how to make it future proof?



### Dynamic longer-term agenda: four policy lines for the future

- Support innovation and competitiveness
- Make the organisation of work forward-looking
- Monitor developments on labour market and use opportunities for new employment
- Equip people through learning and professional development.

### The combination of work, study and care in the future: a Dutch perspective

The increasing labour force participation rate of women is one of the key issues and has to be included in the debate on the future of work.

- Challenges of combining work, study and care
  - ▶ Study becomes an increasingly smaller factor during the course of the working life, despite all factors to encourage 'lifelong learning'
  - ▶ Substantial differences between social groups
  - ▶ Risk of underemployed part-time workers
- Opportunities
  - ▶ New technology: Advances in digital and other technology make it easier to combine tasks
  - ▶ Personal and household services can offer important opportunities to lighten the burden for working people
- Broad spectrum of different solutions
  - ▶ Optimising leave after the birth of a child
  - ▶ Better combination of work and informal care
  - ▶ Promoting lifelong learning.

#### THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL (SER) OF CURAÇAO

How are the transformations in the world of work affecting the interaction between individuals?

- Consequences of labour migration heighten tensions on national labour markets.
- As migrants work in predominantly the informal sector, the panorama of the labour situation also changes; less people are represented by established labour unions.
   Taking that into account a discourse on innovative unionism should be considered.
- Contacts are made faster and easier but less personal.
- Globalization leads to diminishing attention for typical local / cultural aspects of some countries.

#### How can societies manage these changes?

- Modern societies have no other choice; they will have to address or cope with an ever-changing workforce; people are losing their jobs and if they want to stay competitive on the labour market, they need to get new skills, especially in a digital environment.
- The educational system will have to be adapted; the focus should be more on acquiring technology skills and digital arts
- Social safety nets must be available and sufficient to enable the new/recently unemployed to upgrade themselves academically and professionally in order to enhance their possibilities

fessionally in order to enhance their possibilities on the labour market.



#### What measures can ESC-SIs take to facilitate society in adapting to these changes?

- Further stimulate tripartism and social dialogue on the basis of a clearly defined multi-annual policy agenda.
- Create awareness among key players in the society (e.g. NGOs, the academic world) of the opportunities presented by technological and demographic changes.
- Advise governments and political leadership on measures to address possible negative effects of these changes.

#### **WORLD BANK**

- Digital technologies provide opportunities, by
  - ▶ increasing labour productivity,
  - ▶ lowering transaction costs,
  - ▶ reducing barriers to market entry.
- They also pose a threat as they cause disruption, by changing
  - ▶ the type of skills demanded,
  - ▶ the relationships between employer and employed,
  - ▶ trade flows between countries.
- To fully harness the potential of technology, and minimize the risks, one will need to:
  - ▶ Support individuals and firms in technology adoption,
  - ▶ Build the skills of the workforce of the future,
  - ▶ Rethink social security systems in light of newly emerging modes of work.
- Three channels through which digital technologies change the nature and location of the world of work:
  - ▶ automation, connectivity, and innovation.
- Automation affects the cost of labour vs capital:
  - ▶ Labour market polarization, especially in developed countries
  - ▶ Within country inequality, also in middle- and lower-income countries



- Connectivity changes the cost of transacting and the potential for the economies of scale and market power:
  - ▶ Better access to markets and resources helps firms grow and create jobs or attract work to new markets
  - ▶ Reduce market entry barriers, but also emergence of new monopolies (e.g. web searches, mobile payments, online bookstores) and risk of becoming subject to market power of foreign companies
- Innovation and product development:
  - ▶ Reduction of the costs and risks of innovation, and product development, allowing more people to test new objects and ideas, also in developing countries.

#### What can we do?

- Build strong foundational skills.
- Build basic IT skills and digital literacy.
- Prepare for lifelong learning.

#### **OECD**

#### What can social partners do to accompany transitions?

- Labour foundation programmes to support structural changes: career guidance, training, active job-search, allowance for course-related additional costs and possibility to extend unemployment benefit.
- Job Security Councils have a strong role in case of restructuring: advice and consultation to employers and trade unions as well as tailored transition services and guidance to workers to find new jobs.

#### **OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises**

- Multilateral Agreement on Corporate Responsibility.
- Recommendations addressed by governments to multinational enterprises operating in or from adhering countries.
- Non-binding principles and standards for responsible business conduct.

#### Main challenges ahead

- Main issue for social dialogue and collective bargaining: remain relevant.
- Right balance between flexibility and inclusiveness.
- Alternative to collective bargaining is not necessarily individual bargaining but State regulation or monopsony.
- Social dialogue and future of work is not just about representing freelancers/gig workers but accompanying and shaping the transition.

#### ILO

44 ESC-SIs responded to the survey questionnaire. Around 60% were AICESIS member institutions.

### The status of social dialogue: the crisis and its aftermath

- 2/3 acknowledged that social dialogue had been challenged in some way in recent years
- 1/2 had undergone major reforms, including of their:
  - → mandate (e.g. adding environmental issues);

  - > structure (e.g. establishment of dedicated working groups or committees).



- 2/3 developed a strategic plan to enhance the role of social dialogue and policy concertation;
- 3/4 had an action plan dealing with at least one issue pertinent to the Future of Work agenda.

#### Policy priorities of ESC-SIs

- Countries with a long-established tradition of social dialogue and well-resourced ESC-SIs have devoted greater attention to Future-of-Work-related challenges.
- ESC-SIs in countries lacking such a tradition and with lower resource availability prioritized current, pressing labour market problems over the less familiar emerging challenges.

#### Constraints to the effective functioning of ESC-SIs

- Internal constraints
  - ▶ lack of human, technical and financial resources;
  - ▶ limitations to the mandate.
- External constraints
  - ▶ decreasing union density;
  - ▶ decentralization of collective bargaining;
  - ▶ weakened capacity of the social partners.
- Newer challenges were on average accorded lower priority
  - ▶ lack of representation of specific groups such as youth, migrant workers, crowdworkers or the self-employed;
  - ▶ the interaction with new civil society actors.

AICESIS, in collaboration with the ILO, may serve as facilitator for some of the above activities. Their long experience can be mobilized to facilitate communication among ESC-SIs, the cross-fertilization of new policy ideas and approaches, and the exchange of experience and good practice.







## **ABIDJAN**

**BOARD AND WORKSHOP** 

8-9 March 2018

#### **DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD**



#### 1/ Agenda

The draft agenda is adopted

#### 2/ Presidency Roadmap

The Board appreciated the Presidency's roadmap as a positive tool for the development of AICESIS activities and the achievement of its objectives in the years to come. The topics discussed in this Board imply the implementation of this roadmap, through the adoption of specific measures planned in this regard.

#### 3/ AICESIS financial state

After reviewed the information provided, the Board reaffirms the importance of fulfilling the obligation to pay the fees in a timely manner.

This payment, in addition to being fundamental to the Association financial sustainability, is an expression of the commitment and solidarity of the members with respect to the functioning of the Association.



For these reasons, the Board has entrusted the SG with the preparation of a dues processing procedure, which will be developed according to the following guidelines:

- -Communication of the SG to the AICESIS members, at the beginning of each year, to concretize the amount and the payment formulas;
- -Members who consider that circumstances prevent them from making the payment, must communicate them to the SG, who will transmit this information to the Board:
- -The SG will contact these members to assess their circumstances and establish formulas that comply with payment obligations. The SG will inform the Board of the outcome of these con-

sultations and will adopt measures that could be taken within the framework of the Articles.

The Board has been informed by the SG of the first results of the 2017 financial year. The Board welcomed the initiative of the SG to periodically provide information on the evolution of the economic situation of the Association throughout the year.

The Board positively assessed the SG's proposal for the establishment of a reimbursement system for the SG's mission expenses related to its activities for AICESIS.

Consequently, the Board mandates the SG to formulate and transmit this proposal to the External Auditor, to be taken into account in his report.

### 4/ Exchange of experiences – choice of the next topic

The Board considered the information provided by the SG and agreed that the continuation of this activity will take place on the digital revolution. It was thus decided during the Workshop held on March 9 that the next session will take place during the next GA in September 2018.

#### 5/ Future of AICESIS

The Board considered the information received from the SG and from the representative of the Algerian CNES, which reiterated the commitment of his Council to organize the International Symposium on this subject.



The Board has mandated the SG to draft a summary of the debates on this issue, which particularly takes into consideration the introductory note issued by the SG in 2015.

The note will be sent to all AICESIS members, with a call for applications for the working group that will develop the organization of the High Level Symposium to be held in 2019.

#### 6/ AICESIS Articles

The Board, informed by the SG as to its interpretation, considers those criteria as a valid tool to facilitate the AICESIS work. Recalling that the original language of the Articles is Dutch, the importance of having a translation into the AICESIS official languages (French and English), to facilitate its uniform understanding, has been evaluated and accepted by the SER of the Netherlands.

### 7/ Partnerships with the ILO and the UN ECOSOC

**ILO:** Following a presentation by the Greek

OKE SG, Mr. XIRAFIS, on the Athens Conference on the Future of Work, organized jointly by the OKE, AICESIS and the ILO and its very positive assessment, and the ILO representative, Mrs. OKUMURA, who reported on the meeting with the AICESIS SG, devoted to the analysis of possible activities in the framework of the cooperation between the two institutions, the Board asked the SG to concretize with the ILO the next activities, paying particular attention to those related to the capacity



building of the ESC-SIs and the improvement and updating of the common database.



ECOSOC: The Board positively assessed the information prepared jointly with the Permanent Representative of AICESIS at the United Nations and ECOSOC, Mrs. Hanifa MEZOUI. Therefore, the Board mandates the SG and Mrs. MEZOUI to establish contacts with ECOSOC, in order to define specific activities, including capacity building, within the framework of this cooperation.

The SG has also been entrusted with an indepth analysis of the potential for more effective use of AICESIS relations with organizations such as UCESA.

## 8/ Creation of ESCs and AICESIS development

The Board reviewed the documentation submitted by the SG, with particular reference to the importance of having up-to-date information on the institutions that could be candidates for AICESIS membership and the countries in which it would be possible to create such institutions. For this, it was considered that participation in the activities of AICESIS members would be very positive. As a result, the Board tasked the SG to carry out activities to achieve these objectives.



#### 9/ AICESIS internal Communication

The Board is informed by the SG on issues such as updating the website, pre-distribution of information, use of new technologies to improve internal work and coordination between the SG and the DSGs.

Accordingly, the Board has entrusted the SG with the development of activities related to these issues and, in particular, the joint analysis with the DSGs of these issues, as well as the preparation of a technical, economic and legal study of alternatives to current format of the physical offices of the AICESIS General Secretariat located in Brussels (Belgium).

#### 10/ Miscellaneous

Summer Schools: After reviewing the SG's information on the previous experiences, the Board values this activity very positively, while being aware of the complexity and cost involved in its organization. Considering the interest to con-



tinue this activity, the Board asks the SG to contact the members, which could be interested in the organization of a new edition, to study concrete and sustainable formulas of organization. The SG has also been entrusted with the study of possible alternatives for funding the summer schools.

 Date and place of the next GA: The Board thanks the French ESEC for its offer to host the next meeting of the Board and the GA, which will take place in Paris on 17 and 18 September 2018.

#### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION	
MEMBRES AICESIS			
	M. Tabé GBIAN	Président	
	M. Issifou SIDI	Premier Secrétaire du bureau	
Bénin	M. Claude BALOGOUN	Conseiller	
	M. Charlemagne TOMAVO	Secrétaire Général	
	Professeur Octave AKPABLI	Expert personne	
Brésil	M. Gustavo RAMOS	Secrétariat	
	Mme HE Wenping	Membre	
Chine	M. XU Ge	Directeur du Département international	
Corée	Mme Oakyi SON	Directrice du Département international	
	M. Charles KOFFI DIBY	Président	
	M. Claude Kouadio N'GUESSAN	Secrétaire Général	
Côte d'Ivoire	Mme Martine COFFIE-STUDER	Membre	
	M. Euloge SORO	DG de ANSUT	
	M. Raul HENRIQUEZ	Secrétaire Général	
Curação	Mme Miloushka SBOUI-RACAMY	Conseillère	
	M. Juan MOSCOSO DEL PRADO	Directeur des relations Internationales	
Espagne	M. Luis SAUTO PASCUAL	Directeur des Etudes	
	Mme Carole COUVERT	Vice Présidente	
France	Mme Marie Bétarice LEVAUX	Conseillère	
	M. Michaël CHRISTOPHE	Conseiller diplomatique	
	M. George VERNIKOS	Président	
Grèce	M. Apostolos XYRAFIS	Secrétaire Général	
	Mme Roubiatou Sérah DIALLO	Présidente	
Guinée	M. Mamady CONDE	Chargé de la communication	
Luxembourg	Mandat donné aux Pays Bas		
	,	Membre de la commission des affaires	
	M. Mohamed LARBI BELARBI	économiques et des projets stratégiques	
Manaa	M Al-I-II-l DECLUC	Membre de la commission de la société de	
Maroc	M. Abdellah DEGUIG	connaissance et de l'information	
	M. Mohamed Amine MOUNIR	Membre de la commission de la société de	
	ALAOUI	connaissance et de l'information	
Pays-Bas	Mme Veronique TIMMERHUIS	Secrétaire Générale	
République Dominicaine	Mme Iraima CAPRILES	Directrice Exécutive	
	M. Iacob BACIU	Président	
	M. Dragoş MIHALACHE	Vice Président	
	M. Liviu APOSTOIU	Vice Président	
Roumanie	M. Radu MINEA	Membre	
	M. Dragoș MIHAI	Membre	
	Mme Eugenia ȘTEFANESCU	Directrice des relations internationales	
	M. Gheorghe Dan DUMITRESCU	Interprète	
Russie	M. Artyom KIRYANOV	Directeur adjoint de la Commission du controle public et de la coopération avec les Conseils publics	

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION
MEMBRES AICESIS		
Sénégal	M. Amadou Lamine SY	Directeur de la Coopération et du Partenariat
	M. Seynou NDIAYE	Rapporteur de Commission
	M. Ousmane BA	Chef de la division économie et finance - Direction de la Planification et des Études
UCESA (Mali)	Mme Fatoumata DIARRA SIDIBE	Deuxième Secrétaire du bureau
	M. Cheickna BARRY	Secrétaire Général
	Mme Gertrude KEITA KEITA	Conseillère technique

PARTICIPANTS A L'ATELIER		
Algérie	M. Boubakeur ABBES	Conseiller au Cabinet
Arménie	M. Grigor BADIRYAN	Membre
	M. Ruben SAFRASTYAN	Membre
Burkina Faso	M. Moïse NAPON	Président
	M. Romaric OUEDRAOGO	Directeur de la Communication
	M. Eugène SONDO	Chef de service
Mauritanie	M. M'Beirik ACHOUR	Vice Président
Mauritanie	M. Baba MOHAMED	Directeur administratif et financier
RDC	M. Jean-Pierre KIWAKANA	Président
	M. Michel DIUMU	
	M. Rolly TSHIBUYI	

AICESIS		
	M. Francisco GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA	Secrétaire Général
AICESIS	M. Adrian MARIN	Rapporteur Général
	Mme Samira AZARBA	Administratrice

INVITES		
Gouvernement de la Côte d'Ivoire	M. Bruno Nabagné KONE	Ministre de la Communication, de l'Economie Numérique et de la Poste, Porte-parole du Gouvernement
OIT	Mme Yuka OKUMURA	Spécialiste de la gouvernance et du tripartisme



## **EFORIE NORD**

AICESIS – ECOSOC COOPERATION

31 August – 3 September 2018

# MEETING BETWEEN HANIFA MEZOUI, AICESIS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO ECOSOC, AND IACOB BACIU, PRESIDENT OF THE ESC OF ROMANIA AND AICESIS PRESIDENT

#### Traian Hotel – Eforie Nord Constanța, Romania 31 August – 3 September 2018

Mr. Iacob Baciu, AICESIS President and President of the ESC of Romania, met Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, AICESIS Permanent Representative to ECOSOC (UN Economic and Social Council), and Mr. Francisco Gonzalez de Leña, AICESIS Secretary-General, between 31 August and 3 September.

The meeting took place at Traian Hotel in Eforie Nord, Romania. Ms. Eugenia Ștefănescu, Head of the International Relations Department of the Romanian ESC, Mr. Adrian Marin, AICESIS Rapporteur, and Mr. Radu Minea, member of the ESC Board, participated as well in the discussions..

The discussions focused on continuing and reinforcing the relationship between AICESIS and ECOSOC under the new AICESIS presidency held by the Romanian ESC between 2017 and 2019.

Discussion participants analyzed, first of all, the possibility of elaborating a collaboration agreement stating the basic principles of collaboration between the two organizations, based on a schedule of AICESIS participation in the ECOSOC events during 2019 and 2020. The agreement was intended in particular to set up initiatives meant to improve the cooperation between the two organizations and to offer AICESIS the possibility to benefit from attending the next ECOSOC meetings, in order to establish contacts that could deepen this cooperation.





#### HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**ECOSOC**, New York, 9-18 July 2019



Between 9 and 18 July 2019 there took place in New York the seventh session of the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), on "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality", and the ECOSOC High-Level Segment. AICESIS President, Mr. Iacob Baciu, mandated AICESIS Secretary General, Mr. Francisco Gonzalez de Leña, and the Economic and Social Council of the Ivory Coast, which will take over the AICESIS presidency for the following term (2019-2021), to represent him at New York. The AICESIS delegation, com-

posed of the SG, the AICESIS Permanent Representative to ECOSOC, Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, and the Director of Studies of the ESC of the Ivory Coast, Mr. Alain-Pascal Menann, participated in the ECOSOC meetings between 15 and 19 July. This year, the AICESIS participation in ECOSOC meetings focused on two types of activities: high-level meetings with ECOSOC representatives and participation in the High-Level Segment debates.

The AICESIS delegation met ECOSOC President, Her Excellency Inga Rhonda King, Mr. Marc André Dorel, Officer-in-Charge, NGO Branch, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, and Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs.

During these meetings, the members of the AICESIS delegation expressed, first of all, their gratitude for being able to participate in the ECOSOC activities, taking advantage of the full potential offered by its observer status with ECOSOC. In this context, the delegation made a presentation of AICESIS, which highlighted those aspects that might support its cooperation with ECOSOC: a broad and balanced representation of economic and social councils around the world, definition of criteria shared by these councils in their capacity as representatives of the social partners and of organized civil society, interest in relevant issues, largely related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDDs) – for instance, the socio-economic effects of the digital economy.

During the discussions, Ms. King stressed the importance of the partnership between AICESIS and ECOSOC and of the international cooperation for the achievement of the SDGs, as well as the importance of the role of state actors and of civil society representatives in the institutional framework of participatory decision-mak-

ing process. Mr. Dorel underlined the intersection of the activities carried out by AICESIS and by ECOSOC in areas of common interest and expressed his view that the time had come to deepen this collaboration, AICESIS having, in this regard, to make its presence more visible within ECOSOC. Ms. Spatolisano insisted on the importance of multilateral action for achieving the SDGs, drawing attention to their integrated nature, which requires integrated policies applied for their implementation. In this regard, Ms. Spatolisano underlined the potential of the collaboration between ECOSOC and AICESIS and proposed that AICESIS present at ECOSOC meetings projects or reports on specific topics, in the context in which the United Nations General Secretariat sent the political message urging the need for going beyond the stage of defining the objectives and for launching concrete activities.

In his speech in the ECOSOC High-Level Segment, the AICESIS Secretary General highlighted the characteristics of AICESIS and its criteria regarding the digital economy, trying to concentrate here the messages transmitted on this subject by the AICESIS members at the meetings of the Association.

The ECOSOC meetings attended by the AICESIS delegation made it possible to identify those aspects of the Association's activity that could be of most interest to ECOSOC: definition of criteria of civil society representative organizations, multilateral action on a global scale, interest in matters related to the SDGs, experiences regarding the role of social dialogue and consultations of civil society in decision-making processes or the role of AICESIS in its capacity as a working and communication platform for different councils and similar institutions.

As for the possibility of signing a collaboration agreement between AICESIS and ECOSOC, similar to the one signed between AICESIS and the ILO, which was discussed in 2018 by Mr. Iacob Baciu and Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, it was concluded now that the complex structure of ECOSOC (which in its turn is part of the complex structure of the UN) makes difficult, for the time being, the signing of such an agreement, but that it is nevertheless possible to develop a collaboration strategy with ECOSOC, which could be described as bottom up and step by step.

In the aftermath of these meetings, the delegation concluded that AICESIS reached a moment when its rather formal relationship with ECOSOC could be overcome and that there could begin a more intense and substantial form of collaboration. But to this end, AICESIS needs to present ECOSOC concrete initiatives and activities, and this will depend on the degree of interest and participation of AICESIS member councils.

It has been proposed that in the future AICESIS should select a series of topics and activities which it could present to ECOSOC and this could serve as a basis for the new relationship between the two organizations. These actions should be planned and coordinated by AICESIS, with a focus on topics and values specific to the Association.

If progress were made in this regard, AICESIS might be seen as a reliable discussion partner, generating thus a more solid cooperation framework.





## **PARIS**

**BOARD AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY** 

17-18 **September 2018** 

#### **BOARD / Monday 17 September**

Presidency: Mr. Iacob BACIU (Romanian ESC)



- 1/ The agenda is adopted without modification.
- 2/ The Board agrees on the project of the GA agenda and authorizes submitting to the GA the activity and financial reports, as well as the various introductory notes to each of the subjects.
- 3/ Regarding the international seminar on the future of AICESIS, it has been requested to the SG to introduce a few subjects and ideas on the methodology to the GA.
- 4/ The next meeting of the Board should be held in March 2019.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY** / Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 September

Presidency: Mr. Iacob BACIU (Romanian ESC)



- 1/ **Agenda:** The agenda is adopted without modification.
- **2**/ **Activity report:** The 2017 activity report is adopted.
- 3/ Financial report: The GA adopts the report for fiscal year 2017, as well as the estimated budget for 2018 and grants its endorsement to the SG regarding accounts management for the year 2018.

It has been asked not to mention decimals in accounts and tables. ESCs need to be contacted in order to remind them to keep to their commitment towards AICESIS, and get in touch with the general secretariat or the presidency

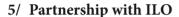
in case of difficulties. The SG also needs to contact ESCs which decreased their activities with the AICESIS to know if they are still in activity or and consider joining AICESIS again. The in kind fee will be announced in the next statement, and there is no necessity for a Y+2 forecast.

#### 4/ Partnership with ECOSOC

The GA has been informed of the joint works of the President, SG and the Per-

manent Representative at the UN. We need to define subjects on which AICESIS brings added-value to work with the UN ECOSOC, get in touch with them to define common activities and communicate a joint agreement model of bilateral institutional relationship. The SG and Mrs. Haniza MEZOUI will keep pushing efforts in that way.

It is also requested to follow-up and consolidate procedures between the delegations of AICESIS attending the ECOSOC meetings, in order to keep in touch and get a clear agenda.



The GA has been informed by the ILO Representative of the positive and active evolution of this partnership, as well as development perspectives.

Particularly, the GA takes note of the upcoming seminar, held by AICESIS on

October 23rd and 24th on digital revolution in Geneva (Switzerland), at the ILO HQ with the DG attending, and a call has been sent to encourage ESC-SIs to take part in the event. The GA mandates the President to renew the partnership agreement with ILO.

#### 6/ Summer School

Until now it has been noticed a lack of applications, this activity has been paused until further notice.

#### 7/ Conference on the Future of AICESIS

The SG introduced to the members, the orien-

tations and introductory note extracted from the working group activities, which will be used to prepare the symposium and open development paths.



After a debate, the GA asked the working group to review the note and reshape the ideas from the members, especially on the need for evaluation of the activities and evolutions of AICESIS and the ESC-SIs. A more concrete note will be introduced at the next Board (Early 2019). These framework notes and a draft program should be sent to all the AICESIS members for reviews and comments.

A physical or virtual meeting of the working group will be held by the end of 2018.



#### 8/ New Applications

The application of the Serbian ESC has been unanimously accepted by the AICESIS members.

An attestation of this decision will be sent to the Serbian ESC.

The ESC of Guatemala, observer during the GA, announced its wish to apply to AICESIS in the next 2 months.

#### 9/ VSG Reports

Following the presentation by the VSG for the Latin America-Caribbean area on the evolution and cartography of the ESCs of the continent, the GA considers that the development of

the same type of activities would be very positive to better understand the situation of the ESC-SIs.



#### 10/ Website

The Russian CC, in charge of the AICESIS website, will introduce, collaborating with the SG, a workplan on the evolution and changes of the AICESIS website to improve the exchange of information.

The SG will introduce a new version of the website and prepare a strategical communication and marketing plan for the upcoming Board meeting in March 2019 (be more interactive, better use of Facebook, etc.).

#### 11/ AICESIS virtual office

Physical office costs being unjustified, it has

been decided to consider a virtual office space. It is nonetheless requested to secure and archive files and past documents of AICESIS by creating a database (through a third party provider) in 3 different places, and keep a PO Box for administrative and bank account mails.

A note on the possibilities of the AICESIS documents archives will be submitted including the locations linked with its institutional activities.

#### 12/ Schedule of the activities for 2018-2019

- **23-24 October (Geneva, Switzerland):** International seminar on the main working topic for 2017-2019, *digital revolution*
- First week of March 2019 (Curaçao): AICESIS Board and open workshop
- June 2019 (Geneva, Switzerland): AICESIS speech at the ILO International Labor Conference
- July 2019 (New York, USA): AICESIS speech at the UN ECOSOC High Level Segment
- September 2019 (Romania): International Meeting and AICESIS GA + AICESIS-ILO international conference
- **2019** (**Alger, Algeria**): International symposium on the future of AICESIS

#### 13/ Miscellaneous

The SG will issue soon a call for application to renew the AICESIS Board and the VSG positions for the 2019-2021 mandate.











#### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION
MEMBRES AICESIS		
	Mme Nadira CHENTOUF	Chef de cabinet
Algérie	Prof. Mohammed BAKALEM	Chef de la division des études économiques
	M. Boubakeur ABBES	Conseiller
	M. J.R. (Rudy) GEERMAN	Président
Aruba	M. Felix R.E. BIJLHOUT, Msc.	Secrétaire Général
Belgique - CNT	M. Paul WINDEY	Président
	M. Tabé GBIAN	Président
Bénin	M. Daniel FANGBEDJI	Trésorier
	M. Armel Aziz PARAÏSO	Directeur des Affaires Financières
	Mme Anielle GUEDES	Conseillère
	M. Nelson NARCISO FILHO	Conseiller
Brésil	M. Felipe GIESTEIRA	Directeur du Secrétariat
	M. Gustavo RAMOS	Manager du Secrétariat
Bulgarie	M. Genadi NEDELCHEV	Chef expert
	M. Moise NAPON	Président
	Mme Fatimata LEGMA	1ère Vice Présidente
Burkina Faso	Mme Pauline YAMEOGO	Gapporteur général
	M. Jean Baptiste ZOUNGRANA	Secrétaire Général
0	M. Luc AYANG	Président
Cameroun	M. Zacharie NGOUMBE	Secrétaire Général
	M. DU Qinglin	Président
	M. JIA Zhibang	Vice Président
	M. YANG Kaisheng	Membre
	M. LI Xueming	SG adjoint
Chine	M. ZHANG Yuxi	Membre
	M. CUI Hongjian	Membre
	M. LI Jian	Directeur de Cabinet du Président
	Mlle ZHANG Daqian	Directrice adjointe du département des échanges internationaux
	M. SUN Yonghu	Agent de sécurité
	M. MOON, Sung Hyun	Président
Corée		Secrétaire du Président
	Mme Oakyi SON	Relations internationales
	M. Charles Koffi DIBY	Président
	Mme Aminata N'DIAYE	Conseillère
	Mme Ramatou ELOLA épouse COULIBALY	Conseillère
Côte d'Ivoire	M. Alain-Pascal MENANN-KOUAME	Directeur des Etudes
	M. Jean-François YAO	S/D de la Coopération
	M. Alex KONE	Chargé de missions
	M. Assoumou Aimé Désiré N'GUETTA	Chargé d'études
		<del>-</del>

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION	
MEMBRES AICESIS			
	M. Raul HENRIQUEZ	Secrétaire Général	
Curaçao	Mme Miloushka SBOUI-RACAMY	Conseillère	
	M. Marcos PEÑA	Président	
_	Mme Soledad CÓRDOVA	Secretaire générale	
Espagne	Mme Margarita BRAVO	Directrice des relations internationales	
	M. Gil RAMOS MASJUAN	Conseiller à l'Ambassade	
Europe	M. Pierre-Jean COULON	Président de la Section TEN	
	M. Patrick BERNASCONI	Président	
	Mme Carole COUVERT	Vice Présidente	
	M. Michaël CHRISTOPHE	Conseiller diplomatique	
France	M. Jean-Marie CAMBACÉRÈS	Président de la Section des affaires européennes et internationales	
	Mme Nadia RABHI		
	M. Henry DULAS		
	Mlle Sophie BRACQUE		
	M. George VERNIKOS	Président	
Grèce	M. Apostolos XIRAFIS	Secrétaire Général	
	Mme Afrodite MAKRYGIANNI	Conseillère scientifique	
	Mme Rabiatou Serah DIALLO	Présidente	
	M. Lamine BANGOURA	Questeur	
Guinée	Mme Saran TOURÉ	Conseillère du Ministre des Postes, Télécommunications et de l'Economie numérique, point focal sur la révolution numérique	
	M. Elio CATANIA	Vice-Président	
Italie	Mme Angelica PICCIOCCHI	Fonctionnaire	
Jordanie	Mandat donné au Maroc		
Liban	M. Charles ARBID	Président	
Luxembourg	M. Daniel BECKER	Secrétaire Général	
	Docteur Boulkassoum HAIDARA	Président CESC - Président UCESA	
M It / HODGA	M. Dramane TRAORE	Secrétaire Général de l'UCESA	
Mali / UCESA	M. Gaoussou TRAORE	CT/Assistant du Président UCESA	
	M. Yacoubou DEMBELE	Membre	
	M. Driss GUERRAOUI	Secrétaire Général	
Maroc	M. Amine MOUNIR ALAOUI	Président de la Commission de la société du savoir et de l'information, Représentant de la catégorie des experts	
	M. Ahmed RAHHOU		
	M. Mohamed ALAOUI	Représentant de la catégorie des syndicats	
Manufact		Représentant de la catégorie des syndicats Vice Président	
Mauritanie	M. Mohamed ALAOUI		

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION
MEMBRES AICESIS		
	M. Soumaila BAGNA	2éme Vice Président
Niger	M. Yahaya MAHAMADOU	Président de la commission permanente
	M. Saley MOUMOUNI	Directeur des Affaires Législatives
Pays Bas	Mme Véronique TIMMERHUIS	Secrétaire Générale
	M. Alfred TAÏNGA POLOKO	Président
	M. Alfred GBANGOU KETTE	2ème Vice Président
RCA	M. Serge Hyppolite MAYER	Questeur
	M. Clément DE-BOUTET M'BAMBA	Rapporteur Général
	Mme Pretty Barbara Sophie SANGA MBONGO SIOLO	Rapporteur
	Mme Iraima CAPRILES	Directrice Exécutive
République Dominicaine	Mme Mayra Jiménez	Conseillère
	M. Fidel Lorenzo	Conseiller
République Tchèque	M. David KADECKA	Secrétaire Général
	M. Ranka MIŠIĆ	Président
	Mme Mira VASIĆ	Assistante du Ministre du Travail
Dánubli aug Canalra	M. Saša AĆIĆ	Directeur de l'association des employeurs
République Srpska	M. Bojan SMILJANIĆ	Secrétaire du CES
	M. Zoran DESPOTOVIĆ	Membre
	Mme Biljana ŠKRBIĆ	Interprète
	M. Iacob BACIU	Président
	M. Liviu APOSTOIU	Vice Président
Roumanie	M. Bogdan SIMION	Vice Président
Roumanie	Mme Silvia VLĂSCEANU	Membre
	Mme Eugenia ȘTEFĂNESCU	Directrice des relations internationales
	M. Radu MINEA	Membre
	M. Sergey ORDZHONIKIDZE	Vice-Président
	Mme Veronika KRASHENINNIKOVA	Chef adjointe de la commission de la diplomatie publique, de la coopération humanitaire
Russie	Mme Ilya SEMIN	Chef adjointe de la commission du développement de l'économie, de l'entreprenariat et des consommateurs
	Mme Olga GOLYSHENKOVA	Membre de la commission du développement de l'économie, de l'entreprenariat et des consommateurs
Saint Martin	M. Damian RICHARDSON	Président
	Mme Aminata TALL	Présidente
	M. El Hadji Ibrahima MBow	
Sénégal	M. Amadou Lamine SY	Directeur des relations internationales
	Mme Diouf Cathy Thioye	
	M. El Hadji DIA	Secrétaire Général
Tchad	Mandat donné au Mali	

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION
MEMBRES AICESIS		
Vietnam	M. HAU A LENH	Vice Président / Secrétaire Général
	M. DANG THANH PHUONG	
	M. CAO XUAN THAO	
	M. TU LUONG	

CANDIDAT		
Serbie	Mme Bojana STANIĆ	Secrétaire d'Etat au Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi, des Vétérans et des Affaires Sociales
	M. Dusko VUKOVIC	Membre – Président de la confédération des syndicats autonomes
	Mme Cedanka ANDRIC	Secrétaire Exécutive de la conféréation syndicale Nezavisnost
	M. Srdjan DROBNJAKOVIC	Directeur de l'Association des employeurs

OBSERVATEUR		
Guatemala	M. Bernardo LOPEZ	
	Mlle Ana LAINFIESTA	
	Mme Rome SILVA	

AICESIS		
	M. Francisco GONZÁLEZ DE LENA	Secrétaire Général
AICESIS	M. Adrian MARIN	Rapporteur Général
	Mlle Samira AZARBA	Administratrice

INVITES		
INVITES	M. Rémy RIOUX	Directeur Général de l'AFD
	M. Kamran FANNIZADEH	Directeur adjoint, Département Gouvernance et Tripartisme, OIT
	Mme. Yuka OKUMURA	Specialiste Gouvernance et Plannification Stratégique, Département Gouvernance, OIT
	Mme Frédérique DUPUY	Chargée de mission, Bureau de l'OIT pour la France
	M. Christophe RAMBEAU	Commissaire aux Comptes - Audit France
		Ambassade du Liban
	Mme Roxana ILIESCU	Attachée aux affaires sociales et du travail de l'Ambassade de la Roumanie
	Mme Margaux ZERBATO	Interprète
	Mme María Clelia BASSI FAYET	Interprète





## **GENEVA**

COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN AICESIS AND THE ILO INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION

2 July 2018 23 – 24 October 2018

## MEETING BETWEEN MR. IACOB BACIU, AICESIS PRESIDENT, AND MR. GUY RYDER, ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

## 2 July 2018, Geneva, Switzerland, Headquarters of the International Labour Organization

One of the major objectives that President Iacob Baciu, as representative of the ESC of Romania, set out to achieve during his term as President of AICESIS was to continue and consolidate the good relations that the Association already had with the International Labour Organization.

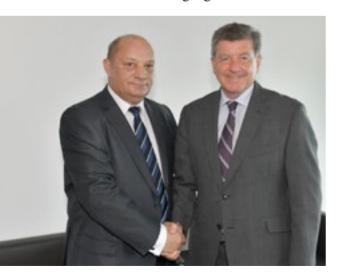


To that end, the AICESIS President requested a meeting with Mr. Guy Ryder, the ILO Director-General. The delegation that was received by the ILO Director-General on July 2, 2018, included Mr. Iacob Baciu, Mr. Francisco Gonzales de Leña, AICESIS Secretary-General, and Ms. Eugenia Ștefănescu, Head of the International and Public Relations Department, ESC of Romania.

Mr. Youcef Ghellab, Head of the Social Dialogue and Tripar-

tism Unit of the ILO, and Ms. Yuka Okumura, Governance and Strategic Programming Specialist at the ILO, have also attended the discussions.

The meeting is part of the tradition of good relations and fruitful collaboration between AICESIS and the ILO, implemented on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two institutions in 2012.



The meeting with ILO Director-General Guy Ryder focused on reviewing the ILO-AICESIS cooperation and started with a positive joint assessment of it.

Mr. Guy Ryder described this cooperation as a natural partnership, considering that tripartism defined by the ILO can be institutionalized at the level of ESCs and AICESIS. In turn, President Baciu underlined the importance of the work done AICESIS for achieving the ILO objectives.

For these reasons, it has been agreed to continue and update the cooperation agreement by developing those aspects that can make cooperation more efficient for both institutions.

Also, President Baciu and Director-General Ryder decided now to sign a new cooperation agreement between the two institutions on the occasion of the ILO-AICE-SIS seminar that was to be held at the ILO headquarters in Geneva on 23 and 24 October 2018.

Also, a topic of interest was the organization in Bucharest of an ILO-AICESIS International Conference in 2019 on the issue of governance and the involvement of social factors in the future of work, an event of particular importance, since the ILO will celebrate on this occasion 100 years of existence.

It was agreed that this international conference should be organized simultaneously with the AICESIS General Assembly, taking place in September 2019 in Bucharest, and marking the end of the Romanian Presidency of AICESIS.

The AICESIS delegation also had a meeting with Mr. Moussa Oumarou, ILO's Deputy Director-General. The two parts exchanged useful information and made progress in addressing topics of common interest. The AICESIS delegation and Mr. Oumarou discussed on this occasion the possibilities of using the ILO-AICESIS cooperation in order to strengthen the councils' capacities to develop institutionalized social dialogue mechanisms.



In conclusion, the discussions at the two meetings at the ILO headquarters focused on future activities of great interest for both AICESIS and the ILO, and on the ways of implementing these activities, so that the collaboration between the two institutions could continue to produce excellent results.





#### **COOPERATION AGREEMENT**



#### **BETWEEN**

### THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS

#### AND

#### THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

The International Labour Organization (ILO) (represented by the International Labour Office) and the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS) (hereafter named the "Parties")

CONSCIOUS of the great complementarity that exists between the two institutions;

DESIRING to develop and strengthen their cooperation on issues of common interest, including the promotion of decent work, inclusive development and social justice as means of promoting social peace and stability;

WISHING to conclude a new agreement replacing the Memorandum of Understanding signed on May 8, 2012;

CONVINCED that the development and strengthening of this cooperation would be mutually beneficial to both organizations, would strengthen cooperation between their members and would contribute to the promotion of policy coherence at international level;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

#### ARTICLE I - Common global objective and Consultation

- 1. The common global objective of the ILO and AICESIS is cooperation on the following topics: social dialogue and tripartism, civil dialogue, the decent work agenda with its four pillars (fundamental principles and rights at work, employment, social protection and social dialogue), the development of participatory democracy, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the social dimension of globalization and the future of the world of work.
- 2. To facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the two organizations, the ILO and AICESIS shall consult each other on the planning and execution of decent work promotion programs, as a tool for inclusive socio-economic development and the promotion of social justice.

#### **ARTICLE II – Exchange of information**

The ILO and AICESIS exchange non-confidential information and documentation on issues of common interest and keep each other informed of their respective planned or ongoing activities with a view to identifying areas in which cooperation between them may be desirable and mutually beneficial.

#### **ARTICLE III - Joint activities**

- AICESIS and the ILO agree, within the limits of available resources, to hold regular and joint seminars or other forms of activity on topics of common interest for both institutions at all levels (international, regional, sub-regional and national). These meetings will aim to promote the exchange of experiences and good practice, as well as to strengthen the capacities of the members of the ESC-SIs, and their key aims are:
  - (a) The promotion of social dialogue and of consultation in the drafting and implementation of inclusive social and economic policies, examining in particular the role of ESC-SIs as promoters of social dialogue and factors of stability, diversity and participatory democracy at all levels, and the crucial role of the social partners as major actors in economic and social progress;
  - (b) The promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including:
    - (i) Goal no. 8: The promotion of sustained, shared and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all by examining in particular the role of ESCs-SIs in promoting and implementing this objective and;
    - (ii) The other objectives of sustainable development, including:
      - Goal no. 1: Eliminating poverty in all its forms and around the world,
      - Goal no. 3: Enabling everyone to live in good health and promoting the well-being of all at all ages,
      - Goal no. 5: Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls,
      - Goal no. 10: Reducing inequalities within countries and between countries and
      - Goal no. l6: Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, ensuring access to justice for all, and establishing effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
  - (c) The development and regular updating of the global database on ESCs and social dialogue institutions that exist around the world.

- 2. A schedule of international meetings will be established jointly on a biennial basis (2 years), in order to ensure the preparation and financing of these meetings under the best conditions.
- 3. The ILO and AICESIS may also, under conditions to be determined by agreement in each case, carry out joint studies or co-operate in the implementation of specific programs or projects linked to common interest issues relevant to their respective mandates.

#### **ARTICLE IV - Participation in meetings**

- 1. Each organization may, in accordance with its own constitutional provisions, invite the other organization to take part in the meetings it organizes, when matters of interest to the other organization are discussed and in particular:
  - (a) a representative of the ILO may regularly participate in the meetings of the AICESIS.
  - (b) a representative of AICESIS may be invited to participate in the global, regional, sub-regional and national meetings of the ILO on the common global objective and vice versa, in particular when these meetings are linked to activities promoting social dialogue and the role of ESC-SIs, mentioned by Article III.
- 2. The possibility of representatives of AICESIS or of its members to participate, on the grounds of their competence, in technical cooperation activities developed by the ILO will be examined.

#### ARTICLE V - Provision of expertise

Each organization may, under conditions to be determined by agreement in each case and within the limits of available resources, make available its expertise and means of support to the other party.

#### **ARTICLE VI – Implementation**

- 1. The Head of the Social Dialogue and Tripartism Unit of the Department of Governance and Tripartism, within the ILO, and the Secretary General, within AICESIS, are responsible for the implementation of this Agreement. In this respect, they shall take all necessary measures in a closely coordinated and efficient manner to ensure the operational effectiveness of the cooperation arrangements envisaged by this Agreement.
- 2. More generally, the Director-General of the ILO and the President-in-Office of AICESIS will take the necessary steps to ensure closer collaboration and contacts between the two organizations on matters of common interest.
- 3. Any activity implemented by the ILO under this Agreement shall comply with the regulations, rules and procedures of the ILO.

#### ARTICLE VII - Follow-up and evaluation

The implementation of this Agreement will be reviewed at an appropriate level every six (6) years. Operational interaction will be monitored and evaluated regularly and a report will be prepared every two (2) years by both Parties, to be presented at ILO and AICESIS meetings, or in other fora, by mutual agreement.

#### ARTICLE VIII - Duration and termination of the agreement

This agreement will remain in force for any length of time and may be terminated by mutual consent, or by one of the Parties, on six (6) months prior written notice.

#### **ARTICLE IX - Amendments**

- 1. The Parties may, under this Agreement, conclude, if necessary, additional arrangements or agreements.
- 2. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent. Each Party shall give favourable consideration to any amendment proposed by the other Party.

#### ARTICLE X - Effect of the Agreement

This Agreement terminates the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Parties on May 8, 2012, and replaces it.

#### ARTICLE XI - Privileges et immunities

Nothing in this Agreement or any act relating thereto shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the privileges and immunities of the ILO.

#### ARTICLE XII - Entry into force

This Agreement, in two original copies in the French language, shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both Parties.

Guy RYDER
General Director
International Labour Office

Iacob BACIU
President
International Association
of Economic and Social
Councils and
Similar Institutions

Geneva, 23 October 2018

#### SPEECH BY MR. GUY RYDER, GENERAL DIRECTOR, ILO

Geneva. 23 October 2018





Dear President, Dear Secretary-General of AICESIS, Dear members of Economic and Social Councils and Similar institutions, Dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you all here in Geneva, at the headquarters of the International Labor Office, where your international seminar on the digital revolution

will take place. I would like to thank you, Mr. President, for choosing to hold your meeting here on the premises of the ILO, the global home of social dialogue.

As representatives of social dialogue institutions in your respective countries, you are at home here!

Dear President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the resolution on social dialogue and tripartism adopted by the International Labor Conference last June reminds us, social dialogue is essential to addressing the social, economic and environmental challenges of the 21st century, to finding lasting and acceptable solutions for all, and to drafting policies to promote social justice.

As you know, the ILO practices social dialogue and tripartism in all its structures on a daily basis and encourages governments and social partners to do the same at national level. And it is often the case that economic and social councils and similar institutions are the interlocutors that can best organize this dialogue and thus facilitate cooperation between public authorities and social partners.

As institutions that advocate the participation of civil society, and especially the participation of social partners, in decision-making and public policy making, you are the guardians of these noble values of social dialogue, participatory democracy and freedom of expression.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In these uncertain times, when the different societal actors sometimes have trouble talking to each other and when mistrust tends to settle between them, you, the economic and social councils and other social dialogue institutions, have a historic

responsibility, that of helping governments, social partners and other potential actors to maintain open channels of dialogue in order to restore confidence and serenity, which are essential for maintaining peace and social cohesion.

For the International Labour Office, which is the secretariat of the only specialized agency of the United Nations system structured in a tripartite manner, where social partners deliberate and make decisions on an equal footing with governments, you, the AICESIS members, are, thus, our natural partner. We reinforce each other through our cooperation and the many common activities we organize on decent work topics.

You are also our ally in defending and reinforcing the values of social justice and decent work around the world.

I am very pleased to see that our cooperation has grown steadily since the signing of our initial cooperation agreement in 2012, with more and more joint activities at international, regional and national levels. I also appreciate the cross-participation of experts from our organizations in our respective meetings and activities.

A relatively recent example of our successful collaboration is the joint organization of the international conference held in Athens on the future of work and social dialogue. I know that this conference has been a success and that the Athens Declaration on the Future of Work and Social Dialogue, which has been adopted, is now used as a point of reference by many member institutions of your association.

We are also pleased to hold our next joint conference scheduled for September 2019 in Bucharest, hosted by the Economic and Social Council of Romania.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is with the purpose of strengthening this fruitful cooperation that our two institutions have decided to renew the cooperation agreement that will guide us in our joint efforts for the next six years. I look forward to this prospect of enhanced cooperation between our two institutions, and I am pleased that we can sign this agreement, Mr. President.

The renewal of our cooperation agreement, which reflects the strengthening of our mutually beneficial partnership, is coming at a most opportune moment. As you all know, the ILO will celebrate its 100th birthday next year.

In anticipation of the centenary, seven initiatives have been launched, one of which concerns the future of work. This initiative encourages reflection and dialogue among the ILO's tripartite constituents on the transformations taking place in today's world of work and on the undoubtedly creative solutions that we can forge together for a future of work that is decent and beneficial for all and that can bring social justice.

The ILO has established a World Commission on the Future of Work which has begun a thorough examination of the developments in the world of work. The re-

port of the Commission, chaired by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, will be presented on 22 January 2019 and its findings will contribute to the reflections of the ILO and of its constituents, ensuring that the ILO begins its second century of existence faithful to its mandate of social justice and prepared to meet the challenges of the upheavals of the world of work.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It should be noted here that one of the aspects considered by the World Commission is precisely the theme of your seminar, namely the digital revolution. Some argue that the fourth industrial revolution could be the cause of massive destruction of jobs, while others say there are huge opportunities for job creation. In my opinion, all this depends on how we manage technology and economic and professional relations.

What is certainly unprecedented is that the current technological revolution has the capacity to fundamentally change not only the quantity of jobs but also, and above all, the way in which work is organized and undertaken.

To meet future skill development needs, traditional education and training systems must undergo significant changes.

Prior learning of skills valid for the entire professional life is no longer enough. This requires a reconsideration of the lifelong learning model and I can only stress here the importance of social dialogue with social partners - practitioners in the world of work - in the design and implementation of continuing education and apprenticeship programs.

Above all, ladies and gentlemen, we must not fall into the trap of technological determinism. Governments, workers and employers, within the framework of effective and inclusive social dialogue institutions, must shape the future of work as we want it to be. And solutions require a spirit of openness, diversity, inclusion and, of course, dialogue.

Mr. President,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Dear friends.

All that remains is for me to wish you an excellent seminar and a great stay in Geneva.

Thank you for your attention.

# SPEECH BY MR. IACOB BACIU, AICESIS PRESIDENT

Geneva. 23 October 2018

Dear Director-General, Dear colleagues, Allow me, first, to thank Mr. Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General, for honouring us with his invitation to meet here, in Geneva, at ILO Headquarters.

I see this meeting as a historical one. As a trade unionist, I have always cherished the activity of the International Labour Organization, which we regard as the most important international organization that regulates labour standards and labour relations. The conventions drawn up here, in Geneva, have often





proved very useful for us in our fight for the economic, social and professional rights of the members of our trade unions.

As a representative and as President of AICESIS, I am delighted to participate in the conclusion of a new agreement between the ILO and AICESIS.

Our association is the main international organization meant to support and advocate social dialogue as the main instrument for information, consultation and negotiation among social partners.

The entire legislation drafted by the ILO in the last one hundred years has supported our efforts to build a more just and social work world.

In the late 18th century and early 19th century, the most powerful stage of labour emancipation was beginning: the age of modern technology or the Industrial Revolution laid the foundations of new labour relations.



One hundred years ago, at the beginning of the 20th century, the ILO was established, as a UN agency, and that marked the beginning of the regulation of labour relations and of the standardization of labour.

The ILO has been for a century a beacon and guide for trade unions, which have always found in the ILO their greatest support in their fight for workers' rights.

On behalf of the Democratic Trade Union Confederation of Romania and of the Economic and Social Council, I wish to express our thanks and appreciation for the ILO's activity and for all the support you have given to the trade union movement over the course of the ILO's existence.

In the two centuries since its effects became apparent, the Industrial Revolution changed the way labour was perceived and defined labour relations. New jobs have been created and people's livelihoods have been improved.



Today we witness the beginning of a new phenomenon: the Digital Revolution. Digitalisation makes itself felt in all areas of human activity.

Truly, this phenomenon has many advantages. High-performance computers and robots have proved to be remarkably effective in areas such as medicine, transportation, education, car building, infrastructure, design etc.

At the same time, however, digitalisation is used in wars, in the manipulation of human life and, generally speaking, for purposes that do not always seek human wellbeing and safety.

Those who possess the knowledge of modern computer technologies control the economic and social spheres and the access to resources

and can easily influence decisions sometimes directed against human wellbeing.

Digitalisation will also leave its mark on labour and labour relations.

Traditional occupations will disappear, and new ones will emerge. Children starting school today will work in totally different occupations than their parents.

Do we, today's adults, understand that children have to be prepared for a different labour market?

Labour relations will be different, and I believe their regulation in the new digital era requires much effort from us.

In proposing the main working theme during my term as AICESIS President, I wanted to sound the alarm over the fact that digitalisation can easily get out of hand and change from being a blessing for humankind into a dangerous weapon.

I believe we need to focus on the effects produced in the future by the Digital Revolution, to anticipate and try to control them.

The Industrial Revolution is coming to an end. It represented a significant step forward for humankind.

The Digital Revolution has begun. It is our responsibility to ensure that it is put to people's advantage.

I am certain that the seminar which will take place here, and which you have kindly offered to host, will bring added value to the task of finding ways to eliminate the risks that the Digital Revolution might incur and to properly anticipate the future of work and of labour relations.

I take this opportunity to invite you to participate in the AICESIS General Assembly in Bucharest next year, when I will come to the end of my term of office as AICESIS President.

I will be honoured to welcome you and to know that you will be present on this occasion.

On behalf of my colleagues and me, I wish to thank you, Director-General, Mr. Guy Ryder, for your generosity in organizing this event and for the conclusion of a new agreement between the ILO and AICESIS.

## **AICESIS-ILO INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION**

**Geneva, 23-24 October 2018** 

The international seminar jointly organized by AICESIS and the ILO on 23 and 24 October 2018 at the ILO head-quarters in Geneva is part of the tradition of excellent cooperation relations that AICE-SIS has had with the ILO, especially since 2012, when the two institutions signed their first Co-operation Agreement.

The seminar focused on developing the main working topic of the current Romanian Presidency of AICESIS, "The Digital Revolution and Its Im-



pact on the Future of Humanity", and aimed at materializing specific aspects of this topic that were highlighted as having greater importance during the AICESIS workshop in Abidjan on 9 March 2018.

The AICESIS-ILO Seminar was an opportunity for the exchange of good practices and information on the digital revolution and its impact on the current society. The debates addressed a series of important aspects of today's society, related to automation, vocational training, adaptation of the education system, the risk of increasing inequalities and the role of social dialogue.

The event was also an opportunity for signing a new Co-operation Agreement, which emphasized the further promotion of social dialogue and decent work. The decision to renew this document was agreed upon during a meeting that Mr. Iacob Baciu, AICESIS President, had with Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General of the ILO, on July 2 in Geneva, at the ILO headquarters.

The Geneva meeting has also been part of the tradition of fruitful collaboration between AICESIS and the ILO, which the ILO Director-General described as a natural partnership, given that the tripartism defined by the ILO can be institutionalized at the level of the ESCs and AICESIS. Therefore, it has been agreed to continue and update the Cooperation Agreement, by developing those aspects that can make this collaboration more efficient.

The agreement signed on 23 October by the ILO Director-General, Mr. Guy Ryder, and the AICESIS President, Mr. Iacob Baciu, focuses on major areas such as social dialogue and tripartism, civil society dialogue, decent work agenda, development of participatory democracy, Sustainable Development Objectives, as well as the social dimension of globalization and the future of work.

The seminar was divided into three sessions: 1. Education in the digital society: vocational training for transitions in employment and adaptation of the education system, 2. Digital impacts on labour mobility and firms: job creation in immigration countries and changes of firms location criteria, 3. The evolution of the digital economy and equality: risks of inequalities and promotion of equality – the role of social partners and social dialogue.



The contributions on these topics were highly valuable and the panellists on behalf of the ILO were: Srinivas Reddy, Chief, Skills and Employability Branch, Employment Policy Department; Uma Rani, Senior Economist, Research Department; John Ritchotte, Labour Relations and Collective Bargaining Specialist, Inclusive Labour Markets, Labour Relations and Working Conditions Branch; Samuel Asfaha, Senior Specialist, ACT/EMP; and Chris Land-Kazlauskas, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch.

Here are a few excerpts from their interventions.

Srinivas Reddy: "Cyber-physical systems that are part of today's industry include areas such as advanced robotics, 3D printing, AI, Big Data, blockchain technology. The labour market integration will require digital skills, from basic (such as software skills, social media and email) to advanced (such as health or industry technologies). It is important to note that digital technologies offer opportunities for education and training systems. They foster new approaches of learning, enable the delivery of a wealth of open educational resources, and have potential to empower vulnerable learners."

Uma Rani: "Online labour market grew between July 2016 and June 2017. Thus, between 1% and 5% of the adult population in the European Union participated at some point in paid work in the online labour market. The opportunities offered to online labour market workers include: reduced travel costs and work time; access to global labour markets (virtual migrants); access to varied types of tasks, some of which help in gaining new skills; access on the online labour market represents an important source of income for persons with disabilities, health problems or suffering from social anxiety; supplementary income. The challenges facing online workers include: low pay and lack of social security benefits; asocial working hours; limited career paths; lack of voice and representation. These challenges arise due to a lack of clear employment relationship and to regulatory issues – which laws are applicable, given that the labour platform is in one country, the client in another and

workers are globally dispersed."

John Ritchotte: "We cannot really talk of 'new forms of employment'. When we refer to digital economy, we know that employment belongs to one or more categories of non-standard forms of employment, depending on the situation: temporary and casual work; very short-term part-time work; multi-party contractual arrangements; disguised employment and so-called independent self-employment. Possible advantages of these digital non-standard forms of employment are: more flexibility, increased labour market participation, while

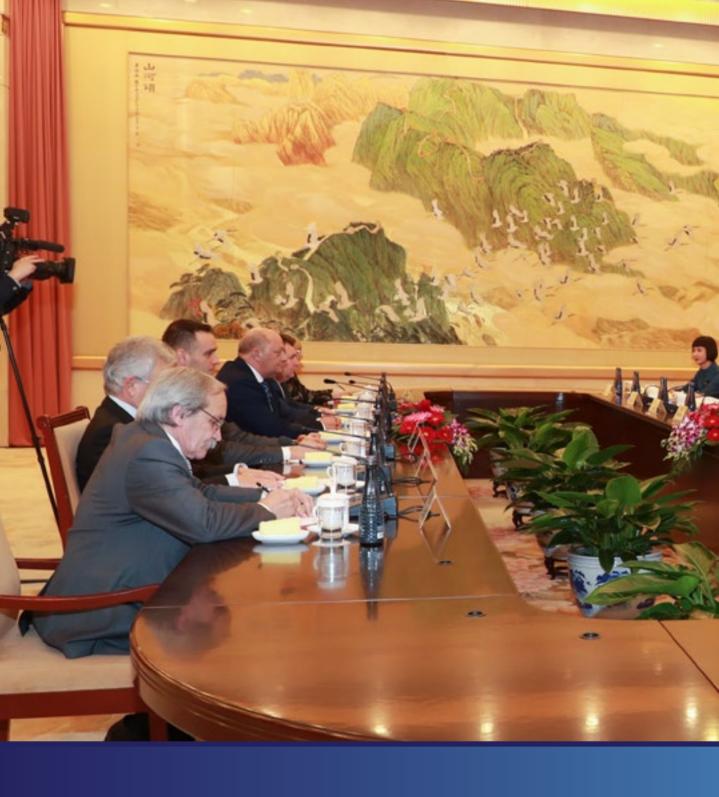


possible risks associated to them include: unfair competition, undeclared activities, transfer of risks from the company to the worker, and precarity and informalization of formal jobs. Here are a few hints in terms of employment in the digital economy: extending fundamental rights to all workers, expanding social security coverage without undermining contributory systems, improving dialogue between platforms and workers, strengthening collaboration with the social partners."

Samuel Asfaha: "ACT/EMP's current research themes related to the digital revolution are: enterprise and the digital economy; the effects of technology on business models and employment relationships; the effects of technology on sectorial-productivity and structural change. Here are a few questions posed by the digital revolution issue: how would the digital revolution affect work performance and competition? how would the digital revolution affect productivity and structural changes?"

Chris Land-Kazlauskas: "It is important to note that 'gig' work is still work, done by workers, even if they are not employees. Thus, there is a need for strong representative worker structures that would protect workers. In the case of this type of economy, sectorial bargaining may be particularly suited. As the ILO Director-General, Mr. Guy Ryder, pointed out, 'it is important that we confront these challenges from the conviction that the future of work is not decided for us in advance' and that 'it is a future that we must make according to the values that we choose and through the policies that we design and implement."







# **CHINA**

visit to china of a delegation of the esc of romania 15-20 November 2018

visit to romania of the guangdong friendship delegation  $4-6\ June\ 2019$ 

# VISIT TO CHINA OF A DELEGATION OF THE ESC OF ROMANIA, CURRENT HOLDER OF THE AICESIS PRESIDENCY

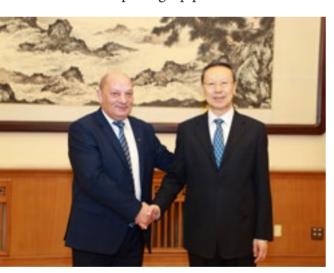
**15 – 20 November 2018** 



A delegation representing the Economic and Social Council (ESC) of Romania, which holds the AICESIS Presidency for the 2017-2019 term, paid a visit to the Chinese Economic and Social Council (CESC) in Beijing between 15 and 20 November 2018, following the invitation issued by Mr. Du Qinglin, President of the CESC.

The delegation was led by the president of the Romanian ESC, Mr. Iacob Baciu, also AICESIS President, and was composed of the ESC Board members: Mr. Liviu Rogojinaru, Mr. Liviu Apostoiu, Vice-presidents, Ms. Silvia Vlăsceanu, Mr. Radu Minea, members, and Ms. Eugenia Ștefănescu, Head of the International and Public Relations Department.

Apart from Beijing, the delegation also visited Guangzhou and Shenzhen, two cities in Guangdong Province that distinguish themselves by their reforms and opening-up policies.



The Romanian delegation met with Mr. Du Qinglin, CESC members and the chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CP-PCC), Mr. Wang Yang, in a high-level meeting presented in the CCTV-1 Evening News broadcast. The delegation also met with the chairman of CPPCC Guangdong Provincial Committee, Mr. Wang Rong, and the Vice-president of the CPPCC Shenzhen Provincial Committee, Mr. Xu Youjun.

During the discussions, the delegation of the Romanian ESC promoted the initiation of cooperation relations between the three groups represented in the Romanian ESC – trade un-

ions, employers and civil society organizations – and the social partners represented in the Chinese ESC, and of a permanent, efficient and advantageous institutional dialogue between the two institutions.

Also, there was an exchange of views on how bilateral exchanges and the cooperation between the Chinese ESC and AICESIS, as well as between the Chinese and the Romanian ESCs, could be strengthened, and on other issues of mutual interest.

On this occasion, the delegation of the Romanian ESC visited several science and technology parks where the latest Chinese research and innovation achievements in

various fields, such as medicine, renewable energy, electric vehicles, urban transport, artificial intelligence, etc., were presented, some of these achievements being funded by the private sector.

DMr. Iacob Baciu and Mr. Du Qinglin discussed about the main working topic proposed by the Romanian presidency of AICESIS for 2017-2019, "The Digital Revolution and Its Impact on the Future of Humanity", and about the possibilities of enhancing the cooperation of AICESIS members in order to promote, at national and international levels, social dialogue and decent work in the context of digitalization.

At the proposal of the Romanian delegation, President Iacob Baciu and President Du Qinglin agreed on the signing of a Collaboration Agreement between the two institutions at the meeting of the AICESIS General Assembly in 2019, in Bucharest.









# VISIT TO ROMANIA OF THE GUANGDONG FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

**Bucharest, 4-6 June 2019** 

Upon meeting the president of the Chinese Economic and Social Council, representatives of the National Committee of CPPCC and the president of CPPCC Guangdong Provincial Committee in November 2018 in China, the members of the delegation of the ESC of Romania, which holds the AICESIS Presidency for 2017-2019, invited their Chinese counterparts to visit Romania.

The president of CPPCC Guangdong Provincial Committee, Mr. Wang Rong, accepted the invitation and paid a visit to Romania between 4 and 6 June 2019, accompanied by a delegation composed of five persons.



The Chinese delegation had meetings with representatives of the Romanian ESC, of the business community in Ploieşti, of the Chinese community in Bucharest and of the Chinese Embassy in Romania.

The delegation was met at Henri Coandă Airport on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, by Mr. Iacob Baciu, President of the Romanian ESC and AICESIS President, and by the other members of the Romanian delegation who paid a visit to China in 2018.

In the afternoon of the same day, a visit to the Palace of Parliament was organized, followed by an official meeting between the representatives of the Romanian ESC and the Chinese delegation, during which opportunities for social and economic collaboration were discussed, with a view to enhancing relations between Guangdong Province and the Romanian partners in identified areas of interest.

The day of 5 June was dedicated to the discussions between the members of the Chinese delegation and the members of the business community from Prahova county and to the meeting with representatives of the Chinese Embassy in Romania.

On June 6, the delegation met with representatives of the Chinese community in Bucharest and visited the National Museum of Romanian History.

Following this visit, the Guangdong delegation was taken to Henri Coandă Airport, from where it headed to its next destination, Sofia, Bulgaria.





# CURAÇAO BOARD AND WORKSHOP

7-8 March 2019

## **DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD**



## 1/ Agenda

The agenda has been accepted by the members.

## 2/ Next Presidency, next CA and next VSG

UCESA unanimously presented the candidature of the ESECC of Ivory Coast for the Presidency of AICESIS for 2019-2021 in accordance with Article 8 of the AICESIS Articles, which states the continental rotation of the AICESIS presidency. Thus, the President received the approval of the Board to allow the 2019 GA to choose the ESECC of Ivory Coast for the Presidency of AICESIS.

The SG will initiate the procedures for the renewal of Board members and VSG mandates

for 2019-2021 according to the usual procedures.

#### 3/ Seminar on "The future of AICESIS"

The working group presents the results of its work in three points. After a debate on certain points, the Board decided that the document presented will serve as a basis for a debate to be held at the next GA. Working group discussions will continue with the assistance of the SG. Board members will send their contributions regarding points of convergence and divergence by May 31st. These notes will be sent to the members of the working group who will summarize them, which will be sent to the AICESIS members before the end of July. A half-day discussion and exchange will be scheduled on this basis at the opening of the GA after which resolutions will be drafted and submitted to the GA.



## 4/ Partnership with the ILO

The AICESIS-ILO joint international conference will be held on the occasion of the GA 2019 in Bucharest on the theme of *good governance in the framework of the 2030 Agenda*. An introductory note will be prepared jointly by AICESIS and the ILO to prepare the conference debates.

The international database on ESCs-SI in the world will be expanded and more accessible. Direct discussions between ILO-AICESIS will begin on the methodology.

A methodology will be developed by the ILO with the participation of AICESIS before the end of 2019-beginning of 2020 in several

languages for the members as a simple tool to support the decision making process to improve the operation, impact, efficiency of the Institutions.

AICESIS will attend the ILO's centennial conference in June, with the presence of several heads of State and government.

## 5/ New memberships

The Board is informed by the SG of the membership applications of the Tunisian and Guatemalan ESCs as well as the International Francophone of Social Dialogue (as an associate member). This information has received the approval of the Board.

# 6/ Communication and visual identity

In addition to the decisions taken at the GA of Paris, the SG presented a document on the communication policy as a basis for the development of a strategic communication plan, targeting objectives, audience, content and developing more intensely aspects of internal communication within 2 months.



The President presented a new visual identity of AICESIS which was approved by the Board.

#### 7/ Website

To do this, the starting point is the redesign of the website which will be executed according to the modalities presented to the GA of Paris. For the redesign, the SG will draft terms of reference, which will be sent to the Board members for approval within 15 days (the absence of a response will be considered as an approval). The budget has been set at 10,000 euros maximum. The specifications will be sent by the SG to specialized companies giving a period of 15 days to present the offers that will be sent to the Board members to express their preferences within one week. The company that will collect the most preferences will then be selected. The contract will be drafted with a clear definition of the obligations and the timetable for implementation.



#### 8/ Virtual Office of AICESIS

The same consultation procedure as for the website (point 7) will be applied.

### 9/ Main working theme

The notes presented to the Board will be sent to all AICESIS members asking them to submit their written contributions to guide the final report. The General Reporter will then make an initial version of the final report which will be submitted with sufficient time to know the opinions of the AICESIS members before the GA of September 2019.



#### 10/ Other decisions

AICESIS will send a note (attached) to the Government of Brazil to express its regret regarding the suspension of the activities of the Brazilian ESDC.

The Board welcomes the proposal of the ESC of Korea to organize in 2019 the Asian Social Dialogue Forum in cooperation with the ILO.

The Board welcomes the decision of Argentina to establish an ESC and supports the signature by the President and the SG of a working and cooperation agreement between AICESIS and the Ministry of Production and Labor of Argentina. It was decided on the basis of this experience to create a guide to help other coun-

tries wishing to set up such an institution at national level with useful information on how to establish an ESC.



The Board - whereas in special circumstances where more complete information cannot be sent according to usual customs because of various factors (lack of documentation, lack of information, documentation received too late) - entrusts the SG with the development in a period of one month of alternative forms of communication that allow decisions to be taken by the Board. These formulas will be part of a more effective preparation of the Board. The use of a written procedure could be included in this preparation.

In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Association Articles, the Board members will receive 30 days before the meeting the doc-

uments by email on the date set for the meeting. Each board member will receive the draft agenda and the respective documents for each item on the agenda.

The next AICESIS GA will take place in Bucharest (Romania) on 11-12-13 September 2019.



# **AICESIS STATEMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENTS IN BRAZIL**

Curação, March 7, 2019

## Recalling that,

 The Association, created in 1999, is fully respectful of the independence of each of its members;

And that it has the main following missions:

- To help the development of participatory democracy;
- To encourage the creation of Economic and Social Councils (ESCs) and support their sustainable action;
- To contribute to the prosperity and to the economic development of the population in accordance of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

# Pointing on that,

- The ESCs and Similar Institutions are the expression of institutionalized participation of societies and a medium between the sphere of politics and economy and within AICESIS, share their will to support processes for social dialogue institutionalization, in different countries;
- AICESIS can contribute to achieve that objective wherever there is a democratic will for it supported by

social partners or by their members-organizations;

#### Members of the AICESIS Board,

- Are seriously concerned about the situation with the suspension of activities of the Economic and Social Development Council of Brazil (CDES); which played an important role reinforcing the space of democracy;
- Call the Authorities of Brazil to consider the possibility of restoring the CDES not only as a part of Brazilian democratic institutions, but also as an effective tool of developing the social network of ESCs in the Latin America and Caribbean Region, where the CDES was particularly active;
- Express the hope that Brazil will participate in the General Assembly of AICESIS to be held on 9-11 October 2019 in Bucharest (Romania).

Mr. Iacob BACIU
President of AICESIS
On behalf of the AICESIS Board
Members

Parece In

# **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION		
MEMBRES AICESIS				
Argentine (Buenos Aires)	Rodrigo HERRERA BRAVO	Secrétaire Général		
	Gerardo LUPPI	Conseiller		
Aruba	Felix BIJLHOUT	Secrétaire Général		
	Andrina L.F. MSW DIRKS-NICOLAAS	Secrétaire Général		
Bénin	Tabé GBIAN	Président		
	Micheline GBEHA	Conseillère		
	Noël CHADARE	Conseiller		
	Alain ZOULIN	Secrétaire Général Adjoint		
	Luc AYANG	Président		
Cameroun	Zacharie NGOUMBE	Secrétaire Général		
01.	LI Xueming	Secrétaire Général Adjoint		
Chine	Xu Ge	Directeur du département international		
Corée	Oakyi SON	Relations internationales		
	Charles Koffi DIBY	Président		
	Alain-Pascal MENANN-KOUAME	Directeur des Etudes		
Côte d'Ivoire	Jean-François YAO	S/D de la Coopération		
	Stéphane Antoine RAINIER-ONDOMAT	Conseiller		
	John JACOBS	Président		
	Raul HENRIQUEZ	Secrétaire Général		
	Miloushka SBOUI-RACAMY	Conseillère		
	Wendell MERIAAN	Conseiller		
	Cornelus ROJER	Conseiller		
	Johan KUSTERS	Conseiller		
C	Humphrey MONGEN	Conseiller		
Curaçao	Pablo COVA	Conseiller		
	Kimberly DE L'ISLE	Conseillère		
	Steven COUTINHO	Conseiller		
	Ruud THUIS	Conseiller		
	Romeo LIEUW	Conseiller		
	Juan ZIMMERMAN	Conseiller		
	Richinel ILARIO	Conseiller		
Espagne	Juan MOSOCOSO DEL PRADO	Chef du département des relations internationales		
France	Carole COUVERT	Vice Présidente		
1141100	Michaël CHRISTOPHE	Conseiller diplomatique		
Guinée	Mandat donné au Bénin			
Luxembourg	Daniel BECKER	Secrétaire Général		
Mali / UCESA	Mandat donné au Bénin			

PAYS / COUNTRY	NOMS / NAME	FONCTION / FUNCTION			
MEMBRES AICESIS					
Maroc	Younes BENAKKI	Secrétaire Général			
	Amine MOUNIR ALAOUI	Président de la Commission de la société du savoir et de l'information			
	Abdallah DEGUIG	Membre de la Commission			
Monaco	Rodolphe BERLIN	Vice Président			
Pays Bas	Marko BOS	Secrétaire Général Adjoint			
Roumanie	Iacob BACIU	Président			
	Liviu ROGOJINARU	Vice-Président			
	Liviu APOSTOIU	Vice-Président			
	Eugenia ȘTEFANESCU	Directrice relations internationales			
Russie	Artem KIRYANOV	Premier Président Adjoint de la Commis- sion sur le contrôle public et la coopération avec les Conseils publics			
	Olga GOLYSHENKOVA	Membre de la Commission sur le dévelo- ppement économique, l'entrepreneunariat			
Senegal	Mandat donné à la Côte d'Ivoire				
Sint Maarten	Damien RICHARDSON	Président			
	Gerard RICHARDSON	Conseiller principal			
	Sharon ARNELL	Conseillère principale			

# **OBSERVATEUR**

Uruguay Jimena RUY-LÓPEZ

AICESIS				
	Francisco GONZÁLEZ DE LENA	Secrétaire Général		
AICESIS	Adrian MARIN	Rapporteur Général		
	Samira AZARBA	Administratrice		

Eugene P. RHUGGENAATH Premier Ministr	INVITES				
	·e				
Steven MARTINA Ministre du Dé	veloppement économique				
INVITAȚI Roland IGNACIO Secrétaire Géné	ral Adjoint d'ADS				
Diana LEŞANU Interprète					
Cristian RACAREANU Interprète					



# **ROME**

ANNUAL MEETING OF PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL ESCS IN THE EU AND THE EESC

**13 – 14 June 2019** 

# **ANNUAL MEETING CONCLUSIONS**

The ESCs' role in sustainable development and the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights

The presidents and secretaries-general of the National Economic and Social Councils of the EU (NESC) and the president of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) met in Rome on 13 and 14 June 2019. They present the following conclusions, which convey a clear message of support for the European project and for the Sustainable Development Agenda, since they are, in the end, two sides of the same coin.

This year's annual meeting comes at a crucial time, just some three weeks after the European Parliament elections, which strengthened its democratic legitimacy, and on the eve of the relevant decisions on appointments for the next institutional cycle and the adoption of the 2019-2024 Strategic Agenda for the Union.

The presidents and secretaries-general of the NESC and of the EESC agree that the 2030 Agenda, as adopted by the United Nations on 25 September 2015 and endorsed by the European Union, has to be the undisputed and overarching priority of the European Union for the next decade.

Following an in-depth debate with the delegations at the Annual Meeting of the Presidents and Secretaries-General of the National ESCs of the EU, the presidents of the EESC and the CNEL:

- Emphasise the European Union's need for a comprehensive strategy the 2030 Agenda which can efficiently address the economic and social challenges that Europe has to face, while taking account of the planet's finite resources.
- Underline that the Sustainable Development Agenda, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is the strategy that can provide the necessary responses to the five fundamental transitions that we have to address, namely: an economic transformation, an energy and ecological transformation, an extensive social transformation, a democratic and participatory transformation and a geopolitical transition in international relations.
- Consider that each SGD should be further clarified in practical terms in order to strengthen our citizens' commitment to the European project.
- Point out that the 2030 Agenda is the win-win strategy for all:
  - i. It is the winning agenda for employers because it is clear that the real competitiveness battle will take place, at global level, in the sectors linked to the Sustainable Development Agenda: green mobility, electric cars, renewable

- energies, plastic processing and batteries. Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (SDG 11) offers huge potential and opportunities, particularly for European business and industry in this field. Sustainable business, as a source of innovation, creativity and wealth, is becoming the new reality. Every indicator shows that demand for some companies is growing among the next generation of customers, clients and talent.
- ii. It is the winning strategy for workers, because several SDGs are linked to the social dimension of the European project: ending poverty (SDG 1); zero hunger (SDG2); good health and well-being (SDG3); quality education (SDG4); gender equality (SDG 5); decent work and economic growth (SDG 8); and reducing inequalities (SDG 10). The 2030 Agenda is, therefore, a solid firewall against social inequalities and could be the basis for the social contract of the 21st century.
- iii. It is the winning strategy for civil society, provided that civil society is fully involved in the governance process so that it can be further improved. Civil society could prove to be decisive in the proper monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs. This stance is also very clearly reflected in the Sustainable Development Agenda: strengthening the means of implementation and revitalising the global partnership for sustainable development (SDG 17).
- Point out that the social, economic and environmental issues are very closely interrelated and a sustainable and equitable Europe can only be obtained if substantial progress is made in an integrated way in all these dimensions.
- Stress that on the basis of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), important measures have already been adopted. This commitment must be further strengthened as significant elements of the EPSR remain largely unaddressed and have not yet been implemented (such as the chapter on "Social protection and inclusion"). Drawing up a road map would strongly encourage implementation in the various sectors.
- Consider that the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) must be used as a means to implement the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, as the SDGs are linked to the rights and principles that flow from it. The EPSR, jointly signed by the European institutions on 17 November 2017 at the Gothenburg Social Summit, has generated positive momentum for a more ambitious social agenda. This political effort needs to be further pursued.

- Welcome the signals from the European Commission and from both the European Parliament and the Council on the Sustainable Development Agenda.
  - The Reflection Paper "Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030" adopted by the Commission in January 2019 forms part of the EU's firm commitment to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and to champion sustainability.
  - The European Parliament's March 2019 "Annual strategic report on the implementation and delivery of the SDGs" fully endorses this political stance and captures the required sense of urgency. It underlines that sustainable development is one of the EU's fundamental objectives, as laid down in Article 3(3) of TFEU, and is closely linked to European values. Lastly, the report stresses that the Union should renew its commitment to being a global front-runner in implementing the 2030 Agenda and urges the Commission to draw up an ambitious, overarching and all-encompassing strategy for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
  - The Council, in its Conclusions of 9 April 2019 "Towards an ever more sustainable Union by 2030", urges the Commission to draft a comprehensive implementation strategy outlining timelines, objectives and specific measures that reflect the 2030 Agenda, to be presented in 2019.
- Urge the Heads of State and Government at the European Summit on 20-21 June 2019 to determine an ambitious strategy with regards to the debate on the adoption of the 2019-2024 Strategic Agenda for the European Union (including the implementation of the 2030 Agenda) and the issue of climate change ahead of the United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit.
- Acknowledge that in recent years, the European Semester process has proved to
  be a useful economic and social governance tool. It should now be updated and
  adapted to the 2030 Agenda so that the European semester is used in the service
  of this strategy, with precise indicators and more effective monitoring systems in
  order to guarantee better implementation.
- Stress that in addition, the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2021-2027 should establish sustainable development as its core objective. The Commission, in its MFF proposal, dedicated 25 % of the overall budget to sustainable development and to the fight against climate change and the European Parliament proposed 30 %, while the EESC calls for 40 %. If we wish to be consistent, then we must call for adequate resources not only at European level, but also at national level adapting the fiscal systems of our countries in line with the new sustainable development strategy and the roll-out of circular economies.

- Moreover, if the EU is to provide decisive political leadership and strive for a sustainable Europe, then some specific measures should be taken. We would favour the inclusion in the incoming Commission of a vice-president, with a dedicated team, specific budget and working structure, in charge of mainstreaming the SDGs into EU policies.
- The President of the European Commission should present the progress made and outline further action needed to implement the SDGs in the annual State of the Union speech.
- Point out that the launch of a collective EU journey aimed at meeting the SDGs will further mobilise civil society and European citizens young people in particular. This is a project of hope and resilience that has the potential to further consolidate unity and solidarity within the EU.
- Stress the need for our councils to be fully engaged as they could, with their valuable knowhow and indisputable political weight, help shape sustainable transitions. Because they are able to quickly adapt and renew themselves, these intermediary bodies can unquestionably function as a bridge between citizens and decision-makers and could also become councils for civic participation, entrusted with the organisation of public consultations on new sustainable development models.
- Lastly, they underline that the European Union as the largest economy in the world must through its trade policy play a fundamental role in promoting if not imposing the sustainable development agenda on a global level.



# **GENEVA**

THE ILO CENTENARY DECLARATION FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT THE 108TH SESSION

**21 June 2019** 

# ILO CENTENARY DECLARATION FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH SESSION



# **Geneva. 21 June 2019**

The International Labour Conference, meeting in Geneva at its One Hundred and Eighth Session on the occasion of the Centenary of the International Labour Organization (ILO),

Considering that the experience of the past century has confirmed that the continuous and concerted action of governments and representatives of employers and workers is essential to the achievement of social justice, democracy and the promotion of universal and lasting peace;

Acknowledging that such action has brought historic advances in economic and social progress that have resulted in more humane conditions of work;

Considering also that persistent poverty, inequalities and injustices, conflict, disasters and other humanitarian emergencies in many parts of the world constitute a threat to those advances and to securing shared prosperity and decent work for all;

Recalling and reaffirming the aims, purposes, principles and mandate set out in the ILO Constitution and the Declaration of Philadelphia (1944);

*Underlining* the importance of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) and the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008):

Moved by the imperative of social justice that gave birth to the ILO one hundred years ago, and the conviction that it lies within the reach of the governments, employers and workers of the world to reinvigorate the Organization and shape a future of work that realizes its founding vision;

*Recognizing* that social dialogue contributes to the overall cohesion of societies and is crucial for a well-functioning and productive economy;

*Recognizing also* the importance of the role of sustainable enterprises as generators of employment and promoters of innovation and decent work;

Reaffirming that labour is not a commodity;

Committing to a world of work free from violence and harassment;

*Underlining also* the significance of promoting multilateralism, particularly in shaping the future of work that we want and in dealing with the challenges of the world of work;

Calling upon all constituents of the ILO to reaffirm their unwavering commitment and to reinvigorate their efforts to achieve social justice and universal and lasting peace to which they agreed in 1919 and 1944; and

*Desiring* to democratize ILO governance by ensuring a fair representation of all regions and establishing the principle of equality among member States,

Adopts this twenty-first day of June of the year two thousand and nineteen the ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work.

T

The Conference declares that:

- A. The ILO marks its Centenary at a time of transformative change in the world of work, driven by technological innovations, demographic shifts, environmental and climate change, and globalization, as well as at a time of persistent inequalities, which have profound impacts on the nature and future of work, and on the place and dignity of people in it.
- B. It is imperative to act with urgency to seize the opportunities and address the challenges to shape a fair, inclusive and secure future of work with full, productive and freely chosen employment and decent work for all.
- C. Such a future of work is fundamental for sustainable development that puts an end to poverty and leaves no one behind.
- D. The ILO must carry forward into its second century with unrelenting vigour its constitutional mandate for social justice by further developing its human-centred approach to the future of work, which puts workers' rights and the needs, aspirations and rights of all people at the heart of economic, social and environmental policies.
- E. The growth of the Organization over the past 100 years towards universal membership means that social justice can be achieved in all regions of the world and that the full contribution of the ILO's constituents to this endeavour can be assured only through their full, equal and democratic participation in its tripartite governance.

Π

The Conference declares that:

- A. In discharging its constitutional mandate, taking into account the profound transformations in the world of work, and further developing its human-centred approach to the future of work, the ILO must direct its efforts to:
  - (i) ensuring a just transition to a future of work that contributes to sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions;
  - (ii) harnessing the fullest potential of technological progress and productivity growth, including through social dialogue, to achieve decent work and sustainable development, which ensure dignity, self-fulfilment and a just sharing of the benefits for all;

- (iii) promoting the acquisition of skills, competencies and qualifications for all workers throughout their working lives as a joint responsibility of governments and social partners in order to:
  - address existing and anticipated skills gaps;
  - pay particular attention to ensuring that education and training systems are responsive to labour market needs, taking into account the evolution of work; and
  - enhance workers' capacity to make use of the opportunities available for decent work;
- (iv) developing effective policies aimed at generating full, productive and freely chosen employment and decent work opportunities for all, and in particular facilitating the transition from education and training to work, with an emphasis on the effective integration of young people into the world of work;
- (v) supporting measures that help older workers to expand their choices, optimizing their opportunities to work in good-quality, productive and healthy conditions until their retirement, and to enable active ageing;
- (vi) promoting workers' rights as a key element for the attainment of inclusive and sustainable growth, with a focus on freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining as enabling rights;
- (vii) achieving gender equality at work through a transformative agenda, with regular evaluation of progress made, which:
  - ensures equal opportunities, equal participation and equal treatment, including equal remuneration for women and men for work of equal value;
  - enables a more balanced sharing of family responsibilities;
  - provides scope for achieving better work-life balance by enabling workers and employers to agree on solutions, including on working time, that consider their respective needs and benefits; and
  - promotes investment in the care economy;
- (viii) ensuring equal opportunities and treatment in the world of work for persons with disabilities, as well as for other persons in vulnerable situations;
- (ix) supporting the role of the private sector as a principal source of economic growth and job creation by promoting an enabling environment for entrepreneurship and sustainable enterprises, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as cooperatives and the social and solidarity economy, in order to generate decent work, productive employment and improved living standards for all;
- (x) supporting the role of the public sector as a significant employer and provider of quality public services;
- (xi) strengthening labour administration and inspection;
- (xii) ensuring that diverse forms of work arrangements, production and business models, including in domestic and global supply chains, leverage op-

- portunities for social and economic progress, provide for decent work and are conducive to full, productive and freely chosen employment;
- (xiii) eradicating forced and child labour and promoting decent work for all and fostering cross-border cooperation, including in areas or sectors of high international integration;
- (xiv) promoting the transition from the informal to the formal economy, while giving due attention to rural areas;
- (xv) developing and enhancing social protection systems, which are adequate, sustainable and adapted to developments in the world of work;
- (xvi) deepening and scaling up its work on international labour migration in response to constituents' needs and taking a leadership role in decent work in labour migration; and
- (xvii) intensifying engagement and cooperation within the multilateral system with a view to strengthening policy coherence, in line with the recognition that:
  - decent work is key to sustainable development, addressing income inequality and ending poverty, paying special attention to areas affected by conflict, disaster and other humanitarian emergencies; and
  - in conditions of globalization, the failure of any country to adopt humane conditions of labour is more than ever an obstacle to progress in all other countries.
- B. Social dialogue, including collective bargaining and tripartite cooperation, provides an essential foundation of all ILO action and contributes to successful policy and decision-making in its member States.
- C. Effective workplace cooperation is a tool to help ensure safe and productive workplaces, in such a way that it respects collective bargaining and its outcomes, and does not undermine the role of trade unions.
- D. Safe and healthy working conditions are fundamental to decent work.

III

The Conference calls upon all Members, taking into account national circumstances, to work individually and collectively, on the basis of tripartism and social dialogue, and with the support of the ILO, to further develop its human-centred approach to the future of work by:

- A. Strengthening the capacities of all people to benefit from the opportunities of a changing world of work through:
  - (i) the effective realization of gender equality in opportunities and treatment;
  - (ii) effective lifelong learning and quality education for all;
  - (iii) universal access to comprehensive and sustainable social protection; and
  - (iv) effective measures to support people through the transitions they will face throughout their working lives.
- B. Strengthening the institutions of work to ensure adequate protection of all workers, and reaffirming the continued relevance of the employment relationship as a

means of providing certainty and legal protection to workers, while recognizing the extent of informality and the need to ensure effective action to achieve transition to formality. All workers should enjoy adequate protection in accordance with the Decent Work Agenda, taking into account:

- (i) respect for their fundamental rights;
- (ii) an adequate minimum wage, statutory or negotiated;
- (iii) maximum limits on working time; and
- (iv) safety and health at work.
- C. Promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all through:
  - (i) macroeconomic policies that have those aims as their central objective;
  - (ii) trade, industrial and sectoral policies that promote decent work, and enhance productivity;
  - (iii) investment in infrastructure and in strategic sectors to address the drivers of transformative change in the world of work;
  - (iv) policies and incentives that promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth, the creation and development of sustainable enterprises, innovation, and the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and that promote the alignment of business practices with the objectives of this Declaration; and
  - (v) policies and measures that ensure appropriate privacy and personal data protection, and respond to challenges and opportunities in the world of work relating to the digital transformation of work, including platform work.

IV

#### The Conference declares that:

- A. The setting, promotion, ratification and supervision of international labour standards is of fundamental importance to the ILO. This requires the Organization to have and promote a clear, robust, up-to-date body of international labour standards and to further enhance transparency. International labour standards also need to respond to the changing patterns of the world of work, protect workers and take into account the needs of sustainable enterprises, and be subject to authoritative and effective supervision. The ILO will assist its Members in the ratification and effective application of standards.
- B. All Members should work towards the ratification and implementation of the ILO fundamental Conventions and periodically consider, in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations, the ratification of other ILO standards.
- C. It is incumbent on the ILO to strengthen the capacity of its tripartite constituents to:
  - (i) encourage the development of strong and representative social partner organizations;

- (ii) engage in all relevant processes, including with labour market institutions, programmes and policies, within and across borders; and
- (iii) address all fundamental principles and rights at work, at all levels, as appropriate, through strong, influential and inclusive mechanisms of social dialogue,

in the conviction that such representation and dialogue contribute to the overall cohesion of societies and are a matter of public interest, and are crucial for a well-functioning and productive economy.

- D. The services that the ILO offers to its member States and social partners, notably through development cooperation, must be consistent with its mandate and based on a thorough understanding of, and attention to, their diverse circumstances, needs, priorities and levels of development, including through expanded South–South and triangular cooperation.
- E. The ILO should maintain the highest levels of statistical, research and knowledge management capacities and expertise in order to further strengthen the quality of its evidence-based policy advice.
- F. On the basis of its constitutional mandate, the ILO must take an important role in the multilateral system, by reinforcing its cooperation and developing institutional arrangements with other organizations to promote policy coherence in pursuit of its human-centred approach to the future of work, recognizing the strong, complex and crucial links between social, trade, financial, economic and environmental policies.

The foregoing is the ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work, duly adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization during its One Hundred and Eighth (Centenary) Session which was held at Geneva and declared closed on 21 June 2019.

IN FAITH WHEREOF we have appended our signatures this twenty-first day of June 2019:

The President of the Conference, JEAN-JACQUES ELMIGER

The Director-General of the International Labour Office, GUY RYDER

# The International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS) celebrates 20 years of activity.

The Association was created in 1999 in Port Louis, Mauritius, in accordance with Dutch law, and was based in Brussels, Belgium.

At the time of its creation, AICESIS had 24 member institutions (economic and social councils or similar institutions) from 24 states, and three associated institutions.

Today, on the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its activity, AICESIS has 71 member institutions (economic and social councils or similar institutions) from 4 continents: Africa, America, Asia and Europe.

The association has four governing bodies: the General Assembly, the Board, the Presidency and the General Secretariat.

The General Assembly, attended by all members of the association, meets once a year in one of the member countries to takes decisions, defines the AICESIS strategy and designates, if necessary, the president, the general secretary and the members of the Board. All important decisions for AICESIS are taken by the General Assembly by an absolute majority. The latest meeting of the Board and General Assembly was held in Bucharest, Romania, from 9 to 10 October 2019.

The Board is composed of active members appointed by the General Assembly for a period of two years, their mandate being renewable. When appointing members, the Assembly must take into account a balanced composition, which will ensure the representativeness of the four continents. Thus, the Board currently has 17 members from countries on four continents. The Board is chaired by the AICESIS President, who is also appointed for a period of two years. The Board operates on the basis of collegial responsibility and meets twice a year.

The AICESIS President is the president of a member ESC and is elected in the respect of the principle of rotation between continents. Thus, since 1999, the presidency has been exercised, in chronological order, by the economic and social councils of the following countries: the Netherlands, Algeria, France, China, Brazil, Hungary, Italy, Algeria, Russia, the Dominican Republic and Romania. The President is responsible for organizing a meeting of the General Assembly during his / her term of office - usually at the end of the term. At the beginning of the term, he / she must propose a main working theme that will be discussed during this period. He also represents the Association at the international level, participating (including through financial contributions) or organizing various international meetings.

**The Secretary General** is appointed for a four-year term by the Board. His mandate can be renewed. The General Secretary cooperates closely with the President to implement the decisions made by the Board and the GA. Since 2010, the General Assembly has also appointed Deputy Secretaries General: one for each of the four continents.

During the 20 years of activity, 11 presidents have been at the head of AICESIS.

Happy Birthday AICESIS!

President.

Iacob Baciu

# **AICESIS Presidents**



ROMANIA



20 YEARS 2019 <





**lacob Baciu** 2017 - 2019





**RUSSIAN FEDERATION** 



**Evgeny Velikhov** 2013 - 2015







**Mohamed Seghir Babes** 2011 - 2013







HUNGARY



**Janos Tott** 2008 - 2009





**José Mucio Monteiro** 2007 - 2008



CHINA



**Wang Zhongyu** 2005 - 2007



FRANCE



**Jacques Dermagne** 2003 - 2005







**Mohamed Salah Mentouri** 2001 - 2003





Herman H. F. Wijffels 1999 - 2001

# **AICESIS President 2017 – 2019**



**ESC Romania lacob BACIU** 

# AICESIS Secretary General 2017 – 2021



ESC of Spain Francisco GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA

# Former AICESIS Secretaries General 2009-2017 1999-2009



Patrick Venturini



Bertrand DURUFLÉ

# **AICESIS Board Members**

# **AFRICA**



ESC of Benin Tabé Augustin GBIAN



CESEC of the Ivory Coast Charles KOFFI DIBY



ESC of Guinea Hadja Rabiatou Serah DIALLO



CESE of Morocco Ahmed Reda CHAMI



**CESE of Senegal** Aminata TOURÉ



UCESA Boulkassoum HAÏDARA

# **AICESIS Deputy Secretaries General**



AFRICA Mali Dramane TRAORÉ



LATIN AMERICA Curaçao Miloushka SBOUI-RACAMY



ASIA South Koreea Oakyi SON



EUROPA Greece Apostolos XYRAPHIS



Administrator Samira AZARBA

# **AMERICA**



ESC of Curação John JACOBS



ESC of the Dominican Republic Agripino NÚÑEZ

# **ASIA**



ESC of China DU Qinglin



ESC of Korea Sung Hyun MOON



CC of Russia Valery FADEEV

# **EUROPE**



CESE of France Patrick BERNASCONI



OKE of Greece George VERNICOS



ESC of Luxembourg Jean-Jacques ROMMES



SER of The Netherlands Mariëtte HAMER



ESC of Romania Iacob BACIU



ESC of Spain Marcos PEÑA

#### **AICESIS MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

	Advisory Economic and Social Forum of Mercosur - Section Argentina (Associate		Economic and Social Council - China
	Member)		<b>Economic and Social Council - Congo</b>
*	Advisory Economic and Social Forum of Mercosur - Section Uruguay (Associate Member)	*	Economic and Social Council - Curação
	Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation		Economic and Social Council - Dominican Republic
	Council for Dialogue with Productive	e e	Economic and Social Council - El Salvador
	Sector - Mexico		Economic and Social Council - FYROM
+	Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD) - Malta		Economic and Social Council - Gabon
	Council of Economic and Social Agreement – Czech Republic		Economic and Social Council - Guinea
	Council of National Economy - Venezuela	•	Economic and Social Council - Jordan
	Economic and Social Advisory Forum		Economic and Social Council - Luxembourg
	of Mercosur (section Argentina; Brazil, Uruguay)	(*)	Economic and Social Council - Mauritania
			LCONOMIC and Social Council - mauricania
<b>\$</b>	Economic and Social Committee (observer member) - Israel		Economic and Social Council - Monaco
<del> </del> ==	Economic and Social Council (OKE) -	(3)	Economic and Social Council - Portugal
_	Greece		Economic and Social Council - RDC
*	Economic and Social Council - Aruba		Economic and Social Council - Romania
	<b>Economic and Social Council - Benin</b>	0	Economic and Social Council - Slovenia
	Economic and Social Council - Bulgaria		Economic and Social Council - Spain
*	Economic and Social Council - Burkina Faso	*	Economic and Social Council - Suriname
×	Economic and Social Council - Burundi	*	Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Lebanon
*	<b>Economic and Social Council - Cameroon</b>		Economic and Social Council - Palestine
	Economic and Social Council - Central African Republic		(Observer member)



The ESC of Romania organizes on behalf of AICESIS the General Assembly of AICESIS, in Bucharest, October 9-11, 2019. This event will mark the end of the mandate of President Iacob Baciu at the AICESIS presidency. On this occasion, President Iacob Baciu sends the following message:

Dear colleagues, representatives of AICESIS member institutions, Dear guests,

I welcome you to Romania at the General Assembly.

Some of you are here for the first time.

I am glad to receive my colleagues in Bucharest, the capital of our country.

For two years I have had the privilege and the honour to hold the position of AICESIS President in my capacity as President of the ESC of Romania.

When I was invested in this position I proposed as the main theme of my presidency the Digital Revolution.

The main goal was to launch a broad social dialogue so that the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0), the one we are in at the moment, and the fifth industrial revolution on the horizon will favour the premises of a better, safer and fairer world for all the states of the world.

Poverty eradication, prosperity for all citizens of the planet, preservation of a healthy environment, elimination of conflicts, access to resources for all are objectives that must be linked to all progress that these revolutions can bring to humanity.

However, we must learn from the mistakes that were made in the past in order not to repeat them.

To a large extent, the present conditions are no longer so friendly to allow mankind to fail without paying a huge price that can compromise the existence of our civilization.

We are on the verge of an era completely different from the one in which we were born and lived.

Together we can find solutions, we can determine correct directions of development, and we can negotiate, on behalf of our people, fair and equitable approaches.

I am sure that AICESIS will continue to be an institution of balance and dialogue.

Romania is a beautiful country that I invite you to discover.

Romanians are peaceful people but they have the consciousness of justice deeply rooted in the essence of their being.

I hope you enjoy these days together in Bucharest.

I am also confident that you will leave with a good feeling about the wonderful meeting you had in Romania, a country that wants just as much as any other country of the world peace, tranquillity, prosperity and solidarity.

And because today we celebrate 20 years of activity of AICESIS I wish you all Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday AICESIS!

President, Iacob Baciu

#### DISCOVER ROMANIA



The People's House

The Arch of Triumph



The Romanian Athenaeum



CEC Palace



Corvin Castle



Peleș Castle



The Danube Delta



Turda Salt Mine



The Sphinx in the Bucegi Mountains



Transfagarasan Highway



The Ceahlău Massif, Photo credit: Adrian Gârneață



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS (AICESIS)

# OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF PRESIDENT IACOB BACIU 2017–2019



#### A l'attention de Monsieur Georges Dassis Président du Comité Economique et Social Européen

Cher Monsieur Dassis,

Il me fait grand plaisir de vous faire savoir que, depuis 4 avril 2017, je suis le président du Conseil Economique et Social de Roumanie et, à partir du septembre 2017, j'ai été élu président de l'Association internationale des conseils économiques et sociaux et institutions similaires (AICESIS).

C'est pour la première fois que le CES de Roumanie occupe cette position dont nous sommes très fiers, mais qui augmente notre responsabilité.

Le thème de travail que j'ai proposé pour les deux années de mandat de la présidence roumaine à la tête de l'AICESIS est « L'impact de la révolution numérique sur l'avenir de l'humanité ». J'ai été particulièrement heureux de constater que ce thème a été fortement apprécié par les membres de l'AICESIS qui l'ont considéré très intéressant et d'une extrême actualité. C'est une question qui nécessite de grands débats et des mesures susceptibles à résoudre les dérives potentielles résultant de la numérisation de la vie économique et sociale et affectant les relations de travail.

La feuille de route de la présidence roumaine de l'AICESIS, qui définit le profil et l'identité d'une présidence, a été déjà rédigée. Elle inclue les lignes directrices, les priorités de notre présidence et les directions dans laquelle l'AICESIS se dirigera au cours des deux années de notre mandat, ainsi que les différentes activités qui seront développées sous la coordination de la présidence roumaine de l'Association.

Pour avoir l'occasion de discuter tout cela personnellement, ce serait un plaisir et un honneur pour moi de vous rencontrer au siège du CESE à Bruxelles, si votre programme vous le permet, à une date à votre convenance.

Je vous prie de recevoir, cher Président Dassis, l'expression de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Iacob Baciu,



Madame la Présidente, Monsieur le Président,

De retour à Bucarest, je voudrais exprimer encore une fois ma gratitude pour le grand honneur d'avoir été élu président de l'Association international des conseils économiques et sociaux et institutions similaires (AICESIS), en tant que président du Conseil économique et social de Roumanie.

Je vous remercie chaleureusement d'avoir soutenu ma candidature, par l'intermédiaire de vos représentants, de m'avoir félicité à l'occasion de mon élection à la présidence et de m'avoir adressé des mots d'appréciation qui m'ont donné le courage, la confiance et l'espoir que je réussirai à atteindre avec succès les objectifs de mon mandat.

Indéniablement, je peux atteindre ces objectifs uniquement par une étroite collaboration avec chacun d'entre vous, les membres de l'AICESIS, par l'échange d'expériences et de bonnes pratiques, la solidarité au sein de notre Association étant le principe essentiel pour lequel je vais me battre et que je vais promouvoir durant mon mandat.

De plus, j'ai été ravi de voir que le thème de mon choix, pour le mandat du CES roumain, L'impact de la révolution numérique sur le futur de l'humanité, a suscité un vif intérêt et a été acceptée avec enthousiasme par ceux et celles présents à cet événement. Décidément, ce thème demande des clarifications relatives aux questions qui sont déjà ou seront sans doute soulevées avec une insistance et une vigueur toujours plus grandes.

Je voudrais réitérer ma disponibilité absolue à continuer le travail de mes prédécesseurs et à coopérer avec vous afin que l'AICESIS puisse gagner en force et représentativité pour atteindre avec succès ses objectifs et devenir une voix active et écoutée par les décideurs politiques et économiques.

Veuillez recevoir, Madame la Présidente, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Iacob Baciu,



#### Mr. Charles ARBID

#### President of the Economic and Social Council of Lebanon

Dear Mr. Charles ARBID,
I would like to congratulate you on your election as President of the Economic and Social Council of Lebanon. I would also like to congratulate Mr. Saad El Din Hamidi Saker on his election as Vice-President, the newly elected members of the Council's Bureau and Dr. Mohammed Saifeddine on his election as Director-General of the Lebanese ESC.
I wish you success in your endeavors and I want to reassure you of my full support and cooperation.
Sincerely yours,
Iacob BACIU
A COPONO DE LA LA
AICESIS President
UCESIF President

Mr. Charles ARBID

President of the Economic and Social Council of Lebanon



Le Président Bucarest, le 15 mars 2018

Monsieur le Directeur Général,

Dans le cadre de l'accord de partenariat signé en 2012 à Genève entre le Président de l'AICESIS et le Directeur Général de l'OIT, j'aimerais vous demander la possibilité d'organiser une rencontre dans vos bureaux début juillet si votre calendrier le permet. Depuis cette signature, les activités communes organisées entre l'AICESIS et l'OIT, à travers l'unité Dialogue social et tripartisme, n'ont cessé de croitre avec des résultats positifs et concrets pour les institutions membres de l'AICESIS. Nous réjouissons ainsi de notre coopération fructueuse et stratégique pour le travail décent.

Ainsi cette rencontre pourrait porter sur plusieurs questions, notamment la révision de l'accord de partenariat ainsi que sa mise à jour, le bilan de nos activités conjointes depuis ces six dernières années, la conférence internationale biannuelle qui sera organisée par l'OIT et l'AICESIS à la fin de l'année 2019 sur un thème de travail : bonne gouvernance et démocratie participative pour le monde du travail (titre provisoire).

L'année 2019 sera en effet une date charnière pour nos institutions, l'OIT fêtant ses 100 ans de service au monde du travail et plus modestement l'AICESIS célébrant les 20 ans de sa création.

Je profite également de cette occasion pour solliciter votre appui pour organiser à Genève au sein des bureaux de l'OIT un séminaire d'échange d'expériences, de connaissances et de bonnes pratiques sur le thème principal de travail de la Présidence du CES de Roumanie de l'AICESIS sur la période 2017-2019 la révolution numérique et son impact sur la société actuelle. Nous aimerions ainsi profiter d'une des salles de réunion de l'OIT ainsi que des interventions des experts de l'OIT sur la question numérique en lien avec l'avenir du travail. Ce séminaire aurait lieu la première quinzaine d'octobre 2018. Je vous joins la note conceptuelle. L'AICESIS espère vraiment que si votre agenda vous le permet, ce séminaire international pourrait bénéficier de votre présence à la session d'ouverture.

Votre cabinet et le secrétariat général de l'AICESIS pourront organiser notre rencontre en fonction de la date qui vous sied le mieux. Je reste à votre entière disposition.

Dans l'attente de votre réponse, je vous prie de croire, Monsieur le Directeur Général, en

mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Iacob BACIU

Monsieur Guy RYDER Directeur General de l'OIT





#### A l'aimable attention de Monsieur Luca JAHIER Président du Comité Economique et Social Européen

Monsieur le Président.

Je vous prie de recevoir mes félicitations les plus cordiales pour votre élection à la présidence du CESE. Je voudrais vous adresser mes meilleurs vœux de succès dans l'exercice de cette fonction.

En tant que président du CES de Roumanie, je pense que l'activité du CESE est un instrument de base pour le développement de la démocratie participative dans l'Union européenne. C'est pourquoi je partage vos paroles dans le discours inaugural de votre présidence, dans lequel vous parlez de l'opportunité de donner un nouvel élan à la société civile européenne, ainsi que de la responsabilité du CESE dans cette tâche.

Vous pouvez, bien sûr, compter sur toute ma collaboration, et celle du CES roumain que je représente, pour le développement des tâches que vous allez accomplir pendant votre présidence du CESE.

D'un autre côté, et maintenant en ma qualité de président de l'AICESIS, je voudrais également vous proposer à intensifier les activités du CESE au sein de notre association. Depuis le début de ma présidence de l'AICESIS, en septembre dernier, j'ai agi pour intensifier le rôle du CESE par rapport à l'AICESIS. Et je l'ai fait parce que je crois que pour la réalisation des objectifs de l'AICESIS, tels que la promotion du dialogue social ou l'échange d'expériences, qui facilite l'amélioration des capacités des conseils, une participation active du CESE est essentielle.

J'ai déjà eu l'occasion de discuter ces questions avec votre prédécesseur, M. Dassis, et dans ces contacts nous nous sommes mis d'accord sur quelques formules possibles pour développer l'activité du CESE au sein de l'AICESIS.

Par conséquent, je voudrais que ces contacts reprennent avec votre présidence, et pour cela, je vous suggère la possibilité d'avoir une réunion, soit à Bruxelles, soit à Bucarest, à laquelle je serais heureux de vous inviter, en profitant pour mieux vous faire connaître le fonctionnement de notre Conseil.

Sans préjudice de ce qui précède, vos collaborateurs pourraient entrer en contact avec mes collaborateurs et avec le Secrétariat Général de l'AICESIS, afin de faire avancer l'échange préalable d'informations qui faciliterait la réussite de notre réunion.

Réitérant mes félicitations, veuillez recevoir Monsieur le Président, l'expression de mes salutations les plus distinguées.

Iacob BACIU Président du CES de Roumanie Président de l'AICESIS



#### A l'attention de Mme Hanifa Mezoui,

#### Représentante permanente de l'AICESIS auprès des Nations Unies et de l'ECOSOC

Chère Mme Mezoui,

Comme vous le savez, depuis septembre dernier, j'occupe la présidence de l'AICESIS, en ma qualité de président du CES de Roumanie. Durant cette période, j'ai pu observer l'intérêt que l'AICESIS porte à la coopération avec l'ECOSOC, et j'ai également été informé du rôle important que vous jouez dans cette coopération. Je tiens à vous remercier d'avance pour cette activité que vous développez pour promouvoir la relation entre l'AICESIS et l'ECOSOC.

Le SG de l'AICESIS m'a informé qu'il a eu plusieurs contacts avec vous, pour étudier des initiatives visant à améliorer cette coopération, en particulier celles qui ont trait aux critères adoptés dans le CA d'Abidjan.

A travers cette lettre, je voudrais réitérer l'intérêt de l'AICESIS, en tant qu'organisation, et le mien, en tant que Président de l'AICESIS, de pouvoir développer et améliorer notre relation avec l'ECOSOC.

Pour cette raison, je voudrais connaître votre opinion sur les lignes de travail suggérées par le SG dans la communication qui vous a été envoyée après le Conseil d'Abidjan. De mon point de vue, aller de l'avant dans ces lignes de collaboration avec l'ECOSOC serait une excellente suite, qui pourrait être présentée lors de l'AG qui aura lieu à Paris les 17 et 18 septembre. Pour cette raison, j'aimerais également connaître votre opinion sur les possibilités de profiter de la participation de l'AICESIS à la prochaîne réunion de l'ECOSOC, afin d'établir des contacts susceptibles d'approfondir cette coopération.

En vous remerciant encore pour la tâche importante que vous développez pour l'AICESIS, je vous prie de recevoir mes salutations les plus cordiales.

Iacob Baciu



Dear Ms. Mezoui,

First of all, I would like to thank you for your good wishes for my term as President of AICESIS. Although I have not had the pleasure to make your acquaintance, I know of the outstanding contribution that you have brought to our Association over the years. For this reason, it saddens me deeply to hear of the misunderstandings that recently occurred, regarding your position within AICESIS.

I am not familiar with the details of the situation referred to in your letter, given that I was not President of the Association at that moment. However, it is my belief, and not only mine, that your endeavours as AICESIS Permanent Representative to ECOSOC and the United Nations have brought valuable benefits to AICESIS and consequently your resignation from this position would be a great loss for the Association.

In my view, a discussion between you, AICESIS Secretary-General Francisco de Lena and myself would be illuminating, clearing up the present misunderstandings and allowing us to find the right way to implement the proposition advanced by the Selection Committee on 15 September 2016. In this regard, I would welcome the opportunity of such a meeting in Romania some time, at your convenience, before mid-September 2018, when the AICESIS GA and Board will take place in Paris.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,

Iacob Baciu,

President



#### A la Haute attention de

#### Son Excellence Monsieur Charles Koffi DIBY

#### Président du CESEC de Côte d'Ivoire

Monsieur le Président et cher ami,

C'est toujours pour moi un immense plaisir d'évoquer l'excellence des relations de coopération qui prévaut aussi bien entre nos deux personnalités qu'entre les institutions que nous présidons.

Il me plaît de vous rappeler la grande satisfaction des membres de notre Association, au regard de l'organisation remarquable et du parfait déroulement des travaux conjoints de l'UCESIF et de l' AICESIS tenus à Abidjan, au mois de mars de cette année.

Dans la même dynamique, j'en appelle à nouveau à votre constante sollicitude et à votre précieux concours quant à la mise en oeuvre de notre feuille de route et surtout du renforcement des liens de coopération entre notre Association et l'ECOSOC (ONU).

A cet égard, je me rejouis que le CESEC de Côte d'Ivoire ait fortement contribué à la rédaction de la Note Conceptuelle du Rapport du Groupe de Travail ECOSOC pour le compte de l' AICESIS. Aussi voudrais-je vous prier de bien vouloir porter la voix de notre Association au cours des travaux du Segment de Haut Niveau de l'ECOSOC, qui se tiendront du 16 au 19 juillet 2018, au siège de l'ONU, à New York.

Je m'assure d'avance de votre engagement à l'atteinte des objectifs poursuivis par notre Association.

Dans l'attente, veuillez recevoir, Monsieur le Président et cher ami, l'expression de ma considération la distinguée,

Iacob Baciu



#### Monsieur Mohamed Trabelsi Ministre des Affaires Sociales masste@rnas.gov.tn

Cher ministre,

Je vous écris pour vous remercier d'avoir invité le Secrétaire Général de l'AICESIS à tenir une série de réunions en Tunisie, dans le but d'analyser les possibilités de collaboration de l'AICESIS dans la mise en œuvre et le développement du Conseil National du Dialogue Social de Tunisie.

Le Secrétaire Général m'a informé de ces réunions, en soulignant le haut niveau de ses participants, le contenu très intéressant et le ton de la collaboration qui les a présidés.

Je suis particulièrement satisfait du niveau élevé de développement du dialogue social en Tunisie et de l'intérêt du gouvernement tunisien et des partenaires sociaux pour élaborer des formules d'institutionnalisation du Dialogue Social, telles que la mise en place du Conseil National du Dialogue Social. Je voudrais à réitérer l'engagement de l'AICESIS, qui a été exprimé lors des réunions par le Secrétaire Général, pour soutenir cette ligne d'action du gouvernement tunisien et les partenaires sociaux. Nonobstant le fait que nous définissions conjointement les activités concrètes de collaboration que nous pourrions mener, je crois que la prochaine Assemblée Générale de l'AICESIS (Paris 17 et 18 septembre) serait une excellente opportunité pour avancer dans cette collaboration. Plus précisément, lors de cette réunion au plus haut niveau de l'AICESIS, le gouvernement et les partenaires sociaux de la Tunisie pourriez présenter leurs expériences de dialogue social, et plus particulièrement celles liées à la mise en œuvre du Conseil National du Dialogue Social.

Pour cette raison, j'ai le plaisir de vous inviter à participer à l'Assemblée Générale d'AICEISIS qui se tiendra à Paris les 17 et 18 septembre. De cette manière, le gouvernement et les partenaires sociaux de la Tunisie pourront informer cette Assemblée Générale sur ces questions liées au dialogue social et au Conseil National du Dialogue Social, et aussi analyser les formules de collaboration avec l'AICESIS.

En attendant vos nouvelles, et avec l'espoir de pouvoir vous accueillir personnellement à Paris, recevez un salut cordial.

Iacob Baciu Président



Cher ami,

Je vous écris au sujet du thème de la mise à jour du site de l'AICESIS, qui m'intéresse particulièrement, puisqu'il sera discuté lors de la prochaine Assemblée Générale qui se tiendra à Paris les 17 et 18 Septembre.

Tout d'abord, je tiens à vous remercier pour le travail important et désintéressé de la gestion de ce site Web, qui a été réalisé ces dernières années par la Chambre Civique de la Fédération de Russie. Sans ce travail, il n'aurait pas été possible d'effectuer la mise à jour du web.

Comme vous le savez, lors du dernier Conseil d'Administration de l'AICESIS, qui s'est tenu à Abidjan le 8 mars dernier, le Secrétaire général a informé sur les orientations d'une nouvelle mise à jour du web qui a conduit le Conseil d'Administration à confier au Secrétaire général la performance des actions qui permettraient cette mise à jour.

Conformément à ce mandat du Conseil d'administration, le Secrétaire général a contacté la Chambre Civique, en transférant des documents contenant des lignes directrices pour la mise à jour du site, et en montrant sa disponibilité à travailler ensemble pour développer ces idées.

À ce jour, nous n'avons aucune nouvelle des actions que la Chambre Civique pourrait développer sur ce sujet, et pour cette raison je pense qu'il est approprié de vous contacter directement afin de donner une impulsion à cette question.

Je suis conscient des difficultés que ce travail pourrait avoir, et j'apprécie également de manière particulière, comme je l'ai dit, cette collaboration avec l'AICESIS de la Chambre Civique. Mais le problème est que les dates de l'Assemblée Générale approchent, et ce sujet va être traité dedans.

Par conséquent, je vous prie de transmettre vos idées sur ce sujet et, bien sûr, je vous offre la collaboration de l'AICESIS, et en particulier celle de son Secrétariat Général, afin que nous puissions progresser dans cette mise à jour nécessaire du site.

En attendant vos nouvelles, recevez un salut cordial.

Iacob Baciu

Président

A l'attention de M.Valery Fadeev Président de la Chambre Civique de la Russie Moscou



#### A la haute attention de Monsieur Abdelkrim Ahmadaye Bakhit,

#### Président du CESC du Tchad

le 27 juillet 2018

Monsieur le Président,

C'est avec un grand plaisir que j'ai appris la nouvelle de votre élection à la présidence du Conseil économique social et culturel de votre pays.

Au nom de tous les membres de l'AICESIS, de mes collaborateurs du Conseil Economique et Social de Roumanie et de moi-même, permettez-moi de vous féliciter chaleureusement à cette occasion.

Je voudrais en profiter aussi pour vous lancer l'invitation de participer à l'Assemblée générale de l'AICESIS qui se tiendra à Paris, au siège du Conseil économique, social et environnemental de France, les 17 et 18 septembre 2018. Il me ferait très grand plaisir et je serais bien honoré de vous rencontrer à cette occasion spéciale.

Veuillez recevoir, Monsieur le Président, mes vœux de succès et réussite dans votre activité future, ainsi que l'expression de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Iacob Baciu



#### A l'attention de Monsieur Mohamed TRABELSI Le Ministre des Affaires Sociales de Tunisie

Cher Ministre,

Je suis heureux de pouvoir à nouveau vous parler des possibilités de contribution de l'AICESIS à la création et au développement du Conseil National du Dialogue Social de Tunisie.

Comme je l'avais prévu dans ma lettre du 30 mai, l'Assemblée générale de l'AICESIS, réunie à Paris les 17 et 18 septembre, a reçu du Secrétaire général des informations sur les contacts entretenus avec les représentants du Gouvernement et les partenaires sociaux de la Tunisie.

L'Assemblée générale a salué très favorablement les progrès du dialogue social qui se déroulait en Tunisie et a encouragé la Présidence de cette Association à poursuivre les activités susceptibles de servir à la création et au développement de nouvelles institutions de dialogue social.

Par ailleurs, le Secrétaire général m'a informé des contacts qu'il a eus avec vous lors de la Conférence du projet SOLID "La promotion du dialogue social dans le sud de la Méditerranée", tenue le 2 octobre à Marrakech. Je suis heureux d'apprendre qu'en Tunisie ils continuent de progresser dans les travaux conduisant à la création de nouvelles institutions de dialogue social.

Pour toutes ces raisons, j'ai pensé qu'il serait intéressant de vous recontacter pour réitérer la volonté de l'AICESIS de soutenir la création et le développement d'institutions telles que le Conseil National du Dialogue Social. Par conséquent, n'hésitez pas à me contacter si vous estimez qu'une activité de l'AICESIS pourrait s'avérer utile pour ces tâches d'institutionnalisation du dialogue social.

Sincères salutations,

Iacob Baciu Président



#### A l'attention du Directeur du Projet SOLID Monsieur Mustapha Tlili

Monsieur le Directeur du Project SOLID,

Le Secrétaire Général de l'AICESIS, M. González de Lena, m'a informé des bons résultats de la Conférence du Project SOLID "La promotion du dialogue social dans le sud de la Méditerranée", qui s'est tenue le 2 octobre à Marrakech.

À l'époque, j'ai reçu votre aimable invitation à participer à cette conférence, que j'ai malheureusement dû refuser en raison d'engagements antérieurs dans le cadre de mon activité de président du CES de Roumanie. C'est pourquoi j'ai chargé notre Secrétaire Général de représenter l'AICESIS à cette Conférence, afin qu'il puisse exprimer personnellement le soutien de l'AICESIS au projet SOLID.

En examinant le premier texte de la "Charte visant à promouvoir le dialogue social entre les organisations de travailleurs et d'employeurs et la société civile du sud de la Méditerranée: Jordanie, Tunisie et Maroc", j'ai pu constater les progrès importants accomplis en faveur du dialogue social, qui est assumé par le projet SOLID. Logiquement, j'ai accordé une attention particulière aux références dans ce document à l'institutionnalisation du dialogue social et au rôle des Conseils Économiques et Sociaux.

A mon avis, il serait très intéressant pour l'AICESIS que l'activité du Projet SOLID soit mieux connue de notre association. C'est pourquoi je vous invite à participer à toutes les réunions et activités de l'AICESIS à venir, telles que le Conseil d'administration ou l'Assemblée générale, au sein desquels vous pourriez non seulement vous informer sur les activités de ce projet, mais aussi proposer des formules de collaboration avec l'AICESIS.

Et en dehors de ces activités institutionnelles, n'hésitez pas à me contacter si vous estimez qu'il est approprié que l'AICESIS puisse collaborer aux activités de SOLID de la manière qui vous semble la plus pratique.

Sincères salutations,

Iacob Baciu Président



#### A l'attention de Monsieur Patrick Bernasconi,

#### Président du Conseil Economique, Social et Environnemental de France

Monsieur le Président, cher ami,

Au nom de mes collègues et de moi-même, j'ai le grand plaisir de vous adresser les plus sincères félicitations pour l'organisation exceptionnelle des travaux du Conseil d'Administration et de l'Assemblée générale de l'AICESIS, ainsi que de la réunion extraordinaire du Bureau de l'UCESIF, qui ont eu lieu les 17 et 18 septembre 2018, à Paris, au siège de votre institution.

Un grand merci pour l'accueil très chaleureux et élégant et l'hospitalité offerts à nos délégations à cette occasion.

Nous avons été touchés par la beauté de votre siège, le professionnalisme de vos collègues, par le côté convivial de notre visite, qui a permis la poursuite de nos entretiens dans une atmosphère très amicale.

Je vous prie de croire, Monsieur le Président, à l'expression de ma considération distinguée.

Iacob Baciu





#### To AICESIS members

Dear colleagues,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your presence in the ILO-AICESIS International Seminar on the digital revolution held at the ILO Headquarters in Geneva on October 23 and 24, 2018, and for your valuable contributions to the seminar.

I would like to thank you in particular for your support in this historical moment of signing a new cooperation agreement between AICESIS and ILO.

I look forward to meeting you again at the next AICESIS events.

Sincerely yours,

Iacob BACIU

**AICESIS President** 



23 November 2018

# For the attention of Mr. DU Qinglin, President of China Economic and Social Council

Dear President DU Qinglin,

In my own name and on behalf of my colleagues, I wish to express our sincere thanks and our deep appreciation for the outstanding welcome and gracious hospitality extended to our delegation by you and the Council that you represent.

The perfect organization of our visit, the important meetings with distinguished persons, the remarkable visits to science parks and the splendid relaxation moments offered to the Romanian delegation have made our stay in China a uniquely pleasant and enriching experience.

Mr President, I would also be very grateful if you could convey our thankfulness and deep consideration to Mr Wang Yang, Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Mr Wang Rong, Chairman of the CPPCC Guangdong Committee, and Mr Xu Youjun, Vice-President of Shenzhen Municipal Political Consultative Conference, illustrious personalities that honoured us with such a great welcome and cordiality.

I also wish to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance we attach to a future constructive dialogue and collaboration with the Chinese Economic and Social Council.

That is why I am looking forward to the signing of the agreements, which will strengthen and deepen the close links that already exist between our institutions.

Sincerely yours,
Iacob Baciu

President





#### A l'aimable attention de Son Excellence, Monsieur Mohamed Trabelsi, Président du Conseil National pour le Dialogue Social de la Tunisie

Monsieur le Président,

C'est avec un grand plaisir que j'ai appris la nouvelle de la création du Conseil National pour le Dialogue Social de Tunisie et de votre élection à la présidence de cette institution.

Au nom de tous mes collaborateurs de l'Association Internationale des Conseils Economiques et Sociaux et Institutions Similaires (AICESIS), de mes collègues du CES roumain et de moi-même, permettez-moi de vous féliciter chaleureusement à cette occasion.

La création de votre Conseil représente certainement un acquis pour la consolidation du dialogue social et l'approfondissement de la démocratie en Tunisie.

Je me félicite de rappeler l'expérience très satisfaisante du contact que l'AICESIS a eu avec les représentants de la Tunisie lors de la phase de préparation de votre nouveau Conseil et il me fait grand plaisir de réitérer l'intérêt de l'AICESIS de continuer à collaborer avec vous dans des domaines comme l'échange d'expériences ou le renforcement des capacités de nos conseils.

Par conséquent, il me fait grand plaisir de vous inviter de présenter votre candidature en tant que membre de l'AICESIS. Bien que l'approbation de la demande corresponde à la prochaine Assemblée Générale, le Conseil de la Tunisie peut déjà être constitué en observateur et participer dans les prochaines activités de l'AICESIS, comme l'atelier qui aura lieu en marge du Conseil d'Administration de Curaçao, les 7 et 8 mars 2019.

Dans l'espoir d'une excellente coopération future, veuillez recevoir, Monsieur le Président, mes vœux de succès et réussite dans votre activité, ainsi que l'expression de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Iacob Baciu



Dear President,

As you know, the AICESIS Board met on 7 March in Curaçao, where we appreciated the hospitality of our colleagues from SER and were able to work very efficiently thanks to the excellent organization of our meetings.

Although you can get an idea of the evolution of our work by reading the Conclusions I have attached, there are some issues that I would like to highlight.

Firstly, the agreement on the celebration of our next General Assembly in Bucharest on 11, 12 and 13 September, to which you are now invited.

This meeting coincides with the twentieth anniversary of AICESIS, which is why I think we should make a special effort to ensure that its results reinforce the work of our Association.

Secondly, the unanimous support of the Association for the candidacy of CESEC of Côte d'Ivoire, presented by UCESA, for the next presidency of AICESIS.

As a result, during this General Assembly, our dear friend Charles Koffi DIBY will assume the new AICESIS presidency.

I sincerely believe that this is excellent news for our Association, as much for the consensus which characterized this process of nomination of the new presidency, as well as for the magnificent trajectory which CESEC of Côte d'Ivoire and President DIBY have had within AICESIS.

Thirdly, it should be noted that the Conference that will be held in Bucharest will discuss topics such as the debate on the future of our association or the approval of the Final Report on the main theme of the Romanian presidency.

Also, AICESIS and ILO will jointly organize, on the margin of the General Assembly, an international conference on good governance in the framework of the 2030 Agenda. As you can see, the agenda for these meetings is of great interest and complexity.

But undoubtedly, we will be able to achieve the good results we all expect from AICESIS, thanks to everyone's efforts.

Thank you in advance for your interest and your work for our next meeting.

Sincerely yours, Iacob BACIU, President

To the Presidents of the Member Councils of the AICESIS Board



# A l'attention de Monsieur Mohamed TRABELSI Ministre des Affaires Sociales de Tunisie Président du Conseil National du Dialogue Social de Tunisie

Monsieur le Ministre, Monsieur le Président,

Je vous écris pour vous envoyer le Relevé des décisions adoptées lors de la réunion du Conseil d'Administration de l'AICESIS, qui s'est tenue le 7 mars à Curaçao.

Lors de cette réunion, le Conseil a été informé des activités menées dans le cadre de la collaboration entre l'AICESIS et le Conseil du Dialogue Social de la République tunisienne.

Cette information a été très bien reçue par le Conseil d'administration, qui a rappelé l'importance accordée par l' AICESIS à ce type de travail, tout en montrant un climat d'opinion très favorable à l'intégration de votre Conseil dans notre association.

La prochaine assemblée générale de l'AICESIS, qui marquera la fin de la présidence roumaine, se tiendra à Bucarest les 11, 12 et 13 septembre. Pour l'AICESIS, ce serait un grand honneur la participation à cette réunion, déjà en tant que membre de notre association, du Conseil National du Dialogue Social de la République tunisienne.

Comme vous le savez, moi-même, en tant que Président de l'AICESIS, ainsi que le Secrétariat Général, nous sommes à votre disposition pour continuer à progresser dans cette voie de travail commun.

Je vous prie de recevoir, Monsieur le Ministre, Monsieur le Président, mes salutations les plus distinguées.

Iacob Baciu





#### A l'attention de son Excellence,

#### Monsieur Charles Koffi DIBY

# Président du Conseil Economique, Social, Environnemental et Culturel de la République de Côte d'Ivoire

Cher Président, Cher collègue et frère,

J'espère que vous avez eu un bon retour de Curaçao à Abidjan. Ce fut un grand plaisir de vous rencontrer et de pouvoir échanger des impressions sur les activités de l'AICESIS.

Je vous écris pour exprimer officiellement mes félicitations pour la décision adoptée par notre Conseil d'administration au sujet du CES que vous présidez pour assumer la prochaine présidence de l'AICESIS.

Il s'agit d'une décision qui me tient à cœur. De par ma propre expérience lors de nos réunions à Abidjan, je connais l'excellent niveau des activités de votre Conseil, en particulier, votre grande connaissance du fonctionnement de l'AICESIS.

Tout cela conduira sans aucun doute à ce que votre présidence de l'AICESIS produise d'excellents résultats.

C'est précisément sur cette question que je voudrais me mettre à votre disposition pour développer autant d'activités que vous jugerez nécessaires pour faciliter la transition entre nos deux présidences.

À cet égard, j'ai déjà demandé à notre Secrétaire Générale de vous contacter pour vous informer, ainsi que vos collaborateurs, de l'évolution des activités d'AICESIS dans les mois à venir.

Réitérant mes félicitations et mes meilleurs vœux de succès dans votre présidence, recevez un salut cordial,

Iacob Baciu





#### A l'attention de son Excellence, Monsieur Charles Koffi DIBY

# Président du Conseil Economique, Social, Environnemental et Culturel de la République de Côte d'Ivoire

Cher Président, cher frère,

J'espère que tout va bien pour vous et vos proches. La première chose que je veux vous dire à travers cette lettre est que je regrette que notre premier contact dans ce travail de transition entre nos présidences de l'AICESIS soit de poser un problème, pour lequel je souhaite que nous trouvions une solution commune.

Comme vous le savez, au Conseil d'Administration de Curaçao, il a été décidé que la prochaine Assemblée Générale, au cours de laquelle la présidence de l'AICESIS serait assumée par votre Conseil, aurait lieu à Bucarest, les 11, 12 et 13 septembre, et pendant cette période, la Conférence conjointe avec l'OIT aurait également lieu. Cependant, jeudi dernier, le BIT nous a informés qu'en raison de problèmes de son agenda, il serait impossible de tenir la conférence à ces dates.

Je suis conscient qu'un tel changement est un inconvénient, en particulier du point de vue d'un Conseil qui assumera la présidence de notre Association et qui, logiquement, prépare déjà son programme d'activités. Cependant, je pense aussi que la célébration de la Conférence sur les dates coïncidant avec l'Assemblée générale renforce mutuellement l'importance des deux événements. Pour cette raison, je recherche une formule qui permettrait de concilier la célébration parallèle de la Conférence et de l'Assemblée générale avec la modification mineure de l'ordre temporel prévue pour la succession des présidences de l'AICESIS.

Selon mes contacts avec le BIT, la tenue de la conférence serait possible du 8 au 12 octobre, et, par conséquent, notre Assemblée pourrait se tenir dans ce lapse de temps. Mais avant d'aller de l'avant dans la spécification des dates, pour moi, il est essentiel de connaître vos critères de changement de dates pour notre Assemblée générale, puis de procéder à sa communication aux membres du Conseil d'Administration. À cet égard, je voudrais réitérer ce que j'avais déjà exprimé dans ma dernière lettre concernant mon intérêt pour la transition entre nos présidences, avec une coordination et une coopération appropriées.

J'espère, Monsieur le Président, que nous pouvons trouver entre nous une bonne solution pour résoudre ce problème et ainsi pouvoir nous concentrer sur cette tâche consistant à donner une continuité au travail de notre association.

En attendant vos nouvelles, je vous prie, Monsieur le Président, cher frére, d'agréer mes salutations les plus cordiales.

Iacob Baciu, Président





#### Chers membres du Conseil d'administration, chers amis,

J'espère que tout se passe bien pour vous après notre rencontre à Curaçao.

Je vous écris précisément sur un sujet traité lors de ladite réunion, concernant la date de la prochaine Assemblée générale. Comme vous le savez, les dates convenues pour cette Assemblée étaient les 11, 12 et 13 septembre prochains. A Curaçao, nous avons également convenu que la Conférence internationale conjointe AICESIS-OIT serait aussi organisée à l'occasion de l'Assemblée Générale à Bucarest.

Eh bien, pour des raisons évoquées par l'OIT après la réunion de Curaçao, l'OIT rencontre de sérieuses difficultés pour adapter les dates initialement prévues pour la tenue de cette conférence et nous a priés de modifier ces dates.

Cette présidence est consciente des inconvénients d'un changement de date par rapport aux dates initialement prévues, mais elle reconnaît également l'importance que la célébration conjointe de l'Assemblée générale et de la Conférence avec l'OIT a pour l'AICESIS. En bref, la célébration conjointe de ces deux activités renforce l'importance des deux et facilite également leur assistance.

J'ai discuté cette question avec celui qui assumera la présidence de l'AICESIS lors de la prochaine Assemblée générale, notre cher ami, le Président Koffi DIBY, qui m'a montré sa compréhension des raisons de ce changement. En ce sens, les dates auxquelles la célébration conjointe de notre assemblée et de la conférence avec l'OIT serait possible seraient les 9, 10 et 11 octobre 2019.

En bref, c'est le changement de date proposé pour lequel je demande, d'abord, votre compréhension et, deuxièmement, votre conformité pour pouvoir le communiquer à tous les membres de l'AICESIS le plus rapidement possible.

Merci d'avance,

Iacob Baciu, Président

A l'attention des membres du Conseil d'administration de l'AICESIS





#### A l'attention des membres du Conseil d'administration de l'AICESIS

Chers membres du Conseil d'administration, chers amis,

Comme vous vous en souviendrez, ce dernier jour je vous ai envoyé une lettre dans laquelle je vous demandais votre accord pour modifier les dates prévues pour notre prochain AG, qui aura lieu les 9, 10 et 11 octobre cette année.

Premièrement je voudrais remercier le ton positif et constructif des réponses reçues, qui nous permet de procéder à ce changement de dates, qui sera communiqué dans les prochains jours à tous les membres de l'AICESIS.

Je tiens également à dire que j'apprécie les commentaires que certains d'entre vous ont formulés au sujet des problèmes liés à ce type de décisions qui supposent s'écarter des critères adoptés par le CA.

Je suis conscient de ces problèmes, qui sont souvent liés à la nécessité de prendre des décisions entre nos réunions statutaires.

Comme vous vous en souvenez peut-être, nous avons discuté de ce sujet lors de la réunion de Curaçao, où nous avons décidé que le Secrétaire général devrait préparer un rapport contenant des propositions pour résoudre ce type de problème.

Le SG vous a envoyé ce rapport il y a quelques jours, et je pense qu'avec vos critères de proposition nous pourrons progresser dans l'amélioration de nos procédures de travail.

Je vous prie de recevoir, mes chers collègues, mes remerciements chaleureux et mes salutations les plus distinguées,

Iacob Baciu,

Président

A l'attention des membres du Conseil d'administration de l'AICESIS





# Mr. Marcos Peña President of the Economic and Social Council of Spain

Dear President, dear friend,

On behalf of my colleagues and in my own name, it gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your entire activity as President of the Economic and Social Council of Spain.

Under your remarkable presidency, the Spanish council has been a promoter of social and civil dialogue and its contribution to good relationships between ESCs has been a great asset to AICESIS.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment and dedicated work and wish you good health and all the best in your new life.

Best regards,

Iacob Baciu

President of the Economic and Social Council of Romania AICESIS President



Madame la Présidente, Monsieur le Président,

Comme vous avez pu le lire dans le relevé des décisions prises lors de la dernière réunion du Conseil d'Administration de l'AICESIS (mars 2019, Curaçao), il a été convenu d'organiser l'Assemble Générale de l'AICESIS et la Conférence internationale conjointe avec l'OIT les 11-12-13 septembre 2019 à Bucarest (Roumanie).

L'OIT nous a fait savoir que ces dates étant déjà prises par la réunion de leur propre Conseil d'Administration, il leur serait compliqué de mobilier les ressources humaines et financières pour la tenue de la conférence internationale conjointe biannuelle.

Dans ces conditions, et après une longue série de consultations avec la future présidence de l'AICESIS ainsi que tous les membres du CA qui ont accueilli la nouvelle positivement, il a été convenu de décaler ces dates au 9-10-11 octobre 2019 à Bucarest (Roumanie).

Ces Rencontres qui s'annoncent très prolifiques seront également l'occasion, outre l'étude de sujets importants pour les travaux et le futur de l'AICESIS, de renouveler les instances dirigeantes de l'AICESIS et d'adopter le rapport sur le thème de travail principal de la Présidence, la révolution numérique.

Nous comptons donc sur une forte mobilisation de votre part.

Le Secrétariat général de l'AICESIS vous fera parvenir, très prochainement, les invitations et tous les documents nécessaires au bon déroulement de nos débats et à votre séjour à Bucarest.

Dans l'attente de vous retrouver tous à Bucarest, je vous prie de croire, Madame la Présidente, Monsieur le Président, en l'assurance de toute ma considération.

Président de l'AICESIS

Iacob BACIU





#### A l'attention de son Excellence, Monsieur Charles Koffi DIBY

## Président du Conseil Economique, Social, Environnemental et Culturel de la République de Côte d'Ivoire

Cher président, cher frère,

Je tiens tout d'abord à vous dire que c'est toujours un grand plaisir pour moi de discuter avec vous des questions liées au travail de l'AICESIS. Dans ce cas, je fais référence aux problèmes mentionnés dans votre lettre concernant le renouvellement du site Web, le bureau virtuel et le plan de communication.

Comme nous le savons tous les deux, il s'agit des questions qui ont bénéficié d'une grande attention dans les débats du Conseil d'administration de Curaçao. À la suite de ces débats, un consensus s'est dégagé concernant la promotion de ces dossiers dans les mois qui ont suivi le dit conseil.

À mon avis, ce que je pense que vous allez partager, ces trois sujets sont des sujets qui, même si chacun a son propre profil, ont également une relation entre eux que nous pourrions qualifier d'instrument. Plus précisément, le site Web renouvelé et, dans une moindre mesure, le bureau virtuel sont des instruments très importants pour la mise en œuvre d'une stratégie de communication.

Pour cette raison, je pense que la mise en œuvre finale du plan de communication sera effectuée de manière plus efficace une fois que les possibilités d'utilisation en tant qu'outils de communication du web et du bureau virtuel sont connues dans la pratique.

Si nous en tenons au caractère littéral des décisions de Curaçao, l'élaboration du plan de communication par le SG devrait avoir lieu avant l'achèvement de la procédure complexe prévue à Curaçao pour la sous-traitance du site Web et du bureau virtuel, et l'exécution ultérieure des contrats. Et pourtant, comme nous venons de le voir, la version définitive et complète du plan de communication devrait tenir compte des possibilités offertes par ces nouveaux outils de communication.

Pour cette raison, je vais donner des instructions au SG afin que, dans le cadre du mandat reçu concernant l'élaboration du plan de communication, il prenne particulièrement en considération l'utilisation du nouveau site Web et du bureau virtuel. Et donc le document qu'il doit élaborer pour se conformer aux décisions de Curaçao n'a pas de caractère fermé ou définitif tant que l'expérience pratique de la mise en œuvre de ces nouveaux instruments de communication continue à être utilisée.

En conséquence, le développement des dossiers dont nous parlons pourrait être le suivant : une fois que le processus de sélection et de transmission des marchés des sociétés spécialisées est terminé, le SG prendrait contact avec les présidences sortante et entrante pour créer un groupe de travail chargé de piloter l'ensemble du processus de contact avec les entreprises en vue de définir les conditions et les prestations spécifiques pour le Web et le bureau virtuel.

Une fois ces nouveaux instruments configurés, leurs possibilités d'utilisation dans le plan de communication seront analysées, préparant ainsi un document final qui serait présenté à l'Assemblée générale une fois que la nouvelle présidence aura pris ses fonctions.

Iacob Baciu, Président



#### Her Excellency Inga Rhonda King ECOSOC President

Excellency,

The International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS) was founded on July 1, 1999 in Port Louis, Mauritius. This association is developing fast. In its initial composition, the AICESIS had 24 effective members and 3 associates. In 2019, it registered more than 60 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. Since 2001, AICESIS, through ECOSOC decision 318, gained Observer Status with ECOSOC.

As AICESIS President, I am honored to inform you that a high level AICESIS Delegation will attend this year's High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and the High-Level Segment (HLS) of ECOSOC, from 9 July to 19 July 2019 at UN Headquarters.

On behalf of the Delegation, I would like to request a meeting with you to provide more relevant information on the activities of our association and to discuss ways to deepen our collaboration with ECOSOC.

The working themes of AICESIS since 2000 indicate how they share common interests with those of UN ECOSOC. The commonality of the goals and activities of AICESIS and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations is inherent in our common purpose and stated goals. AICESIS and its subsidiary bodies are already dedicated to the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda. AICESIS has been intensively promoting the advancement and achievement of the SDGs among its own members. (See note attached for more information).

Our Permanent Representative in New York, Ms. Mezoui Hanifa, PhD, will contact your office regarding your availability and meeting details.

I am deeply convinced that such collaboration will be mutually beneficial.

Looking forward to a positive outcome, I remain sincerely yours.

Iacob Baciu President





#### For the attention of

## Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs,

#### Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Dear Ms. Spatolisano,

It is my pleasure and honor to address you in my capacity as President of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS). First of all, I would like to thank you for having welcomed the members of the AICESIS delegation, who paid you a visit on the occasion of your participation in the activities of the ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

The members of the AICESIS delegation, Mr. Gonzalez de Leña, Secretary General, Ms. Mezoui, AICESIS Permanent Representative to ECOSOC, and Mr. Menann, representative of the ESC of the Ivory Coast (which will hold the next presidency of our Association), informed me of how very satisfying this meeting was, in particular, because it allowed them to offer you information about the AICESIS activities related to SDGs. The meeting has confirmed the existence of a notable convergence of interests between our organizations in terms of topics and approaches, thus opening up hopeful perspectives of collaboration with your Department, and, more generally, with ECOSOC.

I would therefore like to thank you for the warm welcome you gave to our delegation, and, in particular, for the interest that you showed in the activities of AICESIS. And in this regard, I wish to inform you that on 9 and 10 October there will take place in Bucharest the meeting of the AICESIS General Assembly, which will debate, among other issues, the Report on the main theme of the Romanian presidency that is the issue of the digital economy and its socioeconomic effects. In the aftermath of the GA meeting, that is in the afternoon of 10 and on 11 October, there will take place the joint AICESIS-ILO Conference, where we will exchange experiences on the Future of work and digitalization.

We believe that your presence at these events, which will be attended by representatives of Economic and Social Councils from all over the world, would be an excellent occasion for you to become familiar with the activities of our Association, and also, more generally, to become familiar with the experiences of our councils, as institutions of social dialogue. At the same time, your participation in our meetings would allow AICESIS and the councils that form it to have a better understanding of the tasks of your Department regarding issues of great interest to our Association.

That is why we are very honored to invite you to participate in the work of our next General Assembly. The travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by AICESIS, and, of course, we remain at your disposal for any clarification on these issues. The AICESIS Secretary General and our Permanent Representative will provide you with all the information you deem necessary.

I am looking forward to meeting you in Bucharest.

Yours sincerely,

Iacob Baciu
AICESIS President



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS (AICESIS)

# **STATUTE**

Adopted by the General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) on the 15th June 2012

#### Article 1. Name

An International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions, in brief AICESIS, (hereinafter called the Association) shall be set up between economic and social councils and similar institutions operating in the world.

#### Article 2. Registered office and General Secretariat

- **2.1.** The registered office of the Association shall be in The Hague, in the Netherlands.
- **2.2.** The General Secretariat of the Association will have its seat in the country and place as determined by the Board.

#### Article 3. Object

The object of the Association shall be, with a total respect for the independence of each of its members, to encourage and promote dialogue and exchanges between its members and, at a wider level, to encourage dialogue between economic and social partners in the world.

The Association will encourage the creation of economic and social councils ("ESC") in states which do not yet possess them and will contribute, through the exchange of work and the organization of meetings, to the prosperity and economic development of peoples and to the emergence, in mutual respect and peace, of democratic civil societies in accordance with the principles of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as the fundamental principles and rights at work endorsed by all members of the ILO.

#### Article 4. Ordinary, associate and observers members

- **4.1.** The Association has ordinary members, who are entitled to vote, and associate members with an advisory role.
- **4.2.** The General Assembly may appoint observers. The observers shall have the rights as determined by the General Assembly.
- **4.3.** Economic and social councils and similar institutions may join as ordinary members when they are autonomous with the authority on a national level that is based on the Constitution, a law, a decree or any other recognition from the authorities and represent a faithful representation of the economic and social interests.
  - In the absence of such institutions at national level, one or more regional institutions may be accepted as observers.
  - In cases where a country has more than one economic and social council or similar Institution, during meetings these councils will constitute only one delegation and shall express only one vote.
- **4.4.** If an economic and social council or similar institution does not have legal personality the chairman of its governing body may be admitted as an ordinary member in his capacity as chairman.
- **4.5.** The admission of a new member shall be decided by the General Assembly in accordance with the object of the Association stated in Article 3.
- **4.6.** The General Assembly shall also decide on the admission of associate members.
- **4.7.** On principle, the Organizations with a continental or supranational vocation are admitted as associate members. On their request, they can become ordinary members. If in these Organizations, there are national Councils, they have to be also members of the Association.
  - The General Assembly may grant the same right to become an associate member to any similar international institution that makes such a request.
- **4.8.** In these articles, one understands by members the ordinary members and the associate members, except contrary specification express. All the ordinary members and associate members can take part in the activities of the Association.

#### Article 5. Internal bodies

The Association shall be made up of four internal bodies:

- a) Athe General Assembly;
- b) the Board;
- c) the Chairman:
- d) the General Secretariat.

#### **Article 6. The General Assembly**

- **6.1.** The General Assembly shall meet at least once a year. A General Assembly may also be convened whenever the Chairman thinks such action desirable or when a number of ordinary members representing 10% of the votes of all ordinary members possessing voting rights do the request in writing to the board, stating the items to be placed on the agenda.
- **6.2.** The General Assembly shall be convened by the General Secretary, acting on the instructions of the Board, by letters sent out to members at least thirty days beforehand, not counting the convening date and the meeting date, and without prejudice to Article 18, paragraph 3.
  - The convening letter shall mention the items on the agenda.
- **6.3.** Except contrary arrangements the decisions of the General Assembly are taken in the majority absolute of the expressed votes. Blank or void votes are regarded as not expressed. Each ordinary member, so far as he was not suspended, has a voice. The Chairman decides of the mode of the poll. However, when a member present having voting rights makes the request, a vote on the nomination, the suspension, or the resignation of a person will be made with secret bulletins.
- **6.4.** If at the time of a vote on the nomination of a person, an absolute majority were not obtained during the first ballot, it is proceeded to a second free/open ballot. If an absolute majority is still not obtained, it will be made a new turn between the candidates who, at the time of the second free ballot, collected the greatest number of voices. If, in the event of application of the stated disposition of the preceding sentence, more than two persons remain in lists, it will be proceeded to an intermediate poll between those who, at the time of the second free vote, collected the greatest number of voices after the one who obtained the greatest number of voices or the greatest number of voices minus one. If an intermediate poll or a new poll does not end in a decision because of an equal division of the voices, it is the Board which decides.
- **6.5.** In the event of an equal division of the votes on subjects other than the appointment of persons, no decision shall be taken.
- **6.6.** The associate members shall have the right to attend the general Assemblies and to speak but they do not have the voting rights.
- **6.7.** Members may arrange to be represented at a meeting, but only by another member of the association, authorized to do so, in writing. A member is not allowed to represent more than two other members.
- 6.8. The General Assembly shall be chaired by the Chairman of the Board. If the Chairman is absent, the Assembly shall choose a Chairman itself. The General Secretary or, in his/her absence, an Assistant General Secretary shall draw up the minutes. The report either is approved and signed by the Chairman, and the writer of the report for the concerned meeting, or approved by the following General Assembly; in this last case, it is signed for approval by the Chairman and the writer of the minutes of this following meeting. The report shall be kept in the register of the official reports of the General Assembly.
- **6.9.** The Chairman of the General Assembly shall be allowed to authorize non-members to attend the meeting or part of the meeting settled by himself.

- **6.10.** The Board may resolve that each member has the right to directly observe the proceedings at the General Assembly by electronic means of communication. The Board may resolve that each member has the right to exercise his voting rights by electronic means of communication, either in person or by a power of attorney authorised in writing. To do so, the member must be identifiable through the electronic means of communication.
- **6.11.** The Board may attach conditions to the use of the electronic means of communication. The notice of the meeting shall set out these conditions or state where they can be consulted.
- **6.12.** For the purposes of paragraphs 7 and 10, the requirement of written form shall also be met if the power of attorney has been recorded electronically.
- **6.13.** The Board may propose members to adopt any decisions which they could adopt at a meeting, without holding a meeting, unless in the circumstances it is unacceptable according to criteria of reasonableness and fairness to give such opportunity. A decision to be adopted without holding a meeting shall only be valid if the majority of the members entitled to vote have cast their votes in writing or by a legible and reproducible electronic communication in favour of the proposal concerned, provided however that decisions referred to in Article 18, paragraph 1 require a majority of at least two thirds of the members entitled to vote.
  - Those members shall forthwith notify the Board of the decision so adopted.
- **6.14.** A decision as referred to in paragraph 13 shall be recorded in the minute book of the General Assembly by a member of the Board; at the next General Assembly the entry shall be read out by the chairman of that meeting. Moreover, the documents in evidence of the adoption of such a decision shall be kept with the minute book of the General Assembly and as soon as the decision has been adopted, all members shall be notified thereof.

#### Article 7. The Board - Structure, composition and role

- **7.1.** The Association shall be run by the Board.
- **7.2.** The Board shall have a minimum of ten members and a maximum of fifteen members. Members of the Board are necessary nominated by the ordinary members of the Association.
- **7.3.** The General Assembly shall appoint the Board members. It takes care of a balanced composition of the Board taking into account the representation of the geographical areas. The Board consists of:
  - two representatives for Latin America and the Caribbean;
  - five representatives for Africa;
  - five representatives for Europe;
  - three representatives for Asia, EurAsia and the Middle East.

<u>Every</u> two years the representation of the geographical areas in the Board will be reassessed applying the criteria set out below in this paragraph.

As soon as at least six members qualify as councils representing Latin America and the Caribbean or Asia, EurAsia and the Middle East, respectively, the number of representatives of such continent in the Board will be increased to three. An increase of representatives as set out above will result in a corresponding reduction of representatives of Africa and Europe, provided however that the number of representatives of both Africa and Europe will not be reduced below three.

- The General Assembly is authorized to resolve both in a specific case and in general that the composition of the Board will differ from the composition set out above in this Article 7, paragraph 3.
- **7.4.** If the General Assembly has to appoint a Board member, the Board shall propose the names of the candidate or candidates for appointment.

- **7.5.** The Chairman of the Governing Body of the economic and social council or similar institution responsible for organizing the following international conference referred to in Article 13 shall be a member of the Board. He shall also be, as a general rule, the Chairman of the Board.
- **7.6.** The members of the Board resign at the end of the international Conference which follows their nomination.
- **7.7.** The activities of the various members of the Board shall be defined by rules of procedure.
- **7.8.** The Board may sit in case of vacant posts of administrators, but these vacancies must be filled at the next General Assembly.
- **7.9.** The General Secretary, or one of the Assistant General Secretaries, shall be the secretary of the Board.
- **7.10.** The associate members as mentioned in paragraph 7 of article 4 will be able to take part in the Board's discussions without having voting rights.

#### Article 8. The Chairman

- **8.1.** The chair of the International Association will alternate every two years between continents as defined in article 7.3.
- **8.2.** The members of the Association that are part of the continent holding the chair will propose as Chairman of the International Association the President of the ESC or of a similar institution who is appointed to organize the two-yearly international meeting.
- **8.3.** The Chairman shall represent the International Association and exercise the powers conferred on him by the articles of association.
- **8.4.** The Chairman of the International Association shall be a member of the Board.
- **8.5.** The Chairman shall take the presidency of the Board and General Assembly.

#### Article 9. The Board - Procedure

- **9.1.** The Board shall meet as often as the Chairman or two other Board members consider it desirable. Board members shall be given notice of a meeting at least thirty days beforehand, not counting the convening date and the meeting date, by the General Secretariat by means of a convening letter setting out the agenda.
  - In cases of urgency, as determined by the Chairman, it may be derogated to the above procedure and minimum notice period.
- **9.2.** The Board decides in the majority absolute of the votes cast. It can deliberate only if the number of administrators present or represented to the meeting is at least equal to the first whole number above half of the number of administrators fixed by the General Assembly. No decision is made in the event of equal division of the votes.
- **9.3.** Each Board member shall have one vote; blank or void votes shall be considered as not having been cast.
- **9.4.** The minutes shall be signed by the Chairman and the secretary of the meeting concerned and approved by the Board.
- **9.5.** The Board may also adopt decisions without holding a meeting, provided such decisions are adopted in writing or by legible and reproducible electronic communications and all members of the Board have expressed themselves in favour of the proposal concerned.

#### Article 10. Representation

- **10.1.** The Association shall be represented by its Chairman or by a member of the Board duly authorized by the Chairman.
- **10.2.** Subject to the approval of the General Assembly, the Board shall have the power to decide to conclude contracts to acquire, dispose of or mortgage registered goods and to conclude contracts whereby the Association stands as guarantor or undertakes, as

#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

joint debtor, to provide security for a third party or for the debts of others. If such approval is not given by the General Assembly, the Board shall not be authorized to represent the Association to conclude these legal acts.

#### Article 11

In accordance with Article 18, the duties of a Board member shall cease, in the event of:

- a) resignation or permanent prevention;
- b) non-renewal, in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 6.

#### Article 12. General Secretariat

- **12.1.** The General Secretariat shall consist of a General Secretary and of Assistant General Secretaries. The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Board and may be suspended or dismissed from office by the Board.
- **12.2.** Without prejudice to the preceding paragraph, the General Secretary is appointed for a four-year renewable term.
- **12.3.** The duties of the General Secretariat are those which are allotted to it by these articles, as these are elaborated in the internal regulations, and those which are entrusted to him by the Board. The General Secretary shall be responsible for execution of and follow-up to the Board's decisions, in cooperation with the Assistant General Secretaries.
- **12.4.** The General Secretary is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Association and may represent the Association to the extent authorized thereto pursuant to a power of attorney.
- **12.5.** The General Secretary is paid an allowance by the Association and is also reimbursed for costs that he incurs on behalf of the Association by the Association unless otherwise decided by the Board.
- **12.6.** Without prejudice to paragraph 1, the Assistant General Secretaries are appointed by the Board for a two-year renewable term taking into account that for each continent at least one Assistant General Secretary will be appointed.
- **12.7.** Assistant General Secretaries are paid by the Councils they belong to. Their transport costs and reimbursement for accommodation may fully or partially be covered by the Association when they travel at the request either of the General Secretary or the Chairman.
- **12.8.** Assistant General Secretaries may be suspended or dismissed from office by the Board.

#### Article 13. International conference

- **13.1.** After consultation of the ordinary members, the General Assembly or failing the Board indicates an Economic and Social Council or a Similar Institution, ordinary member, to organize, with the assistance of the General Secretariat, an international Conference every two years.
- **13.2.** The members shall be invited to attend the international conference; they shall form their delegation. The Board may invite other persons whose attendance is desirable.

#### Article 14. Members' obligations

- **14.1.** Members shall:
  - a) respect the articles, regulations and decisions of the Association; and
  - b) supply the Board with data that this one considers necessary for the proper implementation of the Association's duties.
- **14.2.** Ordinary members shall pay an annual subscription determined in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 2.

#### Article 15. Finance, accounting period, balance sheet, profit and loss account

- **15.1.** The Association shall be financed from subscriptions, subsidies, donations, inheritances, legacies and other assets.
- **15.2.** The amount of the subscription shall be assessed every two years by the General Assembly. The amount of the subscription may be adjusted provisionally at any time by the Board, provided however that such adjustment shall be reversed if not approved at the next General Assembly.
- **15.3.** The business year and the financial year shall be the same as the calendar year.
- 15.4. Within the six months following the end of the financial year, unless this deadline be extended by the annual General Assembly, the Board shall submit to the General Assembly a report on the state of the Association and the policy pursued. It shall submit to the Assembly for approval the balance sheet and the profit and loss account, together with a commentary. These documents shall be signed by the members of the Board. Where appropriate, mention shall be made of the reasons why any of the signatures are missing. Approval by the General Assembly of the documents referred to in this paragraph shall discharge the Board of its management duties, unless the General Assembly expresses any reservations.
- **15.5.** The General Secretary shall be responsible for managing the assets of the Association in accordance with the Board's instructions. He shall keep notes on the Association's assets which will make it possible to know constantly its rights and obligations.
- **15.6.** The Board shall keep the documents referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Article for a period of seven years.

#### Article 16. Finance (cont.) and budget

- **16.1.** If the documents referred to in Article 15, paragraph 4, are not certified as accurate by an auditor and presented at the General Assembly as stipulated in Section 393, first subparagraph of book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, the General Assembly shall appoint each year a commission of at least two ordinary members, not forming part of the Board. This commission shall examine the Board documents mentioned in Article 15, paragraph 4 and report to the annual General Assembly. If this examination requires special knowledge, the commission may ask to be assisted by one or more experts at the Association's expenses.
- **16.2.** The General Assembly may instruct an auditor, as stipulated in Section 393, first subparagraph, book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, to examine the documents referred to in Article 15, paragraph 4, in accordance with Section 393, third subparagraph of book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.
  - The General Assembly may release the auditor from this mission at any time. The written audit certificate of the auditor on his audits shall be submitted to the General Assembly and the report on his conclusions will be submitted to the Board. The auditor may be invited to attend the General Assembly and to respond to questions raised in the General Assembly.
- **16.3.** A draft budget shall be submitted by the General Secretariat to the Board. The Board shall submit it to the members for approval. The General Secretary shall be responsible for its execution, under the supervision of the Chairman of the Association.
- **16.4.** In general terms, this budget shall cover the operation of the General Secretariat and the implementation of the programs selected by the Board.

#### Article 17. Rules of procedures

More detailed provisions shall be consigned in a set of rules of procedure which the General Assembly shall work out and amend on proposal from the Board.

Any provision in the rules of procedure which contradicts these articles shall be null and void.

#### Article 18. Special decisions

- **18.1.** A decision aiming suspending or revoking an administrator, making modifications to the Statutes, or at dissolving the Association can be made only in the majority of at least two thirds of the expressed votes by a General Assembly to which at least half of the members having voting rights is represented.
- **18.2.** If less than half the members with voting rights are present or represented at an Assembly where the agenda includes a decision such as those referred to in Article 18, first paragraph, a second Assembly shall be convened to be held within the sixty days following the first meeting; at this second meeting a decision similar to the proposal on the agenda for the first meeting may be taken by a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast, whatever the number of members present of represented.
- **18.3.** A General Assembly such as that referred to in Article 18, first paragraph, must be convened at least ninety days before the date set for that meeting.
- **18.4.** When a meeting having for object the examination of a draft amendment of the articles or rules of procedure is convened, it is advisable to take care that the convocation is accompanied by a document containing the exact formulation of the proposal. The foregoing shall be communicated in the notice of the meeting.
- **18.5.** Amendments to the articles of association shall enter into effect as soon as a notarial act is made. Any person elected for this purpose by the Board or the General Assembly is authorized to execute the deed in question.

#### Article 19. Termination of the Association

#### 19.1 The Association shall be dissolved:

- a) by decision of the General Assembly in accordance with Article 18;
- b) by a declaration of bankruptcy following either closure for bankruptcy on the grounds of insufficient assets or insolvency;
- c) by a judge in those cases envisaged by law;
- d) by a total absence of members.
- **19.2.** In the event of a dissolution under Article 19, paragraph 1, a), the members of the Board are in charge of its liquidation, unless the decision to dissolve the Association prescribes otherwise.
- **19.3.** If the Association is dissolved because of a total absence of members, liquidators shall be appointed by the court at the request of the interested parties or the department of public prosecutions.
- **19.4.** The General Assembly shall decide on the destination of any surplus balance.
- **19.5.** The persons appointed for that purpose by the liquidators shall keep the books and articles of the Association for a period of seven years from the date of liquidation.



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS (AICESIS)

# INTERNAL REGULATIONS

Adopted by the General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012

#### **Preamble**

The International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions has been incorporated on 1 July 1999 (the "Association"). The Association's principles and main goals are set out in article 3 of its articles of association.

#### 1. General

- **1.1.** According to article 17 of the articles of association of the Association more detailed provisions shall be consigned in a set of rules of procedure. These internal regulations (the "**Regulament intern**") qualify as such set of rules.
- **1.2.** Defined terms in these Internal Regulations shall have the meaning attributed thereto in the Association's articles of association, unless these Internal Regulations explicitly provide otherwise.

#### 2. The General Secretariat

#### 2.1. General Secretary's mission

The General Secretary runs the General Secretariat, assists the Chairman and, acting under the Chairman's authority, implements decisions made by the Board, draws up policy and financial reports; in particular, he/she prepares a medium-term development plan for the association (the "Development Plan"), he/she prepares the budget and administers it, and, with the host Councils, organizes extraordinary and statutory meetings, in addition to conducting relations with other organizations, acting under the Chairman's authority.

#### 2.2. The General Secretariat's mission

- **2.2.1.** The General Secretariat consists of staff paid directly by the Association. Premises, local means of transport and telecommunications shall be provided by the Association.
- **2.2.2.** For operational purposes, the General Secretary has been granted a proxy to commit the Association for sums of up to EUR 10,000. For larger amounts, the prior approval of the Chairman is required.

#### 3. Revenues

The General Secretary:

 a) calls for ordinary and support contributions and reports on a regular basis to the Board and the General Assembly on the contributions made by members;

- b) prepares files for requesting subsidies, where need be;
- c) considers all forms of aid in cash or kind.

#### 4. Expenses

- **4.1.** The General Secretary pays current expenses:
  - a) pay for General Secretariat staff;
  - b) social security costs;
  - c) translations;
  - d) interpreting;
  - e) transport;
  - f) per diems or accommodation costs.
- **4.2.** The General Secretary keeps a day journal of expenses and revenues, and prepares the annual income statement, which must be presented in terms of major types of expenditure, and the balance sheet. He keeps all supporting documentation available for the auditor.
- **4.3.** Naturally, all members of the Association may have access to all of these documents at any time.
- **4.4.** The General Secretary draws up a financial report to be submitted in a Board meeting, which the Board presents annually to the General Assembly.

#### 5. The Assistant General Secretaries

#### 5.1. Mission

The Assistant General Secretaries take part in the organization of the General Secretariat and ensure follow-up of initiatives taken by the Chairman and the General Secretary in their areas of authority.

The Assistant General Secretaries have authority over a geographic area, a linguistic area, or a particular field which justified their appointment. They may also be called on to replace the General Secretary on his/her relational missions.

#### 5.2. Duties

The duties of the Assistant General Secretaries, monitored by the Chairman, and undertaken in close cooperation and maximum transparency with the General Secretary, shall be the following:

**5.2.1.** work closely with the General Secretariat in order to ensure both the preparation and smooth running of the statutory meetings to be held under the pres-

#### AICESIS PRESIDENCY 2017-2019

- idency of the Chairman and other initiatives involving the Association and its Chairman:
- **5.2.2.** facilitate contacts between the General Secretary and the Chairman, the members and the Board administrations or Institutions in the region concerned;
- **5.2.3.** help to the implementation of the Development Plan, with a particular focus on the communication, the relations with the regional representatives of international organizations and establishing and empowering Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions;
- **5.2.4.** help to prepare and garner publicity for events organized by or in which the Association is involved;
- **5.2.5.** keep the General Secretary and the Chairman up to date with all the Association related events, fora, meetings etcetera taking place in their region;
- **5.2.6.** represent the Association in regional meetings when the Chairman or the General Secretary is unable to attend; build up their proper regional database of the established Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions;
- **5.2.7.** contribute to the drafting of the annual activity report of the General Secretariat as regards their duties.

#### 6. Chargés de Mission

- **6.1.** Normally, to the extent necessary, the Chairman or the General Secretary may appoint people with special skills (the "**Chargés de Mission**") either for the purpose of participating in various events, for representing the Association, or for ensuring or contributing to working groups.
- **6.2.** The Chargés de Mission will continue to be paid by their employers. The Association will cover their transport and accommodation costs when they are on their missions.
- **6.3.** The Chargés de Mission must report to the General Secretary about their missions. They are appointed for a two-year renewable term. The appointment is ratified by the Board.

These Internal Regulations are adopted by the General Assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 and replace the rules of procedure in force until the date hereof.



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS
(AICESIS)

# VISUAL IDENTITY MANUAL

February 2019

#### LOGO - Symbol 1

This is the main AICESIS logo. It should be used in all promotional materials.



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS

This is the 20th anniversary logo of AICESIS.



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS

#### **PENNANT - Symbol 3**

The AICESIS pennants can be made in a variety of sizes.



#### FLAG - Symbol 2

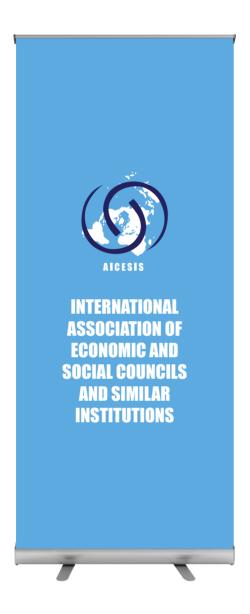
The AICESIS flag is made of silk, embroidered on the edges with golden strings and tassels. It can be installed in protocol halls, conference halls etc. The AICESIS logo will be centered on a blue background.



#### **ROLL UP BANNER – Symbol 4**

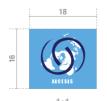
The AICESIS roll up banners can be made in a variety of sizes.

Please see below the size of 85x200 cm.



#### **BADGE – Symbol 5**

The AICESIS badge is manufactured in a 18x16 mm format.



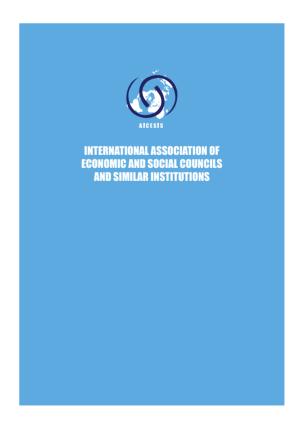
#### **SCARF - Symbol 6**

The AICESIS scarf is made of silk.



#### FOLDER - Symbol 7

The folder has the size of 215x305 mm, a 5 mm pin and an interior pocket.



#### **BANNER - Symbol 8**

The banner has the size of 4x1.3 m.



#### **PLAQUE - Symbol 9**

The AICESIS plaque is manufactured in a 55x75 mm format.



1:1





# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS (AICESIS)

# **DECISIONS**



#### DECISION

No. of

Considering the request of the organization addressed to the AICESIS Secretariat and the Decision of the Board of Directors to be admitted as Common Member of AICESIS.
The General Assembly of AICESIS, statutory held onat, pursuant to art. 6.2 in conjunction with the provisions of article 6.3 of the AICESIS Statute,
DECIDES
<u>Art.1</u> – Approves the request of the organizationto become a Common Member of AICESIS.
Art.2—The rights and obligations of the organization as a Common Member are those provided in the AICESIS Statute, corroborated with the Decisions of the General Assembly and the decisions of the Board of Directors for the application of the statutory provisions.

AICESIS PRESIDENT
IACOB BACIU

AICESIS SECRETARY GENERAL FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA



#### DECISION

No. of

Considering the request of the addressed to the AICESIS Secretariat and the Decision of the Boar to be admitted as Associated Member of AICESIS.	organization rd of Directors
The General Assembly of AICESIS, statutory held on at, pursuant to art. 6.2 in conjunction with the article 6.3 of the AICESIS Statute,	provisions of
DECIDES	
Art.1 – Approves the request of the organizationto become a Associated Member of AICESIS.	,
Art.2—The rights and obligations of the organization as a Associated Member are those provided in the AICESIS Statute, with the Decisions of the General Assembly and the decisions of Directors for the application of the statutory provisions.	•

AICESIS PRESIDENT
IACOB BACIU

AICESIS SECRETARY GENERAL FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA



#### DECISION

No. of

Considering the request of the of addressed to the AICESIS Secretariat and the Decision of the Board to be admitted as Observatory Member of AICESIS.	organization of Directors
The General Assembly of AICESIS, statutory held on at, pursuant to art. 6.2 in conjunction with the particle 6.3 of the AICESIS Statute,	, rovisions of
DECIDES	
<u>Art.1</u> – Approves the request of the organization to become a Observatory Member of AICESIS.	,
Art.2—The rights and obligations of the organization as a Observatory Member are those provided in the AICESIS Statute, of with the Decisions of the General Assembly and the decisions of the Directors for the application of the statutory provisions.	

AICESIS PRESIDENT
IACOB BACIU

AICESIS SECRETARY GENERAL FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA



#### DECISION

No. of

The General Assembly of AICESIS, having its statutory meeting on, at, according to art. 6.2, in conjunction with the
provisions of article 6.3 of the AICESIS Statute, taking into account the documents presented by the Board of Directors, pursuant to art 16.4:
DECIDES
<u>Art.1</u> – Approves the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account, together with a comment, for the year
<u>Art.2</u> – Discharges the Board of Directors of the management duties for the year
Art.3 – The Board of Directors has to keep for 7 years the documents mentioned at art. 15 par 4 and 5.

AICESIS PRESIDENT
IACOB BACIU

AICESIS SECRETARY GENERAL FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA



# The General Assembly of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions - AICESIS by the decision adopted on\_ \_ recognizes that

member of the AICESIS Board since	is	President of the	
Board since		t of the	

**SIGNATURES** 

President Secretary General



1
S
SI
CESIS
$\mathcal{O}$
AICESI
7
1
JS
5
Ħ.
ま
Ţ
15
Π
Ľ
13
Π
<u>:</u> Ħ
S
$\mathbf{p}$
and S
S
ΞĬ
$\mathcal{L}$
Π
Ō
Ŏ
ociation of Economic and Social Councils and Similar In
.13
$\mathcal{C}$
Š
p
anc
ಡ
ic
П
10
Ĭ
9
$\Xi$
Ę]
0
n
.0
ıti
ij
ŏ
ernational Asso
4
7
g
Σ
Ė
ਰ
Ţ
e
nt
Π
ıe
<del>L</del>
ξ
, C
<u>l</u>
q
IJ
se
S
A
77
Ϋ́
ne
e.
G
e
μ

recognizes that				in on
by the decision adopted on recogn	Mr. / Mrs.	President of the	is President of AICESIS in the period	According to the Summary of decisions taken by the General Assembly held in

SIGNATURES

President

Secretary General



### **BUCHAREST**

AICESIS WORKING MEETING

**12–13 September 2019** 

# WORKING MEETING BETWEEN AICESIS PRESIDENT, MR. IACOB BACIU, AND THE AICESIS SECRETARIAT, REPRESENTED BY FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ DE LEÑA, SECRETARY-GENERAL. AND SAMIRA AZARBA. ADMINISTRATOR

#### Bucharest, Romania 12–13 September 2019

At the invitation of Mr. Iacob Baciu, President of the ESC of Romania and AICE-SIS President, the Secretary General of the Association, Mr. Francisco González de Leña, and Mrs. Samira Azarba, AICESIS Administrator, arrived in Bucharest to have a working meeting for the organization of the General Assembly of AICESIS and the International Conference of AICESIS - ILO, to take place in Bucharest, Romania, at the Marriott Hotel in October 9-11, 2019.

The meeting took place on 12 and 13 September, 2019, and was held at the head-quarters of the Economic and Social Council of Romania, in the ESC President's office.

On the first day of the meeting, besides President Iacob Baciu and the two colleagues representing the AICESIS secretariat, were also present Mr. Simion-Severel Hăncescu, current vice-president of the Romanian ESC, representing the trade union organizations, Mr. Liviu Apostoiu, former vice-president and current member of the ESC Plenary, Mr. Marin Suliman, Secretary General of the ESC, Mrs. Eugenia Ştefănescu, Director of the Department of International Relations and Public Relations, and Mrs. Anca Simitopol, expert in the same Department.

The discussions covered all aspects related to the organization of the two aforementioned events and the ways in which to ensure, at a high level, all the documents and debates to be offered to the guests, members of ESCs around the world, and experts in different fields, special moments, both from the point of view of the consistency of the works, but also from that of conviviality, especially since the events in Bucharest are an occasion to celebrate the 20 years of existence of AICESIS and the centenary of the ILO.

The AICESIS General Assembly in Bucharest is also an elective one, the Romanian ESC is going to hand over, according to the AICESIS Statute, the presidency of the Association to the African continent, namely to the President of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Ivory Coast, Mr. Koffi DIBY.

More specifically, the discussions referred to the following:

The Board (1), chaired by President Iacob Baciu, has as practical purpose to prepare the next General Assembly. In short, it focuses on approving the documents to be discussed in the GA. These documents are sent in advance by the Secretary General of the Association. Also, on this occasion, two documents of the Romanian Presidency are presented, which refer to the activities carried out during his term and include models of visual signs, certificates of AICESIS membership and decision issued by the AICESIS President and Secretary General, and to the main working theme of the Romanian Presidency of AICESIS.

The General Assembly. The first part of the GA is chaired by the outgoing president, Mr. Iacob Baciu, and the second by the new president of AICESIS, the president of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of the Ivory Coast, Mr. Charles Koffi DIBY.

The first part will be dedicated to the conclusion of the specific activities of the Romanian Presidency, to summarize the results obtained (activity report and roadmap, economic report, relations with CESE, ILO and ECOSOC, etc.). For a better development of the debates, it was decided that, without changing the topics foreseen for this first part of the already distributed agenda, it would be more practical to advance, in the first part of the day, the debate on the reports and the main working theme, while the debate on the future of AICESIS should take place in the afternoon.

As concerns the main working theme of the Romanian Presidency of AICESIS "The impact of digitization on the future of humanity", there will be two documents, namely the text of the final report, already released by the AICESIS Secretariat, for discussions and approval, and the document of the Romanian Presidency on the digital economy, which will be distributed electronically before the meeting and on paper during the meeting.

Regarding the **report on the ILO**, it will continue in the direction of intensifying the cooperation with AICESIS also expressed in the conference that will start the next day, and the ILO representative will be present at the GA.

As concerns the **relation with ECOSOC**, the intensification of cooperation will also be highlighted and, in this context, Mrs. Hanifa Mezoui, representative of AICESIS to ECOSOC, will express her point of view.

Concerning the renewal of the Board (2) and the deputy SG, the contacts will be intensified until the meeting of the GA will take place in Bucharest, in order to reach agreements in each region.

As for the AICESIS / ILO International Conference on 10 and 11 October, it was recommended that, given the tripartite nature of the ILO, it would be desirable for the high-level Romanian representatives participating in the opening, as well as those who chair the work sessions, that they should represent altogether trade unions and employers and civil society.

There were also discussed aspects related to **the hospitality moments**, offered by the hosts, namely, the invitation to the opening speeches of the two events of some political or academic personalities of Romania, the organization of the official reception of the guests at the airport, the celebration of the gala dinner on Wednesday, October 9, or the attendance of a concert at the Romanian Athenaeum on the evening of either October 10 or October 11.

In this regard, the entire team organizing the two AICESIS events in Bucharest went to the Marriott Hotel on September 12 to develop all the logistical aspects and to establish the details of the organization of the meeting room, the reception of the guests and organization of coffee breaks, lunch and gala dinner.

At the meeting on Friday, September 13, the discussions from the previous day were continued, followed by conclusions.

