



International Society for Labour and Social Security Law

Société internationale de droit du travail et de la sécurité sociale

Sociedad Internacional de Derecho del Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social

# **Report of the ISLSSL Executive Committee Meeting** (Virtual Meeting, Lima, 7 September 2021) & **General Assembly** (Virtual Meeting, Lima, 10 September 2021)

On 7 September 2021, the Executive Committee of the ISLSSL met virtually at 09:00 Lima time.

## **1. Attendance**

The following National Associations were present: Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

In addition to President Janice Bellace, President-elect Maria Emilia Casas Baamonde, Secretary-General Giuseppe Casale, Treasurer Rolando Murgas Torrazza, Honorary Presidents Arturo Bronstein, Adrian Goldin, Jean-Michael Servais, Kazuo Sugeno, and the President of ILO Section-ISLSSL, Humberto Villasmil, participated in the meeting.

## **2. Opening of the meeting by the President**

President Prof. Janice Bellace opened the meeting and thanked the Peruvian colleagues, led by German Ramirez Gaston and Monica Pizarro, for the organization of this World Congress the first ever held virtually. As the EC meeting was virtual, the President gave a short introduction on the available features in Zoom including the simultaneous translation into a preferred language. She then moved on to the approval of the Agenda. As regards the latter, she explained that the Secretary General, for contingent reasons, had to circulate a revised draft agenda on 6 September. The only difference with the original draft agenda was in item point 5.1, which was dedicated to the discussion on the proposal to activate the application of Art. 7.5 for the appointment of up to two additional Vice-Presidents. She then gave the floor to the Secretary-General, Giuseppe Casale, for the presentation of his report.

### **3. Report on the activities by Secretary-General**

The Secretary-General gave a brief report of the activities carried out by the ISLSSL since the XXII World Congress held in Turin (Italy) on 4-7 September 2018. The activities were reported in the Agenda of the EC meeting of 7 September 2021 and circulated in advance to the EC members. In addition, information on the activities were reported in the Society's Bulletins Nos. 149-154.

### **4. Financial Report by the Treasurer and the Auditor**

In conformity with the Society's Statutes and Bylaws (arts. 10 and 14), the Treasurer, Prof. Rolando Murgas Torrazza presented to the Executive Committee the financial report of the International Society for the period September 2018 – 29 August 2021. The financial report was cleared by the Auditor's report prepared by Prof. S. Evju. The President highlighted the recommendations made by the Treasurer at the end of his report, and explained why these furthered efficiency, transparency and fairness. The financial report as presented was approved by the Executive Committee. The EC granted discharge from any liability for their administration to the President, the Secretary-General and the Treasurer.

### **5. Election of a Secretary General, a Treasurer, an Auditor and six Vice-Presidents (2021-24)**

Prof. Humberto Villasmil Prieto (ILO, Venezuela) was unanimously appointed as Secretary-General for the period 2021-24.

Prof. Alberto Pizzoferrato (Italy) was unanimously appointed as the Treasurer for the period 2021-24.

Prof. Sylvie Pétremand (Switzerland) was unanimously appointed as Auditor of the ISLSSL for the period 2021-24.

The Secretary General warmly thanked Prof. Stein Evju for having served the Society as Auditor for the period of 2006-2021 in a remarkable way. The President noted that Prof. Evju had served as Auditor for 15 years, and that his meticulous inspection of the accounts and his close attention to the rules of the ISLSSL were critical in ensuring the soundness of our financial accounts.

Six Vice-Presidents were appointed for the period 2021-2024:

- Africa: Prof. Pamhidzai BAMU (Zimbabwe)
- Asia and the Pacific: Prof. Gordon ANDERSON (New Zealand)
- Central and Eastern Europe: Prof. Grega STRBAN (Slovenia)
- North America, Dominican Republic and Panama: Prof. Martin Ernesto BRETON SANCHEZ (Dominican Republic)
- South America: Prof. Oscar BLANCO (Colombia)
- Western Europe: Prof. Maria Do Rosario PALMA-RAMALHO (Portugal)

Regarding the proposal to activate the application of Art. 7.5 for the appointment of up to two additional Vice-Presidents, there were numerous interventions by the EC members. Discussions lasted several hours, and was brought to a conclusion by the President who noted

that our Asian EC members were participating at a very late hour. She stated that under Art. 8.2, an extraordinary meeting of the EC could be convened by the new President and commented that with the technology of virtual meetings, this could be done easily. As agreement could not be reached on whether additional vice presidents should be appointed and if so, on what basis, the President accepted the proposal made by Honorary President Prof. Jean-Michel Servais, which was also endorsed by the Secretary General. According to this proposal, a working group specifically established for this purpose should examine the nomination of up to two additional Vice-Presidents, as proposed in the programme of the President-Elect Prof. Maria Emilia Casas Baamonde. This working group, consisting of experts - including Honorary Presidents, Vice-Presidents and those willing to take part in it - should then submit a concrete and practical proposal to be presented at an extraordinary meeting of the Executive Committee. The Secretary General highlighted the need to examine the current regional composition of the Society: an issue that had already been highlighted by President Janice Bellace in past interventions. The new officers of the Society will present a proposal in this regard in due course.

## **6. Information on the XXIII World Congress, Lima, 7-10 September 2021**

Prof. Estela Ospina Salinas of the Peruvian Society of Labour Law and Social Security updated on the organisation of the XXIII World Congress. She informed that more than 280 participants had registered. She thanked Prof. German Ramirez Gaston de la Universidad de Lima for the excellent work done in organising this important international event.

## **7. Next ISLSSL Congresses**

### **a. III African Regional Congress (Kenya, 2021)**

Prof. Stefan van Eck, of the African Labour Law Society, informed that the III African Regional Congress will take place in Nairobi, Kenya on 21-22 October 2021 in hybrid mode. He will also inform on the next African Regional Congress in due course.

### **b. XII American Regional Congress of Labour and Social Security Law (São Paulo, 2022)**

The Brazilian Academy of Labour Law will host the XII American Regional Congress in October 2022 in São Paulo.

### **c. XIV European Regional Congress (Ghent, 2023)**

The XIV ISLSSL European Regional Congress will be organised on 6-8 September 2023 in Ghent, Belgium. To this end, the preparations for the XIV European Regional Congress are advancing at full speed. The Congress main theme will be “The Lighthouse Function of Social Law”. More information is available at the Congress website <https://sociallawghent2023.be/en>. The website is available in English, French, German, and Spanish.

### **d. IX Asian Regional Congress (2022/23)**

The Indian National Labour Law Association (NLLA) has informed the officers of the Society

that it will propose to organise the IX Asian Regional Congress in the period 2022-2023. More information will be sent to the new officers in due course.

#### **e. XXIV World Congress (2024)**

The President noted that no one expressed an interest for organising the next ISLSSL World Congress. Any suggestions in this regard are most welcome.

### **10. Other issues**

Prof. Janice Bellace, President of the ISLSSL and Prof. Giuseppe Casale, Secretary-General of the ISLSSL, were unanimously recommended to be appointed as Honorary Presidents of the Society. No other issues were raised and the President closed the meeting at 12:10 Lima time.

### **11. General Assembly 10 September 2021**

The General Assembly of the ISLSSL took place on 10 September 2021 from 13:00 to 13:45 Lima time.

Prof. German Ramirez Gaston of the Peruvian Society coordinated the General Assembly. The Secretary General reported on the decisions taken by the Executive Committee Meeting of 7 September 2021. All the decisions taken by the EC were endorsed by the General Assembly. The General Assembly fully endorsed the appointment of Prof. Janice Bellace and Prof. Giuseppe Casale as Honorary Presidents of the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law.

The General Assembly was concluded with three speeches: one from the new Secretary-General Prof. Humberto Villasmil Prieto followed by the one of President-Elect Prof. Maria Emilia Casas Baamonde and by President Prof. Janice Bellace. In her concluding remarks, President Bellace expressed her personal thanks to Secretary General, Giuseppe Casale and to the Treasurer Prof. Rolando Murgas Torrazza for the excellent work done during the last three years as well as the Peruvian Society of Labour Law and Social Security for the excellent work done in organising the XXIII ISLSSL World Congress online. She also thanked everyone for the excellent collaboration received during the last three years and was looking forward to cooperating with the new President Prof. Maria Emilia Casas Baamonde. The General Assembly was adjourned at 13:45 on 10 September 2021.