



# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WELFARE

*A World Organization Promoting Social Development*

CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DE L'ACTION SOCIALE  
*Une organisation mondiale pour le développement social*

CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DEL BIENESTAR SOCIAL  
*Una organización mundial para el desarrollo social*



— FOUNDED IN 1928 —

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*Global Office*  
380 Saint-Antoine W.  
Suite 3200  
Montréal, Québec  
Canada H2Y 3X7  
Tel: (1-514) 287-3280  
Fax: (1-514) 287-9702  
Email:  
icswintl@colba.net

Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo  
Alameda Santo Antonio  
Capuchos,  
Building 4, Apt 5  
Lisbon, Portugal



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Sim  
11 a.m

23rd July 1998

Dear Ms Pintasilgo,

It was a pleasure to meet you in Brussels recently. Thank you for sharing your insights with us on the Comité des Sages and other matters, they were most interesting and helpful.

As we discussed briefly in Brussels, we would be honoured if you were able to address a Seventieth Anniversary Forum which the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) is organising in Paris on November 5th this year. ICSW was founded seventy years ago in Paris and the seminar is being held to celebrate that important anniversary. It will be held at Le Toit de la Grande Arche and will be attended by approximately 150 invited guests from throughout Europe and elsewhere.

As you may have read from the information we gave you, we are a global non-governmental organisation representing member organisations in more than 70 countries throughout the world. Our members have a close involvement in promoting social welfare, social development and social justice. At the global level, and in each of our five regions, we convene meetings, publish material, and advocate policies to governments, international institutions and other actors.

Human Rights and the Social Development Summit

To Hc  
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Julian  
Disney

Fax:  
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The Seventieth Anniversary Forum will focus on the importance of creating enabling environments for social development. As you know, this theme was prominent in the discussions and final agreements at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995. The theme is of special importance to the work of ICSW because of the emphasis which we and our members place on seeking to identify and address the underlying causes of poverty and hardship, and on pursuing a long-term approach.

The Seminar will consider ways in which political, economic, legal and cultural environments, especially at the international level, could be made more conducive to social development. Each of these four aspects will be the subject of an address at the seminar by a speaker of outstanding eminence. There will then be an opportunity for questions and discussion involving the invited audience. Proceedings will be conducted in English and French and the addresses will be published shortly after the seminar.

ICSW would be most grateful and honoured if you were willing to address the session of the Seminar which will focus on the current and potential impacts of the international legal environment on social development.

Your breadth of experience and expertise, particularly in the light of the recommendations regarding the Charter of fundamental social rights addressed by the recent Comité des Sages, make you uniquely suited to address our seminar on these crucial issues.

It would be a matter for you, of course, as to which aspects of this broad topic you chose to consider. We are especially interested in the issues raised by the recommendations of the Comité des Sages which relate to civic and social rights and to the incorporation of social policies in the EU treaties. But there are also many other important aspects of the international legal environment about which the audience would be most interested to hear your views.

We hope very much that you will be able to accept our invitation. We would be glad to provide any further





information or explanation which you may seek, including about the possible parameters of the address.

Yours sincerely,

PP 

Julian Disney  
President

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

