



# **I Conferência Mundial sobre o Desenvolvimento de Sistemas Universais de Seguridade Social**

**22 a 26 de março de 2010 - Brasília/Brasil**

## **I World Conference on the Development of Universal Social Security Systems**

### **The international and national context of the Conference**

The official announcement of the I World Conference on the Development of Universal Social Security Systems, and its organizational process, was launched by the Minister of Health of Brazil on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009, during the III World Social Forum on Health, held in Belém, Pará State, Brazil. The decision to organize this Conference is an outcome of the II World Social Forum on Health, held in Nairobi, Kenya, in January 2007, as well as the strategy adopted by the Brazilian Government regarding social security.

The Conference aims at structuring political agendas that would take into consideration the universality of the right to social security in the national and international arenas. The Government of Brazil is inviting other governments and intergovernmental organizations, and the international civil society is being called on to participate by means of the World Social Forum on Health.

The current international and national crisis calls for a strategic broadening of the universalistic perspective, and launching of an international agenda that would create the conditions for effective assurance of the human rights related to social security, in the development of an integral human being. The Conference will try to address this issue.

It will provide an equitable space for discussion between governments and civil society not only at the international level, but also at the national, and eventually regional levels by means of preparatory processes. The goal is to promote the idea that governments should align themselves in order to be able to meet social needs, mutually learning from political strategies that engender universalization. Furthermore, it aims to assemble and unite Brazilian popular and social movements for social security, and to strengthen international coalitions.

### **The World Conference as an opportunity for Brazil**

For Brazil, this is an opportunity to spur integral and equitable universalism with the consequent creation of universal and comprehensive social security, including economic security, according to the principles of the 1988 Brazilian Constitution. Therefore, the planning of strategic development agendas based on human rights will be a new stage for Brazilian development, taking into consideration what has been and will be created on the international scene, turning Brazil into a country of reference in the international debate.

In this perspective, it is a major ambition of this Conference to organize a process of national strategic discussions that will project social security in the national strategic agenda. It will promote citizenship participation and social control of the State as a key element in the construction of democratic projects of society and its universal policies. In that regard, the Brazilian experience deserves to be analyzed and taken into account as a fundamental example in the creation of universal social security systems.

### **Objectives of the Conference:**

1. To strengthen the existing universal systems through the exchange of experiences, achievements and common challenges.

2. To stimulate countries, governments and societies to adopt universal, comprehensive and equitable systems as a valid, ethical and feasible option in the process of national reforms and regional integration, looking for the production of public goods.

3. To propose a strategic agenda for the world social movement for the right to social security. To develop a solid alternative solution with global political sustainability to face the crisis and also the measures that reduce the response to community-based insurances. To begin a new phase of political struggle for universal social security systems – which must be universal, comprehensive, equitable and free of charge, with society playing a leading role. It aims to highlight the products, results and challenges of the universal systems, and to support their progress.

4. To permit an equitable dialogue among governments, academic institutions, intergovernmental agencies, and social, popular, trade union and labor movements, about the development of universal social security systems as an alternative solution for countries and regions.

5. To define the role of universal systems in the economic and social development of countries, towards poverty eradication and equity among social classes, generations, genders, and ethnic groups, taking into consideration social determinants and cross-sector actions.

6. To promote the strength of universal social protection systems as imperative political and social needs to face the economic crisis from a social and human rights perspective.

7. To establish regular channels of communication and cooperation among governments, movements and academic institutions motivated to develop policies, systems, services, actions, technologies and human capacities, towards universal, comprehensive and pro-equity goals in social security.