



Congress Document No. 10

Opinion of the Central Committee on VR's proposal to amend Article 49 of the Statutes of ASÍ

The Central Committee considered VR's proposal to amend item (a) of paragraph 5 of Article 49 of the Statutes of ASÍ, together with a detailed explanatory memorandum. The Central Committee had previously discussed the substance of the proposal, and there was broad agreement on the importance of considering amendments to the Statutes of ASÍ in light of the experience of the affiliated unions' sickness funds and the need for early intervention in cases of illness, in order to ensure the best possible prospects for vocational rehabilitation following illness.

In addition to the previous discussions, the minutes of the Committee on Organisation and Working Procedures were available for consideration. A majority of that committee did not consider the proposal an improvement, as it could lead employers to believe that they may impose additional conditions in connection with employees' sick leave entitlements.

During the Central Committee's discussions, it was noted that ASÍ is currently engaged in discussions with SA and the Government concerning significant changes to the disability and rehabilitation pension system, with particular emphasis on increased early support aimed at improving work capacity and participation in the labour market.

The Central Committee considered that this proposal should be addressed in the context of those discussions, and there was unanimous agreement that it should be submitted to the Congress and given thorough consideration by the Legal Committee.