

Brazil's Coup Trial Against Dilma Rousseff to Run into Rio Olympics



Brasilia, June 8 (RHC)-- The impeachment trial of Brazil's suspended President Dilma Rousseff will conclude in the middle of the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in August, according to a timeline decided on Monday by the Senate impeachment commission.

Coup President Michel Temer's allies in the Senate had sought to speed up proceedings but the commission's chairman Senator Raimundo Lira stuck with the original calendar that sets August 16th as the deadline for ending the trial.

The decision was a setback for the new administration which is keen to get Temer confirmed quickly to give him more authority to adopt tough austerity measures, which the coup government claims will help boost the economy. There are concerns that doubts about Temer's legitimacy could dissuade some heads of states from attending the August 5 opening of the Olympics.

Dilma Rousseff, who was suspended May 12th when the Senate voted to put her on trial, was replaced by Temer, her vice president. He will serve out her term through 2018 if she is convicted.

The commission will start hearing witnesses and experts on Wednesday and report to the full Senate on July 28th.

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