Chilean President Admits Fight Against Corruption Complex

Santiago de Chile, November 7 (PL-RHC)-- President Michelle Bachelet admitted on Friday the complexity of the struggle "to wipe out unacceptable conducts" on occasion of launching the Anti-corruption Observatory in Chile.

It is one of the tools included among measures suggested by the Presidential Advisory Council to improve the probity and transparency in Chile, as new cases of corruption take place in this country.

The Observatory includes think tanks *Espacio Público* and *Ciudadano Inteligente* foundation, and its objectives include to follow up the Executives' initiatives in the field.

"The Executive's willingness to advance is clear. Of the projects presented, six are very urgent and are firmly advancing in the National Congress," the president said after revealing that 17 proposals are already in Parliament for discussion.

Bachelet added that over 200 initiatives made by the council led by Eduardo Engel confirm the magnitude of the process of transformations "needed to restore the people's confidence in the institutions."

The president announced she will enact on Monday the law punishing the infractions of the funding rules, and members of Parliament, mayors and councilors that break electoral law will lose their seats.

"And this is a direct message to those who may not respect the confidence of their fellow country people in important activities like representing them in Parliament, in the Regional Councils, in the municipalities,...", she stressed.

She said the sanctions will mean that those who break the law will be banned from civil service for two years.

"This is one of the most clear signals for the people, a real red card to indicate that the tricks that harm democracy and its institutions so much will no longer be accepted," stated Bachelet.

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