

Chilean Government Resumes Talks with Teachers After 57-Day Strike



Santiago de Chile, July 29 (teleSUR-RHC)-- After 57 days on strike, representatives of Chile's teachers' union met with the country's Minister of Education Adriana Delpiano to re-establish talks over the law regarding the Teaching Careers project.

The pedagogical reform proposes a 28-percent salary increase for teachers who take part in a new system that establishes salary readjustments based on different performance evaluations, and encourages higher standards.

"We have met to resume the dialogue that should never have been suspended," said Delpiano. She also said that more than 90 percent of the country's municipal establishments were now functioning properly.

The School of Professors has over 100,000 members, who mainly teach in secondary schools. The walkout affected some 2,000 schools, comprising around 42 percent of the nation's students, according to the Chilean government.

The education minister requested the teachers' collaboration to firm up plans for making up lost teaching hours, including extending school days to Saturdays and up to the first two weeks of January, depending on how long schools were shut down.

Delpiano said the ministry and the School of Teachers will both work to deal with worries outlined by the trade union. One of these will be the labor conditions and the number of students per classroom.

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