

Executive Branch.

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Ministry of Finance and Public Credit.

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Ministry of State and Office of Finance and Public Credit – Mexico.-Department of Credit and Commerce.

The Interim Constitutional President of the Republic, in exercise of the authority conferred upon him by Section I of Article 85 of the Federal Constitution, and in accordance with Article 2 of the decree of May 31 of the current year,¹ has seen fit to issue the following:

REGULATIONS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION ON INDEMNIFICATIONS

Article I. In accordance with Article 2 of the decree of May 31 of the current year, beginning on July 1 next, a Consultative Commission shall be established in Mexico City, which shall be charged with the examination and verification of the claims submitted to the Treasury on account of losses suffered by private property or damages that are the direct consequence of the Revolution of November 1910; and with advising the Ministry of Finance as to the legal validity or invalidity of such claims and, where appropriate, the amount of the indemnification to which the claimants may be entitled.

Article II. The Consultative Commission shall be composed of a President, four Members, and a Secretary, who shall be the Head of the respective Office.

Article III. The Commission shall meet ordinarily for the performance of its functions at least once a week; however, by agreement of its President or of the Ministry of Finance, it shall hold extraordinary sessions as often as may be necessary for the prompt and effective dispatch of its business.

Article IV. In the absence of the President, his duties shall be performed by the Member of greatest age among those present.

Article V. The Commission may not hold a session without the attendance of at least three of its members and the Secretary. In cases of the accidental absence of the latter, he shall be replaced by the employee designated by the President of the Commission.

¹ This decree is recorded in *Diario Oficial* for May 31, 1911 under the section entitled “Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público”, the pertinent part of which reads:

Article 1. The authorization contained in Article 1, subsection B, of the decree of April 12 of the current year is increased by **\$6,000,000 (six million pesos)**, with the understanding that the total sums of both authorizations may be expended at the discretion of the Executive not only for the payment of auxiliary forces, freight for their transportation, armaments, munitions, and other war expenses, but also to cover any other expense, debt, or indemnity that may be a consequence of the revolution or that is deemed necessary to cover in order to carry out the complete pacification of the country.

Article 2. The Executive shall appoint a commission and shall regulate its powers, so that the expenditures referred to in the final part of the preceding article may be considered and reviewed by it, following the appropriate verification or review in cases where applicable.

Article VI. The decisions of the Commission shall be adopted by a majority vote of the members present, with the exception of the Secretary, who shall have voice but no vote in the sessions. In the event of a tie, the vote of the President shall decide. Nevertheless, the Members who hold a contrary opinion shall place on record in writing their opinion and the reasons upon which it is based, so that, in due course, the Ministry of Finance may resolve the matter as it deems appropriate. The same procedure shall be observed with respect to the vote of the minority.

Article VII. The Office of the Commission shall be established in one of the departments of the Ministry of Finance and shall be open to the public for at least five hours on every working day.

Article VIII. All claims shall be submitted in writing, accompanied by their respective supporting documentation, and shall be received from July 1 next until September 30 of the current year. After that period has elapsed, no claim shall be given administrative consideration.

Article IX. The claims shall be registered and processed by the Office of the Commission in the strict order of their submission; and if several are submitted at the same time, in alphabetical order according to the surnames of the claimants.

Article X. The Secretary shall keep a registry book in which, with the greatest clarity and accuracy, the claims received shall be entered, stating the date of submission, the name of the claimant, the origin of the claim, and its amount. In the same book, a column shall be left in which, in due course, the summary of the Commission's opinion shall be recorded.

Article XI. Claims arising from forced occupations, monetary contributions, weapons, horses, or effects, or from loans imposed by the chiefs of the revolutionary forces, shall be submitted accompanied by the respective orders, certificates of payment, receipts, and other documents that substantiate them.

Article XII. The processing of the case files, up to the point of placing them in a position for opinion, shall be carried out by means of orders issued by one of the members of the Commission; and for this purpose, matters shall be assigned in the manner agreed upon by the Commission itself with respect to administrative matters.

Article XIII. When claimants do not act personally but through an attorney-in-fact, the authority of the latter shall be proven by a legal power of attorney or by a simple letter of authorization, regardless of the amount of the claim; provided, however, that the grantor signs the letter of authorization before the political authority of the place where it is executed. Said authority shall certify the identity of the grantor. The signature of the political authority shall be legalized in accordance with common law.

Article XIV. Claimants shall have the right to request that a period for the presentation of evidence be set, which shall not exceed two months, counted from the date on which it is granted. During said period, all forms of evidence permitted by common law may be presented, except examination by positions; and in due time they shall be evaluated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure of the Federal District. For the Commission, the evidentiary period shall not expire, and therefore, while it remains in operation and has not rendered its definitive opinion, it shall have the authority to carry out such evidentiary proceedings as it deems appropriate.

Article XV. The Commission may also admit any means of proof other than those specified in the aforementioned Code of Procedure which, in its judgment, is humanly sufficient to produce conviction in the specific case under consideration, its evaluation being subject to the rational judgment of the Commission; and the fact that such evidence may have been taken into account

in a particular case shall not serve as a precedent requiring that it necessarily produce the same effect in other cases.

Article XVI. All public offices of the Federation, of the States, and of the Municipalities, as well as the chiefs of the army and of the revolutionary forces, shall be obliged to provide the reports, data, and copies of documents requested by the Commission for the purpose of verifying and screening the claims.

Article XVII. If any evidence is to be taken or any proceeding carried out outside this capital, the Commission may entrust its execution to any authority of the Republic, whether federal or local; and if, due to the amount of the claim or for any other reason, it considers it appropriate, it may commission the Secretary or order that one of the members of the Commission travel to the respective place in order to carry out the proceeding, requesting, when necessary, through the Ministry of Finance, the assistance of federal or local authorities.

Article XVIII. The resolutions issued by the Commission in the course of the processing of the case files shall be communicated to the interested party personally, if he appears at the Office within three days of their issuance; or, if he does not appear, by official notice sent by the Secretary to the address designated for that purpose in the initial written submission or appearance. In the absence of a designated address, notifications shall be made through the *Diario Oficial*.

Article XIX. When there are grounds to suspect that false evidence or documents have been submitted, or, in general, that a punishable act has been committed, the case shall be referred to the competent authority, suspending all procedures and informing the Treasury Department so that it may take the appropriate action.

Article XX. Once the evidence period has concluded, without further procedure, the file shall be made available to the claimant at the Commission's Office so that, if deemed appropriate, they may submit a written statement within fifteen working days, addressing whatever pertains to their rights. After fifteen days have passed, the Commission shall submit the matter for discussion along with a draft opinion presented by one of its members, who is assigned the review of the case, without prejudice to the right of the other Members to personally familiarize themselves with the file before the vote, if they deem it necessary.

Article XXI. The final opinion that the Commission issues in each case must be legally founded and conclude with concrete propositions regarding the acceptance or rejection of the claim and, if applicable, the amount of compensation to be paid to the claimant. If, upon examining the claim, it is found that a solution strictly in accordance with the law is not possible, the Commission shall state this in its opinion and propose to the Treasury Department the equitable bases which, in its judgment, may be adopted to reach some agreement with the interested party.

Article XXII. Once the files have been concluded with the Commission's opinion, the originals shall be sent to the Treasury Department for the corresponding final resolution.

Article XXIII. The Commission shall complete its work no later than December 31 of the current year.

Article XXIV. For the time being, the Commission's Office shall have the following staff structure, without prejudice to increasing it if the workload so requires:

	Daily Rate
One Secretary of the Commission.....	8.00
One stenographer.....	3.33

One first-class clerk.....	2.50
One second-class clerk.....	2.00
One office assistant.....	1.00
Office expenses, per month.....	25.00

Article XXV. The salaries and expenses mentioned in the previous article shall be paid charged to the decree of May 31 of the current year.

Article XXVI. The Treasury Department shall designate the gratuity to be given to the members of the Commission once it has completed its work.

I communicate this to you for your information and necessary action.
Mexico, June 30, 1911. – *Madero* – To The Citizen.....

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