

Impeachment Process Against Brazilian President Postponed until 2016



Brasilia, December 22 (RHC-teleSUR)-- The leader of Brazil's Chamber of Deputies Eduardo Cunha said Monday that the impeachment process against President Dilma Rousseff will take place in 2016, as there are still some areas that need clarification.

Cunha made the announcement at a meeting with diverse leaders of the opposition. The groups plan on presenting a series of issues to Brazil's Supreme Federal Tribunal, or supreme court, over the rules established by the body for the impeachment process.

The supreme court ruled last Thursday that the impeachment process against Rousseff would have to start again, after congress selected the members of a special impeachment commission via a secret vote on December 8th.

The Supreme Court further said that voting should be open and not done through a secret ballot. The decision by the court is seen as a defeat for Cunha and a win for Rousseff.

In another positive sign for Rousseff, the Supreme Court also ruled that the Senate can review the grounds for impeachment, even if the lower house votes to impeach her, through a simple majority.

Her opponents had argued that the Senate must automatically suspend the president and begin a trial that can last six months, should the lower house vote for impeachment.

Brazil's Supreme Court entered into recess this week and congress goes on vacation on Wednesday. The impeachment process will resume when they are back to work in February.

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