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FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC**



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Third meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Statistical Conference of the Americas of the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, Chile, 24 and 25 May 2004

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is a subsidiary body of ECLAC established pursuant to resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which assigned the Conference the following objectives: to promote the development and improvement of national statistics and work to ensure that they are comparable internationally, bearing in mind the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations; to promote international, regional and bilateral cooperation among national offices and international and regional agencies; and to draw up a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the demands of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources.

At the second meeting of the Conference, held in Santiago, Chile, in June 2003, the representatives of the member States elected the following countries to serve on the Executive Committee of the Conference: Chile (Chairperson); Bolivia, Brazil, Panama, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and United States of America (members). The Committee's mandate will expire at the end of the next regular meeting of the Conference, to be held in mid-2005.

In its resolution 2000/7, the United Nations Economic and Social Council provided that the Executive Committee should have the following duties: to carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference; to draw up, every two years, a biennial programme of activities of regional and international cooperation on statistical matters, to be submitted at the regular meeting of the Conference; to follow up the implementation of the agreements reached at the Conference and the tasks entrusted to it by the Conference, particularly the biennial programme of activities; and to decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Executive Committee will have before it the following provisional agenda (LC/L.2081) for its adoption or modification:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2003-June 2005
3. Preparations for the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC:
 - (a) Guidance with respect to the substantive issues to be dealt with at the third meeting of the Conference
 - (b) Agreement on the general content of a programme of international statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2005-June 2007

- (c) Place and date of the third meeting of the Conference
 - (d) Other matters related to the functioning of the Conference
4. Place and date of the fourth meeting of the Executive Committee
 5. Adoption of agreements and decisions
 6. Other matters

2. Progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2003-June 2005

The secretariat will introduce a report on the activities carried out under the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean for the period from July 2003 to June 2005.¹ The report describes the cooperation activities in which the States members of the Conference and regional and international organizations have taken part.

In compliance with the commitment undertaken at the first meeting of the Executive Committee, the secretariat will report on the bilateral and horizontal cooperation activities implemented during the period under review and on the creation of a subsite on the web page of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division to provide information on offers of cooperation and activities under way in this area. This information system will facilitate the regular monitoring of activities with a view to coordinating and strengthening cooperation and directing it towards priority issues.

In addition, in compliance with the commitment undertaken at the second meeting of the Executive Committee, the secretariat will give an oral report on the progress made in recent months in implementing the International Comparison Programme in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

As requested by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, the secretariat will give an oral report on the principal decisions taken by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its most recent session, held in New York from 2 to 5 March 2004. Special reference will be made to issues related to the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean and to new issues of particular relevance for the region.

Working document

- Progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2003-June 2005 (LC/L.2113)

¹ At its second meeting, held in Santiago, Chile, from 18 to 20 June 2003, the Statistical Conference of the Americas adopted the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2003-June 2005 (LC/L.1903/Rev.1), by its resolution 2(II).

3. Preparations for the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC:

(a) Guidance with respect to the substantive issues to be dealt with at the third meeting of the Conference

In line with the modus operandi used at the first meeting of the Executive Committee, which was aimed at making the work of the Conference more efficient and taking full advantage of the opportunities offered by that forum for in-depth analysis of the substantive items chosen by the countries, the Executive Committee will discuss issues of potential interest and decide which ones should be considered at the third meeting of the Conference.

(b) Agreement on the general content of a programme of international statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2005-June 2007

The Executive Committee will discuss the general content of the programme of international statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean to be drawn up for the period from July 2005 to June 2007, which the secretariat will submit for consideration at the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas. It is very important that the new programme of work adequately reflect regional and international cooperation activities organized to meet the demands of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources, as agreed by the Economic and Social Council when it established the Statistical Conference.

(c) Place and date of the third meeting of the Conference

The Executive Committee will decide on the place and date of the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

(d) Other matters related to the functioning of the Conference

Under this item, the delegations will consider any other issues they may wish to raise with a view to improving the functioning of the Conference.

4. Place and date of the fourth meeting of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will decide on the place and date of the fourth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

5. Adoption of agreements and decisions

The Executive Committee will take decisions on the agenda items described above.

6. Other matters

Under this item, the delegations will consider any other issues they may wish to raise.