



ECLAC

Distr.
GENERAL
LC/G.2623
1 October 2014
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

Lima, 5-9 May 2014

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of the session

1. The thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) was held in Lima from 5 to 9 May 2014.

Attendance¹

2. The session was attended by representatives of 38 States Members of the Commission: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

3. Also attending the session were representatives of the following associate members of the Commission: Curaçao, Guadeloupe and Puerto Rico. Representatives of Sint Maarten attended as observers.

4. A representative of Norway attended the session in a consultative capacity as a State Member of the United Nations not member of the Commission.

5. The President of Peru attended the session as a special guest.

6. The United Nations Secretariat was represented at the session by a staff member from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Director of the Regional Commissions New York Office.

7. The following United Nations bodies were represented: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and World Food Programme (WFP).

8. Representatives of the following specialized agencies of the United Nations attended the session: International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Pan American Health Organization-World Health Organization (PAHO-WHO), International Monetary Fund (IMF) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

9. Intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were also represented.

¹ The list of participants appears as annex 3 to this report.

Election of officers

10. At the first plenary meeting, the delegations elected the officers of the thirty-fifth session.
11. The officers elected to preside over the thirty-fifth session were as follows:
- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Chair: | Peru |
| Vice-Chairs: | El Salvador, Jamaica and Mexico |
| Rapporteur: | Ecuador |

Organization of work

12. In addition to the plenary meetings held during the session of the Commission and in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions, concurrent meetings were held by the Committee on South-South Cooperation.

Documentation

13. A list of the working documents submitted by the secretariat to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session is provided in annex 2.

B. AGENDA

14. The Commission adopted the following agenda:
1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the thirty-fifth session.
 3. Report on the activities carried out by the Commission since its thirty-fourth session.
 4. Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, 2012-2013, and the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings which report at the session.
 5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017.
 6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016.
 7. Committee on South-South Cooperation.
 8. Challenges of regional integration.
 9. Presentation of the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*.

10. High-level seminar Compacts for equality: towards a sustainable future.
11. High-level dialogue.
12. Consideration of the request of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC.
13. Other matters.
14. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the Commission at its thirty-fifth session.

C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening session

15. At the opening session, held on 6 May, a special address was delivered by Ollanta Humala, President of Peru, preceded by opening remarks by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

16. The Executive Secretary thanked the Government of Peru for the support and warm welcome it had provided as host country of the thirty-fifth session of ECLAC, and recalled the history of Peru, before and after colonization. The session was the most important intergovernmental meeting in the Commission's two-year cycle of activities, where it rendered an account of the work carried out to its member States and received the mandates and orientations that would guide its future work. She referred to the ideas put forward by the Commission in the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*,² which, together with the documents presented at the two previous sessions, completed the virtuous trilogy of equality. Throughout its history, one of the Commission's ongoing concerns had been to propose a model for sustainable development for the medium and long terms and the new document traced a path towards growth with equality and environmental sustainability. Economic, social and environmental sustainability must be harmonized, based on a strategic view of the development process in which equality was the goal, structural change was the path, and the art of politics and policymaking was the instrument by which it could be achieved. A virtuous circle of that type required social compacts in various spheres: a compact for investment and structural change; a fiscal compact for striking a better balance between private goods and public services in the architecture of well-being; a compact for natural resource governance and environmental preservation; and a social and labour compact to build the State's redistributive capacity and ensure that labour institutions kept pace with structural change in order to close gaps in relation to gender, productivity, quality employment and the division of benefits between capital and labour.

17. The President of Peru, referring to the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean, said that although the region was not the poorest in the world, it was the most unequal. The mistake had been trying to fight poverty without building social policies to reduce inequality. Economic growth alone could not close equality gaps; rather what was needed was inclusion for growth. That strategy had been successful in Peru: social investment had increased by over 50%; nearly half a million Peruvians had made it out of poverty and many others out of extreme poverty; and significant investments had been

² LC/G.2586 (SES.35/3).

made in infrastructure. Regarding the role that the State should play, the challenge was to build a more modern and efficient State to provide services to all citizens. He also referred to Peru's National Plan for Production Diversification and the need to provide quality education to young people in order to ensure that the training they received was consistent with the knowledge and technology transfers that would be essential for the future of Latin America and the Caribbean. The countries had already established a sound macroeconomic policy on the basis of which more specific and people-focused microeconomic policies should be developed. Lastly, despite its achievements, Peru should continue to pursue its steady and integrated progress in the region.

18. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, in her capacity as Chair of the session, expressed thanks on behalf of her country for the mission with which it had been entrusted and enthusiasm for the challenges that might arise during the biennium.

19. The Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) warned that inequities and pockets of extreme poverty could threaten the development milestones reached in recent years. Inequality was not solely a consequence of the action of the forces of globalization and technological change, but also of policy choices, and therefore institutions could build the foundations for promoting sustainable development with equality. He highlighted the strategic importance of interregional and cross-border cooperation to stimulate the expansion of trade, infrastructure and technology, as well as investment in education and training and structural change to boost productivity and quality employment.

Report on the activities carried out by the Commission since its thirty-fourth session and Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017 (agenda items 3 and 5)

20. The Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC presented the report on the activities carried out by the Commission during the biennium 2012-2013 and the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017. The activities had been focused on analysis and technical assistance, support for regional forums for dialogue and cooperation, and the link with the development agenda beyond 2015.

21. Following those action lines, the Commission had contributed during the biennium to the preparation of comparable statistics and indicators, had provided training at the request of national entities and had drafted key publications for interpreting the economic, social and environmental realities in the region. The Commission had promoted dialogue and cooperation at the regional level, facilitating the exchange of experiences and providing support at events such as the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Statistical Conference of the Americas and the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. He referred to the Commission's efforts to ensure linkages between initiatives in the region and the global development agenda, which had consisted primarily in following up on the progress made towards fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals, implementing the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and applying the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development over the last 20 years (ICPD+20), the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women on its twentieth anniversary (Beijing+20) and the Monterrey Consensus adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development.

22. In terms of the dissemination of ideas, the Deputy Executive Secretary pointed to the Commission's prolific editorial output, the publication of the third part of its trilogy of position documents on equality and the growing presence of the institution in emerging social networks. A large part of its publications were available in electronic form.

23. Lastly, after referring to the economic situation and the new challenges that the region would face, he said that the region needed to follow a new approach to regional integration and reiterated the Commission's proposal to work towards structural change for equality and sustainability, as reflected in the Commission's programme outline for 2016-2017. In his presentation of the draft programme of work, he stressed the Commission's plans for strengthening an agenda on economic, social and sustainable development, governance and statistics and activities with a regional and subregional focus.

24. The representatives commended the Deputy Executive Secretary on his presentation of the report on activities and the draft programme of work of ECLAC and noted that both the work undertaken by the Commission and the proposed activities responded to an accurate assessment of the needs and priorities of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. They emphasized the need for the Commission to continue supporting integration processes and the definition of a regional stance on the agenda for inclusive and sustainable development.

25. The representative of Peru requested that the programme of work should include objectives oriented towards reaching a global agreement on climate change in 2015, with specific mention of actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and that, in connection with sustainability, reference be made to new technologies in the framework of development. Furthermore, the representative of Panama proposed that the countries should make a commitment to develop measures to promote fair trade, as structures that would contribute to access to goods and services by vulnerable populations and to poverty eradication. The representatives of Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica underscored the need for work programme objectives and follow-up on the International Conference on Small Island Developing States regarding the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy.

Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, 2012-2013, and the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings which report at the session (agenda item 4)

26. The chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and of other intergovernmental meetings reported on the activities carried out and the outcomes achieved in the period between August 2012 and April 2014.

27. The representative of Ecuador, in his capacity as Chair of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, presented the report on that subsidiary body of ECLAC. After referring to the achievements of the working groups of the Conference during the biennium, he said that major challenges had to be confronted, including the heterogeneity of the statistical systems of the region's countries in terms of institutional capacity, legal frameworks and the sustainability of financial and human resources for statistical activities. Given the importance of statistics as a public good that is fundamental for peaceful coexistence within a democracy and for development with equality, the strengthening and independence of national statistical offices should be promoted in relation to their role in guiding and coordinating national statistical systems.

28. The representative of the Dominican Republic, speaking on behalf of the Chair of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, presented the report on that subsidiary body, highlighting the achievements made. She mentioned the Santo Domingo Consensus adopted in 2013 and the commitments contained therein, and called for gender equality to be mainstreamed in the post-2015 development agenda. The Consensus marked a milestone in the democratization of access to and use of information and communications technologies, making these tools drivers of progress and of the achievement of effective and real empowerment of women. Lastly, the fiftieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women would be held in Santiago on 19 and 20 May 2014 and the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women would be held in Uruguay in 2016.

29. In her presentation of the report on the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the representative of Uruguay, on behalf of the Chair of the Conference, made a series of reflections on the main points of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, adopted at the first session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo from 12 to 15 August 2013. In particular, she emphasized that sustainable social development with social justice could not exist without the full exercise of all human rights, including sexual and reproductive rights. Lastly, she invited countries to reaffirm the Montevideo Consensus to continue improving the living conditions of all the region's inhabitants.

30. The representative of El Salvador, speaking on behalf of the Chair of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC, reported on the twenty-seventh session of the Committee, held in New York on 28 and 29 May 2013. With regard to agenda item 2 from that session, economic and social overview of Latin America and the Caribbean and outlook for 2013, he said that the region had faced a difficult economic situation owing to weaker growth and the prevailing uncertainty in the international economy, which had highlighted the need to promote structural change. With respect to the document *Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Follow-up to the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015 and to Rio+20*, he emphasized the importance of placing human beings at the heart of development and building compacts for equality.

31. The representative of Jamaica presented the report on the twenty-fifth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), held on 25 and 26 April 2014 in Kingston. He said that since the thirty-fourth session of the Commission, four associate members (Bermuda, Curaçao, Guadeloupe and Martinique) had joined CDCC and that the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States would be held in Apia in September 2014. Small island developing States were facing problems such as vulnerability to external financial and environmental turbulence, the need to improve disaster assessment and build resilience, the classification of small Caribbean islands as middle-income countries and the need for debt relief to complement fiscal management, particularly after natural disasters. CDCC members had placed emphasis on integrating the priorities of small island developing States in the post-2015 development agenda and had recommended seeking partnerships to find solutions to the problems of small island developing States, particularly with the countries of Latin America and other regions where it was possible to capitalize on the comparative advantages relating to language and culture. With regard to trade-related priorities, the subregion must negotiate greater access to foreign markets, diversify and expand the production of services, develop its social and cultural offerings and establish less onerous subregional financing mechanisms to facilitate greater access to energy and other essential resources.

32. The representatives of Ecuador and Guatemala, speaking on behalf of the Chair of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), jointly presented the report on that body.

33. The representative of Guatemala spoke on the fourteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning, held on 22 November 2013 in Brasilia, and the resolutions that had been adopted at that meeting. He said that the fourteenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Institute would be held in Quito on 23 and 24 November 2015. The twenty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning would be held on 19 and 20 June 2014 in Guatemala City.

34. The representative of Ecuador presented the work agenda of the Regional Council for Planning of the Institute, focusing on five points: the resurgence of planning on Government agendas; regional planning; a coordinated vision of the region; a convergence of the forums for integration; and a joint regional approach to the post-2015 development agenda.

35. The representative of Uruguay reported on the Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo from 3 to 5 April 2013, which had culminated in the adoption of the Plan of Work 2013-2015 for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015). He said that it was not possible to understand development without thinking about technology, and that the situation was advancing faster than countries' capacity for response. Referring to the main topics and priorities addressed in the Plan of Work 2013-2015, he emphasized that the time frame for achieving results was very short (2015). In conclusion, he raised some questions about the role that the region would play, the budget that would be allocated and the type of participation that ECLAC should have in the process.

36. The representative of Paraguay said that the regional meeting in preparation for the Comprehensive 10-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action had been held in Asunción on 19 November 2013. At that meeting, participants had put forward proposals for the development of a programme of action to be adopted during the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries. The points raised included the high cost of transport in landlocked countries, the lower level of development because of their geographical location, shortcomings in physical infrastructure and logistics, the need for further institutional and policy developments, as well as their vulnerability owing to their dependence on a narrow range of low value added products and barriers to the transit of goods. Emphasis had been placed on the importance of ensuring effective market access and freedom of movement, combined with special and differentiated regimes to promote the international integration of these economies. Other proposals included deepening regional integration and taking steps towards common logistics and mobility policies, with joint action by the public and private sectors. The participants had also insisted on the need to invest in technology to streamline customs procedures and improve connectivity, as well as to develop the service sector to diversify economic activity

37. The representative of Chile, in her capacity as Chair of the meeting of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, referred to the three meetings of the focal points that had been held in Santiago on 6 and 7 November 2012, in Guadalajara, Mexico, on 16 and 17 April 2013, and in Lima on 30 and 31 October 2013. The outcome of those meetings was an action plan aimed at strengthening dialogue and regional cooperation and developing a regional instrument on the rights of access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters. According to the signatory countries, that was the way to improve environmental protection and, therefore, human rights, on the basis of the principles and values of equality, inclusion, transparency, proactivity, collaboration, progressiveness and non-regression. She explained that the process had been supported in declarations by several international bodies and that 18 countries in the region were involved. She stressed that the adoption of a regional instrument would facilitate concerted action, dialogue and cooperation, the application of access rights at the national level, environmental governance and the creation of a regional agenda on access rights grounded in sustainability and equality.

Consideration of the request of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC (agenda item 12)

38. The Ambassador of the Netherlands thanked the Commission for considering his country's request for Sint Maarten to be admitted as an associate member of ECLAC and said that the request was a logical consequence of legislative changes in the Netherlands following the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles, by virtue of which the Dutch Caribbean territories could seek access to international organizations. He confirmed that the Netherlands fully supported the request of Sint Maarten for admission.

39. The Chair submitted for consideration by the representatives of the member States the admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC. That proposal was adopted by virtue of resolution 683(XXXV).

40. The Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labour of Sint Maarten expressed gratitude to the Netherlands for supporting his country's request for admission to ECLAC. In 2013, his country had stopped receiving official assistance from the Netherlands and, being a small island developing State, faced numerous challenges and a particularly vulnerable situation. Sint Maarten was making efforts to strengthen its institutions, diversify its economy and meet the Millennium Development Goals, and had overcome many obstacles along the way. As an associate member of ECLAC Sint Maarten hoped to be able to share its experiences in various spheres and strengthen relations with other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016 (agenda item 6)

41. The Executive Secretary submitted the proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016 for consideration by delegations, and it was adopted as reflected in the annex to resolution 676(XXXV).

Committee on South-South Cooperation (agenda item 7)

42. The report of the Committee on South-South Cooperation is included as annex 1.

Challenges of regional integration (agenda item 8)

43. The document *Regional integration: Towards a strategy for inclusive value chains*³ was presented by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and Osvaldo Rosales, Chief of the Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC.

44. The Executive Secretary said that ECLAC understood integration as a multidimensional economic, political, social and cultural process, and that production linkages were essential for the region to move towards structural change for equality. She also referred to the need for an integrated regional market with more production linkages and with industrial policies that fostered regional value chains, and explained the 10 recommendations for regional integration contained in the document.

45. The Chief of the Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC spoke on the complex global economic situation and stressed that the growth gap between developing and developed countries was shrinking. Although world trade had begun to recover, it remained sluggish, with a downward trend

³ LC/G.2594(SES.35/11).

in commodities, and the region was expected to grow at a moderate pace for the rest of the decade. He summarized the changes that were taking place in the global economy that would influence the debate on regional integration and that reinforced the need for that type of integration in Latin America and the Caribbean. With regard to long-term trends, the regional market played an increasingly important role and was also the most conducive to export diversification

46. After the presentation of the document, comments were made by Eda Rivas Franchini, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru; Danilo Astori, Vice-President of Uruguay; Rogelio Garza Garza, Undersecretary of Industry and Commerce of the Ministry of Economy of Mexico; Antonio José Ferreira Simões, Undersecretary-General for South and Central America and the Caribbean of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil; Hugo Martínez, Secretary-General of the Central American Integration System (SICA); and Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guyana .

47. The speakers, having commended ECLAC on the document, stressed the importance of building regional value chains and the need to strengthen the integration mechanisms in Latin America and the Caribbean, respecting the multiplicity of memberships. They also emphasized that there was no substitute for the regional market for promoting industrialization in the region and that the incorporation of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) was instrumental in that process. They also analysed Mexico's role in the automotive industry value chain, highlighting the substantial investment in human capital and infrastructure and the network of trade agreements

48. They raised the need to adopt regional strategies to ensure that the resulting value chains were inclusive, based on the strengths of individual countries and territories; to promote integration with greater involvement of civil society and a multidimensional approach involving the comprehensive management of climate change, poverty reduction, increased security and the strengthening of democratic institutions, among other elements; to eliminate administrative and operational obstacles to the movement of goods and persons in accordance with the law; and to cooperate in relation to infrastructure and transport to facilitate regional trade.

49. When the floor was opened to comments by delegations, the representative of Japan said that his country would continue to provide support in the regional context for basic infrastructure projects, industrial development, human resource training and the prevention and mitigation of natural disasters. The representative of Paraguay advocated advancing regional integration by focusing on the issues on which consensus was more likely to be reached and called for a differential treatment in trade for landlocked countries, given their disadvantage. The representative of Ecuador stressed that it was essential to change consumption patterns, which depended on governments. The representative of Argentina also called on governments to take the lead on the coordination of production policies, the creation of quality jobs, international financial regulation and the development of public goods. Lastly, the representative of Jamaica pointed to the desirability of incorporating the private sector in regional integration processes and of enhancing port and maritime transport infrastructure to facilitate trade and investment between the countries of the region.

Presentation of the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future* (agenda item 9)

50. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC presented the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*, which was part of the trilogy in which equality was the goal, structural change was the path, and the art of politics and policymaking was the instrument by which it could be achieved. The document explored new elements such as the accurate measurement of inequalities, analysis of private

consumption and of natural resource governance, and the importance of compacts. In order to achieve development with equality several structural problems had to be addressed in relation to the economy (external vulnerability), the productive, labour and social sectors (structural heterogeneity) and institutions (weakness of the State). With regard to that last dimension, she emphasized that employment was the master key to equality and that the minimum wage played a decisive role in that regard. In conclusion, she explained that the following compacts were necessary to transform development in the region: fiscal compact, compact for investment and industrial policy, social and labor compact, compact for greater social welfare and better public services, compact for environmental sustainability, compact for natural resource governance, and compact among the international community for development and cooperation beyond 2015.

51. Statements were subsequently made by Danilo Astori, Vice-President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, and Luis Miguel Castilla, Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance of Peru.

52. The Vice-President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay praised the Commission on its compacts proposal, describing it as a wise strategy. What was being put forward was a major cultural change to achieve equality of rights and opportunities. He referred to a political vision of building equality in which the State assumed a fundamental role. Fiscal policy was an essential anchor for macroeconomic stability should pursue efficiency and stimulate investment. The main fiscal tool for building equality was social public spending on education. Regarding the content of the compacts aimed at changing the production structure, it was necessary to strengthen the knowledge chain, innovation, efficiency, productivity and competitiveness. He also stressed the need to establish compacts for financial stability and equality in the social and labour spheres.

53. The Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance of Peru presented the perspective of Peru concerning compacts for equality and explained that Peru's success in terms of economic growth, poverty reduction and stability had been the result of consensus built on prudent economic policies, sustained increases in productivity, private investment as the engine of growth, and trade liberalization and integration policies. Compacts for equality should include growth with social inclusion, the building of quality human capital to achieve greater productivity, diversification and adding value to the exploitation of natural resources, institution-building and modernization of the State, the formalization of employment and environmental sustainability.

High-level seminar Compacts for equality: towards a sustainable future (agenda item 10)

54. Panel 1: The regional scenario was chaired by Paola Bustamante Suárez, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru. Statements were made by the following panellists: Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guyana; Rodrigo Malmierca, Minister for Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of Cuba; Pabel Muñoz, National Secretary of Planning and Development of Ecuador; Rodrigo Viemann, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala; and Juan Somavía, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Interregional Policy Cooperation.

55. The speakers referred first to the situation of the Caribbean economies, which, despite being classified as middle-income for the most part, were saddled with high levels of debt and vulnerability. The regional picture showed positive signs of a reduction in inequality and improvement of economic and social indicators. The speakers emphasized that the countries should explore together the different options for joining international markets, particularly with regard to intra-regional trade in order to reduce external dependence and, in general, to align national policies to promote progress in the region. The priorities of such policies should be eradicating extreme poverty, combating inequality,

improving education, transforming production and consumption patterns and strengthening institutions and participatory democracy.

56. Panel 2: Production, social and labour gaps was chaired by Carmen Omonte Durand, Minister for Women's Affairs and Vulnerable Populations of Peru. Statements were made by the following panellists: María Fernanda Villegas, Minister of Social Development of Chile; José Antonio González Anaya, Director General of the Mexican Social Security Institute; Marcelo Neri, Minister of the Secretariat of Strategic Affairs of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil; Jeannette Sánchez, Adviser to the Office of the Vice President of Ecuador; Germán Feldman, Director of the Central Bank and Deputy Superintendent of Financial Entities of Argentina; Víctor Báez, Secretary General of the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas; Sylvia Cáceres Pizarro, Vice-Minister of Labour and Employment Promotion of Peru; and Raymond Landveld, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations.

57. One of the topics addressed by the speakers was the incorporation of a gender and equality focus in the analysis of wage labour. The measures being implemented in Chile to reduce social and economic gaps and the structural changes needed in the political, economic and social areas in order to make further progress were also explained. The panellists also reflected on the structural reforms aimed at improving economic and social indicators in Mexico, highlighting the reforms aimed at democratizing productivity and tax reform. The situation in Brazil was outlined in relation to two basic elements —equality and sustainability— with the spotlight shone on the progress made in relation to the labour market as the engine of growth and existing social programmes. Other issues raised were the strategies used in Ecuador to achieve structural change and reduce inequalities, and the impact of the external gap on productive and social gaps in Argentina. Similarities were highlighted between the Platform for the Development of the Americas of the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas and the proposals contained in the ECLAC position document. An account was given of the progress made in Peru in terms of growth and labour productivity, as well as the increased opportunities in the labour market. Lastly, a number of social challenges in the Caribbean were outlined and examples were given of the action taken to close development gaps, particularly in relation to pensions, health care and education.

58. Panel 3: Consumption patterns, the environment and natural resources was chaired by Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, Minister of the Environment of Peru. Statements were made by the following panellists: Michel Chancy, Secretary of State for Animal Production, Ministry of Agriculture of Haiti; Ali Rodríguez, Secretary General of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR); Daniel Schydrowsky, Superintendent of Banking, Insurance and Pensions of Peru; Gabriel Muyuy Jacanamejoy, Director of the Presidential Programme for the formulation of strategies and action for the comprehensive development of the indigenous peoples of Colombia; Marcelo Mena Carrasco, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Environment of Chile; and Jesús Alcántara, Director of the Commission for the Regularization of Land Tenure (CORETT) of Mexico.

59. The panellists underscored that the unity of the countries of the region was crucial to defending the sovereign ownership of natural resources, of which Latin America and the Caribbean had some of the largest reserves in the world. It was noted that inequality was also reflected in the environment and that protecting the natural heritage called not only for rules, but also for transparency, dialogue and social participation. It was argued that environmental clean-up and preservation processes had a positive impact on the economy and were an important source of employment. Lastly, they highlighted the need to rationalize land use, finding a balance between social, economic and environmental issues and providing support specifically to rural communities and indigenous peoples to promote sustainable development with equality.

60. Panel 4: Compacts for equality, was chaired by Piero Ghezzi Solís, Minister of Production of Peru. Statements were made by the following panellists: Juan Carlos Lastiri, Undersecretary for Forecasting, Planning and Evaluation of Mexico; Leslie Regina Quiñónez, Technical Undersecretary of the Presidency of El Salvador; Paulo Jannuzzi, Secretary for Evaluation and Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development and the Fight Against Hunger of Brazil; Embert St. Juste, Director of Research and Policy, Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security of Saint Lucia; and Antonio Prado, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC.

61. The statements included an explanation of the economic situation in Peru —positive results in some areas were overshadowed by persistent poor performance on other variables— and the various measures being taken to boost growth. Descriptions were given of the compacts for equality and inclusive social development established in Mexico, including reforms regarding education, social security, taxation, productivity and social policies. Measures had been implemented in El Salvador to achieve structural and institutional change through the Global Anti-Crisis Plan and the Five-Year Development Plan 2010-2014. The Brazilian experience of development and social inclusion was also presented, with an emphasis on the need for synergies between policy, governance and technical capacity. An account was given of the social safety net policies and programmes set up to tackle poverty in Saint Lucia, which had helped to increase resilience in the face of the difficult economic and employment situation in the country. Lastly, it was stressed that development was a long-term challenge and that policies on areas such as education, non-renewable resources, trade and urban segregation necessitated changes to foster a culture of equality, negotiation and integration.

62. In the discussions that followed, the representative of El Salvador referred to the need for greater coherence between national development programmes, the regional vision and the international development agenda. The representative of Japan noted that, in his experience, increasing the minimum wage called for a corresponding increase in productivity and stressed the importance of maintaining a favourable investment climate and avoid raising taxes or royalties that might discourage foreign investment. He expressed the desire of the Government of Japan to cooperate with countries in the region to develop human resources and infrastructure, attract investment and improve institutional efficiency. The representative of the Dominican Republic stressed that tax coordination was essential in Central America and the Caribbean to avoid competition to attract investments linked to global value chains, such as tourism services and goods production in tax-free export zones. Lastly, the representatives of Panama and Ecuador stressed that human rights had to be guaranteed in order to achieve a compact for equality.

High-level dialogue (agenda item 11)

63. The participants in the high-level dialogue were: Eda Rivas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru; Jaime Miranda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador (host country of the thirty-fourth session of ECLAC); Rodrigo Malmierca, Minister for Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of Cuba; Arnaldo Brown, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica (host country of the twenty-fifth session of CDCC); María Ángela Holguín, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia; and José Antonio Meade, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico (future host country of the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC).

64. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru reflected on the challenges that faced the region with respect to tackling inequality. She agreed with the view put forward by ECLAC that what was needed was a transformative agenda with universal goals and differentiated actions depending on the specific details in each country. In Peru, education and health were considered the two key areas for action in order to advance social inclusion and reduce gaps. Natural-resource-based activities needed innovation and greater value added without damaging the environment, in which connection she stressed the convergence of national agendas on those and other topics, which justified the opportunity to adopt compacts, especially at the regional level, for inclusive and sustainable economic development.

65. Elaborating on the proposals put forward by ECLAC, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador advocated a major restructuring of relations between the State, the market and society. It was necessary to strengthen the principle of accountability and the development agenda should be centred on human rights and pursue sustainable growth in the economic, social and environmental spheres. Given the fact that the review of the global development agenda beyond 2015 was not until 2022, he said that the countries of the region should endeavour to maintain an agreed regional, action-oriented position, which should involve the private sector.

66. The Minister for Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of Cuba said that developing a global development agenda beyond 2015 called for a consensus among the countries of the region, which should be aimed at eradicating poverty and achieving inclusive growth at the national and regional levels. While the negotiation process over the subsequent months would be complex and would have to address diverse needs and priorities, he highlighted the willingness of member States to work to that end and the strategic importance of forums for regional integration, such as CELAC, which could facilitate progress in building compacts.

67. The Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, said that the current juncture presented an opportunity to assess how challenges might be addressed. The ideas contained in the trilogy of equality could help sustain the policies used to help shift Caribbean economies from services towards technology, with a view to building stability, generating sustainable employment and offering social protection. The focus on equality included not only income, but also access to public resources, which was fundamental to raising the capacity of those traditionally left behind. In addition to the importance of fiscal, social, labour and investment compacts, he highlighted the need for environmental protection measures that took into account the inherent vulnerability of the subregion and placed an emphasis on building resilience.

68. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia recalled the conclusions of the high-level panel on the post-2015 international development agenda in which she had participated and said that the objectives and targets to be agreed in New York were yet to be defined. She stressed that the sustainable development goals should be few in number, concise and measurable. Sustainable development, poverty eradication and social inclusion should be pursued simultaneously using a multidimensional approach. She referred to the progress made in Colombia in relation to job creation and poverty reduction. The new development agenda should seek deep and lasting structural changes in order to achieve an irreversible standard of well-being. In that connection, the main challenge, globally, was climate change. Finally, she stressed that 2015 would be the beginning not the end of the process.

69. The Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico agreed with ECLAC that the integration process should be regional in scope and should take into account local components. In this regard, he emphasized that for Mexico integration with the Caribbean and Central America was essential. As had been expressed by ECLAC, regional integration should be achieved through compacts on specific issues. He also referred to other mechanisms such as the Pacific Alliance, in which Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru had taken a pragmatic approach to channelling cooperation. Lastly, those compacts and alliances should help achieve greater integration between the countries in order to enable the region to address the challenges of poverty and inequality.

70. In the discussions that followed, delegations mentioned the progress that the region had made in recent years to reduce inequality. The development process continued generating imbalances that needed to be corrected and structural change was essential but had to be carried out on the basis of consensus. The efforts made to overcome obstacles to the consolidation of institutions were highlighted. Moreover, it was noted that investment in training and infrastructure were fundamental to industrial progress and

economic development. It was recalled that regional integration could play a key role in many areas, while not forgetting the importance of international cooperation, particularly in relation to technology transfer, financial resources and capacity-building.

71. It was also considered essential to strengthen the measures to protect against natural disasters and to prevent and mitigate the effects of climate change, which was a priority issue on the international agenda and one that especially affected the Caribbean. In that connection, the countries of the Caribbean needed support on statistics to meet their development needs and assistance in various areas, such as debt sustainability. Lastly, with regard to cooperation at the regional level, it was necessary to define priorities to optimize resources and coordinate initiatives to avoid duplicating efforts.

Closing session

72. During the closing ceremony statements were made by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and Eda Rivas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru.

73. The Executive Secretary expressed her satisfaction with the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean as a new subsidiary body of ECLAC, the first session of which would take place in Lima in 2015, and stressed the importance of equipping the region with a robust institutional architecture. Equality, economic growth, environmental sustainability and integration were not mutually exclusive and what was needed as a matter of urgency was equality for growth and growth for equality. In that regard, she stressed that the goal of equality could be achieved through economic, social and environmental inclusion. ECLAC had proposed some ideas for compacts but there was no one-size-fits-all formula and each country had to find its own way of building compacts. The region should present a united front to the international community in order to define its own sustainable development indicators. Lastly, she expressed her gratitude to the Government of Mexico for its offer to host the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC to be held in 2016.

74. Before closing the meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru thanked all attendees for their participation and welcomed the positive outcomes that had been achieved. The member countries of ECLAC had reached a consensus on seeking equality and development as a priority on the regional agenda. Referring to the central ideas of the high-level seminar Compacts for equality: towards a sustainable future, she stressed the importance of applying the principles of flexibility, pragmatism, commitment and political will when implementing the compacts. Lastly, she valued the work that had been carried out during the week and recalled the need for further progress in the pursuit of equality and integration in the region

D. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

75. At its thirty-fifth session, the Commission adopted the resolutions reproduced below.

**676(XXXV) ECLAC CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES
FOR THE PERIOD 2015-2016**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 419(PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on the rationalization of the institutional structure and the pattern of meetings of the system of the Commission, in which it decided that, at each of the Commission's regular sessions, the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the next regular session should be considered,

Taking into account resolution 489(PLEN.19) on the Commission's intergovernmental structure and functions, in which it was recommended that the current institutional structure should be maintained,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/243 entitled "Pattern of conferences" and the provision concerning the principle of rotation of the venue for the sessions of the Commission as laid down in rule 2 of its rules of procedure and reiterated in its resolution 480(XXI),

Taking into account resolution 553(XXVI) on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Commission, in which it was recommended that the current pattern of conferences of the Commission's system should continue to serve as a basis for maintaining the simplicity, effectiveness and flexibility of its work,

Bearing in mind the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean that establish and govern the periodicity of the meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Bearing in mind also agreement 29 adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at their forty-second meeting, held in Santiago in 2008, and agreement 16 adopted by the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission at its eighth meeting, held in Santo Domingo in 2008, whereby these bodies decided to employ documents in electronic format for their future meetings, for economic and environmental reasons,¹

Having examined the proposed calendar of the Commission's intergovernmental conferences for 2015-2016, as set forth in annex 6 of the relevant document,²

Considering the objectives and priorities established in the subprogrammes of the work programme approved by the member States at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission,

¹ See Report of the eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santo Domingo, 22-24 October 2008 (LC/L.2994), Santiago, Chile, 2009; and Report of the forty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, 4-5 December 2008 (LC/L.3027), Santiago, Chile, 2009.

² See the Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2589(SES.35/6)).

1. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the current intergovernmental structure and the existing pattern of meetings and approves the calendar of conferences of the Commission as it appears in the annex to this resolution, along with the observations and suggestions included in the report of the thirty-fourth session of the Commission;
2. *Reaffirms also* that the Commission's current conference servicing system has proved to be efficient in substantive and organizational terms as well as cost-effective, and recommends that these tasks continue to be the responsibility of the Executive Secretary with a view to an ongoing and sustained improvement in those services;
3. *Reaffirms further* the importance of continuing to entrust the Commission with the task of organizing and holding regional and subregional meetings to prepare for and follow up on world conferences of the United Nations in the economic, social and sustainable development fields;
4. *Decides*, for economic and environmental reasons, to employ documents in electronic format for the sessions of the Commission and meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, starting with the thirty-sixth session of the Commission;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit to the relevant United Nations bodies such proposals as may be necessary to ensure implementation of the calendar of conferences as approved;
6. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of this resolution.

Annex

**ECLAC CALENDAR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES
FOR THE PERIOD 2015-2016**

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2015	Twentieth session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Twenty-sixth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 590(XXIX); 604(XXX); 616(XXXI); 644(XXXII); and 657(XXXIII)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 580(XXVIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Fifty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Fifteenth Meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES	Quito, November	ECLAC resolutions 351(XVI) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budget
2015	Twenty-eighth session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC	United Nations Headquarters, New York ^b	Economic and Social Council Resolution 106(VI) (para 3); ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	Regular budget
2015	Seventeenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Fifty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget

Annex (continued)

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2015	Twenty-first session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Resolution 602(XXX)	Regular budget
2015	Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico ^b	Resolution 610(XXX)	Extrabudgetary resources
2015	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Fifteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2015	Second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico ^b	Agreement 1, Meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12 to 15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay ^b	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Twenty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 351(XVI) and 553(XXVI)	Regular budget of ILPES and ECLAC
2016	Twenty-second session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget

Annex (concluded)

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2016	Fifty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 672(XXXIV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/35	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Thirty-sixth session of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI)	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Agreement 1, Meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12 to 15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Sixteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2016	Fifty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget

^a Place to be determined.

^b Date to be determined.

**677(XXXV) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 558(XXVI), in which it adopted the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/61 on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further the agreements adopted by States that are parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

Bearing in mind that the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Santo Domingo Consensus¹ at its twelfth session, held in Santo Domingo from 15 to 18 October 2013,

Bearing in mind also that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, has held two meetings of the Presiding Officers: the forty-eighth meeting in Santiago on 7 and 8 November and the forty-ninth meeting in Santo Domingo, on 14 October 2013,

Having in mind the agreements adopted at those meetings, which are reflected in the respective reports,²

Taking into account the work carried out by the Commission and the other agencies which support the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the considerable progress achieved in disseminating and redesigning the Observatory,

Taking note of the initiatives of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with regard to mainstreaming the gender perspective,

1. *Reaffirms* the Santo Domingo Consensus, as adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at its twelfth session, and pledges to advocate its implementation as a fitting regional policy instrument for gender equality and equity in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean;

¹ See the Report of the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3789).

² See the Report of the forty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3578); and the Report of the forty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3769).

2. *Welcomes* the progress made since the adoption of the Santo Domingo Consensus at the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the progress in relation to the agreements adopted by other subsidiary bodies, such as the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas;
3. *Accepts* the proposal of the member countries to hold preparatory meetings for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean during the first half of 2015;
4. *Draws attention to* the importance that the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean has afforded to the post-2015 development agenda by making it a central theme in agreement 124 of the Santo Domingo Consensus, in which the countries agreed to “support the inclusion of the issue of gender equality and women’s empowerment in the post-2015 development agenda”;
5. *Recommends* recognizing the vital importance of mainstreaming gender equality and the empowerment of women in the post-2015 development agenda, and in future development goals, as well as promoting a specific goal to foster equality between men and women;
6. *Commends* the Commission on the progress it has made in implementing the gender mainstreaming strategy and emphasizes the need to strengthen work in conjunction with Governments, economic policymakers and machineries for the advancement of women;
7. *Recognizes* the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Division for Gender Affairs, in shedding light on gender affairs at the first session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development of the Commission, held in Montevideo from 12 to 15 August 2013;
8. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Division for Gender Affairs, in the work relating to gender statistics in the region and its active participation in the Statistical Conference of the Americas, specifically with respect to the Working Group on Gender Statistics; in the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo from 3 to 5 April 2013; and in the first session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo from 12 to 15 August 2013;
9. *Recommends* that the delegations participating in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean bear in mind and promote gender balance in their composition;
10. *Calls for* active participation in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in Uruguay in 2016.

**678(XXXV) STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF
THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, whereby the Council approved the establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/6 on strengthening statistical capacity,

Bearing in mind also that the objectives of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean include the preparation of a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the needs of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources,

Taking into account that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its seventh meeting in Santiago, from 5 to 7 November 2013, and on that occasion adopted the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2014-2015 and the proposed guidelines for the functioning of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas,¹

Taking into account also that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its twelfth meeting in Pucón, Chile, from 24 to 26 April 2013,

Considering that, on those occasions, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the respective reports,²

Recognizing the major challenges facing official statistics in the region in relation to the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts, the generation of information for monitoring fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals and preparation for the new requirements arising in terms of statistics in relation to the post-2015 development agenda, and the growing demand for statistical data and indicators in new areas, such as the environment, social development and the labour market, information and communications technologies, gender affairs, public safety and justice, and South-South cooperation,

Recognizing also the increasing importance of reliable, good-quality, timely, disaggregated public statistics and the growing need to provide these for the sake of transparency, accountability of the public authorities and the evaluation of public policy outcomes, which are key elements for enhancing democracy in the region,

¹ See the Report of the seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3771).

² See the Report of the twelfth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3668); and the Report of the seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3771).

Having reviewed the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2014-2015,³ adopted at the seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and of the twelfth meeting of its Executive Committee;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the increasing consolidation of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission as the intergovernmental body that coordinates international statistical activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and fosters the strengthening of national statistical offices and national statistical systems;

3. *Calls again upon* the Governments of the region to acknowledge the importance of the work of national statistical systems and the challenges they face in producing relevant, timely and good-quality empirical information for public policy design and evaluation, and in ensuring accountability to citizens to enable them to take informed decisions; and accordingly requests that the necessary resources be made available and a suitable legal and institutional framework be consolidated, so that the public departments working on statistics may form an effective system and operate in a coordinated manner under the leadership of the statistical office or institute;

4. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the conduct of activities for the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in particular the forthcoming global evaluations and the pursuit of cooperation for implementing the Code;

5. *Requests* the Governments to engage with statistical offices or institutes in the preparation of national reports produced in the framework of follow-up to summits, conferences and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in the preparation of suggestions and proposals for the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda;

6. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the inclusion in the activities of the Conference of the analysis of new thematic areas and methodologies that enable better tracking of economic, social and environmental matters, such as new approaches to poverty, the improvement of statistics on time use and unpaid work, the measurement of public safety and justice, the measurement of disability, the quantification of South-South cooperation and the development of basic economic statistics, and those involved in the implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, among other matters.

³ See the Report on the implementation of the 2012-2013 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities and the draft 2014-2015 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3664(CEA.7/3)).

**679(XXXV) SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 340(AC.66) of 25 January 1974, in which it directed that the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning should become a permanent institution of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with its own identity and directly responsible to the Executive Secretary of the Commission,

Reiterating its recognition to the Governments of the States members of the Regional Council for Planning and its Presiding Officers for the valuable support they provide to the Institute in terms of both guidance and regular financing,

Noting that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Regional Council for Planning held its fourteenth meeting in Brasilia on 22 November 2013,

Considering that, on that occasion, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the relevant report,¹

1. *Takes note* of the agreements adopted at the fourteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning held in Brasilia on 22 November 2013;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the strategic priorities for the work of the Institute, which include promoting joint planning efforts at the regional and subregional levels and within groupings of countries with a view to strengthening the Latin American and Caribbean integration process;

3. *Expresses its conviction* that the policies adopted by States should be geared towards long-term aims and afford increasing attention to building visions for the future, centred on reducing inequalities, promoting the prosperity of their peoples and furthering sustainable development;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of development planning as a tool for carrying forward the post-2015 development agenda;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of the States members of the Regional Council for Planning for their contributions to the regular system of Government funding, which provides financing for a large share of the Institute's programme of work;

6. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the support provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Commission for the activities of the Institute and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to support its work with human and financial resources so that it may conduct its activities effectively;

¹ See the Report of the fourteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) (LC/L.3782).

7. *Reiterates* the recommendation that the Institute should strengthen its capacity as the body responsible for training within the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and should broaden the activities it conducts in that area in collaboration with the subregional headquarters, divisions of the Commission and other international institutions;

8. *Expresses* its satisfaction on the election of Presiding Officers to serve on the Regional Council for Planning for the period 2014-2017;

9. *Commends* the Institute upon its creation of a digital repository of development plans, which forms part of the medium-term strategic proposal for cooperation by the Institute with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by virtue of resolution CRP/XIV/01;

10. *Recommends* that the Institute compile, systematize and contribute to the dissemination of methodological innovations in relation to development planning which are being implemented in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to taking a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to current and emerging challenges facing the countries in the region;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Commission and the Chief of the Institute to engage in a process of consultation and dialogue with national planning authorities with a view to identifying national, subregional and regional priorities in the area of development planning;

12. *Decides* to convene the twenty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning in Guatemala on 19 and 20 June 2014, and the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Institute in Quito, on 23 and 24 November 2015.

680(XXXV) CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 358(XVI) of 1975 establishing the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee as a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to coordinate activities relating to development and cooperation in that subregion,

Recognizing the important role of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee as a forum in which the Governments of the subregion exchange information and share experiences with a view to addressing the economic, social and environmental challenges to achieving sustainable development,

Bearing in mind that the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its sixteenth meeting in Georgetown on 11 July 2013, and the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its twenty-fifth session in Kingston on 25 April 2014, and that, on those occasions, they adopted conclusions and resolutions, which appear in their respective reports,¹

Recalling that the Caribbean Development Roundtable, which brings together high-level experts and policymakers to consider key issues relating to development in the subregion, was first established by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee in March 2010,²

Recognizing the Caribbean Development Roundtable as a valuable forum for fostering strategic thinking and stimulating the consideration of policy options to address critical Caribbean development challenges, and as a mechanism for forging partnerships between Latin America and the Caribbean through dialogue and engagement,

Endorsing the tribute paid at the third Caribbean Development Roundtable, held in Kingston from 23 to 24 April 2014, to the late Norman Girvan, champion of Caribbean development and of regional integration in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Highlighting the positive contribution made by the third Caribbean Development Roundtable to the consideration of key issues on the sustainable development agenda of Caribbean small island developing States,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its sixteenth meeting and the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-fifth session;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the Caribbean Development Roundtable on a biennial basis and calls on development partners to work in collaboration with the members of the Commission in support of these meetings;

¹ Draft report of the twenty-fifth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee and Report of the sixteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC (LC/CAR/L.417).

² See resolution 73(XXIII), adopted by the Committee at its twenty-third session, held in St. George's on 15 and 17 March 2010 (LC/CAR/L.257).

3. *Reaffirms* the key role of the Commission, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in coordinating development support for the subregion, in collaboration with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and through direct engagement with Caribbean development partners, including the Caribbean Community and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States;

4. *Commends* the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean on its efforts to strengthen and fully operationalize the Regional Coordination Mechanism in order to monitor and promote the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and to facilitate the preparations for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia;

5. *Welcomes* the transfer of the Disaster Assessment Unit from the headquarters of the Commission in Santiago to the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain and its full operationalization and takes note with satisfaction of the updated Handbook for Disaster Assessment;³

6. *Welcomes also* the role that the Commission, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, is mandated to play in incorporating the needs of the small island developing States in the post-2015 development agenda;

7. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to employ all measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-fifth session, the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its sixteenth meeting and the conclusions reached at the third Caribbean Development Roundtable.

³ LC/L.3691.

**681(XXXV) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in September 1994, and the key actions for its further implementation; resolution 65/234 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations whereby it was decided to extend the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014; the United Nations Millennium Declaration of September 2000; and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

Bearing in mind that, in resolution 536(XXV), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted, in 1994, the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development, by virtue of which the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development was established with ultimate responsibility for monitoring and reviewing issues relating to population and development; that member States requested by virtue of resolution 644(XXXII) of 2008 that the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee should be extended by at least two days, owing to the added responsibilities assigned to it; and that the ordinary meetings of the Committee in 2010 and 2012 were therefore held independently of the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions of the Commission,

Recalling that, pursuant to resolution 615(XXXI) of 2006, the Committee was commissioned to monitor the issue of international migration and that in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 20 of the agreements adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee in 2010 and endorsed in resolution 657(XXXIII), it was decided to incorporate in the agenda of the ordinary sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee issues relating to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendent populations in Latin America,

Recalling also that, pursuant to resolution 670(XXXIV), it was decided that the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean would be renamed the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Noting that the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development was adopted at the first meeting of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo, from 12 to 15 August 2013,¹

Underscoring the importance of considering population factors in planning for sustainable development, in national public policies and in the proposals put forward by the Commission in the documents *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails*; *Structural Change for Equality: An integrated approach to development*; and *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*,

1. *Affirms* the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development and invites the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to review, discuss, disseminate and implement the recommendations contained therein;

¹ See the Report of the first meeting of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3774).

2. *Urges* active participation in the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in Santiago, from 22 to 25 July 2014, and in the second meeting of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Mexico in October 2015;

3. *Invites* the countries to participate resolutely in the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, which will be held in New York on 22 September 2014 in the framework of the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, and to renew their political support for the full accomplishment of the objectives of the Programme of Action;

4. *Also invites* the countries to participate actively in the activities in preparation for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples as well as in the actual Conference, which will be held on 22 and 23 September 2014 in the framework of the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly;

5. *Calls upon* those member States that adopted the San José Charter on the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean to step up implementation and follow-up efforts;

6. *Reiterates* the appeal to establish a national coordinating mechanism, with the participation of civil society organizations, to facilitate the implementation and follow-up of the Cairo Programme of Action beyond 2014 and to liaise with the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Thanks* the United Nations Population Fund for its contribution to the activities of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and requests the competent funds, programmes and specialized agencies to make their contributions, as appropriate, to the activities to be carried out by the Conference.

682(XXXV) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,¹ as well as other relevant internationally agreed instruments, constitute, together with the global dialogue on this issue, the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration² and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit³ and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,⁴ and the outcome of the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,⁵

Bearing in mind that the year 2015 marks the twentieth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,

Considering that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has been cooperating systematically in the field of social development to facilitate inter-agency coordination among the countries of the region, international organizations and the national agencies charged with carrying out projects to promote social development,

Considering also the key role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the region in recent years in facilitating and encouraging dialogue among representatives of the countries of the region, and thus in promoting the consolidation of institutions devoted to social development and to policies and regulatory frameworks for such activities,

Recognizing the support function performed by the United Nations regional commissions in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development,

Taking into account the need to promote cooperation in the sphere of social development,

Having reviewed the proposal for the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the proposed nature and the objectives of the Conference, as set forth in the annex to this resolution,

¹ Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6 to 12 March 1995.

² General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.

³ General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010.

⁵ General Assembly resolution 68/6 of 9 October 2013.

1. *Approves* the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the objectives of which are set forth in the annex to this resolution, as one of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, bearing in mind the observations and suggestions included in the report of the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, with a view to eradicating poverty in the region and promoting decent work, equality and social inclusion;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit such proposals as may be necessary for the establishment of the Conference to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;
3. *Decides* to convene the first session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean during the second half of 2015;
4. *Takes note* of the fact that the seventh meeting of the Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in Mexico on 30 and 31 October 2014 and will be a discussion platform for promoting inclusive social development in the region;
5. *Welcomes the* generous offer by the Government of Peru to host the first session of the Conference on Social Development;
6. *Invites* the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to join this initiative;
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission.

Annex

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**I. Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean***1. Nature*

The Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall be a subsidiary body of the Commission that will contribute to the progress of social development policies and activities in the countries of the region.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Conference shall be:

- (a) To promote the development of national policies on social development, bearing in mind national requirements and recommendations made by specialized agencies and other relevant organizations;
- (b) To further international, regional and bilateral cooperation among national offices and institutions and international and regional agencies to facilitate technology and knowledge transfer and joint activities in the field of social development;
- (c) To examine multidimensional poverty and make progress on poverty measurement, inequality and structural gaps, in conjunction with the relevant subsidiary bodies that conduct studies in this field, in particular the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission;
- (d) To exchange experiences in relation to social matters and support and provide technical inputs for the summits of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States and other regional forums;
- (e) To contribute from the perspective of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to the discussions and proposals considered by the Commission on Sustainable Development.

3. Membership

The States members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean will be members of the Conference.

4. Meetings of the Conference

The Conference shall hold its regular meetings every two years. The Conference may accept an invitation from the Government of a member State to hold its regular meeting in that country.

5. Presiding Officers

The Conference shall elect Presiding Officers in accordance with the regulations established by the Commission. The Chair of the Presiding Officers shall also preside over the meetings of the Conference.

6. Secretariat

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall serve as the secretariat for the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The secretariat shall make available to the Conference such documents as have been approved by the Commission and the facilities necessary to carry out its work.

II. Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Nature

The Conference shall appoint Presiding Officers to support it, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 below.

2. Composition

The Presiding Officers shall be composed of a Chair and six members. The members shall be elected from among the member countries of the Commission. Special attention shall be devoted to ensuring that the subregional groupings of countries are duly represented among the Presiding Officers.

3. Election of the Presiding Officers and duration of mandates

At the beginning of each meeting of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Chair of the Presiding Officers, in consultation with the Presiding Officers and the Conference, shall draw up a proposal for the election of the next Presiding Officers.

The newly elected Officers shall take up their duties upon the conclusion of the regular meeting of the Conference at which they were elected and shall remain in office until the conclusion of the next regular meeting.

The Presiding Officers, including the Chair, shall be elected by the Conference at its regular meeting for a term of two years.

The members of the Presiding Officers may serve for three successive terms. The Chair may not be re-elected to that office for a second consecutive term but may be elected to serve as one of the Presiding Officers. A Presiding Officer who has served for three successive terms may not be re-elected until two years have elapsed since the end of his or her previous mandate.

4. Duties

The Presiding Officers shall have the following duties:

- (a) To carry out the tasks assigned to them by the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (b) To follow up on the implementation of the agreements adopted and the tasks assigned by the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (c) To decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

5. Meetings

The Presiding Officers shall meet at least once during the interval between regular sessions of the Conference. At the meeting preceding the next session of the Regional Conference on Social Development, the Presiding Officers shall adopt a programme of activities for the Conference, which shall be submitted to the Conference at its regular meeting.

The Presiding Officers may invite to their meetings any countries or experts they consider may make a contribution to the fulfilment of their duties.

**683(XXXV) ADMISSION OF SINT MAARTEN AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling paragraph 3(a) of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean, which provide that “Any territory, or part or group thereof, within the geographic scope of the Commission’s work, may, on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be eligible for admission by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission”,

Recognizing that Sint Maarten enjoys strong economic, cultural and social ties with the rest of the region and that it is committed to strengthening these links wherever possible,

Aware that associate membership in the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean will contribute significantly towards achieving this goal,

Welcoming the request made by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Santiago on behalf of the Government of Sint Maarten that the latter be granted associate membership in the Commission,

Decides that Sint Maarten shall be granted associate membership in the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean.

**684(XXXV) PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN FOR THE 2016-2017 BIENNIUM**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind rule 24 of the rules of procedure of the Commission, the mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations concerning the preparation and consideration of the programmes of work of all the bodies of the system,

Bearing in mind also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,¹

Bearing in mind further that the process of negotiations to define a post-2015 development agenda is open and that the General Assembly is expected to discuss and adopt a decision on sustainable development goals at its sixty-ninth session,

Taking into account the Report of the activities of the Commission 2012-2013,²

Taking into account also that the thirty-fifth session of the Commission provides the context for the relevant intergovernmental bodies to review the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017,³ and for a regional consultation on the Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017,⁴ which will be reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fifty-fourth session and subsequently by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session,

Having considered the outcomes and activities of the previous biennium and the proposed strategic framework and the work priorities for the Commission as set out in the presentation on the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, and which updates and reinforces the priorities endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session,

Having considered also all aspects of the Draft programme of work, which further strengthens programming, results-based management and evaluation,

Bearing in mind that the basic guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017, were drawn from the internationally agreed development goals stemming from the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, and that equally the Draft programme of work provides scope for incorporating the new directions of the post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development objectives to be defined by the General Assembly in due course,

¹ General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012.

² LC/G.2590(SES.35/7).

³ LC/G.2588(SES.35/5).

⁴ A/69/6 (Prog. 18).

1. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2016-2017, in its totality, which, together with the amendments proposed and observations made in the discussions held in the plenary session and the guidance provided by the resolutions adopted at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, shall become the legislative mandate for the execution of programmes, projects and technical cooperation activities and for the production of the publications identified therein;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit the proposed budget for implementing the activities described in the programme of work to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

3. *Notes with interest* paragraph 100 of “The future we want”, which states that regional and subregional organizations, including the United Nations regional commissions and their subregional offices, have a significant role to play in promoting a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in their respective regions;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the Report on the activities of the Commission from January 2012 to December 2013 and underlines the wide-ranging outcomes achieved by the Commission in the different areas of work, commending especially its results-based approach and capacity to respond to the needs of the region;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to strengthen accountability and evaluation with a view to enhancing the effectiveness and relevance of the Commission to the benefit of the region’s development, and recommends pursuing those efforts;

6. *Encourages* the Executive Secretary to continue the practice of convening the Committee of the Whole in the intervals between the sessions of the Commission in order to strengthen and broaden the dialogue between member States and the secretariat on issues deemed to be relevant;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in implementing this resolution at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission.

The delegations of Latin America and the Caribbean,

8. *Express their concern* at the decline in funding allocated to the Commission and at the tendency for the United Nations Secretariat to relegate to the category of extrabudgetary items posts and activities previously funded under the regular budget.

**685(XXXV) ACTIVITIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN IN RELATION TO FOLLOW-UP TO THE MILLENNIUM
DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES
OF THE MAJOR UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS
IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 64/184, 65/1, 66/228 and 68/6 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/44,

Recalling further the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives set out therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives, which have contributed to improving human life in different parts of the world,

Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement, at all levels, the commitments in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields,

Considering the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,² which states that the post-2015 development agenda should reinforce the commitment of the international community to poverty eradication and sustainable development and recognizes the intrinsic interlinkage between poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development,

Taking into particular consideration the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), entitled “The future we want”,³ in reference to the significant role which the United Nations regional commissions have to play in promoting a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development by facilitating institutional coherence and supporting the harmonization of development policies, plans and programmes,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to cooperate with the countries of the region in the implementation and follow-up of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome;

2. *Further requests* the secretariat to continue to coordinate the preparation of annual regional inter-agency reports on the progress made towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in the framework of the Regional Coordination Mechanism established pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46.

¹ General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 24 October 2005.

² General Assembly resolution 68/6 of 9 October 2013.

³ General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012.

**686(XXXV) APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLE 10 OF THE RIO DECLARATION
ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ endorsed by 10 governments from Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, in which they reaffirmed their commitment to the rights of access to information, participation and justice regarding environmental issues, declared their willingness to work towards a regional instrument promoting the full application of those rights and requested the support of the Commission as the technical secretariat,

Considering that 18 countries have signed the Declaration to date and that it remains open for signature by all countries in the region,

Recalling paragraph 60 of the Declaration of Santiago adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the first Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Santiago on 27 and 28 January 2013,

Noting that since the thirty-fourth session of the Commission three meetings of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean have taken place: the first meeting in Santiago, from 6 to 7 November 2012; the second in Guadalajara, Mexico, from 16 to 17 April 2013; and the third in Lima, from 30 to 31 October 2013,

Noting also that the Conference on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: follow-up to the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015 and to Rio+20 was held in Bogota from 7 to 9 March 2013,

Considering that capacity-building and regional cooperation are essential for the successful application of Principle 10 in the region,

1. *Takes note* of the agreements adopted at the meetings of the focal points, which are reflected in the respective reports,² the road map for the creation of an instrument on Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Plan of Action to 2014 for the implementation of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America

¹ A/CONF.216.13.

² Report of the first meeting of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3565); Report of the second meeting of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3677); and Report of the third meeting of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3780).

and the Caribbean, the Lima Vision for a regional instrument on access rights relating to the environment, and the priority lines of action for capacity-building and cooperation;

2. *Reiterates* the commitment of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to advance towards achieving the full application of the rights of access to information, participation and justice regarding environmental issues, with a view to fostering the participation of society in the promotion of sustainable development;

3. *Underscores* the importance for the countries of the region of ensuring the sustainable management of their natural resources, for which mechanisms for informed, broad and inclusive participation are fundamental;

4. *Commends* the secretariat of the Commission on the progress made in the process towards the adoption of a regional instrument for the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which is under way in Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Invites* the countries in the region to participate actively in fourth meeting of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in November 2014 at the headquarters of the Commission in Santiago;

6. *Requests* the technical secretariat of the process to promote regional cooperation in this regard.

**687(XXXV) THE REGIONAL DIMENSION OF THE
POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Considering General Assembly resolution 66/288, “The future we want”, which emphasizes that the United Nations regional commissions have a vital role to play in promoting the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in their respective regions,

Considering also General Assembly resolution 68/6, which expresses concern about unevenness and gaps in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and about the immense challenges that remain, and, as the 2015 deadline approaches, unrelenting efforts are required to accelerate progress across all the Goals,

Bearing in mind that the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development acknowledges the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development, and invites the United Nations regional commissions to contribute to the work of the forum, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate,

Having reviewed the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*¹ prepared by the secretariat, which completes the trilogy of equality, together with the documents *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails*² and *Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development*,³ presented at the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions of the Commission, respectively,

Considering that the documents *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails* (2010), *Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development* (2012) and *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future* (2014) contain valuable reflections that can help with identifying content for a Latin American and Caribbean regional post-2015 development agenda,

1. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to prepare, on the basis of the deliberations at the thirty-fifth session and the content of the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*, a report identifying areas of convergence between the countries of the region as regards the issues to be covered under the post-2015 development agenda;

2. *Also requests* that that report be submitted to Peru, in its capacity as Chair of the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, as the contribution of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to the intergovernmental negotiation process leading towards the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda;

¹ LC/G.2586(SES.35/3).

² LC/G.2432(SES.33/3).

³ LC/G.2524(SES.34/3).

3. *Recognizes* that the session of the Commission is an important forum for regional discussion for advancing the discussions on the regional vision with respect to the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals and requests the secretariat, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/290, to follow up, from a regional perspective, on the relevant issues of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council, within the framework of the Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development, established pursuant to resolution 602(XXX), adopted in San Juan at the thirtieth session, and report on the matter at the next session.

688(XXXV) SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Considering Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/31 of 27 July 2012, which reaffirms the importance of staying fully engaged in ensuring proper and effective follow-up to the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, as reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,

Bearing in mind that the resolution reiterates the role played by the United Nations as a focal point for the financing for development follow-up process and the need to ensure the continuity and momentum of that process, and reaffirming the need to further intensify the engagement of all stakeholders,

Highlighting the contents of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held from 1 to 3 December 2009, in which the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as the regional commissions, were requested to assist developing countries in establishing or strengthening existing South-South centres of excellence, within their respective areas of competence, and to promote closer cooperation among such centres of excellence, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to improving South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, mutual capacity-building, information and best practices exchanges, policy analysis and coordinated action among developing countries on major issues of common concern,

Recalling paragraph 44 of the document *Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme*,¹ prepared by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, which states that the proliferation of South-South cooperation programmes and activities across the United Nations system points to the need to move from fragmented and ad hoc reporting to more systematic, standard and comprehensive reporting mechanisms and to the need for improved quality of data and analysis, in particular in the planning, programming, reporting and follow-up of South-South cooperation activities,

Bearing in mind the Brasilia Consensus, adopted at the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular the agreements relating to promotion of women's autonomy and gender equality,

Considering General Assembly resolution 68/230, which invites the regional commissions, where relevant, to further harness the knowledge network, partnerships, and technical and research capacity in support of enhanced subregional, regional and interregional South-South cooperation and to use the meetings of the regional coordination mechanism, as appropriate, as a tool for advancing system-wide cooperation and coordination in support of South-South cooperation at the regional level,

Recalling resolution 675(XXXIV) adopted at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission in 2012,

¹ SSC/17/2.

Taking into account that, since the thirty-fourth session of the Commission, the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation have met on three occasions: in Lima, on 27 November 2012; in San Salvador, on 1 June 2013; and in Buenos Aires, on 13 September 2013,

Considering the agreements adopted on those occasions, which are reflected in the respective reports,²

1. *Takes note* of the Report on the technical cooperation activities carried out by the ECLAC system during the 2012-2013 biennium,³

2. *Takes note also* of the document South-South Cooperation. Note by the secretariat;⁴

3. *Takes note further* of the document containing case studies for the design of a methodological approach to measuring South-South cooperation and commends Peru on its preparation;

4. *Takes note further still* of the report on the outcomes of the calculation of structural gaps in Costa Rica and commends that country on its preparation;

5. *Requests* the Chair of the Committee on South-South Cooperation, together with the Presiding Officers of the Committee, the Executive Secretary of the Commission and the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean, to continue with the process of identifying indicators of South-South cooperation, incorporating the methodology and advances developed for the Ibero-American Secretariat's Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America, under the Ibero-American Programme for the Strengthening of South-South Cooperation, and to report on any progress to the Committee of the Whole at its session in 2015;

6. *Also requests* the Chair of the Committee on South-South Cooperation to take steps to ensure that the Committee is invited to the forthcoming meeting of the task force on the quantification of South-South cooperation set up within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission;

7. *Invites* countries to participate in the process of calculating structural gaps with the support of the secretariat;

8. *Requests* that the secretariat and the Presiding Officers of the Committee disseminate once per year the technical notes relating to the construction of indicators of South-South cooperation;

9. *Decides* to convene the fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation in Lima during the second half of 2014;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the meeting of the South-South Committee to be held in the framework of the thirty-sixth session of the Commission.

² Report of the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation, Lima, 27 November 2012 (LC/L.3573); Report of the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation, San Salvador, 1 June 2013 (LC/L.3657); Report of the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation, Buenos Aires, 13 September 2013 (LC/L.3772).

³ LC/G.2593(SES.35/10).

⁴ LC/G.2602(SES.35/13).

689(XXXV) PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of its terms of reference and rules 1 and 2 of its rules of procedure,

Considering the invitation of the Government of Mexico to host the thirty-sixth session of the Commission,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Mexico for its generous invitation;
2. *Accepts* this invitation with pleasure;
3. *Recommends* that the United Nations Economic and Social Council approve the decision to hold the thirty-sixth session of the Commission in Mexico in the first semester of 2016.

690(XXXV) LIMA RESOLUTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 553(XXVI), in which it affirmed that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Commission is especially well qualified to undertake the tasks entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 106(VI), in the framework of a restructured United Nations, and that, therefore, ECLAC should function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies, together with operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination,

Bearing in mind the document *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-third session of the Commission,¹

Bearing in mind also the document *Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission,²

Bearing in mind further that the draft programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 2016-2017, as presented by the Executive Secretary,³ concentrates on such priorities as improving macroeconomic stability and further enhancing policies that reduce vulnerability and mitigate the effects of economic and financial volatility and crises; strengthening the region's access to financing for development and enhancing the financial architecture at the global, regional and domestic levels; increasing the region's productive potential and reducing productivity gaps to achieve convergence with a particular emphasis on innovation and new technologies; improving the region's position in the international economy through trade, investment, regional integration and cooperation; promoting fiscal and social compacts to improve social equality and inclusion, reduce social risks and reinforce gender mainstreaming in public policies; promoting the implementation of the resulting new set of internationally agreed sustainable development goals and the ensuing strategies and relevant public policies, including energy-efficiency policies and programmes and addressing the impacts of climate change taking into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; strengthening public management to enhance the role of the State in the twenty-first century, particularly through progressive fiscal policies; improving institution-building related to the management of transboundary issues and the provision of public global goods at the regional level,

Having reviewed the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future* and its summary,⁴ prepared by the secretariat, which completes the trilogy of equality together with the documents *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails* and *Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development*, presented at the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions, respectively,

¹ LC/G.2432(SES.33/3) and LC/G.2433(SES.33/4).

² LC/G.2524(SES.34/3) and LC/G.2525(SES.34/4).

³ LC/G.2588(SES.35/5).

⁴ LC/G.2586(SES.35/3) and LC/G.2587(SES.35/4).

1. *Welcomes* the integrated approach to development that has marked the thinking of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean since its inception, as reflected in the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*;

2. *Recognizes* the relevance of the issues examined and supports the general tenor of the document's conclusions;

3. *Instructs* the secretariat to conduct studies and formulate public policy proposals, in close cooperation with policymakers, with a view to building national economic and social development capacities;

4. *Calls upon* the secretariat to widely disseminate the document and promote its review in the economic, academic, political, business and social spheres in the region, by means of national dialogues on the main issues covered, taking each country's national characteristics into account, and in international organizations concerned with economic development, in order to continue to foster more in-depth comparative analysis vis-à-vis countries outside the region.

**691(XXXV) MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE INFORMATION
SOCIETY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 56/183 of December 2001, in which the General Assembly endorsed the proposal to hold the World Summit on the Information Society in two phases,

Bearing in mind that since 2006 the Commission on Science and Technology for Development has been mandated to serve as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and to advise the Economic and Social Council accordingly, in particular by formulating recommendations for improving the implementation of these outcomes,

Reiterating the principles and objectives agreed at the first and second phases of the World Summit, held respectively in Geneva in December 2003 and in Tunis in November 2005, in order to harness the potential of information and communication technologies in order to promote fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals,

Bearing in mind the need to facilitate forums for dialogue to promote coordination between different countries in order to encourage the formulation and improvement of national policies for the development of the information and knowledge society,

Recalling the Bávaro Declaration, adopted at the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Bávaro, Dominican Republic, in January 2003; the Rio de Janeiro Commitment and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, eLAC2007, adopted at the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2005; the San Salvador Commitment and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, eLAC2010, adopted at the second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, San Salvador, February 2008; the Lima Declaration and the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, eLAC2015, adopted at the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, Lima, November 2010, and the Montevideo Declaration and the Plan of Work 2013-2015 for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, eLAC2015, adopted at the fourth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo, April 2013,

1. *Takes note* of the Montevideo Declaration and the Plan of Work 2013-2015 for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, eLAC2015;¹

2. *Invites* all member States to attend the preparatory meeting for the fifth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Costa Rica in 2014, and the Conference itself, to be held in Mexico in 2015;

¹ See *Report of the fourth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean* (Montevideo, 3-5 April 2013) (LC/L.3667).

3. *Thanks* the Governments of Costa Rica and Mexico for their offer to give continuity to the eLAC2015 process and to host the forthcoming ministerial meetings of the information society in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2014 and 2015, respectively;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the joint efforts made by member States to strengthen regional collaboration in the area of the information society with a view to underscoring the advances achieved by Latin America and the Caribbean at the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and to participate in the discussions that will inform the process of elaborating the post-2015 development agenda;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of information and communication technologies to development and recommends that these technologies be given due consideration in the post-2015 development agenda.

Annex 1

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

1. The Committee on South-South Cooperation met as scheduled on 7 May 2014 during the thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The following countries were appointed to serve as presiding officers of the Committee:

Chair: Peru

Vice-Chairs: Argentina, Chile, Cuba, El Salvador, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay

2. The Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers and adoption of the agenda.
2. Report on technical cooperation activities.
3. Panel: International cooperation for equality.
4. Report on follow-up to the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation during the period 2012-2013.
5. Adoption of resolutions.

3. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC, having welcomed the country representatives and donors, reflected on the dynamics of cooperation in general and of South-South cooperation in particular, and the role that ECLAC played in that field. The traditional North-South cooperation paradigm had lost currency owing to the heterogeneity of the region, which included high-, middle- and low-income countries, and she referred also to the middle-income trap. In the developed world there was a mistaken belief that Latin America and the Caribbean no longer required cooperation. She stressed that there was no one-size-fits-all formula for cooperation and that the region's cooperation needs were not limited to economic resources. In conclusion, she emphasized that the region should put forward its own positions with a view to helping set the post-2015 development agenda.

4. The Chief of the Programme Planning and Operations Division of ECLAC presented the report on technical cooperation activities, which explored the characteristics of South-South cooperation and of the multilateral assistance channelled through the United Nations. The cooperation provided by ECLAC took many different forms: supporting regional integration, capacity-building, direct advisory services, exchange of experiences and strengthening networks. He referred to the Commission's various partners in cooperation and the resources mobilized to carry out the programme of technical cooperation, and made a brief reflection on the need for international cooperation to be focused on pursuing equality. Lastly, he presented an approach put forward by the Commission based on an assessment of structural gaps as an alternative to GDP per capita as the criterion for allocating official development assistance and guiding technical cooperation for the development of the region.

5. During the statements that followed, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela said that a paradigm shift that was taking place in South-South cooperation. The representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) presented the experience of Japan in technical cooperation, particularly in the area of triangular cooperation. The representative of El Salvador invited

the Commission to continue its work on economic impacts and costs of climate change in the region, and to analyse the support to the region in terms of dialogues and exchanges on taxation and development within the framework of South-South cooperation.

6. The panel on international cooperation for equality was moderated by Antonio Prado, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC. The speakers in group 1 were: Hege Araldsen, Ambassador of Norway in Chile; Benedicte Bull, Professor at the University of Oslo; Jean-Paul Joulia, Head of Unit, Regional Programmes for Latin America and Caribbean of the European Commission; and Christian Abstein, Cooperation Adviser of the Embassy of Germany in Peru.

7. The participants stressed the role of cooperation in promoting the economic, environmental and socially responsible management of natural resources, the sustainable use of those resources and energy efficiency; the improvement of fiscal instruments to increase revenues and expand social protection; the continuous reduction of inequality; the coordination of initiatives among all actors involved in international cooperation and South-South cooperation; and the establishment of new strategic alliances to advance inclusive development in the region.

8. The speakers in group 2 were: Moni Pizani, Regional Director for Latin America of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); Michel Schlaifer, Regional Cooperation Adviser of France; Inmaculada Zamora, Coordinator of the EUROsociAL programme; and Tarcila Rivera, Director of the Centre for Indigenous Cultures of Peru.

9. The speakers emphasized the need to strive for profound social and structural changes in order to make gender equality a reality; for more sustainable production and consumption patterns; and for the strengthening of collective governance to reduce imbalances. They insisted that cooperation should aim at promoting policy changes to advance equity and social cohesion, with mutual support between countries in the region, particularly in key areas such as improving the conditions of education, health and public participation of indigenous peoples.

10. Daniel Titelman, Chief of the Financing for Development Division of ECLAC, made some final comments on the panel and presented the report on the study on structural gaps in Costa Rica. He recommended developing alternative indicators to GDP as a means of guiding cooperation mechanisms aimed at reducing gaps. He spoke on the experience of Costa Rica, whose ministries of planning and foreign affairs were identifying gaps with technical and methodological support from the Commission in order to shape public policy. He concluded by saying that the goal was to apply the experience to other countries in the region in order to identify areas of common interest that could be included on the cooperation agenda.

11. When the floor was opened for comments, the representative of Argentina said that South-South cooperation was crucial for reducing economic and social asymmetries in the region. The representative of Spain argued that mainstreaming and the adoption of a specific approach to ensure gender equality should be top priorities of cooperation. The representative of Mexico agreed with the definition of alternative indicators, such as the multidimensional poverty index, while the representative of Guyana said that statistics were needed to guide policies to support the economic empowerment of women and the education and training of men to tackle crime and marginalization. The representative of Brazil stressed that GDP growth did not result in an automatic improvement in people's living conditions and that it was essential to adopt an approach to economic development that was based on inclusion. The representative of Peru requested more information on Costa Rica's experiences in determining structural gaps, with a view to identifying existing deficits more precisely and addressing them through South-South cooperation.

and in conjunction with international cooperation partners. Lastly, the representative of Panama said that the social economy was an effective means of combating inequality by promoting the development of the most disadvantaged sectors and called on ECLAC to foster that alternative model.

12. Under agenda item 4, on the Report on follow-up to the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation during the period 2012-2013, the ECLAC Secretariat presented the work carried out by the Presiding Officers between September 2012 and December 2013 in two areas, namely, the calculation of structural gaps and the design of indicators for measuring South-South cooperation. In that connection, the Statistical Conference of the Americas had created a task force to address the issue of indicators for measuring South-South cooperation and had already begun to study specific cases.

13. Fernando Prada, consultant from the Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation (APCI), presented a report on indicators of South-South cooperation, which contained some reflections on the case studies in which Peru had participated. After presenting the incentives and main features of South-South cooperation, he described the main patterns and explained how the criteria had been systematized. Those criteria included the interaction between actors, the implementation of projects and outputs, a comprehensive estimate of resources mobilized and invested, a results framework and potential replicability. He stressed the need to recognize the gaps in South-South cooperation.

14. The conclusions of the meeting of the Committee on South-South Cooperation are reflected in resolution 688(XXXV).

Annex 2

**DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION**

A. DOCUMENTOS DE TRABAJO/WORKING DOCUMENTS

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LC/G.2584(SES.35/1)/Rev.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temario provisional - Provisional agenda - Ordre du jour provisoire - Temário provisório |
| LC/G.2585(SES.35/2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temario provisional anotado y organización del trigésimo quinto período de sesiones - Annotated provisional agenda and organization of the thirty-fifth session - Annotations à l'ordre du jour provisoire et organisation de la trente-cinquième session - Temário provisório anotado e organização do trigésimo quinto período de sessões |
| LC/G.2586(SES.35/3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pactos para la igualdad: hacia un futuro sostenible - Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future |
| LC/G.2587(SES.35/4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pactos para la igualdad: hacia un futuro sostenible. Síntesis - Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future. Summary - Pactes pour l'égalité: vers un avenir durable. Synthèse - Pactos para a igualdade: Rumo a um futuro sustentável. Síntese |
| LC/G.2588(SES.35/5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proyecto de programa de trabajo del sistema de la CEPAL, 2016-2017 - Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017 |
| LC/G.2589(SES.35/6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendario de conferencias de la CEPAL propuesto para el período 2015-2016. Nota de la Secretaría - Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016. Note by the secretariat |
| LC/G.2590(SES.35/7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informe de actividades de la Comisión 2012-2013 - Report on the activities of the Commission 2012-2013 |
| LC/G.2591(SES.35/8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temario provisional del Comité de Cooperación Sur-Sur - Provisional agenda of the Committee on South-South Cooperation - Ordre du jour provisoire du Comité de coopération Sud-Sud - Temário provisório do Comitê de Cooperação Sul-Sul |

- LC/G.2592(SES.35/9)
- Temario provisional anotado del Comité de Cooperación Sur-Sur
 - Annotated provisional agenda of the Committee on South-South Cooperation
 - Annotations à l'ordre du jour provisoire du Comité de coopération Sud-Sud
 - Temário provisório anotado do Comitê de Cooperação Sul-Sul
- LC/G.2593(SES.35/10)
- Informe de las actividades de cooperación técnica realizadas por el sistema de la CEPAL durante el bienio 2012-2013
 - Report on the technical cooperation activities carried out by the ECLAC system during the 2012-2013 biennium
- LC/G.2594(SES.35/11)
- Integración regional: hacia una estrategia de cadenas de valor inclusivas
 - Regional integration: Towards a strategy for inclusive value chains
 - Integração regional: por uma estratégia de cadeias de valor inclusivas
- LC/G.2595(SES.35/12)
- Examen de la solicitud del Reino de los Países Bajos para que San Martín se incorpore como miembro asociado de la CEPAL. Nota de la Secretaría
 - Consideration of the request of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.2602(SES.35/13)
- La cooperación Sur-Sur. Nota de la Secretaría
 - South-South Cooperation. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.2596(SES.35/14)
- Documentos presentados al trigésimo quinto período de sesiones de la Comisión
 - Documents presented at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission

B. DOCUMENTOS DE REFERENCIA/REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- DDR/1
- Informe de las actividades de los órganos subsidiarios de la CEPAL, y reuniones intergubernamentales 2012-2013
 - Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, and the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings 2012-2013
- LC/L.3709
- Informe de la reunión de especialistas para definir prioridades estratégicas de la agenda regional sobre la situación de las personas con discapacidad
 - Report of the Meeting of Experts to define strategic priorities for the regional agenda on the situation of persons with disabilities

- LC/L.3779 - Hacia un desarrollo inclusivo: el caso del Perú
- LC/G.2525(SES.34/4) - Cambio estructural para la igualdad: una visión integrada del desarrollo. Síntesis
 - Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development. Summary
 - Changement structurel pour l'égalité: une vision intégrée du développement. Synthèse
 - Mudança estrutural para a igualdade: Uma visao integrada do desenvolvimento. Síntese
- LC/G.2433(SES.33/4) - La hora de la igualdad: brechas por cerrar, caminos por abrir. Síntesis
 - Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails. Summary
 - L'heure de l'égalité: combler les écarts, ouvrir de nouveaux chemins. Synthèse
 - A hora da igualdade: brechas por fechar, caminhos por abrir. Síntese
- LC/G.2532(SES.34/11) - Los países de renta media: un nuevo enfoque basado en brechas estructurales. Nota de la Secretaría
 - Middle-income countries: A structural-gap approach. Note by the secretariat
- LC/L.3573 - Informe de la primera reunión de la Mesa Directiva del Comité de Cooperación Sur-Sur
 - Report of the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation
- LC/L.3657/Rev.1 - Informe de la segunda reunión de la Mesa Directiva del Comité de Cooperación Sur-Sur
- LC/L.3657 - Report of the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation
- LC/L.3772 - Informe de la tercera reunión de la Mesa Directiva del Comité de Cooperación Sur-Sur
 - Report of the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation

Annex 3

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**A. Estados miembros de la Comisión
Member States of the Commission****ALEMANIA/GERMANY**Representante/Representative:

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PUERTO RICO

Representante/Representative:

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**C. Estados miembros de las Naciones Unidas que no lo son de la Comisión
y participan en carácter consultivo
States Member of the United Nations not members of the Commission
and participating in a consultative capacity**

NORUEGA

Representante/Representative:

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**D. Invitados especiales
Special guests**

- Ollanta Humala, Presidente de la República del Perú

**E. Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations Secretariat**

**Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales/Department of Economic and Social Affairs
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Oficina de las Comisiones Regionales en Nueva York/Regional Commissions New York Office

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**F. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations bodies**

**Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Comercio y Desarrollo (UNCTAD)/United Nations
Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**

- Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretario General/Secretary-General, email: sgo@unctad.org

- Guillermo Valles, Director, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, email: Guillermo.valles@unctad.org
- Adnan Issa, Jefe de Gabinete/Chief of Staff
- Juan Luis Crucelegui, Subdirector, Programa de Competencia y Protección al Consumidor (COMPAL), email: jlcrucelegui@gmail.com
- Pierre Horna, Jefe del Programa de Competencia y Protección al Consumidor (COMPAL), email: Pierre.horna@unctad.org

Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres (ONU-Mujeres)/United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

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- Hanny Cueva-Beteta, Asesora en Género/Gender Adviser, email: hanny.cueva-beteta@unwomen.org

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

- Joaquín Gonzalez-Alemán, Asesor Regional en Políticas Sociales para Niñez, Panamá, email: jgonzalezaleman@unicef.org

Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (UNFPA)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

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- Melissa Bustamante, Oficial de Proyecto, Perú, email: mbustamante@unfpa.org
- Walter Mendoza, Analista de Programa, Perú, email: Mendoza@unfpa.org
- María Elena Zuniga, Representante en el Salvador, email: ezuniga@unfpa.org

Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito/United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

- Flavio Mirella, Representante para el Perú y el Ecuador, email: flavio.mirella@unodc.org

Programa Conjunto de las Naciones Unidas sobre el VIH/SIDA (ONUSIDA)/Joint Programme of the United Nations on HIV/SIDA (UNAIDS)

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Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

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Programa de las Naciones Unidas para los Asentamientos Humanos (ONU-Hábitat)/United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

- Elkin Velásquez, Director de la Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe (ROLAC)

Programa Mundial de Alimentos (PMA)/World Food Programme (WFP)

- Sheila Grudem, Representante y Directora de País, Panamá, email: sheila.grudem@wfp.org

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Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/International Labour Organization (ILO)

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**Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (FAO)/
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

- John Preissing, Representante en el Perú

**Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO)/
United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

- Fernando Berríos Bustamante, Coordinador de Programas

**Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)/
World Health Organization (WHO)-Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)**

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Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI)/International Monetary Fund (IMF)

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**Fondo Internacional de Desarrollo Agrícola (FIDA)/International Fund for Agricultural
Development (IFAD)**

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H. Organizaciones intergubernamentales Intergovernmental organizations

**Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica (BCIE)/Central American Bank for Economic
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CAF-Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina/CAF-Development Bank of Latin America

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Consejo Monetario Centroamericano (CMCA)/Central American Monetary Council

- Ángel Alberto Arita Orellana, Secretario Ejecutivo, Costa Rica, email: aarita@secmca.org

Fundación EU-LAC/EU-LAC Foundation

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Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA)/Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)

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Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)

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Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica (OTCA)/Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)

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Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)/International Organization for Migration (IOM)

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Secretaría de Integración Económica Centroamericana (SIECA)/Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration

- Lourdes Pérez. Asesora

Secretaría General Iberoamericana (SEGIB)/Ibero-American Secretariat

- Mónica Paez, Secretaría Ejecutiva, Programa Iberoamericano para el Fortalecimiento de Cooperación Sur Sur (PIFCSS)
- Silvia López, Secretaría Ejecutiva, Programa Iberoamericano para el Fortalecimiento de Cooperación Sur Sur (PIFCSS)

Sistema de Integración Centroamericana (SICA)/Central American Integration System

- Hugo Martínez, Secretario General

Unión de Naciones Suramericanas (UNASUR)/ Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)

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K. Organizaciones no gubernamentales
Non-governmental organizations

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Iniciativa Construyendo Puentes-Redes Latinoamericanas frente al Cambio Climático

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Instituto Jajachupan

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Red Chilena de personas viviendo con VIH/SIDA

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Red de Justicia Fiscal de América Latina y el Caribe

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Red de Salud de las Mujeres de América Latina y el Caribe

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Red Latinoamericana sobre Deuda, Desarrollo y Derechos

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M. Panelistas Panellists

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- Eda Rivas Franchini, Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores del Perú
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- Paola Bustamante Suárez, Ministra de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social del Perú
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- Rodrigo Malmierca, Ministro del Comercio Exterior y la Inversión Extranjera de Cuba
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- Carmen Omonte Durand, Ministra de la Mujer y Poblaciones Vulnerables del Perú
- María Fernanda Villegas, Ministra de Desarrollo Social de Chile
- José Antonio González Anaya, Director General del Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social
- Marcelo Cortes Neri, Ministro, Secretaría de Asuntos Estratégicos de la Presidencia del Brasil
- Jeannette Sánchez, Asesora, Vicepresidencia de la República del Ecuador
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- Jorge Carlos Ramírez Marín, Secretario de la Secretaría de Desarrollo Agrario, Territorial y Urbano de México
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