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

Santiago, 26-28 May 2015

**MECHANISM FOR APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATISTICAL
CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC TO THE INTER-AGENCY
EXPERT GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL INDICATORS
AND THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUP FOR PARTNERSHIP, COORDINATION
AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR POST-2015 MONITORING**

This document was prepared by Ecuador, in its capacity as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, and approved by videoconference on 29 April 2015.

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DEFINITIONS

SCA:	Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC
Executive Committee:	Members elected by the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC for the period 2013-2015 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ecuador, Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba and Spain)
Region:	Latin America and the Caribbean
Subregion:	Country grouping by geographical composition or regional agency
Elected representatives:	Representatives elected by the States members to the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring

PART I**STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC: NATURE,
OBJECTIVES AND COMPOSITION****Article 1: Nature**

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall be a subsidiary body of the Commission that shall contribute to the progress of policies on statistics and statistical activities in the countries of the region.¹

Article 2: Objectives

(a) To promote the development and improvement of national statistics and work to ensure that they are comparable internationally, bearing in mind the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations; (b) To promote international, regional and bilateral cooperation among national offices and international and regional agencies; (c) To draw up a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, to meet the demands of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources.

Article 3: Composition

All countries that are members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean are members of the Conference.² The 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, together with several Asian, European and North American nations, comprise the 44 member States of ECLAC. Nine non-independent territories in the Caribbean are associate members of the Commission.

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall set up an Executive Committee to support the Conference. The Executive Committee shall have the following duties: (a) To carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference; (b) To draw up, every two years, a biennial programme of activities of regional and international cooperation on statistical matters, to be submitted at the regular meeting of the Conference; (c) To follow up the implementation of the agreements reached at the Conference and the tasks entrusted to it by the Conference, particularly the biennial programme of activities referred to in section I, paragraph 2 (c), above; (d) To decide on the documentation required for its meetings. As a general rule, no substantive discussion shall be initiated unless an appropriate document is available. The secretariat shall be responsible for facilitating compliance with this rule.³

¹ Resolution 2007/7 of the Economic and Social Council.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

PART II

SPHERE, BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MECHANISM FOR APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC

Article 4: Sphere

The purpose of these rules is to define the voting scheme for electing representatives of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring and the Inter-agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals indicators for the process of intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda.

Article 5: Background

At the forty-sixth session of the Statistical Commission two groups were established to prepare and monitor goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda at the global level.

1. Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators (see annex 1).
2. High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post 2015 monitoring (see annex 2).

The Statistical Commission requested that existing regional mechanisms be used to ensure equitable geographical distribution in regional representation.⁴

In accordance with the terms of reference adopted by the Bureau of the Statistical Commission⁵ and the M49 composition of geographical regions, the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators will have 28 members at the global level: the Chair of the Statistical Commission and 27 other members, distributed as follows:

- “The Economic Commission for Africa:
 - 2 members from Eastern Africa
 - 2 members from Middle and Southern Africa
 - 2 members from Western Africa
- The Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia:
 - 1 member from Northern Africa
- The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia:
 - 3 members from Western Asia

⁴ See United Nations, “Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical subregions, and selected economic and other groupings” [online] <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm>.

⁵ The Bureau of the Statistical Commission comprises Barbados, Cameroon, China, Hungary and the United Kingdom.

- The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:
 - 4 members from Central, Eastern, Southern and South- Eastern Asia
 - 2 members from Oceania
- The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean:
 - 2 members from the Caribbean
 - 3 members from Central America and South America
- The Economic Commission for Europe:
 - 1 member from Eastern Europe
 - 2 members from Southern Europe
 - 3 members from North America and Northern and Western Europe”⁶

Under the M49 classification, the geographical sphere of the Statistical Conference of the Americas is Central America, South America and the Caribbean, divided as follows:

Central America and South America:

Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

The Caribbean:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas (the), Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.⁷

After representatives have been elected, the member countries of the Conference which are not members of the Inter-agency Expert Group Sustainable Development Goals indicators may attend its meetings as observers.

According to the terms of reference approved by the Bureau of the Statistical Commission, the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring will have between 15 and 20 members. Representatives to this group will also be elected using the M49 geographical classification.

Article 6: Objective

To define the mechanism for electing representatives of the member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring.

⁶ See Note on the composition of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators in annex 3.

⁷ Geographical distribution according to M49: member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

Article 7: Convocation

The secretariat of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC will convene the member countries to elect the representatives of the above-mentioned groups. Voting will take place in the framework of the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference, which will be held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, on 26-28 May 2015.

Article 8: Selection process

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC has 44 members and 9 associate members. Of those, the countries belonging to Central America, South America and the Caribbean, according to the M49 classification and as set forth in annex 4, will have the right to vote. The 11 members of the Conference who may not vote or be nominated correspond to other geographical groups under the M49 classification.

Each voting member of the Conference will propose a candidate for its respective geographical group, for both of the working groups. Voting members of the Conference will choose among candidates from their respective geographical groups, for each of the two working groups, per the provisions of annex 4.

The secretariat of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC will coordinate the process of call for candidatures, nomination, selection and announcement of the representatives for each subregion.

For the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals indicators (see annex 1), the Statistical Commission defined five (5) representations, as follows:

- 2 members from the Caribbean
- 3 members from Central America and South America

Each subregion will elect its own representatives, for which a group distribution was defined according to the regional agencies to which the countries belong (see annex 4).

Group 1: (South America 1): Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname. Group 1 will elect one (1) representative.

Group 2: (South America 2): Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Group 2 will elect one (1) representative.

Group 3: (the Caribbean): Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas (the), Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago. Group 3 will elect two (2) representatives.

Group 4: (Central America): Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama. Group 4 will elect one (1) representative.

For the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post-2015 monitoring (annex 2), four (4) representatives will be elected, as follows:

- 1 member from the Caribbean
- 3 members from Central America and South America

Group 1: (South America 1): Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname. Group 1 will elect one (1) representative.

Group 2: (South America 2): Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Group 2 will elect one (1) representative.

Group 3: (the Caribbean): Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas (the), Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago. Group 3 will elect one (1) representative.

Group 4: (Central America): Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama. Group 4 will elect one (1) representative.

Each subregion will elect its own representative, for which a group distribution was defined (see annex 3).

The responsibilities and guidelines for members of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring are:

- To represent the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC and participate actively in the respective Group.
- To make available institutional capacity for the work to be carried out by the Group members.
- To hold consultations and report to the region on the activities carried out by the Group.
- To finance their participation in the meetings of the Group from their own resources.
- To carry out other activities set forth in the terms of reference of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring (see annex 2).

The secretariat of the Conference will open the call for candidatures by 8 May 2015. The countries may nominate their candidates until Friday 15 May 2015 (23.59 Chilean time), using the attached form prepared by the secretariat of the Conference.

On 18 May 2015, the secretariat will e-mail to the members of the Conference the names of the countries nominated, which will be put to a vote in the framework of the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference, to be held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago on 26-28 May 2015.

The first round of voting will take place by e-mail on 26 May 2015, the first day of the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference, from 9 a.m. to noon (Chilean time). The tally of votes and announcement of results will take place from noon to 1 p.m. (Chilean time). Should a run-off be required, a second round of voting will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The second tally and announcement of results will take place from 4 to 4.30 p.m. Should the tie continue in the second round, lots will be drawn to decide the result.

Countries not present at the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference may submit their votes by e-mail on 26 May 2015 during the time windows set forth the preceding paragraph.

The secretariat of the Conference will compile the votes of each subregion and issue the results, which will be included as an annex to the report of fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

Annex 1

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE INTER-AGENCY EXPERT GROUP
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL INDICATORS**

1. The Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators will:
 - (a) Develop an indicator framework (and a list of indicators) for the monitoring of the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda, taking into account existing efforts by different groups of countries and organizations to be adopted by the Statistical Commission;
 - (b) Guide the implementation of the approved indicator and monitoring framework, ensure the use of harmonized and agreed indicator definitions, share experiences with monitoring the sustainable development goals and encourage good practices and innovations, including in the area of national capacity-building;
 - (c) Regularly review methodological developments and issues related to the indicators and their metadata;
 - (d) Monitor and report on progress towards the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda at the global and regional levels;
 - (e) Actively consider potential new data sources and explore the possibilities of partnerships with private companies, the research and academic community and civil society for data sharing;
 - (f) Regularly review capacity-building activities in statistical areas relevant to sustainable development goal indicators and make recommendations to be considered by the High-level Group on post-2015 monitoring, the Statistical Commission and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities;
 - (g) Review and support work by the Secretariat for the development of a sustainable development goal data-user forum, tools for data analysis and open dashboard on the state of sustainable development goals.
2. The group will consist of international agencies (which also represent existing monitoring groups) that are willing to support monitoring efforts in their area of expertise, the regional commissions and 10 to 15 representatives of national statistical systems (with at least a few of them on a rotating basis) which will ensure that the views of countries are appropriately considered. The Statistics Division will be the secretariat of the group, which will elect two Co-Chairs, one from a national statistical office and one from an international agency. The existing global monitoring groups, generally composed of representatives of national statistical systems and experts from international agencies, working on specific indicators will contribute to the work of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators. In addition, global monitoring groups will be formed bringing together national and international experts for the selection and definition of indicators to monitor progress in new and emerging areas covered by the new goals and targets.
3. The group will conduct its work in an open and inclusive manner and will invite the private sector and civil society to contribute its expertise and experiences on indicators and innovative ways of data compilation.

4. The group will meet physically twice a year, and otherwise conduct its work electronically. Participation in the physical meetings is self-funded. A limited number of developing countries may receive funding, if available and according to practices followed in the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal indicators.

5. The group will report annually to the Statistical Commission. In its report the group will provide an annex listing the activities of various groups relevant for post-2015 monitoring.

Annex 2

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUP FOR PARTNERSHIP,
COORDINATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR POST-2015 MONITORING**

1. The High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post-2015 monitoring (High-Level Group for post-2015 monitoring) aims to establish a global partnership for sustainable development data and in this function will:

(a) Discuss strategies and activities for statistical capacity-building, in particular for post-2015 monitoring, including for the improvement of data literacy, and their coordination;

(b) Address the issue of funding for statistical capacity-building, including by developing proposals and advocating for resource mobilization and their management and monitoring, and identifying ways to leverage the resources and creativity of the private sector;

(c) Review and make recommendations, as appropriate, and in cooperation with the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators, on the issue of common (cross-country) data infrastructures to exploit the possibilities of new technologies;

(d) Mobilize institutions inside and outside the statistical community, and if required, coordinate their actions to serve sustainable development as deemed appropriate, thereby further extending the partnership.

2. The Group will consult closely with the newly created Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators on statistical capacity-building and will bring together existing joint initiatives for statistical capacity and technical assistance such as the ones taking place under PARIS21, the Memorandum of Understanding of the Development Banks with the United Nations on cooperation on statistical activities and other coordination and cooperation agreements.

3. The Group will include representatives of international agencies and regional development banks that have a stake in statistical capacity-building in countries, major donors, civil society and 10 representatives from national statistical systems, including adequate representation from developing countries. The Statistics Division will be the secretariat of the Group, which will elect two Co-Chairs, one from the international community and one from a national statistical system.

4. The Group will report annually to the Statistical Commission.

Annex 3

**NOTE ON THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE INTER-AGENCY EXPERT GROUP
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL INDICATORS**

1. Based on the request by the Statistical Commission to use existing regional mechanisms in order to ensure equitable regional representation and technical expertise, the following mechanism and distribution according to the number of Member States in the respective geographical regions is proposed for the nomination of 27 members to the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators:

The Economic Commission for Africa will coordinate the nomination of:

- 2 members from Eastern Africa
- 2 members from Middle and Southern Africa
- 2 members from Western Africa

The Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia will jointly coordinate the nomination of:

- 1 member from Northern Africa

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia will coordinate the nomination of:

- 3 members from Western Asia

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific will coordinate the presentation of candidates for:

- 4 members from Central, Eastern, Southern, and South-Eastern Asia
- 2 members from Oceania

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean will coordinate the presentation of candidates for:

- 2 members from the Caribbean
- 3 members from Central and South America

The Economic Commission for Europe will coordinate the presentation of candidates for:

- 1 member from Eastern Europe
- 2 members from Southern Europe
- 3 members from North America and Northern and Western Europe

2. The Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission will be an ex-officio member of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators, as its 28th member. The use of the geographical regions and subregions as the basis for establishing the regional representation in the Inter-Agency Expert Group seeks to ensure that each Member State is considered in only one regional grouping.⁸ It is proposed that the composition of the geographical regions be determined according to the

⁸ However, in consultation with its Member States, and in order to better reflect existing working mechanisms, Regional Commissions may choose to adjust, as appropriate, the composition of the geographical subregions to be represented in the Inter-Agency Expert Group. Also, the Regional Commissions, in consultation with their Member States may decide to consider additional geopolitical groupings to facilitate the selection of countries within one subregion.

most recent definitions of Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use. The representation of the regions should also take into account the geopolitical grouping of the United Nations Regional Groups of Member States, and the composition of the United Nations Regional Commissions.

3. The number of 28 countries as members of the Inter-Agency Expert Group ensures that all regions are adequately represented while allowing for an effective participation. Members shall consult with and represent the countries of their respective region and subregion.

4. Further, membership nominations should seek to achieve equitable representation of both developed and developing countries, and take into account the appropriate representation of countries in special situations, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States.

5. The United Nations Statistics Division, in its role as secretariat of the Inter-Agency Expert Group, will facilitate the participation of regional commissions and experts from specialized agencies as observers.

Annex 4

**COMPOSITION OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS
OF ECLAC AND OF THE GROUPS**

44 member States	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas (the), Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Italia, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
9 associate members	Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Puerto Rico, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands
33 voting members	The Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas (the), Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago. Central America and South America: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
Secretariat of the Conference	Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Source: ECLAC [online] <http://www.cepal.org/deype/ceacepal/miembrosCEA.htm>.

Group 1: (South America 1)

Member States group 1:	Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname.
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Group 2: (South America 2)

Member States group 2:	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
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Group 3: (The Caribbean)

Member States group 3:	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.
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Group 4: (Central America)

Member States	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Mexico.
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Annex 5

ROADMAP

“Election of representatives of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for post-2015 monitoring”

**ROADMAP
ELECTION OF SCA REPRESENTATIVES**

Date	Activity	Observation
8 May 2015	SCA secretariat issues call for nominations to the countries	The SCA secretariat will issue the call by e-mail
15 May 2015 (23.59 Chilean time)	Nomination of countries	To countries have until 15 May to present their nominations using the nomination form
18 May 2015	SCA secretariat announces list of countries nominated	The SCA secretariat will e-mail the list of countries nominated
26 May 2015 (9 a.m. – noon Chilean time)	First round of voting	By e-mail
26 May 2015 (Noon – 1 p.m. Chilean time)	Tally and returns	If a run-off is required, the second round of voting will be held from 1-4 p.m. Chilean time. The votes will be counted and the results announced from 4 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. In the event of a second round tie, lots will be drawn.