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Eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Quito, 17-19 November 2015

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND

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

The provisional agenda of the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC includes the following items: adoption of the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, analysis of the statistical challenges relating to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the region's participation in the working groups established by the United Nations Statistical Commission, and the review of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Conference. In addition, a substantive seminar will be held in the framework of the meeting, on the topic of challenges and opportunities for national statistical institutes in relation to the data revolution and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development—a matter of great importance for the development of official statistics and public policymaking.

B. CHAIR

In accordance with resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Ecuador, in its capacity as Chair of the Executive Committee, will preside over the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Conference will have before it the following provisional agenda¹ for adoption or amendment:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Presentation and discussion of substantive issues: the data revolution in Latin America and the Caribbean.

¹ LC/L.4050(CEA.8/1)/Rev.1.

3. Discussion on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the working groups of the United Nations Statistical Commission (Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post-2015 monitoring).
4. Review and adoption of the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
5. Review and adoption of the operational guidelines and new strategic structure of the working groups for the biennium 2016-2017.
6. Review of progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2014-2015, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.
 - (a) Report of the working groups of the Conference
 - (b) Information regarding subregional cooperation activities
 - (c) Information regarding international cooperation activities
7. Consideration and adoption of resolutions.
8. Election of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC for the biennium 2016-2017.

2. Presentation and discussion of substantive issues: the data revolution in Latin America and the Caribbean

At a special session held in July 2015, the Executive Committee decided that the agenda of the eighth meeting of the Conference would include a substantive seminar on the data revolution in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be organized jointly by ECLAC and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). This will offer the countries of the region an occasion to discuss the implications of the data revolution for the countries of the region, as well as the opportunities and challenges it presents with regard to monitoring the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Reference document:

- Preliminary programme for the seminar “The data revolution and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and opportunities for national statistical institutes”

3. Discussion on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the working groups of the United Nations Statistical Commission (Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post-2015 monitoring)

At its forty-sixth session, the United Nations Statistical Commission decided to create two groups of countries to prepare and monitor goals and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level: the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post-2015

monitoring. The countries that will represent Latin America and the Caribbean in the two groups were elected at the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, at which those countries were urged to seek prior consultation mechanisms and to report to all the countries of the region on the progress of the work carried out in both groups. Pursuant to that agreement, the delegations of the representative countries and of the rest of the countries in the region will share information and opinions with a view to ensuring timely and well-informed follow-up of the process of establishing indicators for monitoring the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Reference document:

- Report of the First Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (ESA/ST/AC.300/L3)

4. Review and adoption of the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

The Strategic Plan is the central pillar around which the Statistical Conference of the Americas conducts its regional programme of activities. It records the priorities identified by the member countries and defines the main lines of action of the Conference accordingly. The Strategic Plan 2015-2025 was drawn up by means of a process of reflection and consultation that began at the thirteenth meeting of the Executive Committee, on which occasion the delegations discussed criteria for preparing the Plan. The process continued over the following months, including at the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee, with the member countries analysing successive versions of the proposed document. At the eighth meeting of the Conference, the delegations will have before them the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 resulting from this consultation process, for consideration and adoption.

Working documents:

- Strategic Plan, 2015-2025 (LC/L.4070(CEA.8/4))
- Evaluation of the Strategic Plan 2005-2015 (LC/L.4082(CEA.8/7))

Reference documents:

- Strategic Plan 2005-2015 (LC/L.2715/Rev.1)
- Proposed updating of the Strategic Plan 2005-2015 (LC/L.3375(CEA.6/3))

5. Review and adoption of the operational guidelines and new strategic structure of the working groups for the biennium 2016-2017

Further to the agreement adopted by the Executive Committee at its fourteenth meeting, the delegations will have before them a review of the operational guidelines of the working groups, for their consideration and adoption.

With a view to ensuring the closest possible alignment of the working groups' activities in the 2016-2017 biennium with the new Strategic Plan to be adopted at this meeting, the Executive Committee proposed that at the present meeting the Conference discuss the priorities it should address in the coming biennium, without adopting work plans for the working groups straight away. Accordingly, the countries may present the programmes of work for the working groups for 2016-2017 to the Executive Committee

subsequently, in line with the priorities established. Accordingly, the existing working groups, whose plan of work was adopted at the seventh meeting of the Conference, will remain in operation until the sixteenth meeting of the Executive Committee (to be held in 2016).

Working document:

- Review of the operational guidelines for the working groups (LC/L.4080(CEA.8/5))

6. Review of progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2014-2015, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

- (a) Report of the working groups of the Conference

Under this agenda item, the countries serving as coordinators of the working groups and task forces will report on the progress of their programmes of activities and on fulfilment of the targets and outputs agreed upon for the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas. A presentation will also be given on the activities proposed by the Knowledge Transfer Network.

- (i) Working Group on Censuses
- (ii) Working Group on the Harmonization of Poverty Statistics
- (iii) Working Group on the Monitoring of Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals
- (iv) Working Group on National Accounts
- (v) Working Group on Measurement of Information and Communications Technologies
- (vi) Working Group on Labour Market Indicators
- (vii) Working Group on Institution-building
- (viii) Working Group on Environmental Statistics
- (ix) Working Group on International Classifications
- (x) Working Group on Agricultural Statistics
- (xi) Working Group on Gender Statistics
- (xii) Working Group on Household Surveys
- (xiii) Working Group on Statistics on Childhood and Adolescence
- (xiv) Working Group on Statistics on Public Security and Justice
- (xv) Task Force on Quantification of South-South Cooperation
- (xvi) Task Force on Disability Statistics
- (xvii) Knowledge Transfer Network

Working documents:

- Report on the implementation of the 2014-2015 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities (LC/L.4081(CEA.8/6))
- Classification of time-use activities for Latin America (LC/L.4083(CEA.8/8))

Reference documents:

- Report on the activities of the working groups, August 2014-March 2015 (LC/L.4015(CE.14/6))
- Report on the activities of the working groups in the first half of 2014 (LC/L.3861(CE.13/4))
- 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))

(b) Information regarding subregional cooperation activities

Under this item, the various coordination agencies in the Caribbean, Central America, the Andean Community and the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) will report on their activities and their contribution to the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

(c) Information regarding international cooperation activities

The various international agencies engaged in statistical cooperation efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean will report on activities or projects under way that may contribute to the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

7. Consideration and adoption of resolutions

Under this item, the Conference will discuss and adopt the agreements it deems appropriate.

8. Election of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC for the biennium 2016-2017

In accordance with resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the Conference will elect an Executive Committee consisting of a Chair and six members, with particular regard to due representation of all the subregions. The members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected for three successive terms. The Chair may not be re-elected in that office for a second consecutive term, but may be elected as a member of the Committee. Any country which has served on the Committee for three successive terms may be elected again after two years have elapsed since the end of its last term of office.

At its fourteenth meeting, the Executive Committee of the Conference pledged to submit draft rules of procedure on the functioning of the working groups, as well as criteria for the formation of the new Executive Committee, at the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas. The Committee will accordingly report on the criteria used for this biennium and submit the criteria proposed for use in subsequent bienniums to the Conference for consideration and adoption.

Working document:

- Criteria for the formation of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2016-2017 (LC/L. 4068(CEA.8/3))