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Population dynamics as an axis of sustainable development:
the Montevideo Consensus as a tool for reducing inequality
in the framework of human rights

Mexico City, 6-9 October 2015

**CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY ECLAC FROM A RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE REGARDING
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' AND AFRO-DESCENDANTS' AFFAIRS, 2013-2015**

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I. CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ISSUE

Towards the end of the twentieth century, relations between indigenous peoples and Latin American Governments reached a turning point as constitutional amendments began to be introduced whose purpose was to acknowledge the multi-ethnic, pluricultural nature of the populations of most of the countries in the region. Since then, major strides have been made in the legal and regulatory spheres, with the active participation of indigenous peoples. These peoples' long struggle has now given rise to a set of minimum standards of mandatory rights that are binding on States and set out in the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (169) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007). These texts provide the legal framework guaranteeing the exercise of the rights of indigenous peoples and were reaffirmed at the United Nations World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in September 2014, at which the countries agreed a set of worldwide commitments on these matters. The similarly longstanding struggle for the recognition and rights of Afro-descendants was supported by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban in 2001. This event gave momentum to networks of Afro-descendants, strengthened their political strategies and raised their profile in respect of States and national societies. Despite these advances, however, studies on the subject consistently demonstrate that indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants live in unfavourable conditions, as a result of long processes of exclusion and subordination and structural discrimination against them.

The changes outlined above have been associated with a growing demand on the part of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants for visibility within their national societies and for recognition as active stakeholders in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to guarantee their rights. All of this has transcended national boundaries as well, as the issue has been considered at numerous international summits, most notably the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, and consistently stressed in the evaluations of these events held every five years. The issue was subsequently incorporated into the Millennium Development Goals and is now included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The region has also witnessed a growing interest in the situation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, as evidenced since 2004 in each of the biennial meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), at which the member States expressly called on the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC to accord priority from a gender perspective, in coordination with the presiding officers of the Ad Hoc Committee and with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to issues of concern to indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples. At a number of the sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues since 2005, it has been recommended that the ECLAC redouble its efforts, in collaboration with the indigenous peoples concerned, to produce and analyse information on these issues with a view to bringing about an improvement in their social and economic situation and ensuring their active participation in the development process throughout the region.

Lastly, at the first session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in 2013, the States of the region adopted the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, which includes a specific set of priority measures concerning indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, and addresses their situation in a cross-cutting manner throughout.

Work undertaken by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC to meet the demands outlined above focused on analysing the sociodemographic behaviour of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, the relevant determinants and implications of this behaviour, with a view to contributing to

the design and monitoring of policies and programmes. Its work in this area is based on a human rights perspective, with particular emphasis on indigenous peoples' right to cultural integrity and their right to participate through their own organizations. One of the approaches used for improving participatory processes involves significantly increasing the technical assistance made available to the countries for training in the processing and analysis of sociodemographic data; Afro-descendent and indigenous organizations are involved in this training effort, which is understood to be a two-way process.

Over the past biennium, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC therefore undertook ongoing work in the following areas: (i) the inclusion of ethnic identification mechanisms in data sources and the promotion of statistical visibility, including by providing the countries in the region with technical assistance; (ii) the preparation of studies on the living conditions of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants as viewed from a rights-based perspective and the development of policy recommendations; and (iii) the production and dissemination of disaggregated data on these groups, dissemination and strengthening of national capacities for the use of this information and putting it to work in a political context. These activities have been carried out in conjunction with other bodies within the United Nations system, such as UNFPA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and other agencies, such as the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (Indigenous Peoples' Fund). Support has been provided by cooperation agencies such as the Ford Foundation, and working partnerships have been forged with indigenous organizations at the national and regional level. These activities are outlined below.

II. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY CELADE-POPULATION DIVISION OF ECLAC IN 2013-2015: MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

A. INCLUSION: THE IDENTIFICATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND AFRO-DESCENDANTS BY DATA SOURCES

In various national and international forums, indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples have repeatedly spoken of their urgent need for statistical visibility and of the importance of achieving that visibility through participatory processes. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC has pointed out that the demand for this information is based on the fact that such data are not only a technical tool but also a political resource that can contribute to the enforcement of rights, which helps further the cause of democracy and good governance. State institutions, international bodies and civil society organizations are also generating a growing demand for this type of information. In addition to being a valuable input for the design of more effective, relevant policies, the availability of more and better data provides indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples with a useful tool that can help them to participate more fully and to monitor State actions that have an impact on them. This is reaffirmed in its priority measures 90 and 98 of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, on indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples' right to information and communication, respectively.

This is why it is so important for indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants to be identified in data from all sources, as called for in the recommendations issued by various international bodies. As noted in previous reports, population and housing censuses are the main vehicle for their identification, and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC has therefore continued its work on the topic of censuses and

ethnic groups.¹ In order to ensure that these groups are identified in data from other sources, it has continued its activities relating to health information systems as well. The work carried out over the past biennium is outlined below:

1. Work continued on the project rolled out in 2009 in conjunction with PAHO and UNFPA, which focuses on the identification of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in health information systems. A conceptual methodological guide to help countries in this regard was drafted, published and disseminated in the period 2013-2015 (see annex). An ECLAC/PAHO plan of action for 2015-2016 was also drawn up and is currently being implemented.
2. In 2013 the first Characterization Survey of the Afro-descendent Population of the Region of Arica and Parinacota (ENCAFRO) was conducted. This was the first activity carried out under a cooperation agreement for studies of the situation of Afro-descendants signed between the Arica and Parinacota regional government, the Chilean National Institute of Statistics (INE) and two non-governmental organizations, the Alliance of Organizations of Afro-descendants of the Arica and Parinacota Region and the Fraternity of Afro-descendent Families and Groupings of Arica. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC provided technical assistance in various conceptual and methodological aspects during the design stage of this survey. As a follow-up activity in connection with the dissemination of its findings, in May 2014 it also participated in the international seminar “Analysis of disaggregated data from the specific study of the Afro-descendent population in Chile”, held in May 2014 in Arica, Chile.
3. In Peru, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC continued to provide on-site and remote follow-up of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants’ affairs and population censuses. This entailed several technical assistance missions to Lima over the biennium for working meetings with the Vice-ministry of Interculturality and the Inter-Agency Technical Committee for Ethnic Statistics, which reports to the National Institute of Statistics and Information (INEI). Regular working meetings were also held with the indigenous organizations that make up the Unity Pact of Indigenous Organizations of Peru, such as the National Organization of Andean and Amazonian Indigenous Women of Peru (ONAMIAP) and the National Agrarian Confederation of Peru (CNA). These organizations, both of which are members of the INEI Technical Committee, are leading a process to develop indicators on indigenous peoples and promoting various strategies to underpin the self-identification of ethnic peoples in preparation for the next population and housing census, to be held in 2017.
4. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC participated in a number of different forums and technical meetings concerning the 2010 round of population and housing censuses held in the 2010s and other sources of data relating to the visibility of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, focusing on disseminating information, sharing experiences and discussing achievements in these areas. These events provided feedback on technical assistance provided by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, especially in countries that are still to conduct censuses this decade, such as Colombia and Peru. They included:

¹ See the sections on this subject in the activities reports for 2008-2010, 2010-2012 and 2012-2013 presented by the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development at its last two sessions, and the report of the first session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean [online] http://www.cepal.org/publicaciones/xml/1/39301/ddr4_CEP2010.pdf and <http://www.eclac.org/celade/noticias/paginas/0/46070/2012-420-CEP-DDR2-Indigenas.pdf>.

- (i) A seminar entitled “The 2010 censuses in Latin America: overview and main lessons learned”, was organized by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC and UNFPA in Santiago from 21 to 23 October 2013. It included a panel on “The ethnic approach in the 2010 censuses”, in which CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC presented a regional overview. The activity provided information on the conceptual and methodological choices made by the countries in respect of different census issues (including those relating to ethnic groups) and was an opportunity to evaluate experience in the light of the results obtained, learn the extent to which questionnaires of the 2010 censuses were harmonized, assess how closely they followed the recommendations, and identify the most relevant technical recommendations on conceptual aspects, data analysis and evaluation of quality and coverage in preparation for the 2020 round of censuses.
 - (ii) The Global Conference of Indigenous Women was held in Lima from 28 to 30 October. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, in conjunction with the working group on statistical visibility, gave an initial presentation, supported the drafting of recommendations and disseminated the study *Mujeres indígenas en América Latina: dinámicas demográficas y sociales en el marco de los derechos humanos* (Indigenous Women in Latin America: demographic and social dynamics in the context of human rights) prepared by ECLAC, UNFPA, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and others, and with the support of the Ford Foundation.
 - (iii) The fifth International seminar on Indigenous Peoples’ and Afro-descendants’ Rights, was organized in Lima on 28 February 2014 by the International Institute for Law and Society and the Catholic University of Peru. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC gave a presentation on human rights and statistical visibility of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants.
 - (iv) A workshop was held on the right to information, with a focus on indigenous peoples in censuses and statistics in Peru, at which experiences were exchanged on the process of Colombia’s national population and housing census and on the progress made in Peru. The event was organized by the Unity Pact in Lima on 11 June 2014. Representatives from a wide range of indigenous organizations and State institutions were in attendance.
5. Other remote and on-site technical assistance activities relating to the inclusion of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, chiefly concerning population and housing censuses, were also carried out in response to requests from the countries of the region. Requests for remote assistance from researchers at academic institutions of countries within the region and beyond were also attended to.

Overview of achievements and challenges relating to the effort to secure the inclusion of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in data sources

The activities outlined above helped to clarify the conceptual and methodological issues relating to the inclusion of an ethnic perspective in data collection. A great deal of work has gone into improving the wording of questions and ensuring that censuses allow for the identification of Afro-descendants in countries that had previously provided only for the identification of indigenous peoples; incorporating new dimensions and variables that are of interest to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants; devising more accurate mapping guidelines; conducting pilot tests on these issues; carrying out campaigns and consultations and ensuring that indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants participate more actively in

these processes; and mainstreaming. One of the most salient outcomes of these efforts has been the increase in the size of the indigenous and Afro-descendent populations registered in the censuses of the 2010 round in a number of countries in the region, which has been reflected in intercensal growth rates that are far above the national averages. By way of example, in Mexico the average annual growth rate for the indigenous population between 2000 and 2010 came to 10%, whereas the rate for the total population was 1.5%; in Costa Rica, the average annual intercensal growth rate for the Afro-descendent population was 15%, while it was 1.4% of the population as a whole. This is a clear indication of an increase in ethnic self-identification, which has been brought about by a combination of structural factors—such as the placement of indigenous and Afro-descendent affairs higher up on the public agenda—and other factors (for example, methodological changes) that are more directly linked to the census process.

Improvements in the identification of these ethnic groups in health information systems have lagged behind the advances in censuses, but the number of countries that are working to make such improvements is on the rise. In Ecuador and Guatemala, progress is being made in the incorporation of ethnic identification questions into census forms. Since 2008 Colombia has made a sustained effort to improve the coverage and quality of variables used for ethnic identification in vital statistics, and, as a result, indicators of mortality and fertility can now be estimated and broken down by ethnicity. Health workers and members of indigenous organizations are also becoming more aware of the importance of having disaggregated information, and this has helped open the way for the reinforcement of the institutional structure and the promotion of intercultural dialogue. This progress has also begun to have an impact on other data sources, such as agricultural censuses, where statistical institutions have drawn on the experience gained in this area to include, for example, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in agricultural censuses in Colombia and Costa Rica.

Major challenges remain, however. The pace of progress in the different countries is uneven, and the minimum standards set out in the recommendations made by international bodies have yet to be met. Procedures therefore need to be reinforced and greater follow-up is required in order to back up the efforts being made to implement guidelines for enhancing the visibility of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in data sources. Support and advisory assistance concerning the implementation of international recommendations should be provided to the region's statistical institutes. In addition to the work being done to improve censuses, ongoing support should be made available to bolster the efforts being pursued to incorporate ethnic identification mechanisms into health records, vital statistics and other data sources. The modalities being applied for the inclusion of an ethnic perspective in the region's censuses must also be examined. Steps need to be taken to help strengthen post-census activities (dissemination, training and policy application and impacts) and the institutional structure and to boost the participation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in all stages of the census process.

Efficient strategies need to be adopted to ensure that the necessary political will is in place to bring about the changes that this task entails. The strategy for the implementation of pilot tests, especially those dealing with field work, also needs to be reviewed in order to ensure that the results of these experiments can be shared with other countries of the region. Some technical issues remain to be resolved (for example, a lack of comparability in the approaches used within health ministries and the poor quality of records on indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants). Efforts to improve intra- and inter-agency coordination between statistical offices, health ministries and other sectors should be redoubled. Lastly further efforts are needed to mainstream the ethnic approach into national statistical systems, with due consideration for the requirements of the peoples in question. Complementary tools must be designed that enable not only cultural adaptation but also the development of indicators to monitor collective rights. The experiences of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Paraguay, as well as Peru and its "indigenous censuses" represent an excellent starting point for work to address the remaining challenges in this area.

B. SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, TECHNICAL STUDIES AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The activities conducted during the reporting period in this field are listed below:

1. The document *Lineamientos para incluir la identificación de pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en los registros de salud* (Guidelines for the including the identification of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in health records) was published, in conjunction with PAHO and with the support of UNFPA. The study covers both conceptual and methodological aspects of the subject, including the steps to be followed in order to ensure the identification of these groups in health records, starting with the formation of participatory working teams and the inclusion of the corresponding questions in census forms, and continuing on through all the various stages, including training, awareness-raising, and the dissemination and use of the information processed for this purpose.
2. The study *Mujeres indígenas en América Latina: dinámicas demográficas y sociales en el marco de los derechos humanos* (Indigenous women in Latin America: demographic and social dynamics in the context of human rights) was drafted in conjunction with the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC and the Gender Equality Observatory, and presented at the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in October 2013. The study analyses the demographic and social situation of indigenous women in the region based on updated information from the 2010 round of censuses, identifies shortcomings in the protection of human rights and sets out policy recommendations.
3. The document *Pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en los censos de población y vivienda de América Latina: avances y desafíos en el derecho a la información* (Indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in population and housing censuses in Latin America: progress and challenges in the right to information) analyses progress made in censuses and in identifying indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in Latin America, examining national experiences in the 2010s and detailing challenges in improving the quality of, and ensuring and timely access to, information, in accordance with international standards in this area. The document was published in issue No. 97 of *Notas de Población*.
4. Particular mention should be made of the study *Guaranteeing Indigenous People's Rights in Latin America: Progress in the Past Decade and Remaining Challenges*, produced at the request of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas, with support from the Ford Foundation. The study constituted a substantial input to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, which was held in September 2014 in New York within the framework of the United Nations General Assembly, and contributed to the evaluation of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and the identification of the actions beyond 2014 that were discussed at the Conference. A coordinating committee was formed to draft the study, comprising the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA), CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC and an indigenous advisory team, consisting of experts from the following regional and subregional indigenous organizations in Latin America: the Indigenous Council of Central America (CICA), the Alliance of Indigenous Women of Central America and Mexico (AMICAM), the Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin (COICA), the Andean Coordinator of Indigenous

Organizations (CAOI), the Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA) and the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network (RMIB), the Indigenous Council of Mesoamerica (CIMA) and an indigenous member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (a government representative). These organizations contributed substantially to the drafting of the study, from defining the content to the analysis, providing comments, observations and valuable inputs. They also participated in face-to-face meetings to discuss the draft versions. Furthermore, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC took advantage of its membership of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues to disseminate and assess the study together with other United Nations agencies, whose focal points made valuable contributions to the document.

5. The regional study mentioned in point 4 above was presented by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, at a side event of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in September 2014. The publication was launched jointly with the Ford Foundation, which hosted the event, with the attendance of more than 130 participants from various fields, particularly representatives of indigenous peoples and governments. The launch was moderated by the Vice President of the Ford Foundation, with comments on the study provided by David Choquehuanca, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia; Rigoberta Menchú, Nobel Peace Prize laureate; Alvaro Pop, member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; and Mirna Cunningham, former Chair of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and President of the Centre for the Autonomy and Development of Indigenous Peoples (CADPI), with the last two individuals also speaking in their capacity as contributors to the study. The launch received extensive press coverage, and the main outcomes of the study have since been presented and disseminated at various regional and national forums and meetings.

Overview of achievements and challenges relating to sociodemographic research, the preparation of technical studies and the development of policy recommendations

Progress has been made over the past biennium on gaining a deeper understanding of the situation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in the region as viewed from gender-based, generational and territorial perspectives, with special attention being devoted to women, children and young people. A number of studies have been prepared using innovative, highly participatory methodologies that are helping to build intercultural knowledge and that can be adapted for use by the countries of the region. This reference material is being used in training workshops offered by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, including the Intensive Regional Course on Demographic Analysis (CRIAD). All of these studies set forth policy recommendations based on empirical evidence, as well as drawing attention to remaining shortcomings in the supply of information.

The content of the regional study referred to in points 4 and 5 of the previous section exceeded expectations, providing up-to-date information on progress on the implementation of indigenous people's rights in Latin America, based on innovative and ground-breaking empirical evidence. It also addresses the different spheres that constitute the foundations of their well-being, from the biological and cultural survival of the population to the exercise of free determination, territorial rights and political participation. The study represents a key contribution to deepening the region's democracies, establishing a series of policy recommendations designed to achieve equality in diversity. One notable achievement is the participation of indigenous organizations in the preparation of the study. The indigenous members of the coordinating committee and the indigenous advisory team displayed their commitment from the outset and throughout the process, debating and deliberating with the technical team, and providing written contributions, observations and comments in relation to approaches and substantive analysis. The highly

participatory working methodology is thus a fundamental element that warrants promotion and dissemination in the region. With more than 400 pages, the study provides a compelling baseline for public policy, while a summary document in English, Spanish and Portuguese is also available. The indigenous peoples of the region requested, through their organizations, that this text be included as reference material for the Sustainable Development Goals.

These achievements notwithstanding, greater efforts must be made to disseminate these research findings more widely and enhance their impact, especially among policymakers and indigenous organizations. The population censuses of the present decade offer a unique statistical opportunity to shed light on the situation of Afro-descendants, since most countries included the identification of such groups in their most recent censuses—in several cases, for the first time. In that connection, researchers should be encouraged to use census information in preparing specific and supplementary regional, national and local studies that are tailored to the needs of the government and the Afro-descendent and indigenous organizations concerned. Further steps should be taken to build national capacity for the production and proper analysis of this type of information from the standpoint of international human rights (including collective rights) standards.

C. INFORMATION PRODUCTION, DISSEMINATION AND TRAINING

The work carried out on this front during the reporting period is detailed below:

1. An update was performed on the Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean Databank, including the Sociodemographic System of Indicators for Indigenous Peoples and Populations (SISPPI), which contains indicators on indigenous youth, sociodemographic indicators at the municipal level (including tables and maps) and data on internal migration. The structure of SISPPI was reviewed and some indicators resulting from the processing of the censuses of the 2010 round were updated. There are plans to continue the process of reviewing and updating the databank.
2. In the framework of the projects executed jointly by ECLAC and the Ford Foundation since 2011, training workshops have been organized for representatives of indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations and State institutions who work on policies and programmes of concern to these groups, in addition to preparing studies including sociodemographic atlases, assessments and, in the present biennium, the regional study described in point B.4. The overarching objective of these workshops is to build national capacities and knowledge relating to the production, analysis and use of sociodemographic information with a territorial dimension. The workshops were divided into two parallel modules: one was tailored to the needs of information users, with emphasis on data reading and analysis; while the other was geared to teaching informatics specialists and information producers how to construct indicators using the Retrieval of Data for Small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM) system. An activity for both groups (users and producers) was also organized so that the participants could engage in a dialogue relating to their respective functions. The teaching materials used in these workshops were mainly developed from population and housing censuses. Three workshops were held during 2015. The first, organized in conjunction with the National Organization of Andean and Amazonian Indigenous Women of Peru, was entitled “Indigenous peoples in Peru: access, production and use of sociodemographic information for the development of indigenous peoples” and was held in Lima from 8 to 12 June 2015. The second, organized in conjunction with the National Indigenous

Organization of Colombia (ONIC) and the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), and entitled “Indigenous peoples in Colombia: access, production and use of sociodemographic information for the development planning of indigenous territories”, was held from 6 to 10 July 2015 in Bogotá. The third workshop, “Statistical visibility of Afro-descendants in Colombia: production and use of indicators for policies and programmes”, was jointly organized with the Process of Black Communities (PCN) in Colombia and DANE and held from 13 to 17 July in Bogotá. These workshops enjoyed the broad participation of indigenous people from different groups and geographical areas of Peru and Colombia; territorial diversity was also typical of the Afro-descendant participants in the workshop on statistical visibility.

3. At the request of national institutions, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC also participated in the following training activities:
 - (i) The holding of classes for the Diploma in International Studies in Public Policy and the Rights of Indigenous and Afro-descendent Peoples, organized by the International Institute for Law and Society and the Catholic University of Peru in Lima in August 2013. The audience, comprised of indigenous, Afro-Peruvian and non-indigenous participants from different areas of government and civil society, exceeded expectations with an attitude that was both interested and engaged.
 - (ii) The holding of classes for the Diploma in International Studies in Public Policy and the Rights of Indigenous and Afro-descendent Peoples, run by the International Institute for Law and Society and the Catholic University of Peru in Lima in February 2014. Participants included representatives of indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations and State agencies with responsibilities in ethnic affairs. The classes consisted in lectures, group work and participatory debate.
 - (iii) Technical, conceptual and political training days on ethnicity and self-identification in censuses and statistics, organized by the Unity Pact of Indigenous Organizations of Peru, the Confederation of Amazonian Nationalities of Peru (CONAP) and the Inter-Ethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rain Forest (AIDSESP), Lima, 11 June 2014. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC was responsible for facilitating the workshop and the thematic presentations. The activity was well attended by representatives of Peruvian indigenous organizations. In group work, the participants reviewed the proposals of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee on Ethnicity Statistics for operationalizing the identification of indigenous peoples in data sources, with a view to the next population and housing census.
4. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC and the Ford Foundation awarded a grant to a representative of the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC), who was thus able to participate in the Intensive Regional Course on Demographic Analysis (CRIAD), held between August and December 2014 at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago. This participation was significant in that it will help ONIC improve its performance in the area of information systems, while the grant-holder contributed knowledge in relation to the processes that will be launched in Colombia for the decentralization and autonomy of indigenous territories under Decree No. 1953 of 2014, which created a special regime for indigenous peoples to launch administrative systems within their territories.

5. Invitations to take part in various regional and international forums were accepted. Aside from those mentioned under point A.4, representatives of CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC attended the following events, where they participated in discussions and delivered substantive presentations on issues of interest to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants:
- (i) The twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santo Domingo, October 2013) and the World Conference of Indigenous Women (Lima, October, 2013). Presentation of the study *Mujeres indígenas en América Latina: dinámicas demográficas y sociales en el marco de los derechos humanos* (see annex).
 - (ii) Annual meeting of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues. The agenda included discussion of the current situation and the region's proposals for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, analysis of the situation of indigenous peoples that have no contact with the outside world or who are in a phase of initial contact, and the experiences of the inter-agency groups operating in several of the region's countries and the importance of strengthening them through closer contact with the Group. The draft of the regional study (see point B.4) was presented to the consultative indigenous group that forms part of the Inter-Agency Support Group, thus helping to enrich its content and approaches.
 - (iii) Fifth International Seminar on Indigenous and Afro-Descendant Rights, organized by the International Institute for Law and Society and the Catholic University of Peru in Lima on 28 February 2014, at which a presentation entitled "Human rights and the statistical visibility of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants" was given.
 - (iv) Commitment to Equity Project: Roundtable and Workshop. The Impact of Social Spending, Taxes and Subsidies on Inequality and Poverty in Latin America by Race and Ethnicity, organized by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Washington, D.C., on 12 May 2014. Meeting of experts to discuss and debate the progress of the Commitment to Equity project. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC had been sent working materials prior to the meeting for the preparation of comments, observations and contributions.
 - (v) Thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 12 to 23 May 2014. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC took part in the second week (from 19 to 23 May), making a statement on behalf of ECLAC. A side event was held to examine progress on the regional study (see point B.4), which was well attended by the representatives of States, indigenous peoples and other experts from different spheres and countries. The observations and comments received provided valuable input for the development of the study.
 - (vi) A workshop on the right to information, with a focus on indigenous peoples in the censuses and statistics of Peru was held as a forum for sharing experiences on the process of the National Population and Housing Census in Colombia and on the progress achieved in Peru. The event was organized by the Unity Pact on 11 June 2014 in Lima, and enjoyed the broad participation of representatives of indigenous organizations and State agencies.
 - (vii) The second round of consultations on the "zero draft" of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples was held on 16 July 2014 in New York. The Conference provided an opportunity to hold a working meeting with the indigenous

advisory team for the regional document (see point B.4) and to review the full draft of the document. The findings and recommendations of the regional study were used as inputs to the process of consultations held with indigenous peoples as part of the Conference.

- (viii) National meeting of indigenous peoples in preparation for World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, organized by the United Nations system in Chile with the support of the Norwegian Embassy, held at the regional headquarters of the United Nations Development Programme in Santiago on 8 August 2014. The main findings and recommendations of the regional study (see point B.4) were presented as an input so that indigenous representatives from different peoples and geographical areas in Chile could prepare their contributions to the process of the World Conference.
- (ix) Sixth Congress of the Latin American Population Association (ALAP), held in Lima from 12 to 15 August 2014. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC delivered two presentations; the first on “Health and reproductive rights of indigenous women in Latin America: progress and challenges in the framework of the International Conference on Population and Development” and the second on “Guaranteeing indigenous people’s rights in Latin America: progress in the past decade and remaining challenges”. Both interventions highlighted the importance of population and housing censuses and ethnic identification in order to visualize empirical evidence. In the context of ALAP, working meetings were held with the ALAP Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants Demography Network (PIAFAL) in order to draw up the plan of activities for 2015, placing emphasis on censuses and other data sources.
- (x) Second Ibero-American Meeting: Indigenous and Afro-descendent Youth in the Context of Implementing the Post-2015 Social Investment and Development Agenda, organized by the Ibero-American Youth Organization in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, from 18 to 22 August 2014. A presentation was given on “The ethnic and youth perspective as a contribution to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples” and queries were answered in these areas, based on the knowledge created at ECLAC.
- (xi) World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 and 23 September 2014. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC participated in the sessions of the Conference, a number of side events—including the launch of the regional study discussed in point B.4—and the meetings of the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues. At the annual meeting of IASG, held on 24 September, it was decided that ECLAC would serve as Chair of the group until 2015, with PAHO serving as Co-Chair.
- (xii) “Delivering on human rights and social inclusion in the post-2015 development agenda: equality, quality and accountability for marginalized and excluded populations”, organized by UNFPA, with support from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), in Madrid from 27 to 29 October 2014. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC acted as moderator for plenary session 2: “The transformative power of data: visualizing the rights of marginalized populations”, which broached the topic of monitoring and accountability, with emphasis on the availability of information on excluded groups such as indigenous peoples, migrants, persons with disabilities and older adults in Latin America. The region’s progress and unmet challenges were outlined in relation to the construction of disaggregated indicators with a rights-based perspective,

mainly in the area of indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC also actively participated in the working group on accountability, preparing some follow-up recommendations in respect of the agreements of the World Conference on Human Rights and the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014.

- (xiii) The preparatory meeting “Indigenous Women and Beijing+20: Progress and Challenges”, organized by the Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA) and held in Lima from 2 to 4 March 2015. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC gave a presentation on “Twenty years of ECLAC reports on indigenous women” and also supported group work on the drafting of conclusions and proposals, and attended press conferences.
 - (xiv) Technical Working Group on Social Security and Indigenous Peoples, organized by the Superintendency of Social Security of Chile in Santiago on 2 April 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to establish and share guidelines on the relationship between social security and indigenous peoples, and how the issue should be addressed in Chile.
 - (xv) Fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held at the United Nations in New York from 20 April to 1 May 2015. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC participated in the first week, making statements on behalf of ECLAC and in its capacity as Chair of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues. It also participated as a panellist at the side event on 22 April, organized by the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (Fondo Indígena) entitled “Dialogue and coordination between governments, indigenous peoples and the United Nations system for the implementation of action plans in Latin America and the Caribbean”. The side event examined the main challenges facing the United Nations system in its follow-up of the mandate of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC also took part in other side events and in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Support Group.
 - (xvi) Public forum organized by the National Organization of Andean and Amazonian Indigenous Women of Peru (ONAMIAP) on 12 June 2015. CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC presented the regional study *Guaranteeing indigenous people’s rights in Latin America. Progress in the past decade and remaining challenges*. Comments on the study were received from representatives of the Vice-ministry of Interculturality, the International Institute for Law and Society and ONAMIAP.
6. Representatives of CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC also attended various press conferences related to the findings and challenges identified in the regional study on indigenous peoples (see point B.4), and to promoting the statistical visibility of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples in population and housing censuses and other data sources. Dissemination was carried out through various national, regional and international media.

Overview of achievements and challenges relating to the production of information, dissemination and training

The databank containing comparable sociodemographic information on indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants for the various countries of the region has helped fill some of the chronic gaps in disaggregated data; however, this system is intended to complement, rather than substitute, systems implemented nationally. Work also continues on building national capacity for the application of this information in the design and follow-up of policies and in the promotion of human rights. Training workshops have been tailored to the needs of staff of State agencies and members of indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations. The methodology used for this purpose, which allows the indicators to be viewed within their corresponding cultural and territorial contexts and provides for active, two-way participation, has contributed to the accumulation of technical expertise in the use of these indicators within a rights-based framework of intercultural dialogue. Participation in numerous national, regional and international meetings has also played an important part in the broad dissemination of international standards relating to the inclusion of data on indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants. Participation in these gatherings has also made it possible to share findings and conclusions reached in the course of research (particularly the regional study on the rights of indigenous peoples), as well as policy recommendations.

The countries of the region have made major strides in the democratization of information, but indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants still lag far behind in terms of their access to it, and this limits their ability to exercise this right. Action directed towards closing this gap must therefore be stepped up through the use of information strategies that are geared to the cultural realities of the people concerned and measures to promote the application of new technologies. Training activities also need to be made more systematic, broader in scope and to be tied in more closely with joint initiatives involving the various counterparts (indigenous organizations, Afro-descendent organizations, academic centres and statistical offices) so that together they can define approaches that will help to empower indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, contribute to greater equity and combat discrimination. The development of statistical systems with a pluricultural approach should also be promoted, along with the identification or proposal of specific tools for gathering information on collective community efforts and affairs, and support should be provided for binational data collection initiatives by countries with cross-border population groups. It is also important to update the regional databank on a regular basis and to improve the mechanisms in place for consultations and participation by countries and population groups. In order to accomplish all of this, the necessary human and financial resources must be made available to ensure compliance with international standards in respect of human rights, including the right to communication and information.

Annex

PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BETWEEN AUGUST 2013 AND JULY 2015

No.	Title	Description	Date
1	<i>Mujeres indígenas en América Latina: dinámicas demográficas y sociales en el marco de los derechos humanos</i>	Project documents (LC/W.558) (Spanish only)	October 2013
2	<i>Lineamientos para incluir la identificación de pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en los registros de salud</i>	Project documents (LC/W.569) (Spanish only)	December 2013
3	<i>La CEPAL participa en la Conferencia Mundial sobre los Pueblos Indígenas</i>	Reseñas sobre Población y Desarrollo No. 11 (Spanish only)	January 2014
4	<i>Pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en los censos de población y vivienda de América Latina: avances y desafíos en el derecho a la información</i>	Notas de Población No. 97 (LC/G.2598-P) (Spanish only)	February 2014
5	<i>Los pueblos indígenas en América Latina: avances en el último decenio y retos pendientes para la garantía de sus derechos</i>	(LC/L.3902) (Spanish only)	November 2014
6	<i>Guaranteeing indigenous people's rights in Latin America and the Caribbean: progress in the past decade and remaining challenges. Summary</i>	(LC/L.3893) (Available in English, Spanish and Portuguese)	November 2014

Note: All documents listed above are available on the web page of the Latin America and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC [online] <http://www.cepal.org/es/temas/pueblos-indigenas-y-afrodescendiente>.