

I L P E S



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**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF  
THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR PLANNING OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND  
CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING (ILPES)**

Santiago, 25 November 2016

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## **A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

### **Place and date of the meeting**

1. The Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) held their twenty-sixth meeting on 25 November 2016 at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago.

### **Attendance<sup>1</sup>**

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member countries in their capacity as Presiding Officers: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador (Co-Chair), Guatemala (Co-Chair), Jamaica and Paraguay.

## **B. AGENDA**

3. The Presiding Officers adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Review of progress with respect to the resolutions adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning (Yachay, Ecuador, 2015).
3. Review of the ILPES report on activities, 2015-2016.
4. Preparations for the sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) to be held in Peru in the second half of 2017.
5. Consideration and adoption of agreements.

## **C. PROCEEDINGS**

4. Marisela Rivera, General Coordinator of International Integration of the National Secretariat of Planning and Development (SENPLADES) of Ecuador, in her capacity as Co-Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of the themes to be addressed in the framework of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES.

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<sup>1</sup> See annex 2.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 1)

5. The Co-Chair submitted the provisional agenda (LC/L.4238(MDCRP.26/1)/Rev.1), which was adopted without amendment.

Review of progress with respect to the resolutions adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning (Yachay, Ecuador, 2015) (agenda item 2)

6. Antonio Prado, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in his capacity as Officer in Charge of ILPES, reported on the progress made in achieving the mandates outlined in the resolutions adopted by the Regional Council for Planning at its fifteenth meeting, held in 2015, namely, capacity-building for the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region; the preparation of a white paper on development planning; the maintenance and regular updating of the digital repository of national development plans; and the establishment of a regional development planning observatory. With respect to capacity-building, he highlighted the broad participation by countries in ILPES courses over the preceding two years and the great interest shown in those courses, and described the progress made and the challenge of building capacity to support the countries in the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He also reaffirmed ILPES support for countries in fulfilling their needs in that area.

7. Next, he pointed out that the white paper on development planning was a collective effort and reported that the team responsible for preparing it, along with the countries, had completed the preliminary proposal, presentation to the Regional Council for Planning and validation of the models, which would be followed by the training of technical committees, consultation, consolidation and final publication. With respect to the digital repository of national development plans, he mentioned that there were more than 160 plans and programmes, which constituted a significant database for the dissemination and exchange of countries' experiences in planning, and that the repository was in the phase of graphic design and technical implementation prior to its imminent launch. Next, he gave a brief presentation of the repository interface in which he explained and illustrated how the tool should be used.

8. He also spoke of the future regional development planning observatory. He said that there was already a conceptual framework for the observatory that identified four stages (incorporation of the Sustainable Development Goals into planning and public management, implementation, follow-up, and monitoring and assessment) and listed the many types of information that could be obtained from that instrument. Following the presentation of the interface for the future observatory and its different modalities of use, he explained the methodology employed in the matrix that measured the implementation process, a crucial factor in the functioning of the observatory. Lastly, he mentioned that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development is scheduled to be held in April 2017 in Mexico City, and of the Executive Secretary's wish to create a general observatory of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, which would incorporate both regional and international experience, as well as that garnered from the Forum.

9. During the discussion that followed, the representatives of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay and Nicaragua took the floor. They expressed their desire for stronger convergence between ILPES and the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Development Planning (REDEPLAN), suggested the creation of an index of sustainable development planning capacity that would be measured regularly and include countries' good practices, and asked questions about the mechanism used to extract or share information for the repository and how it would be updated. They also referred to the potential

overlap of the competencies of the regional development planning observatory and the general observatory of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development mentioned by the Officer in Charge of ILPES. In addition, they stressed the importance of taking *The state of the art and challenges of planning for development in Latin America and the Caribbean*<sup>2</sup> into account in the working agenda and proposed the opening of a forum for reflection in order to identify the real threats and opportunities associated with structural change for sustainable development.

10. The Officer in Charge of ILPES reiterated the commitment of ECLAC and ILPES to supporting REDEPLAN and its activities, took note of the suggestion to create an index of sustainable development planning capacity for consideration later on and pointed out that the general observatory of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was still in the early design stage, but that the risk of overlap with the regional development planning observatory and the need to avoid it had been identified. He said that the digital repository of national development plans contained only countries' existing plans, obtained from official sources, and that an updating protocol was being incorporated to include revisions and evaluations of those plans. He suggested that the white paper on development planning could fulfil the same role as the proposed index, as it had been designed as a learning and self-assessment tool for national planning systems.

Review of the ILPES report on activities, 2015-2016 (agenda item 3)

11. The review of the ILPES report on activities, 2015-2016 was given by Antonio Prado, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC, in his capacity as Officer in Charge of ILPES. He summarized the activities carried out by ILPES over that period and the goals and achievements of the Institute, highlighting the work done on the digital repository of national development plans and the role of planning in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

12. He emphasized that the repository was not just a technical proposal, but that the countries' submission of their plans to ECLAC was also a policy matter, and he invited those that had not already done so to submit their national development plans and corresponding updates to ECLAC. He pointed out that of late the Institute's activities had focused on fulfilling the commitments made at the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning, which implied intensive preparation and coordination efforts with the countries.

13. With respect to the digital repository of national development plans, the Co-Chair of the Presiding Officers said that that tool represented a rich collection of experience and knowledge and reflected the outcomes of the discussions held during previous meetings of the Presiding Officers. In concluding, she expressed gratitude for the productive work of Jorge Máttar, former Chief of ILPES, who had headed the Institute for a long time.

Preparations for the sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) to be held in Peru in the second half of 2017 (agenda item 4)

14. The representative of Peru said that preparations for the sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning, to be held in Lima between late October and early November 2017, were well under way and invited the planning authorities of the region to participate actively in that meeting and in the fifteenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, highlighting its importance to the region.

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<sup>2</sup> LC/L.4072(CRP.15/4).

Consideration and adoption of agreements (agenda item 5)

15. The Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES, at their twenty-sixth meeting, adopted the agreements outlined in annex 1 of the present document.

16. The Officer in Charge of ILPES expressed his gratitude for the participation of all of the representatives, who had contributed to the success of the meeting, and reiterated the support of ILPES for countries as they faced the existing and future challenges of development planning. He reaffirmed the significance of forums such as this one to facilitate the sharing of experiences.

17. Lastly, the Co-Chair of the Presiding Officers expressed her satisfaction with the outcomes of the meeting and invited all countries to participate in the sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning, to be held in Lima in the second half of 2017.

## Annex 1

**AGREEMENTS**

At their twenty-sixth meeting, held in Santiago on 25 November 2016, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning agreed to:

1. *Take note* of the report on activities, 2015-2016<sup>1</sup> and the report on training of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, 2015-2016;<sup>2</sup>

2. *Take note also* of the Progress report on the tasks given to the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) in resolution CRP/XV/01, and proposals for work, 2016-2017;<sup>3</sup>

3. *Take note further* of the proposals presented, namely, the establishment of a regional development planning observatory and its coordination with other subregional initiatives; the preparation of a white paper on planning for development in Latin America and the Caribbean; the construction of development plans and programmes with a long-term vision; capacity-building for the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and the preparation of the study on the state of the art and challenges of planning in the region; as well as the progress made on the digital repository of national development plans, and request that the Institute continue working on all these matters and report thereon at the twenty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers;

4. *Request* the Chair of Council to report at the first meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, to be held in Mexico City from 26 to 28 April 2017, on the Council's most salient conclusions for the regional implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Consider* the proposals of the Presiding Officers relating to the agenda of active and convergent cooperation between the Regional Council for Planning and the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Development Planning (REDEPLAN);

6. *Recommend* that the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean encourage reflection on the risks and opportunities in relation to structural change for sustainable development;

7. *Ask* the secretariat to convene the sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning and the fifteenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean in Peru in the second half of 2017.

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<sup>1</sup> DDR/1(MDCRP.26).

<sup>2</sup> DDR/2(MDCRP.26).

<sup>3</sup> LC/L.4240(MDCRP.26/3).

## Annex 2

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