



**Regional Conference
on Social Development**
in Latin America and the Caribbean

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**REPORT OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Lima, 2-4 November 2015



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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of the meeting

1. The Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Lima from 2 to 4 November 2015, and was convened jointly by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Social Development and Inclusion of Peru, by virtue of a joint declaration signed in October 2014.

Attendance¹

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Spain and Uruguay.

3. Attending from the United Nations Secretariat were representatives of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

4. Also present at the Conference were representatives of the following United Nations programmes, funds and bodies: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

5. Also represented were the following specialized agencies of the United Nations: International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and World Bank.

6. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and other non-governmental organizations also attended the session.

¹ For the complete list of participants, see annex 2.

Election of Presiding Officers

7. The Conference elected the following Presiding Officers:

Chair: Peru

Vice-Chairs: Colombia
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Haiti
Panama
Paraguay

B. AGENDA

8. The Conference adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Presentation of the document: *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean.*
4. Review of the document: *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean.*
5. Other matters.
6. Consideration and adoption of agreements.

C. PROCEEDINGS

Opening session

9. At the opening session statements were made by Ollanta Humala Tasso, President of the Republic of Peru; Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); and Paola Bustamante, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru.

10. After welcoming the participants, the President of Peru said that his Government was delighted to be hosting the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which aimed to improve national policies in that area by sharing experiences and evaluating the region's progress in reducing poverty and inequality. He also said that growth alone was not enough to reduce

poverty, and acknowledged that the phenomenon was much broader than just economic hardship. A new multidimensional approach to poverty measurement needed to be introduced. The recent establishment of the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (MIDIS) of Peru had paved the way for the institutionalization of a State policy on development and social inclusion. He stressed that the Government of Peru had already increased social investment by 50% and expected that figure to rise to 87% in 2016. The President highlighted the importance of women in lifting families out of poverty and the need to target social programmes at that population segment. Lastly, he said that poverty was most intense in rural and remote areas and that the State must be able to reach such places.

11. The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) noted that the Conference was timely, coming shortly after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which conveyed both means and ends, with vital human development goals complemented by goals promoting inclusive growth, decent work, essential infrastructure and peaceful and inclusive societies. In view of the determination to leave no one behind, it would be essential to address the deep-rooted determinants of exclusion, which could only be achieved through deliberate measures and strong delivery capabilities. Ending poverty and exclusion involved going beyond income to address deficits in access to education and health care, overall living conditions and opportunities to build up basic assets, bearing in mind that the factors leading people out of poverty were different from those which prevented them from falling back into it. In that regard, UNDP called for the establishment of multidimensional well-being baskets to accelerate the pace of poverty eradication and to build up resilience to natural disasters and other kinds of shocks. She said that the Programme was committed to supporting countries through the three components of its “MAPS” (mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support) approach. UNDP also stood prepared to support national reporting and global and local advocacy on the Sustainable Development Goals. Lastly, she emphasized that in the context of slower growth rates, fresh thinking would be needed to continue the reduction of multidimensional poverty.

12. After thanking the Government of Peru for organizing the Conference, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC said that the goal of the Conference was to examine the region’s progress in the social sphere, the factors that had made that progress possible and the remaining challenges, such as the need for an agenda on social transformation that promoted a shift from a culture of privilege to an environment in which equality of rights provided a sense of belonging to a more integrated society. She stressed the importance of remaining resilient in the current climate of uncertainty and slow economic growth. The worst effects of inequality were still suffered by the most disadvantaged segments of society: indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, women, children and young people. She recalled that 11 of the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development concerned social issues. With regard to the environment, the region must move from an extractive culture to one of sustainability and intergenerational solidarity. Fiscal policy must be employed as a tool to combat inequality. She emphasized that strategies to overcome poverty should include three fundamental elements: income transfers for the immediate alleviation of hardship, access to good-quality public services to improve levels of education and health, and labour market and productive inclusion.

13. The Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru said that in order to achieve their common goal of reducing poverty and inequality, the countries of the region should not only share the challenges, but also the solutions. Social development meant guaranteeing an equitable distribution of economic resources, with enough investment to provide all citizens with the same good-quality services and development opportunities. She highlighted that the central focus should be on people at different stages of the life cycle, in particular so as to guarantee the comprehensive development of infants, children and adolescents and provide special protection for older persons. Intervention strategies should include a gender perspective, with a view to reducing inequalities between women and men, and an

intercultural approach that respected the cultural diversity of high Andean and indigenous communities. Furthermore, conditional cash transfer programmes should be seen as an investment in human capital and capacity development, and social interventions should not be designed for the poor, but rather to ensure equal access for all citizens. She also referred to strategies that Peru had implemented, such as the national development and social inclusion strategy, “Inclusion for Growth”, and the national financial inclusion strategy. Peru had decided to incorporate a multidimensional poverty approach that took into account other indicators, besides monetary ones. She closed by underscoring the need to link social policies to economic policies and to coordinate the activities and interventions of other sectors with those of subnational governments in order to move towards a common goal, which challenged all stakeholders to bring services closer to the user.

Presentation of the document: *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean* (agenda item 3)

14. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC presented the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean*.² She said that although Latin America and the Caribbean had made notable progress in social development over the past decade, much remained to be done, and that, as indicated by ECLAC in its equality trilogy, social issues are not played out in the social sphere alone, but also in the economy, politics and the environment. After elaborating on the factors that had led to recent progress in reducing poverty and inequality, she referred to the matrix of social inequality and stated that poverty reduction had stagnated since 2012 and extreme poverty was showing a slight upward trend. Latin America and the Caribbean remained the most unequal region in the world in terms of income distribution. She then offered an assessment of the achievements and challenges in health and education, and the inequalities affecting women, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, as well as children, young people, older persons and persons with disabilities. Furthermore, she stressed that decent work was the key to achieving equality and emphasized the importance of conditional cash transfer programmes. Although the region had achieved the goal established in the first of the eight Millennium Development Goals by halving extreme poverty by 2015 (compared with 1990 levels), significant efforts must be made to meet the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals, especially the first, which aimed to eradicate extreme poverty in all its forms by 2030. Lastly, she analysed the institutions in charge of social policies in the region and proposed policy guidelines in various key areas for inclusive development.

15. The floor was then given to the country representatives.

16. The representative of Paraguay stressed his country’s commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as his country’s role in promoting the Declaration of Asunción on development with social inclusion, adopted at the forty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS). He invited the participants to the third Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development of OAS, to be held in Asunción in July 2016. He said that generating decent and productive employment was crucial to achieving sustainable and inclusive development, and that the rise in productivity needed to be accompanied by access to international markets under equal conditions. New business models must be established that took into account the specific needs of landlocked developing countries.

² LC.L/4056(CDS.1/3).

17. The representative of Argentina stressed the importance of ECLAC addressing issues such as poverty, inequality and social protection, and underlined the need to link social policies to economic, fiscal and production policies. A distinction needed to be made between traditional low-productivity SMEs and those that were more high-tech. Not only should women's labour market participation be ensured, but its quality too, through collective bargaining and minimum wage policies. She referred to the Ministry of Social Development's *Ellas Hacen* programme, which is designed to help women learn a trade and complete primary or secondary education.

18. The representative of Chile said that the level of poverty in his country had been reduced from 38% in 1990 to 14%, and that the budget for social investment had been doubled, despite the difficulties posed by the existing Constitution which established the principle of the subsidiary State rather than taking a rights-based approach. He presented the changes that the Government of Chile envisioned for the near future, such as a constitutional reform and institutional change through fiscal, educational and labour reforms. He mentioned the false dichotomy that existed between targeted policies and universality in areas such as education, health and social security. The updated income poverty measurements showed a smaller reduction than predicted, and after accounting for multidimensional poverty, the poverty level was higher than initially reported. Lastly, most social protection programmes were aimed at the individual dimension; poverty was overcome, however, through a collective approach.

19. The representative of Peru reaffirmed her country's commitment to inclusion and social development and said that the national development and social inclusion strategy served to link interventions with common goals and aimed to close gaps. She highlighted State interventions in indigenous communities through the Inter-ministerial Social Affairs Commission. Social programmes had worked to help balance the social burden between men and women, and had included other cross-cutting elements, such as intercultural relations and disability. She stressed the importance of transparency and co-management in State activities in order to involve communities and local authorities in both the use of resources and the management of processes. Thanks to coordinated policies, Peru had achieved positive results with regard to closing gaps.

20. The representative of Uruguay drew attention to the importance of discussing inequality and the relationship between social and economic issues, given that the economy was not an end in and of itself. He shared his country's progress in closing gaps and redressing the situation of invisible groups such as indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and women. He questioned the conditionality of cash transfer programmes and proposed a review of the social protection matrices to determine what institutions needed to be developed. He highlighted the need to gather information on good practices in the social sphere and to strengthen national accounts to assess welfare provision and distribution. The Conference needed to be linked to the Statistical Conference of the Americas. Lastly, he conveyed his country's offer to host the following Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in November 2017.

21. The representative of the Dominican Republic reflected on the failure of the trickle-down economics of the 1990s and their legacy of great social gaps, insecurity and poor social cohesion. Although conditional cash transfers had helped to reduce inequalities, innovative policies, based on success stories, were needed to move towards sustainable social mobility. She stressed that work was the master key to achieving equality and called for reflection on the participation of employers and trade unions, on labour policies as essential social protection tools, on the vulnerabilities impacting on poverty, especially those related to climate change, and on the institutional fabric for poverty reduction under a more comprehensive and multidimensional approach. Finally, she referred to her country's analysis of horizontal and vertical gender gaps, and drew attention to social enterprises as a means to tackle social challenges.

22. The representative of Cuba referred to the need for a structural shift to close social and production gaps and establish a new State-market-society equation with compacts for greater social well-being and environmental sustainability. As ECLAC had argued, equality was a driver of growth and vice versa. She emphasized that Cuba had met all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, despite the difficulties arising from the United States embargo. Furthermore, Cuba had continued to act in solidarity with other countries, to which it had sent doctors, teachers and sports trainers to help poor and marginalized populations.

23. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela said that uncompromising orthodoxy should be avoided, as should inconsistent heterodoxy. He referred to the risks and challenges inherent to the prevailing economic situation and stressed that the State should continue to play an active role in the region to lock in the gains made in recent decades. Income protection and minimum wages were essential, as was broader participation by citizens in order to break the vicious cycle of poverty. Social policy in the region was no longer merely a tool that compensated for inequalities not resolved by the market; it was now viewed as an engine for economic development. He added that social investment was a prerequisite for independence and sovereignty in Latin America and the Caribbean.

24. The representative of Ecuador said that combating inequality needed to be a priority on the regional agenda and that a new institutional framework would allow for a more intersectoral approach and enable poverty to be seen as a multidimensional phenomenon. She also stressed the need to refocus programmes. Since 2014, Ecuador had been shifting from a policy of conditional cash transfers towards more inclusive social development, with programmes for investment in early childhood and in social security. Her country had also recently implemented a social security reform to offer coverage to unpaid domestic workers. Lastly, she noted the need to promote normative frameworks for the redistribution of wealth and creation of fiscal compacts.

25. The representative of Colombia referred to her country's major efforts to reduce poverty and extreme poverty through conditional cash transfer programmes, aimed at rural areas in particular. Such programmes had been combined with other mechanisms linked to health and education, and more recently productive inclusion. She also drew attention to the cross-sector work of the Social Prosperity Department, which determined who the beneficiaries of the various programmes would be. Lastly, she said that the biggest short-term challenge was to adjust the value of conditional transfers to compensate for the inflation of the price of the food basket, which was higher than overall inflation.

26. The representative of Panama reiterated her country's commitment to a social inclusion agenda and described recent achievements in that regard: a programme to promote bilingualism in public schools; a massive investment in drinking water and sanitation; a housing programme to combat extreme poverty in indigenous regions; and a scheme to build safe neighbourhoods through the inclusion of youth at social risk. The design of social protection systems should focus on targeted transfers and productivity, with an emphasis on transparency and citizen participation. She said that ways of working should be reviewed, since the problem was not that the region was poor but that it had been permeated by corruption.

27. After describing the situation in her country, the representative of Guatemala said that it was necessary to depoliticize social programmes and ensure that resources reached those in need. In order to ensure that the agreements did not just remain good intentions, she said that ministers of the economy and those responsible for deciding budgets should attend conferences on social policy. She also said that the culture of privilege needed to be replaced by one of equality, and steps should be taken to ensure that the private sector contributed to policy financing through proper payment of taxes. It was also essential to replace the culture of extractivism with a culture of sustainability. Lastly, she stressed that countries should not wait 30 years to assess the policies; rather, they should undertake constant monitoring.

28. The representative of Jamaica referred to her country's national development plan, Vision 2030, and its growth inducement strategy, which focused not only on economic growth but also on safeguarding social spending and on environmental protection. Jamaica had recently adopted a rights-based social protection strategy with a life cycle approach, covering prevention, protection, mitigation and transformation of the systemic factors that perpetuated inequality. The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit had been created in 2013 to monitor poverty trends and coordinate the major players implementing programmes, with a view to making outcomes sustainable. Moving forward, the policy would promote public-private coordination, human capacity-building, citizen empowerment and consumer protection. It would also build on the community-focused approach of the Programme of Advancement through Health and Education (PATH), making it more dynamic and responsive through a case-management approach to programme delivery. Lastly, she called for particular attention to be afforded to the vulnerabilities of several English-speaking Caribbean countries, given their status as small island developing States (SIDS).

29. The representative of El Salvador said that his Government had made equality a goal, a priority and a cross-cutting strategy, with a view to moving forward more consistently with poverty reduction and social inclusion. The ECLAC report showed that the region's progress, though substantial, was not happening fast enough, owing to prevailing structures and development rationales that were proving very hard to overcome. It was also essential to consider the impacts of climate change, which were feeding into a vicious cycle of poverty, insecurity and inequality in the northern triangle of Central America. He referred to the State's planning and regulatory function, and the close links between planning, transformation of the State and citizenship-building. He also said that to achieve structural change, genuine processes for building citizenship and establishing rights were needed, which included new market dynamics. Lastly, he stressed the need to harness horizontal and South-South cooperation.

30. The representative of Mexico welcomed the Conference on Social Development as a forum that sought complementarities with United Nations agencies and other mechanisms. The ECLAC document offered an overview of the regional situation and the challenges ahead. Mexico had been pursuing since 2012 a comprehensive, rights-based social policy, with a strong conditional transfer component, but it lacked a more productive approach to meet the ultimate goal of ending poverty. Therefore, it had begun to implement the new Prospera programme, designed to achieve the labour, financial and productive inclusion of participating families. Lastly, her Government was willing to work with other countries of the region on the 2030 Agenda, and on other issues covered in the document, including inequality, policy coordination and the multidimensionality of poverty.

Review of the document: *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean* (agenda item 4)

31. Under this agenda item, five panels were held, addressing priority issues for social development, identified in the document presented under the previous agenda item.³

32. Panel 1, Poverty, social inclusion and inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean: success factors and pending challenges, was chaired by Paola Bustamante, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru, with the participation of Carlos Alvarado Quesada, Minister of Human Development and Social Inclusion of Costa Rica; Fernanda Maldonado, Vice Minister of Economic Inclusion of Ecuador; Juan Pablo Labat, National Director of Evaluation and Monitoring of the Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay; Tatyana Orozco, Director of the Social Prosperity Department of Colombia; Inés Páez, Adviser to the Ministry of Social Development of Argentina; and Creuza Maria Oliveira, President of the National Federation of Domestic Workers of Brazil.

³ The papers and presentations may be accessed at the meeting website [online]: <http://crds.cepal.org/en>.

33. The Minister of Human Development and Social Inclusion of Costa Rica highlighted three essential aspects of his country's social agenda. First, although cash transfers were a significant supplement to the poorest households' income, they were not the only source of income. The key was strengthening links to the labour market, as well as fiscal policy, which should take into account the solidarity between quintiles. Second, more comprehensive measurement systems should be developed, such as the Multidimensional Poverty Index of Costa Rica, which looked at five dimensions: education, protection, housing, work and health. Lastly, better use must be made of technological tools for administrative record-keeping and territorial identification of potential beneficiaries of policies.

34. The Vice Minister of Economic Inclusion of Ecuador presented some aspects of her country's National Inclusion and Social Equity System, which sought to generate a virtuous cycle based on three elements: the rights of "good living", satisfaction of basic needs and protection from risk. She also referred to the recent progress in Ecuador's social sphere—a sharp drop in poverty levels, improvements in education indicators, progress in the eradication of child labour and expanded social security coverage—and the factors that had enabled that progress, particularly the Human Development Grant. With regard to the remaining challenges, she stressed the need to strengthen families' shared responsibility and move past the welfare State model by empowering citizens.

35. The National Director of Evaluation and Monitoring of the Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay began by referring to his country's macroeconomic situation, highlighting sustained growth in GDP and investment, tax reform and increases in the proportion of direct tax collected, reduced VAT evasion, formalized employment and the sustained increase in public social investment, especially in health and education. The main social advances took the form of reductions in monetary poverty and, to a lesser extent, multidimensional poverty. Despite significant reductions in poverty between 2000 and 2007, the trend towards greater inequality had only been reversed by tax reform. He underscored some of the remaining challenges, such as extreme poverty, persistent inequality and tiered welfare provision. He also highlighted the need to improve the production of statistics and administrative records, and review the structure of public institutions.

36. The Director of the Social Prosperity Department of Colombia said that conditional cash transfers had played a significant role in steadily reducing poverty and inequality in recent years, but that the emerging middle class was at risk of falling into poverty. Colombia had a high level of income inequality and wide demographic and territorial gaps, which affected indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants. The main challenges with multidimensional poverty were related to water, sanitation and child labour. She also mentioned the strategy to continue along the path of progress, which included increasing household income and reducing multidimensional poverty, and called for comprehensive and intersectoral public policies in both urban and rural areas. Lastly, she underscored the importance of information management, not only to identify target demographics, but also to follow up on benefits provided by the State.

37. The Adviser to the Ministry of Social Development of Argentina referred to the progress her country had made in the social sphere, highlighting the decline in unemployment, the strengthening of the social security system (which had expanded to include housewives and domestic workers), achievements in education and health, increased social investment and the reduction of inequality reflected in the Gini index. Several social programmes had contributed to those achievements, such as employment policies introduced by the Ministry of Social Development, policies geared towards families, and programmes to support students. Lastly, she drew attention to other challenges, including strengthening the link between social and economic policies, promoting job creation policies and keeping children and young people in the education system.

38. The President of the National Federation of Domestic Workers of Brazil referred to the great efforts made in her country to recognize the rights of women, highlighting in particular racial inequalities, and to support victims of domestic violence. She also mentioned the progress achieved in social inclusion policies: social housing provision, a higher minimum wage, improved rights for domestic workers, and greater access to university education for young people from poorer households and Afro-descendent and indigenous populations thanks to affirmative action policies. Furthermore, educational opportunities and access to housing for domestic workers had been expanded, and domestic work had been classified as a form of dangerous child labour and was therefore prohibited for children aged under 18. She emphasized that the low value placed on domestic work was associated with gender and racial discrimination, and that many domestic workers were heads of households and were often alone, meaning that they cared for the other people's children, but could not take proper care of their own. Therefore, domestic workers were continuing to fight for decent living and working conditions.

39. Panel 2, Macroeconomic and fiscal frameworks for inclusive social development, was chaired by Alonso Segura Vasi, Minister of Economy and Finance of Peru, with the participation of Luis Alberto Arce Catacora, Minister of Economy and Public Finance of the Plurinational State of Bolivia; Víctor Báez, Secretary General of the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas; Alfredo Jam Massó, Director of Macroeconomic Affairs of the Ministry of Economy and Planning of Cuba; Shelly-Ann Edwards, Head of the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit of the Planning Institute of Jamaica; and Carlos Gustavo Cano, Co-director of the Bank of the Republic of Colombia.

40. In the panel's opening statement, the Minister of Economy and Finance of Peru highlighted that the past decade had been one of great prosperity in Latin America, particularly for commodity-exporting countries, thanks to demand from China. Nevertheless, the economic slowdown in that country had brought an end to that cycle and fiscal resources were less readily available. It was pertinent to consider how to continue to implement social programmes at a time of severe budgetary restrictions, especially as the Sustainable Development Goals called for additional funding.

41. The Minister of Economy and Public Finance of the Plurinational State of Bolivia stressed the importance of income distribution and the active participation of the State in the economy. The Plurinational State of Bolivia had begun the task of redistributing income around 2006, following the nationalization of strategic sectors, such as hydrocarbons and mining. Income redistribution was a fundamental element of his country's economic model and had made it possible to reduce poverty and inequality and to create a domestic market that sustained economic growth in the country against a backdrop of international crisis. The Government had diversified the financial sources of its budget by investing in public enterprises that financed a significant proportion of social policies. On the subject of pensions, he highlighted the establishment of a solidarity fund, financed by high-income workers, employers and the State.

42. The Secretary General of the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas highlighted the close ties between the social, economic and environmental spheres, and stressed the importance of including politics in the same equation. He urged the Governments of the region to ratify the 2011 ILO Domestic Workers Convention (No. 189). He emphasized the need to remove all restrictions to trade union organization and guarantee the effective right to collective bargaining by promoting industrial unionism rather than just company-level negotiation, both of which were essential factors in improving income distribution. He called for the creation of a social security agreement of the Americas, as present in MERCOSUR and Ibero-America, with a view to promoting a mutual recognition of social security rights and benefits among countries. Prices and inflation must be controlled, as they had the biggest impact on wage-earners and the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

43. The Director of Macroeconomic Affairs of the Ministry of Economy and Planning of Cuba presented his country's social model, emphasizing that it promoted the most equitable distribution of resources, and underscored that the State must fund social spending. He highlighted that Cuba guaranteed free good-quality healthcare and education for all. As a result of the rise in the number of women in education and the labour market, the fertility rate had dropped sharply. He also said that more women graduated from university than men, and that those graduates were employed in better jobs.

44. The Head of the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit of the Planning Institute of Jamaica presented her country's social programme and drew attention to the new development plan (Vision 2030), which had been prepared by a wide variety of stakeholders and endorsed by every major political party in the country. One of the development plan's six pillars—in accordance with the rights established in the Constitution—sought to ensure the creation of a social protection floor by highlighting the links to the economy and the importance of a life cycle perspective. With regard to poverty reduction, she said that her country was working on building capacities and providing equitable access to goods and services. On the subject of taxes, she referred to fiscal reforms designed to benefit the most vulnerable in society, minimum wage increases and lower inflation. However, she noted that much remained to be done in relation to poverty reduction, unemployment and environmental protection.

45. The Co-director of the Bank of the Republic of Colombia emphasized the role of central banks in controlling inflation, as it affected mainly the poorest and most vulnerable sectors of the population. He said that inflation was largely driven by high food prices as a result of climate change and water stress. Fiscal policy must be made ecologically friendly by imposing taxes on emissions and providing subsidies and incentives to those developing models to address severe worldwide environmental damage.

46. In the subsequent statements, the representative of Cuba highlighted the need to guarantee education for all, and said that his country was reforming its education sector and offered to share its model with the other participating countries. The representative of Panama referred to the region's two unfinished tasks: (i) establishing a universal social security system that recognized unpaid domestic work, which was largely carried out by women; and (ii) the need to develop new economic and redistributive models to improve education and health and, in the meantime, to review the conditional cash transfer programmes to ensure that they promoted autonomy and targeted vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, young people and women.

47. Panel 3, Social policy institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean: how much progress has been made?, was chaired by Norma Vidal Añaños, Vice Minister of Social Benefits of the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru, with the participation of Marina Arismendi, Minister of Social Development of Uruguay; Marcos Barraza Gómez, Minister of Social Development of Chile; Norma Quixtán Argueta, Minister of Social Development of Guatemala; Cecilia Vaca Jones, Minister for the Coordination of Social Development of Ecuador; Ernesto Nemer Álvarez, Undersecretary for Social and Human Development of the Secretariat of Social Development (SEDESOL) of Mexico; and Carlos Miguel Sáenz Rojas, Director General of Coordination of Government and International Cooperation in the Technical Secretariat of the Office of the President of El Salvador.

48. The Minister of Social Development of Uruguay gave a short historical account of her country's social policy and underscored the early development of universal education, health and social security policies. She said that the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) was created in 2005 to coordinate, guide, link and plan social development policies. Tax reform was introduced in the midst of the 2008 crisis, and had reduced income concentration. The equity plan established that 4.5% of GDP must be allocated to education, although her Government was proposing a figure of 6% at the present time. She stressed the importance of the legal

foundation, as the matter must be included in the budget by law, regardless of the government in office. She said that steps must be taken to move towards comprehensive health and care systems. Lastly, she highlighted the need for legislation, programmes, targets, goals and budgets as key elements.

49. The Minister of Social Development of Chile highlighted the recent history of his country's institutions with regard to social issues, and said that his Ministry was responsible for collaborating with the President's office in the design of social protection policies, plans and programmes for poor and vulnerable groups. He highlighted current challenges for the Government of Chile: updating the methodology for income poverty measurement and including multidimensionality; establishing the new Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and the Council of Indigenous Peoples; creating the new Under-Secretariat for Disability, the new Under-Secretariat for Children and the System to Guarantee the Rights of Children; and the process to draft a new Constitution, since the current version contained the principle of subsidiarity and restricted the exercise of rights. Lastly, he said that the process under way sought to move towards a society with less inequality and greater citizen participation, and underscored the idea that in order to deliver effective social policy, institutions must be linked to the labour market.

50. The Minister of Social Development of Guatemala said that a proposal to strengthen her Ministry had been created in 2012 and was informed by other countries' experiences. The Ministry's budget was too small for follow-up and evaluations, and needed to improve in that regard. She highlighted that Guatemala's institutions were being strengthened through support from international cooperation. Among the progress made, she cited the single register of users, which had been created with international support. On the subject of accountability, the current staff members had proposed to work on planning, the quality of expenditure, depoliticization, the institutionalization of benefits and establishing shared responsibilities in order to put an end to families' dependence on the State for grants. She also stressed the need to work with other stakeholders, such as Congress, the justice system and the Office of the Human Rights Procurator.

51. The Minister for the Coordination of Social Development of Ecuador stressed the need to approach social policy, not only from within the social sphere, but also from the perspective of the economy, politics and the environment, with participation from the financial sector and with gender equity. She referred to the goals and inter-institutional nature of the National Plan for Good Living (which had two key strategies: eradicate poverty and revamp the production matrix), the organization of sectors with their own intersectoral agendas into six strategic areas and agendas by zone to put the policies into practice. She highlighted four pillars of the social agenda, which aimed to create opportunities and develop capacities: (i) access to services; (ii) quality of services; (iii) prevention and promotion; and (iv) leisure, fulfilment and pleasure. Lastly, she said that the main challenges were strengthening intersectoral cohesion in territories and integrated information systems, improving efficiency, avoiding the duplication of services and creating mechanisms to integrate and universalize services.

52. The Undersecretary for Social and Human Development of the Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL) of Mexico stressed the importance of the National Crusade Against Hunger in addressing the challenge of 11.4 million people living in extreme poverty and 7.4 million people lacking food. Coordination was the key to progress at the federal, state and municipal levels. Of the current institution's social policies, he drew attention to the National Commission to Combat Poverty, the National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL) and 270 federal social programmes. In his closing remarks, he highlighted the importance of moving beyond assistentialist social policy towards productive inclusion with rights and capacity development, and focusing on six fundamental deficits (food, education, health, decent housing, drinking water, sanitation and electricity, and social security), as well as the need to coordinate and link policies with private initiatives and make every effort to guarantee rights, with productive development as a central pillar.

53. The Director General of Coordination of Government and International Cooperation in the Technical Secretariat of the Office of the President of El Salvador began his presentation by highlighting the need to build political, citizen and international correlations. He said that the Secretariat of Planning and the Secretariat of Social Inclusion were working on developing new instruments and consolidating the existing ones, multidimensional poverty measurement, institutional changes related to the statistics system, and redesigning the conditional cash transfer programmes. Among the future challenges, he stressed the importance of consolidating the planning system over the long-term (by 2030); establishing new institutions for information and statistics, evaluation and follow-up; ensuring that the budget process prioritized the plan by preparing multi-year results-based budgets; ensuring good-quality implementation and public administration; changing the view and practice of a fragmented State; addressing regulatory weaknesses; and committing to initiatives for those in early childhood, young people and women.

54. During the comment period, the representative of Peru drew attention to issues that posed significant institutional challenges, such as intervention in households and the problem of universal versus targeted provision, coordination and multidimensionality, the role of ministries of finance in the allocation of expenditure and the role of ministries of social development in directing that expenditure. A representative of civil society said that mainstreaming disability in Ecuador had produced very positive results, and highlighted the role of civil society in those changes. Furthermore, she proposed the creation of a regional disability observatory. The representative of Argentina said that social policies in her country were cross-cutting, with a focus on people, and were coordinated by the Ministry of Social Development. She emphasized the need for rights to be guaranteed in the Constitution or law of all countries.

55. Panel 4, Towards the next generation of social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean: fundamental principles and new strategies, was chaired by Ariela María de los Milagros Luna Florez, Vice Minister for Policies and Social Evaluation of the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru, with the participation of Paulo Jannuzzi, Secretary for Evaluation and Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development and Hunger Alleviation of Brazil; Herick Goicoechea, Director General of Public Policy of the Office of the Vice-President for Social Development and Revolution of the Missions of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Marta Novick, Undersecretary for Technical Programming and Labour Studies of the Ministry of Labour of Argentina; Altagracia Suriel, Director General of the Progress with Solidarity Programme (PROSOLI) of the Dominican Republic; Fils-Lien Thelot, Social Protection Adviser at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour of Haiti; and Héctor Cárdenas, Minister of the Secretariat of Social Action of the Presidency of Paraguay.

56. In the panel's opening statement, the Vice Minister for Policies and Social Evaluation of the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru said that the challenge for the region was to reduce inequality, which called for the development of universal social protection systems in line with a rights-based approach in order to overcome territorial and ethnic inequalities. She added that new ideas had taken hold in the region, including comprehensive social protection, coordination between the contributory and non-contributory components, as well as care systems. Universal social protection, together with decent employment, was the master key to overcoming poverty.

57. The Secretary for Evaluation and Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development and Hunger Alleviation of Brazil shared his country's experience, which was characterized by synergies between the policy agenda, governance and technical capacity, and which had contributed to the eradication of hunger and reduction of poverty, extreme poverty and income inequality over the past 20 years. He drew attention to some of the achievements of his country's inclusive development strategy: (i) the implementation of policies that had improved economic inclusion (control of inflation and public debt, coupled with a rise in public spending, formal employment and the minimum wage); (ii) the strengthening

of the social protection system, which had involved combining universal policies with affirmative action policies that supported marginalized groups; (iii) the intensification of State and government activities in the social sphere (better federal and inter-ministerial coordination, and stronger social dialogue and statistics); and (iv) the establishment of the Brasil sem Miséria (Brazil without Extreme Poverty) plan. Lastly, he stressed that labour and productive inclusion programmes posed a significant challenge, since the most vulnerable had to be included in the productive sector and formal job market.

58. The Director General of Public Policy of the Office of the Vice-President for Social Development and Revolution of the Missions of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela explained that the missions had arisen in 2003 as a comprehensive inclusion strategy to serve the most socially disadvantaged sectors of society as a matter of priority. The country's social policy focused on control of oil revenues, participation, equity, universality and widespread and rapid inclusion. He emphasized that social investment in the country had increased fivefold between 1983-1998 and 1999-2014, which had positively impacted various social indicators. The Plan de la Patria—a social and economic development plan—was drafted in 2012 and included social targets in the areas of poverty, human development, income inequality, life expectancy and child malnutrition. Lastly, he stressed the importance of cooperation among the region's countries on social issues.

59. The Undersecretary for Technical Programming and Labour Studies of the Ministry of Labour of Argentina focused her statement on the key dimensions for reducing inequality, placing particular emphasis on labour market factors: lowering informal work and raising labour income. She referred to the paradigm shift that had begun in her country in 2003, when the rights of children and older persons were universalized, a comprehensive social protection system was developed and good-quality and decent employment was generated. Decent work had become the central component of the inclusive development strategy. As a result, unemployment and informal employment had fallen, and the number of social security contributors had increased. Social protection coverage had expanded, thanks to the pension fund moratorium and the Universal Child Allowance, which had helped reduce income inequality. She ended her statement by underscoring that growth was needed for equality and equality for growth, which involved improving decent employment through labour market regulation, and social protection through expanding cash transfers, while bearing in mind its links to production.

60. The Director General of the Progress with Solidarity Programme (PROSOLI) of the Dominican Republic said that the aim of the programme was to promote justice and sustainable development for the poorest families through a third-generation intervention model, which combined conditional cash transfers with family support from volunteer family liaisons and public-private partnerships operating under different agreements. The programme followed several approaches, based on rights, gender equality and life cycle, with different interventions being implemented according to age group. Efficiency was a strong focus of the programme, which had enabled the organizers to obtain ISO certification and implement a system to monitor families. The programme had reduced poverty and inequality in the country between 2003 and 2015. Without PROSOLI, poverty levels would be 24% higher.

61. The Social Protection Adviser at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour of Haiti spoke about the principles and strategic inclusive social development activities in his country. He said that Haiti had high levels of poverty, inequality, unemployment, informal employment, child mortality and environmental vulnerability, as well as low levels of education. Paradoxically, official development assistance had increased, but human development indicators had worsened. He presented the 2012 Strategic Development Plan, which included new social policies with principles based on rights and gender equality. Haiti had prioritized social protection, food security, access to water and sanitation, and health. The most important outstanding issues included the creation of a single beneficiary register,

expanded social security coverage in the areas of health and pensions, and increased food security. A universal, free and compulsory education programme had been introduced, to ensure that the vast majority of the population had access to education. Lastly, he noted that while it was not easy to achieve inclusive social development after an earthquake and during a transition to democracy, Haiti was attempting to advance towards a new generation of social policies.

62. The Minister of the Secretariat of Social Action of the Office of the President of Paraguay said that his country had reduced poverty and extreme poverty between 2005 and 2014, but not income inequality. To address the situation, the Government had launched the 2030 National Development Plan, which had three main targets: poverty and social development, inclusive economic growth, and participation on the world stage. With regard to social protection, the Secretariat had launched two important programmes: Tekoporã and Tenonderã. The first was a conditional cash transfer programme, covering 35% of the impoverished population, with a strong focus on indigenous communities and complemented by several programmes relating to disability, care, technical training and financial inclusion. The second sought to strengthen the productive capacities of 5,000 families to allow them to meet their needs and generate income independently, with the ultimate goal of securing decent employment.

63. Panel 5, Proposals for exploring and measuring multidimensional poverty, was chaired by Paola Bustamante, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru, with the participation of Paulo Jannuzzi, Secretary for Evaluation and Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development and Hunger Alleviation of Brazil; Matilde Chávez, Director General of the Single Beneficiary System (SIUBEN) of the Dominican Republic; and Reinaldo Cervantes, Undersecretary for Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development Coordination of Ecuador.

64. In her opening statement, the Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru stressed the importance of multidimensional poverty measurement in guiding public policy decision-making. Several countries in the region had had successful experiences in applying the multidimensional approach and a number of others were preparing to do so, which deserved greater visibility in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The existing work on measuring multidimensional vulnerability should be disseminated. It was important that national statistical offices addressed the challenges posed by those types of measurements, and the subject needed to be discussed at the Statistical Conference of the Americas, with a view to establishing a comparable metric to follow up on the Sustainable Development Goals.

65. The Secretary for Evaluation and Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development and Hunger Alleviation of Brazil said that, in his country, poverty was understood to be a multidimensional phenomenon, although income was used as the main variable for targeting assistance in the Bolsa Família programme. A multidimensional poverty indicator must be based on a combined measurement of monetary poverty and social vulnerability (access to basic rights). He noted that at least three measures had been proposed at an international level —by the World Bank, the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI)/UNDP and ECLAC— but that only the first was a multidimensional poverty measurement. With regard to the ECLAC proposal, he suggested including indicators such as child labour and early childhood protection and excluding income. One of the goals of a multidimensional measurement system should be to identify clearly distinct groups of poor people. Indicators should make synchronic and diachronic distinctions between those groups and be policy-sensitive, especially in relation to economic inclusion and conditional cash transfer programmes. Lastly, indicators must be accurate and comparable over time, and allow typologies to be established.

66. The Director General of the Single Beneficiary System (SIUBEN) of the Dominican Republic explained that SIUBEN sought to ensure transparency and provide an objective mechanism to guide the system —through identifying and classifying poor households— by assessing household characteristics, as well as geographic criteria. The instrument used to identify potential beneficiaries was a quality of life index, which considered the characteristics of the dwelling and household, and access to basic services and education. The system covered 80.3% of the population. A vulnerability index was recently introduced in response to environmental shocks as a preventive measure, rather than a reactive one. Today, the country was moving towards establishing a multidimensional poverty index —supported by UNDP and OPHI— with seven dimensions (health, education, social gaps, housing, environmental vulnerability, human well-being and employment) and 24 indicators.

67. The Undersecretary for Information Management of the Ministry of Social Development Coordination of Ecuador said that poverty in his country was measured in terms of consumption, income and unmet basic needs. However, a multidimensional poverty index would reveal what traditional measures could not capture. Within the Government's broadest vision of development, rights had been grouped into four dimensions (education and communication; health, water and food, habitat, housing and a healthy environment; work; and social security), but minimum values needed to be defined. A group of indicators and reference populations had already been established. Lastly, he referred to the remaining challenges, such as raising awareness of the new metric among political and institutional stakeholders, including variables in the permanent surveys and coordinating the range of programmes at the territorial level.

68. In the subsequent discussion, the representative of Costa Rica reaffirmed Brazil's contribution in classifying the poor in order to better target interventions, and asked for comments on the reluctance of OPHI to include income in the multidimensional poverty index. The representative of Mexico stressed the need to strengthen social institutions and official poverty measurements, and said that multidimensional measurement incorporated a qualitative change into social policy and encouraged greater transparency of information. It was important that the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean became a forum for discussing those issues and providing guidance. The representative of Panama said that, although the multidimensional approach presented challenges from a solidarity perspective and strengthened social inclusion programmes, transparency and the State's vision were vital and existed outside of party politics. In response, the Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru underscored the importance of knowing what to measure and why. She said that ministers of social development should create instruments to link policies together. The representative of Uruguay agreed with the importance of defining and understanding the concept of multidimensional poverty by establishing its dimensions and needs thresholds and determining the indicators and aggregation criterion to be used. That definition was inherently political and should therefore be governed by States' policy goals. The contextual nature of the process made it difficult to conceive of universal measurements of multidimensional poverty. Furthermore, the importance of income in those measurements depended on the role of the State in ensuring social well-being in each country. The representative of Guatemala said that decisions based on those experiences must be taken with responsibility, transparency and social-scientific ethics. The representative of Brazil commented that the Ministry of Social Development in his country did not believe in one single methodology, but worked with a multidimensional set of indicators, and added that the OPHI methodology did not place enough weight on labour policies and income, since its social policy matrix was aimed at countries poorer than those of Latin America and the Caribbean. Lastly, the representative of Haiti read aloud a message from his country's Ministry of Social Development and Labour.

Closing session

69. At the closing session, statements were made by Jessica Faieta, Regional Director of UNDP for Latin America and the Caribbean; Laís Abramo, Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC; Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC; and Paola Bustamante, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru.

70. The Regional Director of UNDP for Latin America and the Caribbean highlighted the progress achieved in the region's institutional frameworks, such as the proposal to create a one-stop window where life-cycle policies could be combined with shorter-term policies. She also referred to the introduction of a multidimensional approach to development policies, the positive impact of data-based evidence and the connection between fiscal policy and social policy. Lastly, she reaffirmed the commitment of UNDP to the people who had not yet benefited from the social improvements achieved in the region.

71. The Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC emphasized that activities carried out by the State and public participation were key to combating poverty and reducing inequalities. She also stressed the need for a rights-based approach, with the aim of attaining universal coverage and strengthening new institutional structures in the social sphere. She recalled that although cash transfer policies needed improvement, decent employment was the key to achieving equality. Lastly, she said that the work of ECLAC was to provide opportunities for dialogue between the countries of the region so that they could move in the same direction.

72. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC said that the Conference had drawn attention to the need for intersectoral and comprehensive social policies that took into account the multidimensionality of poverty, inequality and social exclusion. The goal was growth for equality and equality for growth. There was a need to move towards a new generation of policies to combat poverty and reduce inequalities through progressive structural change and sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

73. In conclusion, the Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru said that it was necessary to continue focusing efforts on individuals and their life cycles from conception, through the first years of life and then guaranteeing access to health and education. She also recalled that social policies should be guided by the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is an agenda designed to combat inequalities, promote the empowerment of women and protect the environment.

Adoption of agreements by the Conference

74. The member States of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the resolution, which appears in annex 1 of the present document.

Annex 1

RESOLUTION 1(I)

The Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered at Lima, from 2 to 4 November 2015,

Bearing in mind that by virtue of resolution 682(XXXV) adopted at the thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in May 2014, the member States approved the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission, with objectives that included: to promote the development of national policies on social development; to further international, regional and bilateral cooperation among offices and institutions; to examine multidimensional poverty and make progress on poverty measurement, inequality and structural gaps in conjunction with the relevant subsidiary bodies that conduct studies in this field, in particular the Statistical Conference of the Americas; to exchange experiences in relation to social matters and support and provide technical inputs to the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States and other regional forums; and to contribute from the perspective of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to the discussions and proposals considered by the Commission for Social Development of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind also that, by virtue of resolution 2014/32, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations endorsed the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, as set out in resolution 682(XXXV) of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind further that the United Nations Development Programme has held the Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean every year since 2007 and that, by means of a declaration signed in October 2014, the Commission and the Programme decided to jointly convene the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recognizing that the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,¹ is the road map of the United Nations, marking a paradigm shift and a new era for international cooperation for people, planet and prosperity, and that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, with the aim of leaving no one behind,

Considering that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers an opportunity for all the countries in the region to progress towards eliminating poverty and reducing inequality, as proposed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the documents presented at its past three sessions,²

¹ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

² *Time for Equality: Closing gaps, opening trails* (LC/G.2432(SES.33/3)); *Structural Change for Equality: An integrated approach to development* (LC/G.2524(SES.34/3)); *Compacts for Equality: Towards a sustainable future* (LC/G.2586(SES.35/3)).

Convinced that the materialization of the means to implement the Sustainable Development Goals set forth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will depend upon the effective establishment of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, in which States, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders pool their efforts in a spirit of solidarity,

Bearing in mind that the revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development must be broad and inclusive and must recognize diversity and the common but differentiated responsibilities of the stakeholders in development, with the aim of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and their respective targets,

Recognizing the negative effects of unilateral coercive economic measures on the economic and social development of the countries subjected to such measures,

Recognizing also that follow-up and review processes must maintain the level of ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development over time; take place in an independent, rigorous, inclusive and participatory manner; allow for regular, high-level discussion of outcomes; be endowed with adequate budgets and participatory monitoring and accountability frameworks at the local, subnational and national levels; and contribute to working congruously with the human rights machineries and other bodies of the United Nations system, as appropriate,

1. *Welcomes* the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean*,³ and asks that it be circulated widely and its discussion and analysis promoted within the region, including in civil society and academic circles, thereby promoting national dialogue on the main issues covered, taking each country's national characteristics into account;

2. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to organize, maintain and systematically update the social investment database, using official data provided by the countries for this purpose, and to publish this information on a regular basis on digital platforms or in other media;

3. *Also requests* the Commission to organize, maintain and systematically update the database of non-contributory social protection programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean, using official data provided by the countries for this purpose, and to publish this information on a regular basis on digital platforms or in other media, and to conduct comparative studies on the provision of social programmes;

4. *Further requests* the Commission to support the countries of the region in strengthening their systems of public policy evaluation;

5. *Also requests* the Commission to organize, maintain and systematically update the database on youth and social inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean, using official data provided by the countries for this purpose, and to publish this information on a regular basis on digital platforms or in other media;

6. *Recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a universal and inclusive action plan based on the three dimensions of sustainable development —economic, social and environmental— whose Goals and targets are indivisible, and that the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean is the most suitable forum in which to enhance

³ LC.L/4056(CDS.1/3).

synergies and pool efforts among the various stakeholders in sustainable development, with a view to working towards the regional implementation of the 2030 Agenda with a focus on the social dimension and fostering South-South cooperation;

7. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to foster, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, the strengthening of cooperation ties between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, so that they may continue to promote experience-sharing for social policymaking, taking into account the institutional structure created by the countries;

8. *Encourages* the secretariat of the Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, to support the Latin American and Caribbean countries in their efforts to develop new methodologies and instruments for measuring multidimensional poverty, deprivations and vulnerability;

9. *Also encourages* the secretariat of the Commission to continue the integrated analysis of economic, production and social policies and policies on employment protection and decent work, in order to broaden exchange-sharing between countries of the region;

10. *Urges* the secretariat to focus its research and technical assistance agenda on the multiple dimensions of social inequality, poverty and vulnerability, social protection, food and nutritional security, social policies and their relationship with the labour market, fiscal policy, and social policy institutions;

11. *Also urges* the secretariat to deepen the analysis of the multiple dimensions of social inequality identified in the document *Inclusive social development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean*, and report in this regard at the next meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Conference, to be held in the Dominican Republic in the third quarter of 2016;

12. *Commends* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Programme for having organized the Conference jointly, thereby generating synergies and complementarities and avoiding duplication of effort;

13. *Requests* the Commission to take into consideration convergence and complementarity with the agendas of other regional initiatives in the area of social development, with a view to achieving mutual reinforcement and avoiding duplication of effort;

14. *Decides* that the Presiding Officers of the Conference will be composed of Peru (Chair) and Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama and Paraguay (Vice-Chairs);

15. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Programme to jointly convene the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the Dominican Republic in the third quarter of 2016;

16. *Welcomes* the offer of Uruguay to host the next Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in November 2017;

17. *Conveys* its gratitude to the Government and people of Peru for the excellent organization of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Annex 2

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- Gabriel Darío Samudio Díaz, Oficial de Enlace, Perú/Liaison Officer, email: dipechoperu@eird.org

C. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas United Nations bodies

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

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

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- Carlos Enrique Rojas Dávila, Oficial de Monitoreo y Evaluación/ Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, email: crojas@unicef.org

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

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**D. Organismos especializados
Specialized agencies**

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

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- Elena Montobbio, Coordinadora del Programa Internacional para la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil (IPEC) para América Latina y el Caribe, email: montobbio@ilo.org
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Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (FAO)/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- John Pressing, Representante en el Perú, email: john.preissing@fao.org

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

- Ignacio Cancino, Coordinator of the Science Sector, Peru

Banco Mundial/World Bank

Rosa Vidarte, Consultora, Estados Unidos, email: rosavidarte@gmail.com

E. Invitados de honor
Honour guests

- Ollanta Humala Tasso, Presidente de la República del Perú
- Nadine Heredia, Primera Dama de la Nación

F. Invitados especiales
Special guests

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G. Organizaciones intergubernamentales Intergovernmental organizations

Alianza Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América-Tratado de Comercio de los Pueblos (ALBA-TCP)/ Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America -Peoples' Trade Agreement

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Asociación Latinoamericana de Instituciones Financieras para el Desarrollo (ALIDE)/ Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions

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Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

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CAF-Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina/CAF-Development Bank of Latin America

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Comunidad Andina/Andean Community

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

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Organización de Cooperación y Desarrollo Económicos (OCDE)/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

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

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Organización Iberoamericana de Seguridad Social/Ibero-American Social Security Organization

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

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AIIESEC International

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Centro de la Mujer Peruana Flora Tristán

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Comisión de Damas Invidentes del Perú

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Conferencia Mundial de Religiones por la Paz/World Conference of Religions for Peace

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Corporación Peruana de Desarrollo Sostenible (COPEDES)

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EDAPROSPO- Equipo de Educación y Autogestión Social

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Enseña País

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Global Young Forum

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Instituto J&CH

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Inter-American Foundation, Servicio de Enlace

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LULAC Foundation –League of United Latin American Citizens

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