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

Santiago, 20-22 April 2010

## **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

## **A. BACKGROUND**

Resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council of the United Nations states that the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) shall have the following duties: to carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference; to draw up, every two years, a biennial programme of activities of regional and international cooperation on statistical matters, to be submitted at the regular meeting of the Conference; to follow up the implementation of the agreements reached at the Conference and the tasks entrusted to it by the Conference, particularly the biennial programme of activities; and to decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

At its fifth meeting, held in Bogota, in August 2009, the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC determined that the composition of the Executive Committee would be as follows: Chairperson: Dominican Republic; members: Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, France and Uruguay.

The ninth meeting of the Executive Committee will be concerned with follow-up to the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2009-2011, resolution 6 (V) adopted by the Statistical Conference of the Americas at its fifth meeting. In particular, at its ninth meeting, the Executive Committee will have a mandate to review and approve the programmes of work of the working groups for the period 2010-2011. It will also have the opportunity to review forthcoming goals and tasks related to major international statistical cooperation activities, such as the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme, the project on the directory of businesses and establishments, and the database for integrated presentation of statistical activities conducted by international bodies and organizations and the member countries of the Conference. Lastly, the Executive Committee will discuss the priorities of the Conference to be brought before ECLAC at its thirty-third session, consider programmes of action and identify new issues of statistical interest.

## **B. CHAIR OF THE MEETING**

In accordance with the provisions of resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the Dominican Republic will chair the ninth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

## **C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Executive Committee will have before it the provisional agenda set out below for consideration and adoption.<sup>1</sup>

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

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<sup>1</sup> LC/L.3204(CE.9/1)/Rev.1.

2. Consideration and adoption of the programme of work of the working groups of the Conference for the period 2010-2011
  - (a) Report by the secretariat
  - (b) Working Group on Gender Statistics
  - (c) Working Group on Censuses
  - (d) Working Group on the Monitoring of Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals
  - (e) Working Group on National Accounts
  - (f) Working Group on Information and Communications Technologies
  - (g) Working Group on Institution-building
  - (h) Working Group on Environmental Statistics
  - (i) Working Group on Harmonization of Statistics on Income Poverty and Public Transfers
  - (j) Knowledge Transfer Network
3. Review of initiatives on international statistical cooperation
  - (a) 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme
  - (b) Project on the Directory of Businesses and Establishments
  - (c) Report on the integrated presentation of statistical activities conducted by international bodies and organizations and the member countries of the Conference
  - (d) Subregional cooperation activities
    - (i) CARICOM
    - (ii) Andean Community
    - (iii) MERCOSUR
    - (iv) Central America
4. Presentation by the Statistical Conference of the Americas at the upcoming thirty-third session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
5. Identification and review of statistical topics of interest for the Executive Committee
6. Adoption of agreements
7. Closing

**2. Consideration and adoption of the programme of work of the working groups of the Conference for the period 2010-2011**

Under this agenda item the representatives will have before them for consideration a document containing the proposed programmes of work for the period 2010-2011. The Executive Committee will be invited to express opinions on the content of the programmes and, if deemed appropriate, to proceed to their adoption.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference documents:**

- Report of the fifth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3125)
- Proposed 2009-2011 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3072(CEA.5/12))

**(a) Report by the secretariat**

The secretariat will report on the procedures and initiatives set up by the Chair and the secretariat to support the operation of the working groups.

**(b) Working Group on Gender Statistics**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The proposal concerns three main areas: unpaid work and time use, violence against women, and strengthening relations between producers and users of information.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Report of the Working Group on Gender Statistics (LC/L.3050(CEA.5/3))

**(c) Working Group on Censuses**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The main thrust of the proposed programme is to promote and develop training activities (workshops on health-related matters and other emerging issues, including the improvement of data capture in the areas of education, economic activity and gender analysis) and the exchange of experiences on census operation, management and harmonization (conceptual and content design, and technology for data capture and census processing and for the analysis and dissemination of information).

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Activities report of the Working Group on Censuses (LC/L.3071(CEA.5/11))

**(d) Working Group on the Monitoring of Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The key areas to consider in the proposed programme are: discrepancies between data produced by the countries and those used by international agencies for follow-up of the Millennium Development Goals; the agenda of measures to facilitate inter-agency coordination and statistical harmonization within countries and between countries and international agencies; the participation of national statistical offices in the preparation and dissemination of national reports on the Goals; sources of statistical data and methodological bases for the preparation of indicators for monitoring the Goals.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Report on the activities of the Working Group on the Monitoring of Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (LC/L.3076(CEA.5/14))

**(e) Working Group on National Accounts**

The Executive Committee will have before it for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The programme covers activities aimed at strengthening international coordination for the implementation of the System of National Accounts (SNA); disseminating methodologies and best practices used in national accounts estimates in the region; supporting harmonization in the region of methodologies, classifications, time periods and coverage related to national accounts and basic statistics; building up capacities and specific technical skills within national statistical institutes and central banks; and identifying national, regional and international synergies applicable to training activities.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Report on the activities of the Working Group on National Accounts (LC/L.3077(CEA.5/15))

**(f) Working Group on Information and Communications Technologies**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The programme envisages the performance of tasks aimed at promoting the inclusion or updating of a module on information and communications technologies (ICT) in household and business surveys, consideration of indicators on government and on the education and health sectors, and the strengthening of the regional

data base of the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC) (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3)).

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Report of activities of the Working Group on Information and Communications Technologies (LC/L.3064(CEA.5/9))

**(g) Working Group on Institution-building**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The programme suggests activities aimed at strengthening and promoting implementation of the proposed Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to generate quality statistics, based on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the United Nations and taking the European Statistics Code of Practice as a reference. The programme also envisages actions aimed at promoting the use of international standards in the countries of the region.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Report on the development and adoption of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3075(CEA.5/13))

**(h) Working Group on Environmental Statistics**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The programme sets forth tasks aimed at promoting regional and subregional cooperation activities with a view to strengthening the capacities of member countries to produce environmental statistics, exchanging experiences and good practices on the development of environmental statistics systems, developing a set of common and harmonized environmental sustainability indicators, prioritizing the requirements of the countries to create or build capacity, and promoting the use of the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) as a frame of references for the development of statistics and indicators in the region.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Proposal by the initiative group for the creation of the Working Group on Environmental Statistics (LC/L.3082(CE.5/17))

**(i) Working Group on Harmonization of Statistics on Income Poverty and Public Transfers**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the Working Group's proposed programme of activities for the period 2010-2011. The programme suggests tasks aimed at promoting the harmonization of criteria and definitions, disseminating the basic agreements reached and the harmonization criteria defined, and promoting horizontal cooperation and training.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**(j) Knowledge Transfer Network**

The representatives will have before them for consideration and adoption a document containing the proposed programme of courses, seminars and other activities of the Network for the period 2010-2011.

**Working document:**

- Programme of work of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (LC/L.3213(CE.9/3))

**Reference document:**

- Report on activities related to the Knowledge Transfer Network and proposed training programme for the 2009-2011 biennium (LC/L.3062(CEA.5/8))

### **3. Review of initiatives on international statistical cooperation**

**(a) 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme**

The representatives will have before them for consideration a document prepared by ECLAC, which is the regional coordination agency for the International Comparison Programme, on the preparations, actions envisaged and pending challenges for implementing the International Comparison Programme in the Latin American and Caribbean countries. The Executive Committee will be invited to comment on the proposed programme and consider its support for it.

**Working document:**

- 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme (ICP) in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3218(CE.9/4))

**(b) Project on the Directory of Businesses and Establishments**

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and ECLAC will present a report on actions planned in relation to the implementation of the project on the Directory of Businesses and Establishments. The Executive Committee will be invited to express opinions regarding the proposed programme.

**Reference documents:**

- Objetivos y temario del Taller inicial de constitución y programación del proyecto de bienes públicos regionales “Marco estadístico regional para directorios de empresas y establecimiento (DDR/1)
- Marco estadístico regional para directorios de empresas y establecimientos. Plan de operaciones (DDR/2)

**(c) Report on the integrated presentation of statistical activities conducted by international bodies and organizations and the member countries of the Conference**

The secretariat will report to the Executive Committee on the process of updating the database of statistical activities conducted by international agencies in the region. In particular, and as a first approach to in-depth analysis of a specific area, a report will be presented on the state of play regarding regional coordination in the area of gender statistics. The representatives of the countries and the international agencies will have the opportunity to signal difficulties involved in coordinating statistical activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and to suggest ways to make this coordination more effective and to identify information gaps and possible duplications in the different areas of statistical work.

**Reference documents:**

- Informe sobre la actualización de la base de datos de las actividades estadísticas internacionales, version 2010 (DDR/6)
- Progress report on the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, 2007-2009 (LC/L.2933(CE.8/3))

**(d) Subregional cooperation activities**

Under this agenda item, the various coordination mechanisms in the Caribbean, the Central American Statistical Commission of the Central American Integration System (CENTROESTAD), the Andean Community and MERCOSUR will report to the representatives on progress and challenges in coordinating statistical activities in their respective areas. The Executive Committee is invited to take note of these reports.



**Reference documents:**

- Plan de trabajo inicial de la Comisión Centroamericana de Estadística del Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (CENTROESTAD) (DDR/3)
- Informe de la Presidencia del Comité Andino de Estadística (DDR/4)
- Estrategia regional de desarrollo estadístico (ERDE) de los países de SICA. Propuesta de hoja de ruta (DDR/5)

**4. Presentation by the Statistical Conference of the Americas at the upcoming thirty-third session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**

During the thirty-third session of ECLAC, to be held in Brasilia from 30 May to 1 June, the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC will report on the activities and programme of work of the Conference. The Executive Committee will be invited to express its points of view and to offer guidelines on the key aspects and proposals to be included in the report.

**5. Identification and review of statistical topics of interest for the Executive Committee**

This agenda item offers an opportunity for representatives to submit for the consideration of the Executive Committee new issues and experiences regarding the official statistics produced by national statistical offices and international agencies, which may be of interest for the development of national statistical systems and could therefore be incorporated into the Conference's programme of work. This will include a presentation by the Dominican Republic on the development of rural statistics, by OSILAC on the problems of data access and by ECLAC on an experience with the use of administrative records for the preparation of statistics on violence against women. Representatives will also be invited to present on initiatives under way in their countries and agencies for the celebration of World Statistics Day on 20 October 2010.

**6. Adoption of agreements**

The Executive Committee will adopt decisions as appropriate.

**7. Closing**