



eLAC2015

Building inclusive
and innovative
digital societies

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**RESOLUTION 672(XXXIV) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON
SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
TECHNOLOGIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**



UNITED NATIONS



The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Bearing in mind the decisions adopted at the tenth meeting of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 to 9 May 1997, particularly decision 10/1B on the review of the progress made in the implementation of the strategy of new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,

Considering that, insofar as technical cooperation in the field of science, technology and innovation is concerned, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has been cooperating systematically to facilitate inter-agency coordination among countries, international organizations and national offices in member countries that carry out technical cooperation projects in the field of science, technology and innovation,

Considering also that the key role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the region in recent years in facilitating and encouraging dialogue among representatives of the countries of the region, and in promoting the consolidation of institutions devoted to science, technology and innovation and to policies and regulatory frameworks for such activities,

Considering further the regional cooperation agreement on science and technology signed by a group of countries of the region at the joint meeting of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development, held in Santiago on 12 November 2008, at which the role of the Economic Commission as technical secretariat was recognized and it was assigned responsibilities for the implementation of a range of activities, including ministerial meetings on science, technology and innovation matters and the School for Policymakers in Science, Technology and Innovation,

Recalling the principles and objectives set out in the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted during the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in December 2003, and in the Tunis Commitment and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted during the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis in November 2005, with a view to contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 at the latest and to the promotion of social, economic and cultural development,

Recalling also the principles and objectives set forth in the Bávaro Declaration, adopted in the Dominican Republic in January 2003, and in the Rio de Janeiro Commitment and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2007), adopted at the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in June 2005; the San Salvador Commitment and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2010), adopted at the Second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San Salvador in February 2008; as well as the Lima Declaration and the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2015) adopted at the Third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima, from 21 to 23 November, 2010,

Recognizing the support function performed by the United Nations regional commissions in the implementation of the Plan of Action adopted in Geneva, especially as regards the contribution made by Governments and stakeholders to the promotion of information and communication technologies for development and as regards international and regional cooperation and the creation of an enabling environment,

Recognizing also the substantive contribution made by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in supporting the countries of the region in both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society and in building the information society in the region since 2000, including the valuable technical support provided for the Second and Third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in 2008 and 2010, respectively,

Taking into account the need to promote cooperation in the spheres of science, technology, innovation and information and communications technologies,

Having examined the proposal for the establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the proposed nature and the objectives of the Conference, as set forth in the annex to this resolution,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources;

- (a) To support the countries of the region in the formulation of national strategies and policies on science, technology and innovation that will underpin progress in knowledge appropriation and in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable development, by providing technical assistance, carrying out substantive studies and collaborating in the preparation of meetings, in accordance with its capacity and areas of competence;
- (b) To provide technical assistance for regional cooperation mechanisms in the field of science, technology and innovation by producing studies, statistics and substantive information on science, technology and innovation and on the information society, and on the related public policies, and to collaborate in the organization of technical meetings and ministerial meetings and their preparatory processes;
- (c) To offer the countries of the region support and advice in identifying the priorities for developing knowledge societies and in including those priorities in negotiations on the formulation of national and regional strategies;

2. *Approves* the establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as one of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, as set forth in the annex to this resolution, along with the observations and suggestions included in the report of the thirty-fourth session;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit such proposals as may be necessary for the establishment of the Conference to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

Annex

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE, INNOVATION
AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

I. Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Nature

The Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall be a subsidiary body of ECLAC that will contribute to the progress of science, technology and innovation policies and activities in the countries of the region.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Conference shall be:

- (a) To promote the development and improvement of national policies on science, technology and innovation and those related to the progress of the information and knowledge society, bearing in mind the recommendations made by the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations;
- (b) To further international, regional, and bilateral cooperation among national offices and international and regional agencies to facilitate technology and knowledge transfer and joint activities in the field of science, technology and innovation;
- (c) To prepare a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities designed to meet the needs of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources.

3. Membership

The States members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean will be members of the Conference.

4. Meetings of the Conference

The Conference shall hold its regular meetings every year. The Conference may accept an invitation from the Government of a member State to hold its regular meeting in that country.

5. Executive Committee

The Conference shall elect an Executive Committee in accordance with the regulations established by the Commission. The Chair of the Executive Committee shall also preside over the meetings of the Conference. The Executive Committee will be empowered to convene a special meeting in the interval between regular meetings.

6. Secretariat

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall serve as the secretariat for the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies. The secretariat shall make available to the Conference such documents and facilities as have been approved by Commission.

II. Executive Committee of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies

1. Nature

The Conference shall establish an Executive Committee to support it, as set forth in paragraph 4 below.

2. Composition

The Executive Committee shall be composed of a Chair and six members. Its members shall be elected from among the member countries of the Commission. Special attention shall be devoted to ensuring that the subregional groupings of countries are represented on the Committee.

3. Election of the Executive Committee and duration of mandates

At the beginning of each meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, the Chair of the Executive Committee, in consultation with the members of the Committee and of the Conference, shall draw up a proposal for the election of the next Executive Committee.

The newly elected Executive Committee shall take up its duties upon the conclusion of the regular meeting of the Conference at which it was elected and shall remain in office until the conclusion of the next regular meeting.

The members of the Executive Committee, including its Chair, shall be elected by the Conference at its regular meeting for a term of two years.

The members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected for three successive terms. The Chair may not be re-elected to that office for a second consecutive term but may be elected as a member of the Committee. Any member that has served on the Committee for three successive terms may be elected again once two years have elapsed since the end of that member's last mandate.

4. Duties

The Executive Committee shall have the following duties:

- (a) To carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies;
- (b) To prepare, every two years, a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities for supporting policies on science, technology and innovation, to be submitted at the regular meeting;

- (c) To follow up on the implementation of the agreements adopted and the tasks assigned by the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, particularly with respect to the biennial programme of activities referred to in paragraph 2(c) of section I;
- (d) To decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

5. Meetings

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once during the interval between regular sessions of the Conference. At the meeting preceding the next session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, the Committee shall adopt a biennial programme of activities for the Conference, which shall be submitted to the Conference at its regular meeting.

The Executive Committee may invite to its meetings any countries or experts it considers may make a contribution to the fulfilment of its duties.