



**Thirty-fifth  
session of  
ECLAC**

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**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION  
OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION**

- A. Organization of the thirty-fifth session
- B. Provisional agenda
- C. Annotations to the provisional agenda



UNITED NATIONS





## **A. ORGANIZATION OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION**

The thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) will be held in Lima, from 5 to 9 May 2014. By resolution 661(XXXIV) adopted at the thirty-fourth session, held in San Salvador in 2012, and subsequently approved by the Economic and Social Council by its resolution 2012/34, the member States accepted the offer extended by Peru to host the session. The meeting will be held in accordance with the ECLAC calendar of conferences for the period 2012-2014.<sup>1</sup>

The session is the most important event of each biennium for ECLAC. It provides a forum for the consideration of issues of importance for the development of the countries of the region and an opportunity to review the progress of the Commission's activities. In consultation with the host country, the theme selected for this session is "compacts for equality: towards a sustainable future". This theme is addressed in a document which ECLAC puts at the disposal of the countries as an input for identifying the region's priorities for the post-2015 development agenda.

The session also enables the Governments of member States to examine the secretariat's report on the Commission's activities and thus apprise themselves of the work accomplished by ECLAC during the two preceding years. Furthermore, based on the programme of work that the Governments adopt and the calendar of conferences they approve, it also provides them with the means to define the mandates that will guide the Commission's work in the future.

The following annotations to the provisional agenda provide background information on each of the proposed items and suggestions regarding their consideration at the session. In this respect, it may be useful to recall resolution 419(PLEN.14), which states that, in order for the session to be fully successful, Government delegations should include experts in the specific matters to be covered.

## **B. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the thirty-fifth session.
3. Report on the activities carried out by the Commission since its thirty-fourth session.
4. Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, 2012-2013, and the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings which report at the session.
5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017.
6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016.
7. Committee on South-South Cooperation.
8. Challenges of regional integration.

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<sup>1</sup> ECLAC resolución 659(XXXIV).

9. Presentation of the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*.
10. High-level seminar Compacts for equality: towards a sustainable future.
11. High-level dialogue.
12. Consideration of the request of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC.
13. Other matters.
14. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the Commission at its thirty-fifth session.

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

#### **1. Election of officers**

Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, at the commencement of each session, the Commission shall elect a chair, two or more vice-chairs and a rapporteur. These officers shall then hold office until their successors are elected. It is customary for the Commission to be chaired by the head of the delegation of the host country. It should also be noted that rule 20 provides that the chair or vice-chair shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, rather than as the representative of the member country by whom she or he was accredited.

It is suggested that the Committee on South-South Cooperation should have its own presiding officers, consisting of a chair, two vice-chairs and a rapporteur.

It is proposed that the selection of the presiding officers for the session should be considered at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on 5 May 2014 from 5 to 6 p.m. in conference room Limatambo 4-5.

#### **2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the thirty-fifth session**

Delegations will have before them the provisional agenda (LC/G.2584(SES.35/1)Rev.1) for their consideration and adoption. This draft agenda has been prepared by the secretariat in accordance with chapter II of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, bearing in mind the various mandates of the Commission. The representatives of member States may formulate observations and suggest such modifications as they consider appropriate under the aforementioned rules of procedure.

It is suggested that the agenda should be considered at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on 5 May.

### **3. Report on the activities carried out by the Commission since its thirty-fourth session**

The secretariat will submit a report to the delegations summarizing the activities carried out by the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), under its programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013.

#### **Working document:**

- Report on the activities of the Commission 2012-2013 (LC/G.2590(SES.35/7))

### **4. Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, 2012-2013, and the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings which report at the session**

The chairs of subsidiary organs of the Commission have been invited to report briefly on the activities carried out by those bodies in the period 2012-2013:

- Statistical Conference of the Americas, by the representative of Ecuador.
- Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, by the representative of the Dominican Republic.
- Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, by the representative of Uruguay.
- Committee of the Whole of ECLAC, by the representative of El Salvador.
- Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, by the representative of Jamaica.
- Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), by the representatives of Ecuador and Guatemala.
- Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, by the representative of Uruguay.
- Presiding officers of the meeting of the focal points appointed by the Governments of the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, by the representative of Chile.
- Regional meeting in preparation for the Comprehensive 10-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, by the representative of Paraguay.

#### **Reference documents:**

- Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, 2012-2013, and the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings, 2012-2013 (DDR/1)
- Report of the Meeting of experts to define strategic priorities for the regional agenda on the situation of persons with disabilities (LC/L.3709)

## **5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017**

### **Working document:**

- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2016-2017 (LC/G.2588(SES.35/5))

The secretariat will submit for consideration the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for the 2016-2017 biennium, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). The frame of reference for this draft programme is the proposed strategic framework and substantive priorities for ECLAC for the 2016-2017 biennium, currently being considered by the relevant subsidiary organs of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters in New York; this framework is used to derive the essential elements that are reflected in the logical matrix incorporated into the structure of each subprogramme.

The draft programme of work is based on the draft strategic framework of the Commission and the priorities that are being considered on a parallel track by the relevant subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The overall purpose of the programme is to promote the economic, social and environmentally sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean through continuous international cooperation, by undertaking comprehensive research and analysis of development processes and providing the relevant normative, operational and technical cooperation services in support of regional development efforts. The mandate for the programme, which falls within the purview of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI), by which the Council established the Commission for the purpose of contributing to and coordinating action towards the economic and social development of the region and reinforcing economic relationships among the countries of the region as well as worldwide. In 1996, by virtue of ECLAC resolution 553(XXVI), the Commission was instructed, inter alia, to collaborate with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and the resulting provision of operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination.

The Commission's overall strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme is structured around 14 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes, implemented through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach.

The basic guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 were drawn from the internationally agreed development goals stemming from the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including those set forth in the Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

## **6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016**

Pursuant to resolution 419(PLN.14), adopted by the ECLAC Committee of the Whole at its fourteenth session, held in November 1980, the focal point around which meetings of the Commission are organized is the biennial session. It was decided, as set down in that resolution, that sessions should be held in even-numbered years so as to coincide with the two-year budget programming cycle established by the United Nations General Assembly. It was also agreed that at each session the complete calendar of

conferences and meetings planned up to the following session should be considered and that, whenever possible, the date, duration and location of each meeting should be specified.

At its thirty-fourth session, the Commission considered the document entitled “Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2012-2014. Note by the secretariat”.<sup>2</sup> Following consideration of that item, the Commission decided, by virtue of resolution 659(XXXIV), to retain the existing intergovernmental structure and pattern of meetings and to approve the calendar of conferences for the aforementioned period.

In compliance with this resolution, the secretariat has prepared a table (contained in the annex to document (LC/G.2589(SES.35/6)), which lists the scheduled meetings for the period 2015-2016 in accordance with the mandates adopted by the Governments at meetings of ECLAC and its subsidiary bodies.

**Working document:**

- Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2015-2016. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2589(SES.35/6))

**7. Committee on South-South Cooperation**

The Committee on South-South Cooperation will meet in the morning of 7 May. The work of the Committee will be organized according to the following provisional agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report on cooperation activities.
4. Report on follow-up to the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation during the period 2012-2013.
5. International cooperation for equality.
6. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the Committee on South-South Cooperation.

**Working documents:**

- Provisional agenda (LC/G.2591(SES.35/8))
- Annotated provisional agenda (LC/G.2592(SES.35/9))
- South-South cooperation. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2602(SES.35/13))
- Report on the technical cooperation activities carried out by the ECLAC system during the 2012-2013 biennium(LC/G.2593(SES.35/10))

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<sup>2</sup> LC/G.2527(SES.34/6).

**Reference documents:**

- Report of the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3573)
- Report of the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3657)
- Report of the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3772)

**8. Challenges of regional integration**

The secretariat will present a document entitled *Regional integration: Towards a strategy for inclusive value chains*. This document gives an account of the major transformations which have taken place in Latin American integration since the 1990s and puts forward a number of proposals, in different areas, for promoting integration. The document will be examined at a seminar scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday 7 May, in which senior figures from Latin America and the Caribbean and representatives of international agencies will be invited to participate.

**Working document:**

- *Regional integration: Towards a strategy for inclusive value chains* (LC/G.2594(SES.35/11))

**9. Presentation of the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future***

The Executive Secretary will present the document during the morning of 8 May, after which it will be commented on by three panellists.

The position document for the thirty-fifth session considers the two major challenges to development in Latin America and the Caribbean: to achieve greater equality and to make development sustainable for future generations. The various chapters examine the social, economic, environmental and natural resource governance constraints on sustainability, as well as the challenges associated with strategic development options. They also further explore the equality approach developed by ECLAC at previous sessions, treating the world of work as a key arena. Consumption is analysed as it relates to the economic, social and environmental spheres, highlighting its potential to increase well-being as well as its problematic externalities in terms of environmental sustainability, the fiscal covenant and the production structure, among others. The dynamics existing between production structures and institutions are explored, drawing attention to ways in which the efficient organization of institutions can help to maximize contributions to development. The document concludes with a set of medium- and long-term policy proposals that need to be enshrined in social compacts and policy instruments for implementing, in a democratic context, the policies and institutional reforms that the Latin American and Caribbean countries need to resolve the dilemmas they face at the current crossroads.



**Working documents:**

- Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future (LC/G.2586(SES.35/3))
- Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future. Summary (LC/G.2587(SES.35/4))

**Reference documents:**

- Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails. Summary (LC/G.2433(SES.33/4))
- Structural change for equality: an integrated approach to development. Summary (LC/G.2525(SES.34/4))

**10. High-level seminar Compacts for equality: towards a sustainable future**

In order to permit in-depth consideration of the central theme of the thirty-fifth session, the secretariat has invited ministers, representatives of member States, eminent scholars and distinguished experts to participate in a high-level seminar on this subject. This seminar, which will be held on 8 May, will be divided into four panels, which will discuss the main themes examined in the document.

Each panel's presentations will be followed by a general discussion. In accordance with the rules of procedure of ECLAC, the representatives of the member States will make their statements first, after which the floor will be opened to other participants.

**11. High-level dialogue**

In the morning of 9 May, ECLAC and the Government of Peru have organized a dialogue with the ministers of foreign affairs of the host countries of the two preceding sessions of the Commission (Brazil and El Salvador), the next session of the Commission (Mexico), and the twenty-fifth session of the Caribbean Cooperation and Development Committee (Jamaica), to reflect upon the main themes to be discussed at this session of ECLAC. One of these is the content of the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future*, which will be presented at the high-level seminar to take place on Thursday 8 May. The other is the content of the document *Regional integration: Towards a strategy for inclusive value chains*, which will be presented at the seminar on the challenges of regional integration to take place on Wednesday 7 May. These discussions and reflections are also expected to form the basis for the high-level authorities to propose ideas for the post-2015 development agenda from a regional perspective.

**12. Consideration of the request of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC**

Under this agenda item, consideration will be given to the request submitted by the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC.

**Working document:**

- Consideration of the request of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for admission of Sint Maarten as an associate member of ECLAC. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2595 (SES.35/12))

**13. Other matters**

This item provides for consideration of any other issues which delegations may wish to raise.

**14. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the Commission at its thirty-fifth session**