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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AT ITS THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION



UNITED NATIONS



RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

- 697(XXXVI) Horizons 2030 resolution
- 698(XXXVI) ECLAC calendar of conferences for the period 2017-2018
- 699(XXXVI) Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 700(XXXVI) Mexico resolution on the establishment of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development
- 701(XXXVI) Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)
- 702(XXXVI) Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- 703(XXXVI) Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 704(XXXVI) Programme of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2018-2019
- 705(XXXVI) Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
- 706(XXXVI) Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 707(XXXVI) Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 708(XXXVI) Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 709(XXXVI) Committee on South-South Cooperation
- 710(XXXVI) Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and The Caribbean
- 711(XXXVI) Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024
- 712(XXXVI) Regional integration of statistical and geospatial information
- 713(XXXVI) Regional follow-up to the outcomes of conferences on financing for development
- 714(XXXVI) Place of the next session

697(XXXVI) HORIZONS 2030 RESOLUTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 553(XXVI), in which it affirmed that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Commission is especially well qualified to undertake the tasks entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 106(VI), in the framework of a restructured United Nations, and that, therefore, ECLAC should function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies, together with operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination,

Bearing in mind the document *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails* and its summary,¹ presented by the secretariat at the thirty-third session of the Commission,

Bearing in mind also the document *Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development* and its summary,² presented by the secretariat at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission,

Bearing in mind further the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future* and its summary,³ presented by the secretariat at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission,

Recognizing that General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: 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,

Bearing in mind that the guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the Draft programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019⁴ draw upon the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and the means of implementation of that Agenda; the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development; the agreements and outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits; and General Assembly resolution 66/288 “The future we want”, in which the countries undertook to contribute to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental fields,

¹ LC/G.2432(SES.33/3) and LC/G.2433(SES.33/4).

² LC/G.2524(SES.34/3) and LC/G.2525(SES.34/4).

³ LC/G.2586(SES.35/3) and LC/G.2587(SES.35/4).

⁴ LC/G.2665(SES.36/8).

*Having reviewed the document Horizons 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development and its summary,*⁵ prepared by the secretariat, which complements the trilogy of equality,

1. *Welcomes* the integrated approach to development that has marked the thinking of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean since its inception, as reflected in the document *Horizons 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development*;

2. *Recognizes* the relevance of this issues examined and supports the general tenor of the document's conclusions;

3. *Instructs* the secretariat to conduct studies and formulate public policy proposals in the countries, in close cooperation with their policymakers, with a view to building national economic and social development capacities;

4. *Calls upon* the secretariat to widely disseminate the document and promote its review in the economic, academic, political, business and social spheres in the region, by means of national dialogues on the main issues covered, taking each country's national characteristics into account, and in international organizations concerned with economic development, in order to continue to foster more in-depth comparative analysis vis-à-vis countries outside the region.

⁵ LC/G.2660(SES.36/3) and LC/G.2661(SES.36/4).

**698(XXXVI) ECLAC CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES
FOR THE PERIOD 2017-2018**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 419(PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on the rationalization of the institutional structure and the pattern of meetings of the system of the Commission, in which it decided that, at each of the Commission's regular sessions, the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the next regular session should be considered,

Taking into account resolution 489(PLEN.19) on the Commission's intergovernmental structure and functions, in which it was recommended that the current institutional structure should be maintained,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/243 entitled "Pattern of conferences" and the provision concerning the principle of rotation of the venue for the sessions of the Commission as laid down in rule 2 of its rules of procedure and reiterated in its resolution 480(XXI),

Taking into account resolution 553(XXVI) on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Commission, in which it was recommended that the current pattern of conferences of the Commission's system should continue to serve as the basis for maintaining the simplicity, effectiveness and flexibility of its work,

Bearing in mind the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean that establish and govern the periodicity of the meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Bearing in mind also resolution 676(XXXV) adopted at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, in which it was decided, for economic and environmental reasons, to employ documents in electronic format for the future sessions and meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Having examined the proposed calendar of the Commission's intergovernmental conferences for 2017-2018, as set forth in annex 6 of the relevant document,¹

Considering the objectives and priorities established in the subprogrammes of the work programme approved by the member States at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission,

1. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the current intergovernmental structure and the existing pattern of meetings and approves the calendar of conferences of the Commission as it appears in the annex to this resolution, along with the observations and suggestions included in the report of the thirty-sixth session of the Commission;

¹ See Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2017-2018. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2666(SES.36/9)).

2. *Reaffirms also* that the Commission's current conference servicing system has proved to be efficient in substantive and organizational terms as well as cost-effective, and recommends that these tasks continue to be the responsibility of the Executive Secretary with a view to an ongoing and sustained improvement in those services;

3. *Reaffirms further* the importance of continuing to entrust the Commission with the task of organizing and holding regional and subregional meetings to prepare for and follow up on world conferences of the United Nations in the economic, social and sustainable development fields;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit to the relevant United Nations bodies such proposals as may be necessary to ensure implementation of the calendar of conferences as approved;

5. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-seventh session on the implementation of this resolution.

Annex

**ECLAC CALENDAR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES
FOR THE PERIOD 2017-2018**

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2017	Twenty-second session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean	Paraguay ^b	ECLAC resolutions 590(XXIX); 604(XXX); 616(XXXI); 644(XXXII); and 657(XXXIII)	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Sixteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 580(XXVIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Fifty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Sixteenth Meeting of the Regional Council of Planning of ILPES	Peru ^b	ECLAC resolutions 351(XVI) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budget
2017	Thirty-second session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC	United Nations Headquarters, New York ^b	Economic and Social Council Resolution 106(VI) (para 3); ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	Regular budget
2017	Eighteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Fifty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2017	Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 602(XXX)	Regular budget
2017	Preparatory meeting for the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile ^b	ECLAC resolution 610(XXX)	Extrabudgetary resources
2017	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Ninth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Uruguay, November	ECLAC resolution 682(XXXV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/32	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Agreement 1 of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development	ECLAC regular budget
2017	Third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	El Salvador ^b	Agreement 1, Meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12 to 15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Twenty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 351(XVI) and 553(XXVI)	Regular budget of ILPES and ECLAC
2018	Twenty-third session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2018	Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	Colombia ^b	ECLAC resolution 610(XXX)	Extrabudgetary resources
2018	Fifty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{ab}	ECLAC resolution 682(XXXV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/32	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 672(XXXIV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/35	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Thirty-seventh session of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI)	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Twenty-eighth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Agreement 1, Meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12 to 15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget
2018	Nineteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget

^a Place to be determined.

^b Date to be determined.

**699(XXXVI) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 558(XXVI), in which it adopted the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001,

Recalling also that in the Lima Consensus adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the countries undertook to strengthen the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action beyond the year 2001,¹

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/61 on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations international conferences and summits, which reaffirms that gender mainstreaming must form an integral part of the implementation of the decisions of recent United Nations summits and conferences,

Mindful of the agreements adopted by States that are parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

Bearing in mind that the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Santo Domingo Consensus at its twelfth session, held in Santo Domingo from 15 to 18 October 2013,²

Bearing in mind also that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, has held four meetings of the Presiding Officers: the fiftieth meeting in Santiago on 19 and 20 May 2014, the fifty-first meeting in Santiago, from 17 to 19 November 2014, the fifty-second meeting in Santo Domingo, on 30 and 31 July 2015, and the fifty-third meeting, in Santiago, from 26 to 28 January 2016,

Having in mind the agreements adopted at those meetings, which are reflected in the respective reports,³

Taking into account the work carried out by the Commission and the other agencies which support the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the considerable progress achieved in disseminating and redesigning the Observatory,

¹ See Report of the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6)).

² See Report of the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3789).

³ See Report of the fiftieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3869), Report of the fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3976), Report of the fifty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4104) and the Draft report of the fifty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Taking note of the initiatives of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with regard to mainstreaming the gender perspective,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made since the adoption of the Santo Domingo Consensus at the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the progress in relation to the agreements adopted by other subsidiary bodies, such as the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas;

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean to mainstream a transformative gender perspective in all of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, indicators and implementation mechanisms, and to take action to fulfil the Goal on the empowerment of women, as well as the other 16 Goals, in order to achieve robust sustainable development;

3. *Recommends* the redoubling of efforts to ensure that the indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals reflect the inequalities between men and women and can be used to design effective public policies for overcoming such inequalities;

4. *Commends* the Commission on the progress it has made in implementing the gender mainstreaming strategy and emphasizes the need to strengthen work in conjunction with Governments, economic policymakers and machineries for the advancement of women;

5. *Recognizes* the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Division for Gender Affairs, in shedding light on gender affairs at the second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development of the Commission, held in Mexico City from 6 to 9 October 2015;

6. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Division for Gender Affairs, in the work relating to gender statistics in the region and its active participation in the Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, specifically with respect to the time-use classification for Latin America (CAUTAL) with a gender focus and adapted to the regional context, adopted at the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas held in Quito from 17 to 19 November 2015;

7. *Thanks* the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for collaborating with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on the pursuit of gender equality in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Calls for* active participation in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in Uruguay in October 2016;

9. *Recommends* that the delegations participating in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean bear in mind and promote gender balance in their composition;

10. *Requests* that every effort be made to ensure the involvement of civil society in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference, on the understanding that the quality of democracy is contingent on citizen participation.

**700(XXXVI) MEXICO RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FORUM
OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 695(PLEN.16-E) adopted by the Committee of the Whole at its sixteenth extraordinary session held in Santiago on 16 April 2015, in which the Committee decided to launch a regional consultation process aimed at establishing the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development at the thirty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016,

Recalling also resolution 696(PLEN.31) adopted by the Committee of the Whole at its thirty-first session, held in New York on 28 April 2016, in which the countries welcomed the successful conclusion of the regional consultation process aimed at establishing the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development,

Having examined the draft report of the thirty-first session of the Committee of the Whole,

1. *Decides* to establish the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development in accordance with the outcome of the thirty-first session of the Committee of the Whole, as set forth in the annex to this resolution.

Annex

RESOLUTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FORUM OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 695(PLN.16-E) of its Committee of the Whole, through which, inter alia, a regional consultation process was launched with the aim of establishing the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development at the thirty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and reaffirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions —economic, social and environmental— in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, recognizes the importance of building on existing follow-up and review mechanisms at the regional level and allowing adequate policy space, encourages all Member States to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage, as well as United Nations regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard, and establishes guiding principles for follow-up and review processes at all levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, respecting policy space and priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments, and recognizing that the outcome from national-level processes will be the foundation for reviews at the regional and global levels, given that the global review will be primarily based on national official data sources,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 69/313, entitled “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development”, which, inter alia, commits Member States to fully engage, nationally, regionally and internationally, in ensuring proper and effective follow-up of the financing for development outcomes and all the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages the United Nations regional commissions, in cooperation with regional banks and organizations, to mobilize their expertise and existing mechanisms, which could focus on thematic aspects of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 61/16 and 68/1, which, inter alia, urge the United Nations regional commissions to contribute, within their mandates, to the review of progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, and resolution 66/288, in which countries agreed to strengthen the Economic and Social Council as a principal body in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 67/290, which, inter alia, acknowledges the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development, and invites the United Nations regional commissions to contribute to the work of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate,

Emphasizing the importance of establishing a regional forum to follow up and review progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including for, inter alia, strengthening coherence and coordination, promoting cooperation and providing policy guidance, fostering national capacity-building, hosting voluntary State-led national reviews, identifying regional gaps, emerging challenges and shared targets, fostering peer learning by sharing good practices, experiences and lessons learned, helping to mobilize the necessary means of implementation, encouraging participation of all relevant stakeholders, providing a platform for partnerships, favouring people-centred policies and actions, transparency and accountability, and promoting the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies,

Recognizing that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development; and reaffirming that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our common home and that “Mother Earth” is a common expression in a number of countries and regions,

Emphasizing the importance of system-wide strategic planning, implementation and reporting in order to ensure coherent and integrated support by the United Nations development system for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and of the financing for development processes, including at the regional level, taking into account other regional and subregional processes promoting the impact of international development cooperation,

Taking into consideration the special needs and particular challenges of landlocked developing countries, and recognizing the special sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States, middle-income countries, least developed countries, countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries,

Taking note with appreciation of the Note by the secretariat of the Commission,¹ prepared in fulfilment of resolution 695(PLN.16-E) adopted by the Committee of the Whole,

1. *Decides* to establish the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development as a regional mechanism to follow up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its means of implementation, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

2. *Decides also* that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will be State-led and open to the participation of Latin American and Caribbean countries, and that it should provide useful opportunities for peer learning, including through voluntary reviews, the sharing of best practices and discussion on shared targets, benefiting from the cooperation of regional and subregional commissions and organizations, in order to guide an inclusive regional process drawing on national-level reviews and contributing to follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda at the global level, including at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and at the Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up, as appropriate;

¹ LC/L.4123.

3. *Reaffirms* that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will be guided by the principles established for all follow-up and review processes by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. *Decides* that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will build on existing platforms and mandates, avoiding duplications and the creation of additional structures, and that within existing resources it will promote coordination and coherence within the United Nations development system, and invite other relevant regional and subregional entities and international financial institutions to be involved in its meetings, as appropriate, while addressing the three dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated and balanced manner, and in these regards further decides that:

- (a) The Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will be informed by the following subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, as appropriate:
 - (i) The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean,
 - (ii) The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,
 - (iii) The Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning,
 - (iv) The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,
 - (v) The Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,
 - (vi) The Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies,
 - (vii) The Committee on South-South Cooperation,
 - (viii) The Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,
 - (ix) The Committee of High-Level Government Experts, and
 - (x) The Central American Economic Cooperation Committee,
- (b) Other relevant intergovernmental regional mechanisms, including the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Forum of Ministers of Social Development of Latin America, are invited to provide inputs and contributions and inform the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, within their existing mandates, on their work related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,
- (c) The regional offices of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes are also invited to participate and engage in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development in a coordinated manner, including through the submission of contributions to be reflected in annual progress reports of the Commission, and the presentation of their efforts in supporting and assisting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

- (d) Relevant international financial institutions, including regional and subregional development banks, are also invited to participate and engage in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, including through the presentation of their efforts in supporting and assisting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as appropriate,
- (e) The Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will take into account, as appropriate, the outcomes related to sustainable development agreed by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, including its 2025 Plan on Food Security, Nutrition and Eradication of Hunger;

5. *Stresses* that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will recognize the special needs and particular challenges of landlocked developing countries, and the special sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States, middle-income countries, least developed countries, countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries, in order to address the universal character of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6. *Highlights* that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will be convened under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and that it will contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by, inter alia:

- (a) Strengthening coordination, promoting cooperation and providing political guidance through recommendations for sustainable development at the regional level,
- (b) Fostering the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic and cross-sectoral manner, with a particular focus on the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, the promotion of sustained, equitable and inclusive economic growth, including sustainable consumption and production patterns, the reduction of inequalities and the promotion of social inclusion, the recognition of cultural diversity and of the role of culture as a crucial enabler of sustainable development, the protection and sustainable use of the environment, and the promotion of good living in harmony with nature,
- (c) Assessing progress on the regional implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the consideration of annual reports issued by the secretariat of the Commission to be based, as appropriate, on the global indicators framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets agreed upon by the United Nations Statistical Commission, and on other relevant indicators for regional, national and subnational levels of monitoring developed at the regional and national levels, taking also into account the indicators encompassed under the operational guidelines for implementing the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, as appropriate. All indicators should be based to the greatest extent possible on comparable and standardized official national statistics provided by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and, when other sources and methodologies are used, these will be reviewed and agreed upon by national statistical authorities and presented in a transparent manner,

- (d) Following-up and reviewing the implementation of the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (Samoa Pathway) at the regional level,
- (e) Assessing the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024 at the regional level,
- (f) Promoting international cooperation and national capacity-building for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through South-South and triangular cooperation, and other modalities of cooperation in order to strengthen and complement traditional modalities of cooperation,
- (g) Hosting voluntary State-led national reviews,
- (h) Identifying regional gaps, emerging challenges and shared targets for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,
- (i) Fostering peer learning by sharing good practices, experiences and lessons learned,
- (j) Helping to mobilize the necessary means of implementation for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,
- (k) Encouraging the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, academia and the private sector, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,
- (l) Providing a platform for partnerships for sustainable development,
- (m) Favouring people-centred policies and actions, transparency and accountability,
- (n) Promoting the coordination and coherence of national development plans and strategies with global frameworks,
- (o) Contributing to the guidance provided by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly, as well as of the Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up, as appropriate,
- (p) Promoting, at the regional level, the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and stepping up regional cooperation and collaboration in science, research, technology and innovation, including through public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and on the basis of common interest and mutual benefit, focusing on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

7. *Decides* that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will be convened annually, as appropriate, by the Chair of the Committee of the Whole of the Commission. It will be supported by the secretariat of the Commission, and aligned with the schedules, working programmes and themes of the Economic and Social Council, of the latter's Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up, and of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, as appropriate;

8. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to issue an annual progress report, four weeks in advance of the respective meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development. The report will be considered a regional contribution for the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of Economic and Social Council and its forum on financing for development follow-up, as appropriate, and will assess the regional progress and challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, on the basis of agreed indicators and other relevant contributions from the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, and on national-level reviews, as appropriate, and it will provide policy recommendations to be considered by the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development;

9. *Also requests* the secretariat of the Commission to prepare a quadrennial progress report, to be considered by the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development as a regional contribution to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the General Assembly, consolidating and building on the progress and challenges identified in the preceding annual reports, in order to provide a broader analysis of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional level;

10. *Encourages* the Latin American and Caribbean countries to submit, through the Forum, its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations, and a summary produced by its Chair, as appropriate:

- To the High-level Political Forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as part of the regional contributions to the global follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
- To the Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up, as part of the regional contributions to the global follow-up process of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,
- To the United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism;

11. *Highlights* the participatory and inclusive character of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which encourages the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, academia and the private sector, and in this regard encourages the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development to ensure institutionalized multi-stakeholder participation following the relevant provisions of the 2030 Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Economic and Social Council;

12. *Encourages* the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to volunteer for national reviews, and the Forum to further develop modalities for hosting them in accordance with the related principles and guidelines provided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**701(XXXVI) SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING (ILPES)**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 340(AC.66) of 25 January 1974, in which it directed that the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) should become a permanent institution of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with its own identity and directly responsible to the Executive Secretary of the Commission,

Reiterating its recognition to the Governments of the States members of the Regional Council for Planning and its Presiding Officers for the valuable support they provide to the Institute in terms of both guidance and regular financing,

Noting that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Regional Council for Planning held its fifteenth meeting in Yachay, Ecuador, on 19 November 2015,

Noting also that the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning held their twenty-fourth meeting in Antigua, Guatemala, on 19 and 20 June 2014, and their twenty-fifth meeting in Santiago on 12 August 2015,

Considering that, at those meetings, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the relevant reports,¹

1. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, held in Yachay, Ecuador, on 19 November 2015, and of the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Council at its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth meetings, held in Antigua, Guatemala, in 2014, and in Santiago in 2015, respectively;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the strategic priorities for the work of the Institute, which include promoting joint planning efforts at the regional and subregional levels and within groupings of countries with a view to strengthening the Latin American and Caribbean integration process;

3. *Expresses* its conviction that the policies adopted by States should be geared towards long-term aims and afford increasing attention to building visions for the future, centred on reducing inequalities, promoting the prosperity of their peoples, and furthering sustainable development;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of public management and planning for development as instruments to carry forward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region;

¹ See Report of the fifteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) (LC/L.4151); Report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) (LC/L.3940); and Report of the twenty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) (LC/L.4077).

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of the States members of the Regional Council for Planning for their contributions to the regular system of Government funding, which provides financing for a large share of the Institute's programme of work, and urges the other States to consider joining that the Regular System of Government Financing, in conformity with their respective normative frameworks, with a view to making regular, timely contributions;

6. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the support provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Commission for the activities of the Institute and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to support its work with human and financial resources so that it may conduct its activities effectively;

7. *Reiterates* the recommendation that the Institute should strengthen its capacity as the body responsible for training within the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and should broaden the activities it conducts in that area in collaboration with the subregional headquarters, divisions of the Commission and other international institutions;

8. *Requests* the Institute to develop a training and technical assistance programme in order to strengthen planning competencies for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

9. *Urges* the Institute to regularly maintain, update and improve the digital repository of national development plans, as created within the framework of the proposed medium-term strategy for the Institute's cooperation with Latin American and Caribbean countries, adopted pursuant to resolution CRP/XIV/01;

10. *Recommends* that the Institute prepare a proposal on the creation of a planning observatory, to be presented at the twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning;

11. *Urges* the Institute to present a draft white paper on good practices in planning at the twenty-sixth meeting of the Regional Council on Planning;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Commission and the Chief of the Institute to engage in a process of consultation and dialogue with national planning authorities with a view to identifying national, subregional and regional priorities in the area of development planning;

13. *Decides* to convene the twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning in Santiago in the second half of 2016, and the sixteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Institute in Peru in the second half of 2017.

**702(XXXVI) STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, whereby the Council approved the establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/6 on strengthening statistical capacity,

Bearing in mind also that the objectives of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean include the preparation of a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the needs of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources,

Taking into account that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its eighth meeting in Quito, from 17 to 19 November 2015, and on that occasion gave the Executive Committee a mandate to adopt the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2016-2017 at its fifteenth meeting, and adopted the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 to guide the activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in support of the development of official statistics in the region,¹

Taking into account also that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its thirteenth meeting in Santiago, from 12 to 14 August 2014, and its fourteenth meeting in Santiago, from 26 to 28 May 2015,

Taking into account further that, on those occasions, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the respective reports,²

¹ See Report of the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4154).

² See Report of the thirteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3936), Report of the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4063) and Report of the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4154).

Recognizing the major challenges facing official statistics in relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the growing demand for statistical data and indicators in areas such as the environment, economic and social development, the labour market, gender affairs, information and communications technologies, public safety and justice, and South-South cooperation, as well as the challenges involved in analysing the strengths and weaknesses of different sources of information and assessing their appropriateness and relevance for measuring the multiplicity of Goals and targets set forth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing also the increasing importance of reliable, good-quality, timely, disaggregated public statistics and the growing need to provide these for the sake of transparency, accountability of the public authorities and the evidence-based evaluation of public policy outcomes, which are key elements for sustainable development and for enhancing democracy in the region,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and of the thirteenth and fourteenth meetings of its Executive Committee;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Mitad del Mundo Declaration adopted by the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its eighth meeting;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the increasing consolidation of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission as the intergovernmental body that coordinates international statistical activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and fosters the strengthening of national statistical offices and national statistical systems;

4. *Calls once again upon* the Governments of the region to acknowledge the importance of the work of national statistical systems and the challenges they face in producing relevant, timely and good-quality empirical information for evidence-based public policy design and evaluation, and in providing accountability to citizens to enable them to take informed decisions; and accordingly requests that the necessary resources be made available and a suitable legal and institutional framework be consolidated, so that the public departments working on statistics may form an effective national statistical system and operate in a coordinated manner under the leadership of the statistical office or institute;

5. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the conduct of activities for the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean;

6. *Also expresses its satisfaction* at the adoption of the time-use classification for Latin America (CAUTAL) with a gender focus and adapted to the regional context;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the regional space as a timely and necessary platform for the statistical monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and highlights that the Conference is the appropriate intergovernmental body to conduct such monitoring in the region;

8. *Requests* the secretariat, as technical secretariat of the Conference, to prepare a proposal for a regional statistical monitoring framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

9. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations General Assembly to strengthen the strategic role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as secretariat of the Conference, by providing additional resources with a view to creating regional and national capacities through institution-building, training and exchange of experiences, and to incorporating a geospatial perspective, including linkages to georeferenced statistics, into the monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

10. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the inclusion in the activities of the Conference of the analysis of new thematic areas and methodologies that enable better tracking of economic, social and environmental matters, such as different approaches to the measurement and analysis of poverty, inequality and well-being, the development of basic economic and environmental statistics, and those involved in the implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and the System of National Accounts, the dissemination of the use of international classifications, the improvement of statistics on time use and unpaid work, the measurement of public safety and justice, the measurement of disability, and the quantification of South-South cooperation, among other relevant topics addressed by the working groups of the Conference.

**703(XXXVI) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit on Social Development,¹ as well as other relevant internationally agreed instruments, constitute, together with the global dialogue on this issue, the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration² and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit³ and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,⁴ the outcome of the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals⁵ and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁶

Recalling also 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 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,

Bearing in mind 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 Commission,

Taking into account that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean held its meeting in Lima, from 2 to 4 November 2015,

Considering that, on that occasion, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the respective report,⁷

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

¹ See Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6 to 12 March 1995.

² See General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.

³ See General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005.

⁴ See General Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010.

⁵ See General Assembly resolution 68/6 of 9 October 2013.

⁶ See General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015.

⁷ See Report of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, 2 to 4 November 2015) (LC/L.4170).

2. *Underscores* the welcome afforded by the Conference to the document prepared by the secretariat, *Inclusive Social Development: the next generation of policies for overcoming poverty and reducing inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean*,⁸ which recognizes that social issues are not played out in the social sphere alone, but also in the economy, politics and the environment, and that economic prosperity also hinges on inclusive social development and better living standards;

3. *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 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;

4. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission 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;

5. *Urges* the secretariat, through the Social Development Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, to strengthen its cooperation and technical assistance efforts with the various government agencies in the region that are involved in the design and implementation of social development policies, with a view to improved social policy coordination and effectiveness;

6. *Instructs* the secretariat to support the countries of the region in strengthening their systems of social policy evaluation;

7. *Welcomes* the request for the secretariat, through the Social Development Division, to organize, maintain and systematically update the Commission's databases of non-contributory social protection programmes, social investment, youth and social inclusion, 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;

8. *Requests* the secretariat, 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. *Decides* that the eighth meeting of the Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in the Dominican Republic in the second half of 2016;

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

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

⁸ LC.L/4056/Rev.1.

**704(XXXVI) PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
FOR THE BIENNIUM 2018-2019**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind rule 24 of the rules of procedure of the Commission and the mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations concerning the preparation and consideration of the programmes of work of all the bodies of the system,

Bearing in mind also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,¹

Bearing in mind further General Assembly resolutions 70/1 “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and 69/313 “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)”,

Considering the Report of the Secretary-General entitled “Supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development”,²

Taking into account the Report on the activities of the Commission from January 2014 to December 2015,³

Taking into account also that the thirty-sixth session of the Commission is the occasion for the relevant intergovernmental bodies to review the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2018-2019,⁴ and for a regional consultation on the Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019,⁵ which will be reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fifty-sixth session and subsequently by the General Assembly at its seventy-first session,

Having reviewed the outcomes and activities of the previous biennium and the proposed strategic framework and the work priorities for the Commission as set out in the presentation on the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2018-2019, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, and which updates and reinforces the priorities endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session,

Having reviewed also all aspects of the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2018-2019, which further strengthens programming, results-based management and evaluation,

¹ See General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012.

² A/70/794 of 18 March 2016.

³ LC/G.2664(SES.36/7).

⁴ LC/G.2665(SES.36/8).

⁵ A/71/6 (Prog. 18).

Bearing in mind that the basic guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2018-2019 incorporate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and the means of implementation of that Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the outcomes and results of major United Nations conferences and summits, and resolution 66/288 “The future we want”, by virtue of which the countries agreed to contribute to providing coordinated and integrated follow-up to the outcomes and results of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental spheres,

Acknowledging the secretariat’s efforts to reprioritize activities and reassign resources to bring the content and modalities of the programme of work into line with the new requirements emerging from the aforementioned Agendas, action plans and instruments, with a view to the efficient and effective implementation of both Agendas,

1. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2018-2019, in its entirety, which, together with the amendments proposed and observations made in the discussions held in the plenary session and the guidance provided by the resolutions adopted at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission, shall become the legislative mandate for the execution of programmes, projects and technical cooperation activities, and for the production of the publications identified therein;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit the proposed budget for implementing the activities described in the programme of work to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

3. *Expresses its concern* at the recent decline in the budgetary resources allocated to the Commission to carry out the activities set forth in the programme of work;

4. *Notes with interest* paragraphs 80 and 81 of resolution 70/1 “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which welcome the cooperation of regional commissions and organizations in the regional and subregional follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourage the regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the Report on the activities of the Commission from January 2014 to December 2015 and underlines the wide-ranging outcomes achieved by the Commission in the different areas of work, commending especially its results-based approach and capacity to respond to the needs of the region;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to strengthen accountability and evaluation with a view to enhancing the effectiveness and relevance of the Commission to the benefit of the region’s development, and recommends pursuing those efforts;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Secretary to continue the practice of convening the Committee of the Whole in the intervals between the sessions of the Commission in order to strengthen and broaden the dialogue between member States and the secretariat on issues deemed to be relevant;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in implementing this resolution at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

705(XXXVI) CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 358(XVI) of 1975 establishing the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee as a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to coordinate activities relating to development and cooperation in that subregion,

Recognizing the important role of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee as a forum in which the Governments of the subregion exchange information and share experiences with a view to addressing the economic, social and environmental challenges to achieving sustainable development,

Bearing in mind that the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its seventeenth meeting in Port of Spain on 26 June 2015, and the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its twenty-sixth session in Basseterre on 22 April 2016, and that, on those occasions, they adopted conclusions and resolutions, which appear in their respective reports,¹

Recalling that the Caribbean Development Roundtable, which brings together high-level experts and policymakers to consider key issues relating to development in the subregion, was first established by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee in March 2010,²

Recognizing the Caribbean Development Roundtable as a valuable forum for fostering strategic thinking and stimulating the consideration of policy options to address critical Caribbean development challenges, and as a mechanism for forging partnerships between Latin America and the Caribbean through dialogue and engagement,

Highlighting the positive contribution made by the fourth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable to the consideration of key issues on the sustainable development agenda of Caribbean small island developing States, including the challenges posed by a high debt burden,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its seventeenth meeting and the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-sixth session;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the Caribbean Development Roundtable on a biennial basis and calls on development partners to work in collaboration with the members of the Commission in support of these meetings;

3. *Reaffirms* the key role of the Commission, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in coordinating development support for the subregion, in collaboration with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and through direct engagement with

¹ Draft report of the twenty-sixth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, and Report of the seventeenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC (LC/CAR/L.469).

² See resolution 73(XXIII), adopted by the Committee at its twenty-third session, held in St. George's on 15 and 17 March 2010 (LC/CAR/L.257).

Caribbean development partners, including the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Commonwealth;

4. *Welcomes* the role that the Commission, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, is mandated to play in incorporating the needs of the small island developing States in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in bringing to fruition specific strategies that may assist in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in this subregion;

5. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to employ all measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-sixth session, the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its seventeenth meeting and the conclusions reached at the fourth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable.

706(XXXVI) APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLE 10 OF THE RIO DECLARATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ endorsed by 10 governments from Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, in which they reaffirmed their commitment to the rights of access to information, participation and justice regarding environmental issues, declared their willingness to work towards a regional instrument promoting the full application of those rights and requested the support of the Commission as technical secretariat,

Considering that 21 countries have signed the Declaration to date and that it remains open for signature by all countries in the region,

Recalling paragraph 60 of the Declaration of Santiago adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the first Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Santiago on 27 and 28 January 2013,

Noting that since the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, the fourth 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 was held in Santiago, from 4 to 6 November 2014, and that three meetings of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean have taken place: the first meeting in Santiago, from 5 to 7 May 2015, the second in Panama City, from 27 to 29 October 2015, and the third in Montevideo, from 5 to 8 April 2016,

Considering that capacity-building and regional cooperation are essential for the successful application of Principle 10 in the region,

1. *Takes note* of the progress made and convergence achieved at the meetings of the focal points and the negotiating committee, which are reflected in the respective reports;²

2. *Reiterates* the commitment of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to advance towards achieving the full application of the rights of access to information, participation and justice regarding environmental issues, with a view to fostering the participation of society in the promotion of sustainable development;

¹ A/CONF.216.13.

² See Report of the fourth 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 (LC/L.3970); Report of the first meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4046); Report of the second meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4125); and the draft report of the third meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. *Underscores* the importance for the countries of the region of ensuring the sustainable management of their natural resources, for which mechanisms for informed, broad and inclusive participation are fundamental;

4. *Commends* the secretariat of the Commission on the progress made in the process under way in Latin America and the Caribbean towards the possible adoption of a regional agreement for the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;

5. *Invites* the countries of the region to participate actively in future meetings of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean;

6. *Requests* the technical secretariat of the process to promote regional cooperation in this regard.

**707(XXXVI) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in September 1994, and the key actions for its further implementation; and resolution 65/234 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, whereby it was decided to extend the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, as an instrument for realizing the human rights of all and ensuring that no one is left behind,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken in the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development and their contribution to following up on the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting that since the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, two meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean have taken place: the first meeting in Santiago, on 12 and 13 November 2014; and the second in Santiago from 24 to 26 April 2015,¹

Considering that the Operational guide for the implementation and follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development was welcomed at the second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development, held in Mexico City from 6 to 9 October 2015,²

1. *Takes note* of the agreements adopted at the first and second meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the resolutions adopted at the second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which are reflected in the respective reports;

2. *Encourages* countries to step up efforts to promote awareness of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development and to apply effective, concrete measures to implement the Consensus, in keeping with national priorities and with the support and cooperation of civil society;

¹ See Report of the first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3990) and Report of the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4065).

² See Operational guide for the implementation and follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (LC/L.4061(CRPD.2/3)/Rev.1).

3. *Welcomes* the Operational guide for the implementation and follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, as a voluntary technical tool for assisting countries in the implementation of the priority measures of the Consensus and the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014;

4. *Calls for* active participation in the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in 2016, and the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in El Salvador in 2017;

5. *Calls upon* the countries to step up efforts to implement and follow-up on the San José Charter on the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean;

6. *Urges* the countries to sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, and invites all the stakeholders to ensure its full implementation;

7. *Calls for* active participation in the fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Paraguay in 2017;

8. *Thanks* the United Nations Population Fund for its support for the activities of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and requests the other funds, programmes and specialized agencies to make their contributions, as appropriate, to the activities to be carried out by the Conference.

**708(XXXVI) MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Taking into account the potential of information and communication technologies for furthering the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets,

Reaffirming the commitments of the World Summit on the Information Society and the vision of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015, which reaffirms the need to implement the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and requests that a high-level meeting be held in 2025,

Taking into account the provisions of paragraph 68 of that resolution, in which the regional commissions of the United Nations are invited to continue their work in implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society action lines and to contribute reviews thereof, including through regional reviews,

Recognizing that the digital economy forms a crucial component of progressive structural change aimed at increasing the relative share of knowledge-intensive production activities in the economy, enhancing competitiveness and making progress towards social inclusion and the reduction of inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Stressing the urgent need for capacity-building to create, share and utilize digital technologies to exploit the new digital revolution and accelerate the economic and social transformation of Latin American and Caribbean countries,

Emphasizing the need to create conditions in which to boost the digital economy, by addressing barriers that hinder the deployment and diffusion of digital technologies and promoting the exchange of goods and services online,

Mindful that the development of a regional digital market could generate opportunities for innovation, jobs and growth, while stimulating investment, productivity and competitiveness,

Aware of the importance of the Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean for promoting regional cooperation on policies relating to the information society and information and communications technologies,

1. *Takes note* of the Mexico City Declaration and the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2018) adopted at the fifth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean;¹

2. *Urges* regional and international bodies and agencies working in the area of policies on information and communications technologies to play an active part in the implementation of the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2018), fostering coordination and integration of efforts;

3. *Calls upon* all member States to participate in the Preparatory Meeting for the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Chile in 2017, and the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Colombia in 2018;

4. *Thanks* the Governments of Chile and Colombia for their offer to give continuity to the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2018) process and to host the forthcoming ministerial meetings on the information society in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2017 and 2018, respectively;

5. *Commends* the joint efforts made by member States to strengthen regional collaboration on the information society with a view to identifying the advances achieved by Latin America and the Caribbean in the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of information and communications technologies to sustainable development and recommends that these technologies be given due consideration in the preparation of Sustainable Development Goal indicators;

7. *Requests* the secretariat to continue working with the countries of the region in the implementation and follow-up of decisions adopted at the fifth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially with regard to the advisability and feasibility of advancing an agenda for the development of a regional digital market in close cooperation with stakeholders.

¹ See Report of the fifth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 5-7 August 2015) (LC/L.4106).

709(XXXVI) COMMITTEE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Considering Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/31 of 27 July 2012, which reaffirms the importance of staying fully engaged in ensuring proper and effective follow-up to the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, as reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,

Bearing in mind that the resolution reiterates the role played by the United Nations as a focal point for the financing for development follow-up process and the need to ensure the continuity and momentum of that process, and reaffirming the need to further intensify the engagement of all stakeholders,

Highlighting the contents of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held from 1 to 3 December 2009, in which the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as the regional commissions, were requested to assist developing countries in establishing or strengthening existing South-South centres of excellence, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to improving South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, mutual capacity-building, information and best practices exchanges, policy analysis and coordinated action among developing countries on major issues of common concern,

Recalling paragraph 44 of the document *Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme*,¹ prepared by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, which states that the proliferation of South-South cooperation programmes and activities across the United Nations system points to the need to move from fragmented and ad hoc reporting to more systematic, standard and comprehensive reporting mechanisms and to the need for improved quality of data and analysis, in particular in the planning, programming, reporting and follow-up of South-South cooperation activities,

Considering General Assembly resolution 68/230, which invites the regional commissions, where relevant, to further harness the knowledge network, partnerships, and technical and research capacity in support of enhanced subregional, regional and interregional South-South cooperation and to use the meetings of the regional coordination mechanism, as appropriate, as a tool for advancing system-wide cooperation and coordination in support of South-South cooperation at the regional level,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, recognizes the importance of building on existing follow-up and review mechanisms at the regional level and allowing adequate policy space, encourages all Member States to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage, as well as United Nations regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard, and establishes guiding principles for follow-up and review processes at all levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, respecting policy space and priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments, and recognizing that the outcome from national-level processes will be the foundation for reviews at the regional and global levels, given that the global review will be based primarily on national official data sources,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 69/313, entitled “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development”, which, inter alia, commits Member States to fully engage, nationally, regionally and internationally, in ensuring proper and effective follow-

¹ SSC/17/2.

up of the financing for development outcomes and all the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages the United Nations regional commissions, in cooperation with regional banks and organizations, to mobilize their expertise and existing mechanisms, which could focus on thematic aspects of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Taking into account that the fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation was held in Santiago on 14 April 2016,

Having reviewed the document Proposed action lines of the Committee on South-South Cooperation for the period 2016-2018. Note by the secretariat,²

1. *Takes note* of the draft report of the fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation;

2. *Takes note also* of the Report on the technical cooperation activities carried out by the ECLAC system during the 2014-2015 biennium;³

3. *Takes note further* of the Report on the South-South cooperation activities carried out since the thirty-fifth session of ECLAC. Note by the secretariat;⁴

4. *Calls upon* the secretariat, under the leadership of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation and in cooperation with the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, to sustain efforts for the design of methodologies to measure South-South cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean through a system of satellite accounts, and for the follow-up and evaluation of South-South cooperation programmes and projects;

5. *Invites* the countries to participate, with the support of the secretariat, in the calculation of structural gaps, as a valuable tool for helping to measure and visualize development levels in each country beyond per capita income;

6. *Adopts* the action lines of the Committee on South-South Cooperation for the period 2016-2018, namely, to share experiences on implementing the 2030 Agenda, to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships for South-South cooperation, and to share experiences of and best practices for South-South cooperation methodologies and metrics;

7. *Requests* the Committee on South-South Cooperation, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, to report to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development on its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the meeting of the Committee on South-South Cooperation to be held in the framework of the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

² LC/G.2671(SES.36/14).

³ LC/G.2668(SES.36/11).

⁴ LC/G.2667(SES.36/10).

**710(XXXVI) CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

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,¹ which was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Considering 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 of policies and regulatory frameworks for such activities,

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

Recalling resolution 672(XXXIV) adopted at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission, establishing the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind that since the preceding session of the Commission, the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean held its first session in Santiago on 9 and 10 June 2014,

Having in mind the agreements adopted at that meeting, which are reflected in the respective report,²

1. *Takes note* of the report of the first session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Costa Rica to host the second session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in September 2016;

3. *Calls for* active participation in the second session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

¹ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

² See Report of the first session of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3876).

**711(XXXVI) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR
LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR THE DECADE 2014-2024**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,¹ adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014, at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner,

Recalling that, in its resolution 69/232, the General Assembly called upon the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner,

Bearing in mind that the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action, namely, fundamental transit policy issues, infrastructure development and maintenance, international trade and trade facilitation, regional integration and cooperation, structural economic transformation and means of implementation, are fundamental for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,²

1. *Invites* member States to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies and regional development plans;

2. *Urges* regional and subregional organizations, including regional economic integration organizations and regional development banks, to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work and to provide technical and financial support for its implementation;

3. *Encourages* the private sector to contribute to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, including through transparent, effective and accountable public-private partnerships;

4. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to promote the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024 in the region, and to provide follow-up through the preparation of analytical studies, contributions to regional and global reports, and the convening of regional meetings on landlocked developing countries;

5. *Calls upon* the secretariat to provide technical support to the region's landlocked developing countries in areas related to the Vienna Programme of Action, such as infrastructure investment, transport facilitation, logistical integration and logistics cost studies.

¹ General Assembly resolution 69/137.

² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

712(XXXVI) REGIONAL INTEGRATION OF STATISTICAL AND GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, whereby the Council approved the establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/6 on strengthening statistical capacity,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/24, which established the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management to provide a forum for coordination and dialogue among Member States through the holding of regular high-level multi-stakeholder discussions on global geospatial information, including through the convening of global and regional forums,

Recalling also resolution 70/1 of the General Assembly, in which it adopted the document entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which recognizes the need to adopt new approaches for the production, acquisition and integration of data so as to enhance the availability, quality and timeliness of disaggregated information, with a view to supporting the implementation of the new development agenda at all levels, exploiting the contribution made by a wide range of data, including Earth observation, geospatial information and big data, and ensuring national ownership and leadership in supporting and tracking progress,

Recalling further the Declaration of the Third High Level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management, held in Beijing in October 2014, on which occasion the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management committed to take deliberate measures to close the gap in geospatial information technologies and associated implementation challenges between developing and developed countries, by establishing frameworks to build capacity through sharing of data, best practices, technical knowledge, tools and workflows in the collection, production, management and dissemination of geospatial information in countries requiring such assistance,

Recalling moreover that, as part of a regional geospatial information management architecture, in August 2013 the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas was created in alignment with the global agenda of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, with 38 member countries and an explicit mandate to forge links and develop cooperation mechanisms with other United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, with a view to pursuing synergies and preventing the duplication of efforts,

Taking into account that, at its fifth session, the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management acknowledged the importance and need for the integration of geospatial information as an essential base for effective and efficient information systems to support official statistics with a view to contributing to the design and monitoring of public policies for sustainable development and overall economic, social and environmental well-being, for which the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, headed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico, had been created,

Bearing in mind agreement 1 of the second meeting of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas, in which the Committee decided that the formal format of United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas was no longer necessary and recommended that the Economic and Social Council consider removing the Conference from the United Nations calendar of conferences and meetings and transferring its international mandates and obligations to the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, with regional and national technical and substantive activities to be assumed by the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas,

Acknowledging the importance of geospatial information for timely, evidence-based decision-making, and the need for capacity-building, particularly in developing countries and vulnerable regions, to be able to supply this information,

Taking into account that the integration of statistical and geospatial information may provide support for many aspects of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as their targets and indicators, and will be essential in guiding countries and regions in their efforts to monitor progress and ensure respect for the rights and opportunities of citizens at both the national and local levels,

Considering that the United Nations regional commissions are fundamental for advancing, from a regional perspective and in intergovernmental and global forums, in the follow-up and discussions of the member countries' vision in respect of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and other important issues,

Taking into account that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and its subsidiary bodies have been widely recognized as a platform for the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its eighth meeting in Quito, from 17 to 19 November 2015, and on that occasion authorized the Executive Committee to adopt the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2016-2017 at its fifteenth meeting, and adopted the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 to guide the activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in support of the development of official statistics in the region,

Bearing in mind also that one of the objectives of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is to prepare a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the needs of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources,

1. *Recommends* that a forum for dialogue be established between the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas, in order to coordinate efforts and define a joint agenda for the integration of statistical and geospatial information, through cooperation between these two entities;

2. *Recognizes* that the immediate overarching goal of the regional agenda on geostatistical integration is its use in the measurement, monitoring and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in conducting and analysing the 2020 round of censuses;

3. *Recommends* the exploration of joint mechanisms for projects such as the Integrated Map of the Americas of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, containing statistical information on population, and an atlas of information on gender matters for the Americas;

4. *Welcomes* the holding of regular joint meetings between the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas, and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Decides* that the first joint meeting will be held on 17 June 2016 in Santiago.

**713(XXXVI) REGIONAL FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOMES OF CONFERENCES
ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, at which the Monterrey Consensus was adopted,

Recalling also the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,

Taking note of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda¹ adopted at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

Recalling the Regional Consultation on Financing for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago, on 12 and 13 March 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report the Regional Consultation on Financing for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;²

2. *Acknowledges* the work of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the region to promote research, analyses, initiatives, responses and tools that may serve to mobilize domestic and international resources;

3. *Requests* the secretariat, within existing resources, to continue to promote follow-up to the outcomes of international conferences on financing for development, in particular the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, by means of technical seminars and regional consultations, inter alia, and to present the results thereof to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

¹ General Assembly resolution 69/313.

² LC/L.3997.

714(XXXVI) PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of its terms of reference and rules 1 and 2 of its rules of procedure,

Considering the invitation of the Government of Cuba to host the thirty-seventh session of the Commission,

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Government of Cuba for its generous invitation;
2. *Accepts* this invitation by acclamation;
3. *Recommends* that the United Nations Economic and Social Council approve the decision to hold the thirty-seventh session of the Commission in Cuba in the first semester of 2018.