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Special meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference
on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 7-9 November 2017

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean is a permanent subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). It focuses on the follow-up and review of matters relating to population and development, international migration, indigenous peoples and Afrodescendent populations, and ageing. The Conference meets every two years, while its Presiding Officers meet at least once between ordinary sessions.

The Presiding Officers now in office were elected at the second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Mexico City from 6 to 9 October 2015. The following countries currently serve as Presiding Officers: Mexico (Chair), Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Vice-Chairs).

Resolution 1(II) of the second session of the Regional Conference welcomed 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, adopted in 2013, taking into account the synergies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the work of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and other subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, and with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014.

Resolution 1(II) also established an open-ended ad hoc group to prepare a proposal of indicators for the regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development. The group was formed in October 2015 —initially by Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)— and began work in January 2016 under the coordination of Mexico, with the participation of civil society organizations. Subsequently, in May 2017, Chile joined the ad hoc group. The ad hoc group submitted a progress report at the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Conference, held in Santiago from 4 to 6 October 2016.

Although, by virtue of resolution 1 (II), member States had welcomed the offer of the Republic of El Salvador to host the third session of the Conference, on 9 August 2017, the Government of El Salvador conveyed a note to the Commission indicating that owing to the saving and austerity policy in place El Salvador, the country found itself obliged to withdraw the offer to host the Conference. In view of the note received from the Government of El Salvador, the secretariat proposed to postpone the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean until 2018, and to convene instead a special meeting of the serving Presiding Officers of the Conference in November 2017. The Government of Mexico, in its capacity as Chair of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, concurred with that proposal.

1. Place and date

The special meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, from 4 to 6 October 2017.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the meeting will be to review and approve the final report by the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development; receive presentations of reports by governments regarding the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development; conduct a discussion on good practices and challenges involved in such implementation; and hear reports on the contributions of subsidiary bodies of the Commission to regional follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

3. Organization of work

The first day will begin with the adoption of the meeting agenda. Next, reports will be given by the Chair, the secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the activities carried out since the second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, in fulfilment of the agreements adopted on that occasion.

The following item will be the presentation of the final report of the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development. The governments will then have the opportunity to make voluntary presentations on national progress in the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, followed by a discussion on this topic among the participants.

The voluntary presentations on national progress in the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development will conclude at the start of the second day. Next, four panel discussions will be held on good practices and challenges for the implementation of the Consensus, in relation to its various themes. Each panel will focus on two chapters of the Consensus and will be composed of four governmental panellists (two per chapter) and two commentators, preferably from civil society. The first panel will address the chapters of the Consensus on "rights, needs, responsibilities and requirements of girls, boys, adolescents and youth" and "ageing, social protection and socioeconomic challenges"; the second, the chapters on "gender equality" and "universal access to sexual and reproductive health services"; the third, those on "international migration and protection of the human rights of all migrants" and "territorial inequality, spatial mobility and vulnerability"; and the fourth, which will take place in the morning of the third day, will consider the chapters on "indigenous peoples: interculturalism and rights" and "Afrodescendants: rights and combating racial discrimination".

On the third day, the discussions will continue with a round table on the institutional framework in relation to the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, which will include representatives of governments and civil society.

Subsequently, the representatives of the secretariats of some of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC will report on their contributions to the regional follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A report will also be given on the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons, held in Asunción in June 2017, and its contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The delegations will then have the opportunity to raise any other issues they deem appropriate. The meeting will conclude with the consideration and adoption of agreements.

B. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Reports:
 - Report by the Chair
 - Report by the secretariat
 - Report by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
3. Final report by the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development.
4. Governments' voluntary statements on national progress regarding the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, and discussion on good practices and implementation difficulties.
5. Contributions of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), including the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to regional follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
6. Place and date of the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.
7. Other matters.
8. Consideration and adoption of agreements.

C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will have before them the provisional agenda (LC/MDP-E/1) for consideration and adoption. Member countries may make such observations or suggest such amendments as they deem appropriate under the ECLAC rules of procedure.

2. Reports

The Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will report on the activities carried out since the second session of the Regional Conference in fulfilment of the resolutions adopted on that occasion.¹

ECLAC, in its capacity as technical secretariat of the Regional Conference, will report on the activities conducted to support the Presiding Officers since the second session of the Conference.

The Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) will also present its report.

Reference documents:

- Report on the activities conducted by the technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Population and Development during the period 2015-2017 (LC/MDP-E/DDR/2)
- Report of the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.4295)

3. Final report by the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development

Pursuant to paragraph 12 of the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean at their third meeting, held in Santiago from 4 to 6 October 2016, the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development will present its final report.²

Working document:

- Final report of the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (LC/MDP-E/3)

Reference document:

- Proposed metadata sheets for the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (LC/MDP-E/DDR/1)

4. Governments' voluntary statements on national progress regarding the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, and discussion on good practices and implementation difficulties

Governments will have an opportunity to report voluntarily on progress made at the national level in the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, as well as experiences and lessons learned that they may wish to share with the Presiding Officers. They may also report on the progress, difficulties and strengths encountered in the preparation of their respective national reports.

¹ See [online] https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/news/files/c1600275_report_crpd_2.pdf.

² See para 12 of the agreements [online] http://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/40942/1/S1700053_en.pdf.

Delegations will recall that the official opportunity for reporting will be at the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. Contributions of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), including the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to regional follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The representatives of the technical secretariats of some of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC will report on their respective contributions to regional follow-up to the 2030 Agenda, as well as synergies and complementarities with the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

They will also report on the outcomes of the first meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, held in Mexico City in April 2017, and the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons, held in Asunción in June 2017.

Reference document:

- Report of the First meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development (LC/FDS.1/5)
- Report of the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CRE.4/4)

6. Place and date of the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Presiding Officers will agree upon the place and the date of the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2018.

7. Other matters

Under this agenda item, the delegations will examine any other matters they may wish to raise.

8. Consideration and adoption of agreements

Delegations will have before them the agreements of the special meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, for consideration and adoption under the rules of procedure of ECLAC.