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Third meeting of the Forum of the Countries of
Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

Santiago, 24–26 April 2019

**INTERGOVERNMENTALLY AGREED CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE THIRD MEETING OF THE FORUM OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

We, the Ministers and high representatives gathered at the third meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and Caribbean on Sustainable Development convened under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, from 24 to 26 April 2019, which marks the end of the first four-year cycle of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Reaffirm* our commitment to effectively implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring that no one is left behind, including its Goals and targets, which are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development —economic, social and environmental—, and stress that it is people-centered, universal and transformative and that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, reaching the furthest behind first and empowering those in vulnerable situations crucial to sustainable development,



2. *Reaffirm* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which builds on the 2002 Monterrey Consensus and the 2008 Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, provides a global framework for financing sustainable development, as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda that supports and complements it, and helps to contextualize its means of implementation with concrete policies and actions to achieve its targets; recognize the synergies of the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito, Ecuador, the SAMOA Pathway, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries and the Outcome document of the Second United Nations High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation, with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; recommend further strengthening of multilateral cooperation at the regional and global levels for the effective implementation of the aforementioned instruments; welcome the numerous contributions and the support provided by the United Nations Development System at the regional level, aiming to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and reiterate the need that their activities be carried out in a coherent and coordinated manner and in line with national policies and priorities,

3. *Also reaffirm* all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in Principle 7 thereof,

4. *Take note* of the endorsement by a number of Latin American and Caribbean countries¹ of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration,

5. *Reaffirm* inter alia the sovereign right of States to determine their national migration policy and their prerogative to govern migration within their jurisdiction, in conformity with international law,

6. *Stress* the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by all developing countries, including countries in special situations, such as least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries and countries in situation of conflict and post conflict,

7. *Reiterate* that national averages based on criteria such as Gross National Income (GNI) per capita are not aligned with the multidimensional scope of Sustainable Development and do not reflect all the particularities, development needs and challenges of developing countries; recall that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda calls upon the United Nations system, in consultation with the international financial institutions, to develop transparent measures of progress in sustainable development that go beyond per capita income, taking advantage of the initiatives existing, as appropriate; recognize poverty in all its forms and dimensions, as well as the social, economic and environmental dimensions of domestic production and structural gaps at all levels,

8. *Reiterate* the call to address further the specific development needs of middle-income countries through, inter alia, an accurate response to their requirements, taking into account variables that go beyond per capita income criteria and eliminate, increasing difficulties and conditionalities faced to access financial and non-financial resources, as appropriate; recall that 73 per cent of the world's poor population is concentrated in these countries, where cooperation can have a multiplying effect on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals; and look forward to actively participating in the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly during its seventy-fourth session, to discuss the gaps and challenges of middle-income countries in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

¹ Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

9. *Also stress* the importance of addressing the particular and diverse needs and challenges faced by countries that are close to surpassing or have recently crossed the upper middle-income threshold but still have structural gaps and vulnerabilities,

10. *Welcome* efforts at all levels to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognize that after almost four years of implementation, our individual and collective efforts have yielded encouraging results in many areas. However, given the challenges for the region to achieve sustainable development, in particular poverty, inequalities, high global debt and reduced levels of international cooperation, we underscore the need to increase both implementation and awareness-raising with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals at all levels, to secure our objectives for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership,

11. *Recognize* that inequality, or even a rise in inequalities, remains pervasive in countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, even in those with high levels of economic growth, and that further investment in social services and economic opportunities are needed in order to reduce inequalities and that economic growth needs to be sustained, inclusive and equitable, and recognize further that tackling inequality requires, inter alia, partnership between governments, the private sector, and civil society working together, in accordance with national plan and policies, in order to achieve the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development,

12. *Reaffirm* our strong commitment to end poverty and hunger everywhere, to further promote inclusive economic growth, protecting the environment and promoting social inclusion, to combat inequalities within and among countries as well as to respect and promote all human rights for all, including the right to development, ensure gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, peaceful and inclusive societies in which no one is left behind while preserving the planet for future generations,

13. *Welcome* the ongoing efforts to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, and *Note* with appreciation the adoption of the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030, adopted at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, and underscore that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and that the protection and full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, and in this regard recommend further streamlining a gender approach into national sustainable development policies and strategies, and encourage the countries of the Forum to participate actively in the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Santiago from 4 to 8 November 2019,

14. *Recognize* that the region is highly vulnerable to climate change owing to its geography, climate, socioeconomic conditions and demographic factors, and in this regard note with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre industrial levels, which underscores the need to urgently increase ambition and action and acknowledging some states including all small island developing states have welcomed the report; take note with appreciation of the outcomes of COP 24, in particular the decisions adopted that will enable the full implementation of the provisions of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); stress in this regard the importance to strengthen the UNFCCC and to ensure that its allocation of resources allows the effective implementation of its mandate; emphasized in that sense, the need to reinforce our efforts to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and enhanced the access to international climate finance in order to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and with a special focus on increasing the resilience of the most vulnerable,

15. *Welcome* that the 25th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will take place in Santiago, Chile, from 2 to 13 December 2019, and the preparatory Conference of the Parties that will take place in San Jose, Costa Rica, and express their interest in contributing to their success,

16. *Look forward* at the same time to the Climate Action Summit called by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York on 23 September 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

17. *Agree* that improving the environmental quality in our cities is one of the challenges we have ahead of us to achieve sustainable development, which will require efforts in a multitude of areas, such as air and water pollution, water scarcity, sanitation, sustainable transportation, sustainable production and consumption, energy efficiency including clean energy sources, sustainable waste management, and decreasing food loss and waste, and look forward to the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly to take place in May 2019,

18. *Applaud* the “Caribbean first” initiative advanced by ECLAC during its 37th Session Period held in Havana in May 2018, and the peer learning sessions on challenges of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean, held in the framework of the second and third meetings of the Forum,

19. *Note* the adoption and the opening for signature, at United Nations Headquarters, of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement, and take note of the signature of 16 countries and the ratification by one country of Latin America and the Caribbean to date as a contribution to sustainable development,

20. *Recognize* the impact of disasters on sustainable development, poverty eradication and the reduction of inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean; acknowledge the need to adopt a broader and more people-centered and inclusive preventive approach to disaster risk reduction, and realign disaster financing to anticipate, plan for and reduce disaster risk; commit to integrate disaster risk reduction into plans, policies and strategies at all levels, in line with national priorities, considering multidisciplinary and interinstitutional coordination mechanisms; and welcome the outcomes of the Sixth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean, hosted by the Government of Colombia in June 2018, and look forward to the Seventh Regional Platform to be hosted by the Government of Jamaica in 2020,

21. *Welcome* the continuous efforts of countries from our region to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda through its mainstreaming in public policies, institutional arrangements, and national and subnational follow-up and review; and encourage these countries to further deepen their national efforts in that endeavour and to engage in in-depth knowledge-sharing with peers and partners throughout the region; highlight in that regard the 29 national coordination mechanisms for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the increase in the number of national and sub-national initiatives promoting the articulation between development priorities, plans, budgets and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the efforts of raising awareness and training to disseminate the Agenda and its relationship with national development objectives; as well as by strengthen the involvement of local and other actors at the national level, as appropriate, in the achievement of sustainable development,

22. *Look forward* to the High-Level Political Forum under the auspices of the ECOSOC that will review in depth in its 2019 session SDGs 4,8,10,13,16 and Goal 17 reviewed annually, while emphasizing the integrated, indivisible and universal nature of the goals and in this regard, reaffirm the commitment to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, adapt

curricula to the demand from the production system for new skills and foster investments for educational provisions and access, bearing in mind the importance of guarantee a life free of poverty; reiterate the commitment for sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work, promote equal pay for work of equal value, reduce gaps of participation and entry in the labor market, strive for universal access to social protection, reduce child labor, and act upon transformations by new technologies, considering that Latin American households obtain 80% of their total incomes from work, which is therefore the driving force for overcoming poverty and gaining access to social protection; recall the pledge to reduce inequality within and among countries; stress the strong commitment for effective climate action; and recommit to promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies, considering that although the States in Latin America coexist in peace and are not engaged in conflict, the region is still the most violent in the world, as well as to substantially reduce corruption in all its forms,

23. *Commend* the 19 countries of the region that have already presented voluntary national reviews at the ministerial segment of the high-level political forum under the auspices of ECOSOC, and the 5 countries preparing to do so in 2019, of which 3 are presenting a second review, and highlight the commitment and leadership shown by these 19 countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by integrating it into their national strategies and adjusting institutional arrangements recommend further volunteering and engaging in the upcoming high-level political forum, and look forward to the appropriate allocation of time both for presentations and for feedback from peer learning,

24. *Recognize* the need to enhance the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the SDG 17, as well as the seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors, and to reinvigorate the global partnership for sustainable development,

25. *Acknowledge* the need to take concrete measures in order to mobilize sufficient resources in order to fully implement the 2030 Development Agenda and the SDG's,

26. *Note with concern* that, despite some improvement in the global and regional economy, this recovery has not been shared among all countries and recognize that economic growth have left some population groups and sectors behind; and that there are still structural problems aggravated by the reduced access to concessional finance, particularly for middle-income countries and, in this regard, emphasize the importance for countries of the region of Official Development Assistance, call upon the developed countries to fulfil their ODA targets, and reiterate the importance of increasing climate financing, which is additional to ODA; and further recognize the necessity of concrete and immediate action to create the necessary enabling environment at all levels for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including national efforts, international and regional cooperation that supports policies and programmes to increase investment in sustainable development; taking into account that every country has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activity,

27. *Welcome* in that regard the 12th edition of the Latin American Economic Outlook, LEO, and invite ECLAC to continue examine and report on the impact of losing access to development assistance and concessional finance on development gains as countries transition through different income levels; and how the international system and national governments can ensure development gains are sustained as countries transition towards sustainable development,

28. *Commit* to continuing to promote a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization (WTO),

29. *Emphasise* in addition that trade, with appropriate supporting policies, can inter alia contribute to promote inclusive economic growth, reduce inequalities within and among countries and contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

30. *Reaffirm* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries,

31. *Recommend* redoubling efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, including by *combating* tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation as well as reducing opportunities for tax avoidance to make sure that all companies, including multinationals, pay taxes to the governments of countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, as well as that the value created is distributed in a way that reinforce economic and social equality and inclusion, to achieve sustainable development; and further recall that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activity,

32. *Reaffirm* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development also acknowledges that the implementation of sustainable development will depend on the active engagement of both the public and private sectors, and, recognizing that the active participation of the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, encourage alignment of private sector incentives with national public goals towards long-term investment according to national realities and capacities, including innovative financing instruments and approaches, to bridge the region's structural inequality gaps and eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

33. *Recognize* that remittances are a form of private capital that cannot be equated to other international financial flows such as foreign direct investment, ODA, or other public sources of financing for development; and encourage concrete measures, as appropriate, to reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and to eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent,

34. *Reaffirm* the importance for our region of accessing to and mobilizing financial and non-financial resources and capacity-building for the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and further recommend increasing international and regional cooperation, inter alia, for the development of endogenous science and technology,

35. *Stress* the critical importance to scale up capacity building, knowledge sharing and best practices for the shift towards sustainable development and poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions,

36. *Stress further* the critical role of science, technology and innovation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and bear in mind that technological change includes new and powerful tools that can help to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; in this context invite the regional forum to resume in its 4th meeting, its discussions on the impact of key rapid technological changes, such as artificial intelligence, among others, on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets; look forward to the reports of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), including their updated findings on the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets that will be presented in a session of the fourth multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, so that they can inform the discussions at the regional level; and look forward to the high-level thematic debate of the 74th period of sessions of the General Assembly to take stock of progress on the impact of rapid

technological change in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and the Conference on Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in 2020, bearing in mind that the introduction of new technologies should never blind us to our pledge to leave no one behind,

37. *Reaffirm* the importance to protect and enhance traditional knowledge and cultural, social and environmental practices of indigenous peoples, and their contribution to global efforts and initiatives to ensure sustainable livelihoods, sustainable consumption and production patterns and practices, and food security in harmony with nature,

38. *Welcome* the outcome document of the Second United Nations High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation, BAPA+40 and commit to its implementation; reiterate the important contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; reaffirm that South-South Cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation; acknowledge the need to enhance development effectiveness of South-South and Triangular Cooperation; welcome the contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development; and stress the importance of triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise,

39. *Further* recognize that triangular cooperation complements and adds value to South-South cooperation by enabling requesting developing countries to source and access more, and a broader range of resources, expertise and capacities, that they identify as needed in order to achieve their national development goals and internationally agreed sustainable development goals,

40. *Highlight* the commitment of the countries of the region to address statistical challenges and advancing in the generation of quality data for the SDGs, including through the the conformation of reliable information systems and administrative records, disaggregated by sex whenever possible, to allow a detailed analysis of the progress in the SDGs, in order to identify inequalities and needs of the most vulnerable, ensuring that no one is left behind, and *acknowledge* the contribution made by ECLAC and the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to the indicators of the region in the quadrennial report; recommend that such contribution continues on a regional framework of indicators for regional statistical follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account regional, national and subnational specificities, as appropriate, thereby complementing the official global indicator framework; and encourage the Statistical Conference of the Americas to continue analysing national statistical capacities of the region to identify areas of cooperation, in consultation with the respective governments, with a view to advancing in the generation of disaggregated, accessible, timely and reliable data,

41. *Recognize* that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, as well as for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing its Goals and targets, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities; and 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,

42. *Recognize* that 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, has become an example of regional coordination of multiple stakeholders, such as governments, the United Nations system, the private sector, academia and civil society, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

43. *Commend* the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for Sustainable Development, for providing useful opportunities for sharing of best practices among multiple stakeholders in the peer learning sessions on institutional arrangements, national measurements and challenges and priorities, challenges in the Caribbean, participatory approaches to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, platforms for follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals, continuity in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, institutional framework, planning and budgeting for the 2030 Agenda, implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the subnational level, statistical capacities, and measurement and georeferencing, held during the three meetings of the Forum convened thus far, and recommend to continue including peer learning session in its meetings on other emerging issues of interest, upon request and as identified by the Forum,

44. *Welcome* the practice of convening the Regional Coordination Mechanism and the Resident Coordinators during the meetings of the Forum, the latter upon previous consultations with their respective national public counterparts, as an opportunity to interact with the regional mechanism for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and with the member States of the Forum,

45. *Take note with appreciation* of the *Quadrennial progress report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,² prepared jointly by ECLAC and the regional offices of funds and programmes of the United Nations system [such as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM)], which provides an evidence-based analysis of opportunities and challenges for our consideration at the end of the first four-year cycle and reports on some individual and collective actions carried out by our countries to implement the Sustainable Development Goals,

46. *Also take note with appreciation* of the reports presented by the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC —the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Statistical Conference of the Americas, the Regional Council for Planning, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies and the Committee on South-South Cooperation— as well as of the reports of the Chairs of other relevant intergovernmental meetings —such as the Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI), and the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) and the Ibero-American Summit— and acknowledge their contribution to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development to the regional implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as another expression of the value of the regional dimension,

47. *Invite* the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to participate in the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, to take place in Costa Rica in the first semester of 2020 and the third session of

² LC/FDS.3/3.

the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to take place in Mexico in the second half of 2019,

48. *Welcome* the ongoing process to strengthen and adapt the United Nations development system to better support Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and agree with the need stated by the Secretary-General to revamp regional structures and look forward to considering the options for longer-term restructuring of the regional assets of the United Nations presented by the Secretary-General, avoiding a one-size-fits-all approach; strongly commend the work carried out by ECLAC and its continued effort to support country-led processes; commit to ensuring that ECLAC functions and mandate are fully recognized and maintained, particularly its crucial role in the regional dimension of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals; and urge the Commission to fully engage in the Secretary-General's initiative to revamp the regional assets in benefit of country-led processes and to increase, within its mandates, regional initiatives to leave no one behind,

49. *Reaffirm* the role of the Commission as an essential component of the United Nations development system based on: (i) its convening function as an intergovernmental platform for policy advice and dialogue; (ii) its ability to act as a think tank for devising analysis and policy recommendations; and (iii) its capacity to provide technical cooperation and normative and capacity-building support to its member States, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring adequate regular budget resources in order to fulfil the mandate of the commission,

50. *Emphasize* the importance of the regional space in successfully repositioning the United Nations Development system by: (i) strengthening regional and sub-regional approaches in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the agreements and outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits; (ii) the need to address gaps and overlaps bearing in mind that there is no "one-size-fits-all" model for the regional approach and that it is necessary to consider the specificities of each region and the strengths of its regional mechanisms; (iii) the need to preserve the existing functions already performed by the United Nations development system at the regional level, including current interactions between the regional economic commissions and member States,

51. *Commit* to actively participate at the 74th session of the UN General Assembly, in order to benefit from lessons learned in the first cycle of the High Level Political Forum as well as from other processes under the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council related to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

52. *Welcome* the contributions of all relevant stakeholders to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region, and the participation, according to resolution 700(XXXVI) of ECLAC, of parliamentarians, local governments, private sector, civil society and academia in the third meeting of the Forum, and encourage their continued commitment to ensure that no one is left behind,

53. *Take note* of the work of civil society to strengthen their engagement, including through the Mechanism for the participation of civil society in the Sustainable Development Agenda, adopted by civil society at the margins of the Second Meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development,

54. *Welcome* projects such as the Network for the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean with the objective of strengthening the institutional and technical capacities of the governments of the region that are establishing or seek to establish national mechanisms for the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and encourage its continuation, as appropriate,

55. *Recommend* that the Chair of the thirty-seventh session of ECLAC submit the quadrennial progress report, along with the present conclusions and recommendations and a Summary of the Chair, as regional contributions to the 2019 high-level political forum under the auspices of the ECOSOC and under the General Assembly, and to the High level Dialogue on Financing for Development as appropriate, along with the United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism for their due consideration, as well as to make it available for other relevant regional and international events and processes,

56. *Request ECLAC* to prepare an updated version of the progress report for the fourth meeting of the Forum and present it two month in advance, in order to ensure sufficient time and a proper consideration by Member States,

57. *Express* our deepest appreciation to the Republic of Cuba as the Chair of the thirty-seventh session, to Chile as the host country, and to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC, for the arrangements and convening of the third meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and Caribbean on Sustainable Development.