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**REPORT ON THE UPDATING OF THE DATABASE OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL
ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. 2010 VERSION***

*This report was prepared by ECLAC. Version not edited.

Background

The seventh meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (SCA), in response to a request from the fourth meeting of the Conference held in July 2007, agreed to boost the initiative of an integrated presentation of international statistical work regional, with the following objectives:

- a. Improve coordination and timely knowledge from different countries of the statistical activities carried out in the region,
- b. encourage their participation in such activities,
- c. avoid duplication of efforts and
- d. promote regional and international cooperation

It also approved the creation of an initiative group, coordinated by ECLAC, as the Secretariat of the Conference. This initiative builds on the experience of the Conference of European Statisticians on the Database on International Statistical Activities (Integrated Presentation). The Conference of European Statisticians and the Economic Commission for Europe have supported its development in its early stages.

The eighth meeting of the ECA Executive Committee met the progress report of the initiative group on the pilot exercise carried out with some international agencies to develop statistical programs in the region (PAHO, UNESCO, ECLAC and IDB) and welcomes its findings and decided to request cooperation from all agencies and international agencies engaged in statistical activities in Latin America and the Caribbean to build an integrated database.

During the fifth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, the Secretariat presented a report on the first version of the Database of International Statistical Activities (2009), which was welcomed by the Conference. Furthermore, decided to request the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to develop the activities necessary to continue the maintenance of the database and develop an annual report on the statistical activities of international agencies and organizations for the knowledge and consideration of the Executive Committee of the Conference in order to strengthen their coordination and optimize their contribution to the development of statistics in the region and also urged the agencies and international organizations to provide support for the successful completion of this initiative.

Report on 2010 version

The situation on the closing date of the process of filling out the information with the organizations and agencies (March 28, 2010) is quite auspicious. Indeed, this new update allowed the incorporation of new agencies and a greater number of activities reported, as the following table shows:

Number of organizations and agencies involved and number of activities reported. 2009 and 2010

	2009	2010
Participating Organisms and Agencies	14	21
Reported Activities	63	88

Source: Database of international activities. (<http://websie.eclac.cl/SA/actividades.asp>)

An important innovation in the process of renovation in 2010 was that the organisms and agency could enter the new information into an online system, which was welcomed by the informants.

When considering all statistical activities included in the database, it can be observed that there are reported activities in all subject areas, broken down as follows.

Number of statistical activities, by statistical topic

Subject Area	Number of activities
1. Demographic and social statistics:	13
2. Economic statistics	10
3. Environmental and multi-domain statistics	23
4. Methodology for collecting, processing, dissemination and analysis	11
5. Strategic issues and management of official statistics	31

Source: Database of international activities. (<http://websie.eclac.cl/SA/actividades.asp>)

Now, considering the total of 88 activities, the 4 thematic areas which offer the greatest number of activities are as follow:

The 4 most frequent activities, by statistical topic

Subject Area	Number of activities
5.7. Technical cooperation and capacity building	16
3.3.2. Statistics on gender and special population groups	9
5.6. Coordination of international statistical work:	8
1.1. Population and Migration	6

Source: Database of international activities. (<http://websie.eclac.cl/SA/actividades.asp>)

According to the subject classification (Table 1), highlights two main areas: strategic and managerial issues of official statistics and environmental and multi-domain statistics. In the first case, the main reason is that under this heading are classified activities for Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building, with 16 identified activities. At the same time, taking into account the content of these 16 activities, 5 of them benefit the census area, 3 to the national statistical system, 2 to environment statistics, 2 to economic statistics, 1 to education statistics and 1 to gender statistics. On the second row in importance are the environmental and multi-domain activities, which are broken down as follows: statistics of gender and

special population groups (9), indicators for the Millennium Development Goals (4), environmental indicators (3) and 6 other multi-domain statistics.

A byproduct of the database of great importance for countries is the list of planned meetings for the year by different organizations and agencies. Although not all respondents completed this item, the list contains a total of 66 seminars, workshops conferences and expert meetings, which could be consulted on the website of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (<http://www.eclac.cl/deype/ceacepal/index.htm>)

Perspectives

The Provisional Agenda of the Ninth Executive Committee of the SCA-ECLAC considers in point 3 c) an examination of the contents of the database, in order to propose guidelines for a better and more efficient coordination of international statistical work. To do this, in addition to this document, the delegates will have a preliminary report on the state of the status of coordination of international organizations and agencies operating in the region on gender statistics presented by the Gender Affairs Division of ECLAC. Thus, delegates to the Ninth Executive Committee of the SCA-ECLAC have the necessary background for the analysis of the information contained in the database of international activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and may consequently identify areas for improving the international coordination of the statistical work.

It is expected that as a result of the previous discussion to consolidate the commitment of the international organizations to active participation in updating and improving the database of international statistical activities in future versions, and especially to make all the efforts required in order to gear increasingly in a manner more precise and coordinated the international statistical activities with the priorities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, reflected in its Biennial Programme of Regional and International Cooperation Activities².

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has collaborated with information for this database.

² Draft biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, 2009-201 LC/L.3072(CEA.5/121).