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Seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Statistical Conference of the Americas of the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 3–4 October 2018

**CRITERIA FOR THE FORMATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS
OF ECLAC AS FROM 2020**



INTRODUCTION

United Nations Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7 states that at each Conference, the Chair of the Executive Committee, in consultation with the members of the Executive Committee and of the Conference, shall draw up a proposal on the election of the new Committee.

At its ninth meeting, held in Aguascalientes, Mexico, from 14 to 16 November 2017, the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) requested the Committee to review the subregional grouping criteria for its formation as of the 2020–2021 biennium and to prepare a proposal for consideration and adoption at its seventeenth meeting.

This request was based on the observation, outlined at the meeting of the Conference, that the geographic distribution of countries was unstable as it depended on political and economic considerations, which created difficulties in dialogue and coordination on statistical cooperation.

Pursuant to the agreement, this document outlines a proposal for the subregional grouping of countries for the formation of the Executive Committee as from 2020, to be submitted for adoption at the seventeenth meeting of the Committee.

A. BACKGROUND

According to Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7, the Executive Committee shall be made up of a Chair and six members, elected from among the member countries of ECLAC. The resolution specifies that special attention shall be paid to ensuring that the subregional groups of countries are represented on the Committee.

In order to meet the subregional representation requirement, the existing criteria for the formation of the Executive Committee,¹ adopted at the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, organize member States of ECLAC into six mutually exclusive groups, which reflect mainly the spheres within which subregional statistical cooperation usually takes place, namely the Andean Community, the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), the English-speaking Caribbean, Central America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean, North America, and members from outside the region.

According to these criteria, each group has one representative on the Committee, and the seventh member comes from the country that served as Chair in the previous biennium.

¹ See *Criteria for the formation of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2016-2017* (LC/L.4068(CEA.8/3)).

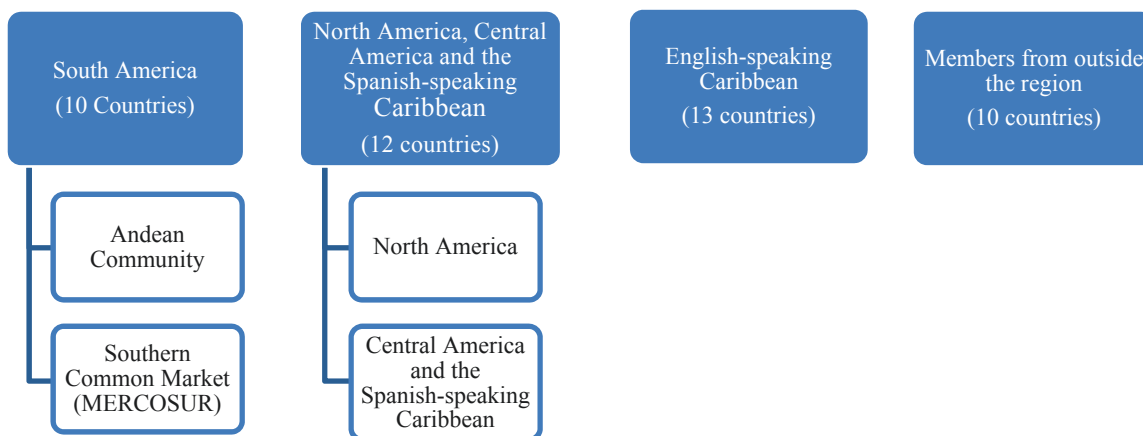
B. CRITERIA FOR THE FORMATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS FROM 2020

Pursuant to the request to avoid country groupings based on political and economic considerations, this proposal groups countries on the basis of geographic and linguistic considerations, as follows:

- The number of subregional groups is reduced to four, consistent with the geographic and linguistic distribution of the countries. This gives more stability to the composition of groups and avoids dependence on economic or political considerations. It also creates groups composed of a similar number of countries.
- Each subregional group has two representatives and members from outside the region have one.
- As previously, a seat on the Committee will be reserved for the country that served as Chair in the preceding biennium; however, this place will now use one slot from that country's subregional grouping.

In terms of the number of representatives assigned for each group, this proposal implies: no change in the number assigned to South America or to member countries from outside the region, the removal of one representative for North America, Central America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean, and the addition of one representative for the English-speaking Caribbean.

Diagram 1
Composition of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference
of the Americas: country groupings



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

C. REGIONAL GROUPINGS

See below the list of countries included in each subregional grouping for the formation of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

South America (2 representatives)

- Argentina
- Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
- Brazil
- Chile*
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Paraguay
- Peru*
- Uruguay
- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

North America, Central America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean (2 representatives)

- Canada*
- Costa Rica*
- Cuba
- Dominican Republic
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico*
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- United States

The Caribbean and associate members of ECLAC (2 representatives)

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica*
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago

- Anguilla
- Aruba
- Bermuda
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Curaçao
- French Guiana
- Guadeloupe
- Martinique
- Montserrat
- Puerto Rico
- Sint Maarten
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- United States Virgin Islands

Countries from outside the region (1 representative)

- France
- Germany
- Italy*
- Japan
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Republic of Korea
- Spain
- United Kingdom

* Members of the Executive Committee in the 2018–2019 biennium.