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Eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information
Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

Montevideo, 16–18 November 2022

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA



A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Mandate and functions

The eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean is convened in follow-up to the agreements adopted at the seventh Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held from 23 to 26 November 2020.

Pursuant to the agreements adopted by the governments, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in its capacity as technical secretariat, performs the following main functions:

- Provides technical support for the regional follow-up mechanism for the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC), specifically to the Presiding Officers and their Chair, and facilitates the organization and coordination of the working groups.
- Produces substantive studies and information, prepares newsletters and maintains the online collaboration platform.
- Provides support for the organization of the Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean and its preparatory meetings.

2. Objectives of the Conference

The eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean is called upon to examine progress on the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2022) and agreements adopted at the seventh Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held virtually in 2020, in addition to moving ahead with cooperation commitments for 2024.

3. Organization of work

The eighth Ministerial Conference will last for three days and will be opened by the Government of Uruguay. The programme includes the election of Presiding Officers, the presentation of the position paper prepared by the secretariat, and 14 panel discussions. Lastly, there will be a debate on the proposed digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2024) and the draft Montevideo Declaration.

B. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Opening session.

4. Presentation of the position paper prepared by the secretariat entitled *A digital path for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean*.
5. Panel discussions.
6. Other matters.
7. Consideration and adoption of the proposed digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2024) and the draft Montevideo Declaration.

C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Election of officers

The delegations will elect the Presiding Officers of the eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, who will serve until new Officers are chosen at the following regional conference.

In accordance with the criteria established by the Presiding Officers, every effort will be made to ensure that the new Presiding Officers are chosen with due regard for the principles of adequate geographical distribution and rotation.

The Presiding Officers will be composed of two representatives from each of the four country groupings below, until the following ministerial conference:

Southern Cone:	Chair and Vice-Chair
Andean countries:	Vice-Chair:
Mexico and Central America:	Vice-Chairs
The Caribbean:	Vice-Chairs

The Presiding Officers may allow organizations and institutions from the private sector, the technical community, development banks and civil society to participate as observers.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Delegations will have before them the provisional agenda for consideration and adoption.¹ This draft agenda has been prepared by the secretariat in accordance with chapter II of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, bearing in mind the various mandates of the Commission. The representatives of member States may make such observations or suggest such modifications as they deem appropriate under the aforementioned rules of procedure.

3. Opening session

The President of Uruguay will deliver a welcome address in the opening session. This will be followed by statements by the Minister of Telecommunications and the Information Society of Ecuador,

¹ LC/CMSI.8/1.

the Executive Director of the National Agency for e-Government and Information Society (AGESIC) of Uruguay, and the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, who will open the eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean.

4. Presentation of the position paper prepared by the secretariat entitled *A digital path for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

The Executive Secretary of ECLAC will present the position paper *A digital path for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which analyses the challenges Latin America and the Caribbean face in the global processes of digital transformation and the importance of digital technologies in addressing issues related to inclusion, productive structure diversification, environmental sustainability, technological change and greater economic productivity.

Working document:

- A digital path for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CMSI.8/3)

5. Panel discussions

The Executive Secretary of ECLAC will present the position paper prepared for the conference by the secretariat, which analyses the challenges Latin America and the Caribbean face in the global processes of digital transformation and the importance of digital technologies in addressing issues related to inclusion, productive structure diversification, environmental sustainability, technological change and greater economic productivity.

6. Other matters

Under this agenda item, the delegations may consider any other matter they deem appropriate.

7. Consideration and adoption of the proposed digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2024) and the draft Montevideo Declaration

The Ministerial Conference will be asked to consider the document *Proposed digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean* (eLAC2024) and the draft Montevideo Declaration "Building together in the digital age". It is suggested that the discussions be organized in three blocks: (i) the digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2024); (ii) governance of the programme of regional cooperation activities for the digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean 2018–2020; and (iii) the draft Montevideo Declaration.

Working document:

- Proposed digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2024) (LC/CMSI.8/4)