
Twelfth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas
of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 26–28 September 2023

RESOLUTION 13(XII)

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, at its twelfth meeting, held in Santiago from September 26 to 28, 2023,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7 of 25 July 2000, in which the Council approved the proposal on the establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as one of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Bearing in mind also that the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7 provides that the Executive Committee of the Conference shall have the following duties: carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference; draw up, every two years, a biennial programme of activities of regional and international cooperation on statistical matters, to be submitted at the regular meeting of the Conference; follow up the implementation of the agreements reached at the Conference and the tasks entrusted to it by the Conference, particularly the biennial programme of activities; and decide on the documentation required for its meetings,

Presentation and discussion of substantive issues

1. *Recognizes* the importance of working at the national and regional level to generate and consolidate environmental, climate change and disaster statistics and indicators, which provide reliable and timely metrics for decision-making and for moving forward in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2. *Calls upon* national statistical offices and national institutions with responsibility for environmental, climate change and disaster matters to work together to better leverage technical expertise in the production of the necessary statistics and thereby make effective and lasting progress on these issues;

3. *Notes* the importance of platforms for the dissemination of official statistical and geospatial information, which use innovative digital technology solutions that enable interoperability of available data assets, for making such information available in a more timely manner and to a wider group of users;

4. *Acknowledges* the role of national statistical offices as key stakeholders in leading and coordinating the dissemination of statistical and geospatial information by facilitating access to data, sharing the methodologies used for data collection, processing, production and geocoding, integrating geospatial data, and developing and promoting innovative strategies for the dissemination and use of statistical and geospatial information through digital platforms and official data portals;

5. *Invites* countries to move forward in consolidating their platforms for the dissemination of statistical and geospatial information using interoperable data ecosystems that facilitate their implementation;

6. *Recognizes* the usefulness of small area estimation methodologies as a tool for the production of official statistics disaggregated by interest group and geographic area, which allow adequate monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and feed a base of reliable information for the design and evaluation of public policy;

7. *Welcomes* the increasing availability of methodological guides, courses and other support materials provided by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and other international organizations, which aim to build the capacities of national technical teams in the use of small area estimation methodologies and encourage the mainstreaming of these models in national statistical offices and other public bodies;

8. *Underlines* the importance of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics for guiding national statistical production, and of codes of good practice as a means of operationalizing them through replicable guidelines based on proven experiences, which help to improve national statistical activity;

9. *Invites* the member countries of the Conference and other stakeholders to continue to support the organization of activities to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, recalling the event held in the framework of the Knowledge Transmission Network in November 2022, and to organize commemorative activities in forthcoming meetings of the Executive Committee of the Conference;

10. *Underlines* the value of peer review systems as an instrument of international cooperation that contributes to the implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and codes of good practice in statistics by identifying both strengths and areas for improvement in their application, to the formulation of recommendations for improving compliance with the codes, and to national statistical planning;

11. *Endorses* the Statement on the use of data held by the private sector for the purposes of official statistics issued at the twelfth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, recognizing the importance of furthering access to and use of data held by the private sector to increase the timeliness and efficiency of the production of official statistics;

Outcomes of the biennial programme of regional and international activities, 2022–2023, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

12. *Endorses the Report on the outcomes of the 2022–2023 biennial programme of regional and international activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;*¹

13. *Endorses the Code of Good Practice in Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023*², the original 2011 version of which has been updated to bring it in line with other instruments that strengthen compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, such as the *Generic Law on Official Statistics for Latin America* and the United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics, and to respond to recent changes in data ecosystems by incorporating the principle on the use of secondary data sources;

14. *Endorses the Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production (Summary)*³ and calls on countries to make the necessary efforts to mainstream gender in national statistical systems, with a view to generating data that capture the persistence and magnitude of societal inequalities;

15. *Endorses the Methodological recommendations on the measurement of the quality of household survey figures (Summary)*⁴ and calls on national statistical offices of the region to implement the proposed methodologies, to move towards the production of more accurate and reliable data;

16. *Endorses the Recommendations for measuring perceptions in household surveys (Summary)*⁵ and calls on countries to move forward in the production of data on social progress and well-being, beyond material conditions, on the basis of people's perceptions, evaluations and experiences;

17. *Notes* that the complete versions of the documents mentioned in paragraphs 13 to 16 were reviewed and commented on by the member countries of the Conference as part of a regional consultation process;

18. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the successful preparation of the following agreed outputs of the working groups: assessment of data stewardship in Latin America and the Caribbean; recommendations on the integration of administrative records related to children; tools for the production of disaster-related indicators; assessment of statistics on work relationships and labour informality; compilation of experiences in generating statistics relating to prison systems and guide on the compilation and use of input-output tables, and requests the relevant working groups undertake, as a final activity, the dissemination of these products through the Knowledge Transmission Network;

19. *Notes* the deferral of the workplan of the working group for the development of quality assessment tools for administrative records, with a view to presenting the committed outputs at the twenty-third meeting of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, in 2024;

¹ LC/CEA.12/3.

² LC/CEA.12/4.

³ LC/CEA.12/5.

⁴ LC/CEA.12/6.

⁵ LC/CEA.12/7.

20. *Endorses the Report on the activities of the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean*⁶ and welcomes the progress in the development of an information system for the continuous update of the inventory of national capacities to produce the indicators of the Sustainable Development Goal global indicator framework;

21. *Thanks* the member countries of the Conference that have served as working group coordinators for their valuable efforts in pursuit of the statistical development of the Latin American and Caribbean countries through the cooperation of the international and regional statistical community;

22. *Also thanks* the international organizations for their support and collaboration in assisting with the activities of the working groups, by serving as technical secretariats or by providing financing for planned activities;

Review and adoption of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2024–2025, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

23. *Takes note* of the *Draft biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2024–2025, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*,⁷ as well as the suggestions made during the discussions at this twelfth meeting of the Conference, which will be included in the respective report;

24. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to design a peer review mechanism, within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, for evaluating compliance with the principles contained in the new Code of Good Practice in Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023;

25. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare an analysis of technologies and methodologies for census mapping, which will help to strengthen the technical and management capacities of national statistical offices in preparation for the next round of censuses;

26. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to propose harmonized criteria for the imputation of missing data in household surveys and population censuses, thus improving the accuracy and reliability of the statistical data generated by these instruments;

27. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare recommendations for incorporating small area estimation methodologies into statistical production, as a means of increasing the potential to produce disaggregated data that can be used in the design, implementation and evaluation of public policies;

28. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to develop guidelines on metadata management when implementing the Generic Statistical Business Process Model, which will help to ensure the interoperability, comparability and reuse of data over time;

29. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group on the integration of administrative data related to children and adolescents, which will improve the exploitation of various sources of information and the generation of data on children and adolescents with more frequency, better quality and more disaggregation;

⁶ LC/CEA.12/9.

⁷ LC/CEA.12/8.

30. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to propose tools for the operationalization and implementation of the guidelines for gender mainstreaming in the various stages of the statistical process, with recommendations and examples of strategies used in the national statistical offices of the region;

31. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group for the preparation of a proposal for an integrated system of well-being indicators, that will enable coordination of different types of sources for Latin America and the Caribbean as part of a multidimensional approach;

32. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare guidelines for harmonized production of statistics on forced displacement and migration, which will contribute to the design of national policies and strategies and the follow-up of international commitments in this area;

33. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare an assessment of measurement of dependent contractors and the informal economy, which will systematize the progress made by countries with regard to the adoption and adaptation of the recommendations of the International Labour Organization in this regard;

34. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to devise recommendations for strengthening official environmental statistics systems, with a view to having timely data to help guide policymaking and address the challenges for the region stemming from the global environmental crisis;

35. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to conduct an analysis of area frames in agricultural surveys, which will help to define a road map to support the countries of the region in improving this type of instrument;

36. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare a reference guide on police administrative records, which will make it possible to adapt international guidelines to the regional context;

37. *Invites* member countries of the Conference to strengthen knowledge dissemination and horizontal cooperation through the Knowledge Transfer Network, by organizing remote meetings and jointly constructing a repository of information relevant to the production and dissemination of statistics;

38. *Commends* the establishment of new communities of practice of the Knowledge Transfer Network to address issues such as the care society, lessons learned from the 2020 census round, women's leadership in statistical offices and the dissemination of innovative practices in statistical production, and to encourage dialogue and the sharing of experiences on issues of importance for the countries of the region;

Other matters

39. *Welcomes* the proposal by the Working Group on Agricultural and Livestock Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture to report on a regular basis to the Statistical Conference of the Americas, with a view to receiving feedback from delegations and ensuring the greatest possible synergy between programmes of work;

40. *Recognizes* the importance of various events related to data and statistics that will be held in the region in the current biennium, including the Data Festival (Uruguay, 2023), the nineteenth International Association for Official Statistics Conference (Mexico, 2024) and the United Nations World Data Forum (Colombia, 2024), and invites member countries of the Conference and other stakeholders to participate therein;

41. *Proposes* increasing to eight the total number of members of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, with the additional seat being reserved for the country that served as Chair in the preceding biennium, without using a slot from that country's subregional grouping;

42. *Conveys* its appreciation and thanks for the work of the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of Argentina during that country's service as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Conference during the biennium 2022–2023.