



eLAC2015

Building inclusive
and innovative
digital societies

Distr.
LIMITED

LC/L.3579
15 March 2013

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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

Montevideo, 3-5 April 2013

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA



UNITED NATIONS



A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Mandate and functions

The fourth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean is being held as a follow-up to the Lima Declaration, which was adopted at the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held from 21 to 23 November 2010.

Further to that declaration and to the agreements adopted by the Governments, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is entrusted with the following responsibilities:

- To provide technical support for the regional follow-up mechanism for eLAC2015 through studies, statistics and substantive information on the information society and associated public policies, the preparation of newsletters, and the maintenance and expansion of a collaborative virtual forum.
- To organize technical meetings and the ministerial follow-up conference.
- To provide technical support to the Presiding Officers so that synergies may be sought with initiatives of international agencies that may contribute to achievement of the goals set out in the regional plan of action. The Presiding Officers shall consult the member States regarding any such initiatives.

2. Objectives of the fourth Ministerial Conference

The fourth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean is called upon to examine progress on the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015), adopted in Lima in 2010, and to move ahead in monitoring the status of the commitments undertaken by the countries of the region and the sustainability of the process.

3. Organization of work

The Ministerial Conference will last for three days and will be opened by the President of Uruguay. The programme includes the election of Presiding Officers, the opening ceremony and the presentation of the document on a digital economy for structural change and equality prepared by ECLAC. There will also be 10 panels comprising government authorities and international experts. Lastly, there will be a debate on the plan of work 2013-2015 for implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015), and the Montevideo Declaration will be adopted.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Election of officers

The delegations will elect the Presiding Officers of the fourth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, who will serve as such until new Presiding 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 representatives of the following four groups of countries until the following ministerial conference:

<u>Southern Cone:</u>	Chair
<u>Mexico and Central America:</u>	Vice Chair
<u>Andean countries:</u>	Vice Chair
<u>The Caribbean:</u>	Vice Chair

The Presiding Officers will also include, as observers, one representative designated by civil society organizations of regional scope, one representative designated by private-sector associations of regional scope and one representative designated by the technical community of the region.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The participants will have before them the following provisional agenda¹ for their consideration and adoption:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Presentation and review of the document on digital economy for structural change and equality.
4. Other matters.
5. Consideration and adoption of the Montevideo Declaration.

Delegations will have before them the provisional agenda (LC/L.3558) for their consideration and adoption. This draft agenda has been prepared by the secretariat, bearing in mind the various mandates of the Commission. The representatives of member States may formulate observations and suggest such

¹ LC/L.3558.

modifications as they consider appropriate. It is suggested that the agenda should be considered at the meeting of Heads of Delegation to be held on 3 April 2013.

3. Presentation and review of the document on digital economy for structural change and equality

The Executive Secretary of ECLAC will present the document on digital economy for structural change and equality, which suggests that in a context of advancing information and communication technologies (ITC), the digital economy is part of a new development approach and acts as a catalyst for long-term investment, diversification of the production structure and greater convergence of productivity levels across the entire economy.

Working document:

- *Economía digital para el cambio estructural y la igualdad* (LC/L.3595)

Ten panels will then be held to examine the role of new technologies in innovation and digital development; infrastructure for a digital ecosystem; the role of regulation in digital development; digitalization and new production paradigms; diversity in the digital society; the future of open government; the environment and electronic waste; cybersecurity and the search for a common understanding; social inclusion in the digital economy; and the measurement of progress towards the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015. The panels will comprise representatives of the Governments of the region and experts from other funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations.

4. Other matters

Under this item, delegations will consider any other issues they may wish to raise.

5. Consideration and adoption of the Montevideo Declaration

The Ministerial Conference will be asked to consider and adopt the Montevideo Declaration.

Working document:

- Plan of work 2013-2015 for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015) (LC/L.3581)

Reference document:

- Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015) (DDR/1)