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

Virtual meeting, 25–27 August 2020

## **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

## **A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES**

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is a subsidiary body of the Commission, established pursuant to resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which defined as follows the objectives of the Conference: to promote the development and improvement of national statistics and work to ensure that they are comparable internationally, bearing in mind the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations; to promote international, regional and bilateral cooperation among national offices and international and regional agencies; and to draw up a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the demands of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources.

The 2020–2021 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is framed within the Strategic Plan 2015–2025, which established as the pillars of action of the Conference the achievement of more robust institutionalities and a stronger governing role for national statistical offices; the development of human resources and statistical production in order to ensure quality; and regional and international coordination and cooperation for the development of official statistics in the region.

The agenda of the nineteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC includes the following themes: the analysis of the challenges posed by COVID-19 as an opportunity to strengthen the role of national statistical offices; the role of national statistical offices as data stewards; a decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals and the review of progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2020–2021, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

Virtual side events will also be held during the breaks between morning and afternoon sessions, to address other themes of interest raised by the member countries of the Conference.

### **Chair**

In accordance with resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Colombia, in its capacity as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, will preside over the Committee's nineteenth meeting.

## **B. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. The challenges posed by COVID-19 as an opportunity to strengthen the role of national statistical offices.
3. The role of national statistical offices as data stewards.

4. A decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Review of progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2020–2021, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.
6. Other matters.
7. Consideration and adoption of agreements.

### **C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Committee will have before it the provisional agenda for adoption or amendment.<sup>1</sup>

#### **2. The challenges posed by COVID-19 as an opportunity to strengthen the role of national statistical offices**

Participants will analyse the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic for statistical work in the region and the extent to which these can be addressed through innovations in data gathering processes. They will discuss themes such as challenges and innovations relating to data collection, the use of administrative records and other non-traditional data sources, the impact on the 2020 census round and the possible contribution of national statistical offices to public policy actions to tackle the coronavirus.

#### **3. The role of national statistical offices as data stewards**

Under this agenda item, participants will discuss how the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the implementation of quality frameworks and the Sustainable Development Goals provide strategic and priority elements to strengthen national statistical offices as data stewards for national statistical systems.

#### **4. A decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals**

This agenda item will focus on sharing ideas on the methodologies to evaluate progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and analyse the role of national statistical offices within the framework of the decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **5. Review of progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2020–2021, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC**

The biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2020–2021, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which included the programmes of work of the various working groups for that period, was adopted at the tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas. Participants will review the overall progress of the working groups of the Conference.

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<sup>1</sup> LC/CE.19/1.

**Working document:**

- First report on progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2020–2021, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CE.19/3)

**Reference documents:**

- Strategic Plan, 2015–2025 (LC/L.4070(CEA.8/4))
- Biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2020–2021, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CEA.10/7)

**6. Other matters**

Under this agenda item, representatives will have the opportunity to discuss any matters of importance for the region not addressed under the preceding items.

**7. Consideration and adoption of agreements**

Under this agenda item, the Executive Committee will consider and adopt the agreements it deems appropriate.