



Third session of the Conference
on Social Development
in Latin America and the Caribbean

XI Ministerial Forum for Development
in Latin America and the Caribbean

Distr.
LIMITED
LC/CDS.3/2/Rev.1
27 September 2019
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH
19-00869

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Mexico City, 1–3 October 2019

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA



A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

In May 2014, the member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) decided, by virtue of resolution 682(XXXV), to establish the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission. The objectives of the Conference include: to promote the development of national policies on social development, to further international, regional and bilateral cooperation among offices and institutions, and to examine multidimensional poverty and make progress on poverty measurement, inequality and structural gaps, in coordination with the work of the various subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

Every year since 2007, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has held the Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In a joint declaration signed in October 2014, ECLAC and UNDP together convened the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the aim of fostering synergies and encouraging the social authorities of the region to attend both events and adopt complementary mandates, while maintaining their institutional identities.

The first session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Lima from 2 to 4 November 2015; the second session of the Conference was held in Montevideo, from 25 to 27 October 2017.

At the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Panama in the framework of the tenth meeting of the Ministerial Forum, the Presiding Officers welcomed the offer of Mexico to host the third session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Presentation of documents *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda* and *Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development*.
4. Territorial inequalities: the geography of exclusion.
5. Review of the document *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda*.
6. Other matters.
7. Consideration and adoption of agreements.

C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

The annex to resolution 682(XXXV) of ECLAC provides for the election of a Chair and six members. It is suggested that the composition of this group of Presiding Officers should be discussed at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on Monday, 30 September, prior to the work of the Conference. The Presiding Officers will serve for a term of two years.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The delegations will have before them for consideration and adoption the provisional agenda (LC/CDS.3/1/Rev.1), prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Presiding Officers and the host country of the Regional Conference. Member countries may make such observations or suggest such amendments as they deem appropriate under the ECLAC rules of procedure.

3. Presentation of documents *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda and Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development*

ECLAC will present the documents *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda* and *Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development*, both prepared for the third session of the Conference.

The document *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda* forms part of the preparation process of a proposal for a regional agenda for inclusive social development for Latin America and the Caribbean, analysing the challenges and opportunities in the region as regards progress towards inclusive social development. It discusses the phenomena that limit access by a large part of the population to the effective enjoyment of rights and well-being, and that reproduce inequality, hampering progress towards inclusive social development. The obstacles and challenges relating to inclusive social development are summarized in the following eight areas: (i) the persistence of poverty and vulnerability to poverty; (ii) unfair and inefficient structural inequalities, and the culture of privilege; (iii) gaps in human capacity development—education, health and nutrition—and in access to basic services; (iv) decent work deficits and uncertainties associated with technological changes in the world of work; (v) still partial and unequal access to social protection; (vi) a social institutional framework that is still under construction; (vii) an insufficient level of social investment; (viii) a set of emerging obstacles, including various forms of violence, disasters and climate change, demographic, epidemiological and nutritional transitions, migration and technological changes and capacities.

Working documents:

- Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda (LC/CDS.3/3)
- Proposal for a regional agenda for inclusive social development (LC/CDS.3/4)

Reference documents:

- Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development: linkages with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (LC/CDS.3/DDR/1)
- Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development: linkages with existing social development commitments at the regional and subregional levels in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CDS.3/DDR/2)
- Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development: comments from member countries of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CDS.3/DDR/3)
- Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development: comments from civil society (LC/CDS.3/DDR/4)

4. Territorial inequalities: the geography of exclusion

One of the ways in which inequality is manifested is in the limitations imposed on socioeconomic development by localization. Equality of opportunities implies that the place where people are born or choose to live must not determine their access to opportunities or ability to live a dignified life. Many indicators of prosperity tend to be measured at the national level, but these statistics hide important inequalities within countries.

Under this agenda item, UNDP will conduct a round table discussion on territorial inequalities and the geography of exclusion, which will address the main challenges at the territorial level for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and lessons learned from the work over the past few years on ways to improve local capacities to achieve the main challenges at the territorial level for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

5. Review of the document *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda*

The second and third days of the session will take the form of five consecutive panel discussions, addressing matters of relevance in the field of social development that have been identified as priorities in the documents *Critical obstacles to inclusive social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: background for a regional agenda* and *Proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development* presented under agenda item 3, in view of their contribution to eradicating poverty and achieving greater levels of equality and inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean, in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The purpose of the first panel is to reflect upon the main structural gaps and emerging challenges concerning the construction and consolidation of universal and comprehensive social protection systems from a rights perspective, including those relating to the demographic transition, the technological revolution, changes in the world of work, migration, and disasters and climate change.

The second panel will address the main challenges and opportunities of the proposed regional agenda for inclusive social development for the Caribbean countries on their path towards sustainable development. In particular, the discussions will focus on how the agenda can support the Caribbean countries in the implementation of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, on priority areas in the context of the regional agenda for inclusive social development and on reflections concerning implementation of the regional agenda.

The third panel will consider the challenges of social and labour inclusion and measures for addressing them in order to advance towards fairer and more egalitarian societies, bearing in mind the specific needs and situations of exclusion experienced by various population groups, including: children and adolescents; young persons; older persons; women; indigenous peoples; the Afrodescendent population; persons with disabilities; persons living in disadvantaged areas; lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; migrants and those displaced by conflict; and populations affected by disasters and climate change.

The fourth panel is intended to reflect upon the main structural and emerging challenges relating to effective coordination and linking between institutions to implement social development policies and programmes at the territorial level from a rights-based perspective.

The purpose of the fifth panel is to discuss the main scope, implications, progress and challenges for inclusive social development in Central America, in the context of migration and the related challenges and considering the role of cooperation and social integration.

6. Other matters

Under this agenda item, delegations may discuss any other issues they wish to raise.

7. Consideration and adoption of agreements

The Conference will adopt the agreements it deems appropriate in accordance with the rules of procedure of ECLAC.