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**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

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737(XXXVIII) SAN JOSÉ RESOLUTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 553(XXVI), in which it affirmed that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Commission is especially well qualified to undertake the tasks entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 106(VI), in the framework of a restructured United Nations, and that, therefore, ECLAC should function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies, together with operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination,

Bearing in mind the document *Time for Equality: Closing Gaps, Opening Trails* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-third session of the Commission,¹

Bearing in mind also the document *Structural Change for Equality: An Integrated Approach to Development* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission,²

Bearing in mind further the document *Compacts for Equality: Towards a Sustainable Future* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission,³

Bearing in mind also the document *Horizons 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission,⁴

Bearing in mind further the document *The Inefficiency of Inequality* and its summary, presented by the secretariat at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission,⁵

Emphasizing that General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, offers an opportunity for all the countries in the region to progress towards eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and reducing inequality, as proposed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the documents presented at its past five sessions,

Bearing in mind that the guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2021, incorporate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and the means of implementation of that Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the outcomes and results of major United Nations conferences and summits, and General Assembly resolution 66/288 “The future we want”, by virtue of which the countries agreed to contribute to providing coordinated and integrated follow-up to the outcomes and results of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental spheres,⁶

¹ LC/G.2432(SES.33/3) and LC/G.2433(SES.33/4).

² LC/G.2524(SES.34/3) and LC/G.2525(SES.34/4).

³ LC/G.2586(SES.35/3) and LC/G.2587(SES.35/4).

⁴ LC/G.2660(SES.36/3) and LC/G.2661(SES.36/4).

⁵ LC/SES.37/3-P and LC/SES.37/4.

⁶ LC/PLEN.34/4.

*Having reviewed the document Building a New Future: Transformative Recovery with Equality and Sustainability and its summary, prepared by the secretariat, which complements the trilogy of equality,*⁷

1. *Takes note of the document Building a New Future: Transformative Recovery with Equality and Sustainability and welcomes the integrated approach to development that has marked the thinking of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean since its inception;*

2. *Recognizes the relevance of the issues examined and supports the general tenor of the document's conclusions;*

3. *Instructs the secretariat to conduct studies and formulate public policy proposals in the countries, in close cooperation with their policymakers, with a view to supporting the building of national capacities for the achievement of sustainable development;*

4. *Calls upon the secretariat to widely disseminate the document and promote its review in the economic, academic, political, business and social spheres in the region, by means of national dialogues on the main issues covered, taking each country's national characteristics into account, and in international organizations concerned with economic development, in order to continue to foster more in-depth comparative analysis vis-à-vis countries outside the region.*

⁷ LC/SES.38/3-P/Rev.1 and LC/SES.38/4.

738(XXXVIII) ECLAC CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES FOR THE PERIOD 2021–2022

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 419(PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on the rationalization of the institutional structure and the pattern of meetings of the system of the Commission, in which it decided that, at each of the Commission's regular sessions, the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the next regular session should be considered,

Taking into account resolution 489(PLEN.19) on the Commission's intergovernmental structure and functions, in which it was recommended that the current institutional structure should be maintained,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/243 entitled "Pattern of conferences" and the provision concerning the principle of rotation of the venue for the sessions of the Commission as laid down in rule 2 of its rules of procedure and reiterated in its resolution 480(XXI),

Taking into account resolution 553(XXVI) on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Commission, in which it was recommended that the current pattern of conferences of the Commission's system should continue to serve as the basis for maintaining the simplicity, effectiveness and flexibility of its work,

Bearing in mind the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean that establish and govern the periodicity of the meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Bearing in mind also resolution 676(XXXV) adopted at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, in which it was decided, for economic and environmental reasons, to employ documents in electronic format for the future sessions and meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Having examined the proposed calendar of the Commission's intergovernmental conferences for the period 2021–2022, as set forth in annex 6 of the relevant document,¹

Considering the objectives and priorities established in the subprogrammes of the work programme approved by the member States at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission,

1. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the current intergovernmental structure and the existing pattern of meetings and approves the calendar of conferences of the Commission as it appears in the annex to this resolution, along with the observations and suggestions included in the report of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission's current conference servicing system has proved to be efficient in substantive and organizational terms as well as cost-effective, and recommends that these tasks continue to be the responsibility of the Executive Secretary with a view to an ongoing and sustained improvement in those services;

¹ See *Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2021–2022. Note by the secretariat* (LC/SES.38/9).

3. *Further reaffirms* the importance of continuing to entrust the Commission with the task of organizing and holding regional and subregional meetings to prepare for and follow up on world conferences of the United Nations in the economic, social and sustainable development fields;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit to the relevant United Nations bodies such proposals as may be necessary to ensure implementation of the calendar of conferences as approved;

5. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of this resolution.

Annex

ECLAC CALENDAR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES FOR THE PERIOD 2021–2022

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2021	Twenty-second session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Eleventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 580(XXVIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Sixtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Eighteenth meeting of the Regional Council of Planning of ILPES	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 351(XVI) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budget
2021	Thirty-sixth session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC	United Nations Headquarters, New York ^b	Economic and Social Council Resolution 106(VI) (para 3); ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	Regular budget
2021	Twentieth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Fourth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 700(XXX)	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Preparatory meeting for the eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 610(XXX)	Extrabudgetary resources
2021	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Twentieth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of CLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Fourth session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 682(XXXV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/32	ECLAC regular budget
2021	Fourth session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Agreement 1 of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12–15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2021	Sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Agreement 1 of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12–15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Twenty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 351(XXVI) and 553(XXVI)	Regular budget of ILPES and ECLAC
2022	Twenty-third session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX), 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 9(IV) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Eighth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 610(XXX)	Extrabudgetary resources
2022	Sixty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 682(XXXV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/32	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 672(XXXIV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/35	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Fifth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development	^{a b}	ECLAC resolution 700(XXX)	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Twenty-ninth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	^{a b}	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14); 489(PLEN.19) and 553(XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	^{a b}	Agreement 1, Meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Quito, 6 July 2012); Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development (Montevideo, 12–15 August 2013)	ECLAC regular budget
2022	Twenty-first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	^{a b}	Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/7	ECLAC regular budget

^a Place to be determined.

^b Date to be determined.

**739(XXXVIII) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the first Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, held in Havana in 1977, at which the region adopted the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development,

Recalling also that the fortieth anniversary of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in the Economic and Social Development of Latin America was celebrated in 2017,

Recalling further resolution 558(XXVI), in which it adopted the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995–2001,

Recalling also that, in the Lima Consensus, adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the countries undertook to strengthen the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action beyond the year 2001,¹

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/61 on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations international conferences and summits, which reaffirms that gender mainstreaming must form an integral part of the implementation of the decisions of recent United Nations summits and conferences,

Mindful of the agreements adopted by States that are parties to relevant human rights instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, as well as of the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of its reviews,

Recalling the countries' commitment to implement and monitor the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, including by taking into account its Operational guide, and recognizing its contribution to the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in that regard,

Highlighting that, at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo from 25 to 28 October 2016, the countries adopted the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030,²

Bearing in mind that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, held its fourteenth session in Santiago, from 27 to 31 January 2020;

¹ See *Report of the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6)).

² See *Report of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/CRM.13/6/Rev.1).

Bearing in mind also that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, has held three meetings of the Presiding Officers: the fifty-seventh meeting in Santiago, on 30 and 31 July 2018, the fifty-eighth meeting in Santiago, on 22 and 23 January 2019, and the fifty-ninth meeting in Santiago, on 28 January 2020,

Having in mind the outcomes of and the commitments adopted at those meetings, which are reflected in the respective reports,

Taking into account the work carried out by the Commission and the other agencies which support the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the considerable progress achieved in disseminating and redesigning the Observatory,

Taking note of the initiatives of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with regard to mainstreaming the gender perspective,

Deeply concerned that the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the social and economic situation of women and girls and their access to education and essential health services, the increased demand for paid and unpaid care work and the reported surge of sexual and gender-based violence, including domestic violence and violence in digital contexts, during confinement, are deepening already existing inequalities and risk reversing the progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made in recent decades,

1. *Takes notes* of the report of the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago, from 27 to 31 January 2020, and the adoption of the Santiago Commitment;

2. *Recognizes* the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in September 1995 and reaffirms the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report “Care in Latin America and the Caribbean during the COVID-19: towards comprehensive systems to strengthen response and recovery” released by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), in August 2020;

4. *Also takes note* of the reports of the fifty-seventh meeting, fifty-eighth meeting and fifty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago on 30 and 31 July 2018, in Santiago on 22 and 23 January 2019, and in Santiago on 28 January 2020, respectively;

5. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean to mainstream a transformative gender perspective in all of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, indicators and implementation mechanisms, and to take action to fulfil the Goal on the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as the other 16 Goals, in order to achieve robust sustainable development;

6. *Recommends* the redoubling of efforts to ensure that the indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals reflect the inequalities between men and women and can be used to design effective public policies for overcoming such inequalities;

7. *Commends* the Commission on the progress it has made in implementing the gender mainstreaming strategy and emphasizes the need to strengthen work in conjunction with Governments, economic policymakers, and machineries for the advancement of women, as well as relevant civil society organizations;

8. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Division for Gender Affairs, in the work relating to gender statistics in the region, as well as in shedding light on gender affairs at the sessions of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission, as well as in the work related to the organization and follow-up of the Regional Conferences and the support provided to the Governments;

9. *Recognizes* the contribution of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the pursuit of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, in line with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

10. *Calls for* active participation in the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in Argentina in 2022;

11. *Recommends* that the delegations participating in the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean bear in mind and promote gender balance in their composition;

12. *Requests* that every effort be made to ensure the involvement of civil society in the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference, on the understanding that the quality of democracy is contingent on citizen participation;

13. *Encourages* the design and implementation of comprehensive public policies and programmes that integrate sustainable development, including a gender perspective, to respond to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

740(XXXVIII) SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING (ILPES)

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 340(AC.66) of 25 January 1974, in which it directed that the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) should become a permanent institution of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with its own identity and directly responsible to the Executive Secretary of the Commission,

Reiterating its recognition to the Governments of the States members of the Regional Council for Planning and its Presiding Officers for the valuable support they provide to the Institute in terms of both guidance and regular financing,

Noting that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Regional Council for Planning held its seventeenth meeting in Montevideo, on 29 and 30 August 2019,

Having in mind the agreements adopted at that meeting, which are reflected in the respective report,¹

1. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted at the seventeenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, held in Montevideo on 29 and 30 August 2019;

2. *Expresses* its conviction that the policies adopted by States should be geared towards long term aims and afford increasing attention to building visions for the future, centred on reducing inequalities, promoting the prosperity of their peoples, and furthering sustainable development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of public policy consistency for strengthening the processes and instruments of planning for development and public management for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and requests the Institute to maintain applied research, technical cooperation, advisory work and training to promote cross-sectoral and multilevel integration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in planning for development;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Regular System of Government Financing is essential for the continuity of the Institute and the implementation of its programme of work, as a complement to the regular budget of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Expresses* its concern at the critical level of resources reached by the Regular System of Government Financing² and requests member States to take the necessary measures to make and regularize their contributions to the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning in conformity with their respective normative frameworks and circumstances, with a view to making regular, timely contributions;

¹ See *Report of the seventeenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)* (LC/CRP.17/6).

² See *Report on the status of the Regular System of Government Financing for the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)* (LC/CRP.17/5).

6. *Requests* the secretariat to make the necessary arrangements to ensure and strengthen the operation of the Institute within existing resources of the regular budget of the organization, and to continue to seek extrabudgetary funds;

7. *Reiterates* the recommendation that the Institute should strengthen its capacity as the body responsible for training within the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and should step up the activities it conducts in that area in collaboration with the subregional headquarters, divisions of the Commission and other international institutions;

8. *Decides* to convene the twenty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning in the second half of 2020, and the eighteenth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning of the Institute in the second half of 2021.

741(XXXVIII) STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 2000/7 of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, by which it approved the establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/6 on strengthening statistical capacity,

Bearing in mind also that the objectives of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean include the preparation of a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the needs of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources,

Taking into account that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its tenth meeting in Santiago, from 19 to 21 November 2019,¹

Taking into account also that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas held its seventeenth meeting, in Santiago on 3 and 4 October 2018, its eighteenth meeting, in Santiago on 27 and 28 March 2019, and its nineteenth meeting, in virtual format from 25 to 27 August 2020,

Taking into account further that, on those occasions, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the respective reports,²

Recognizing the major challenges facing official statistics in relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the growing demand for statistical data and indicators in areas such as the environment, economic and social development, the labour market, gender affairs, information and communications technologies, public safety and justice, and South-South cooperation, as well as the challenges involved in analysing the strengths and weaknesses of different sources of information and assessing their appropriateness and relevance for measuring the multiplicity of Goals and targets set forth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing also the increasing importance of reliable, good-quality, timely, disaggregated public statistics and the growing need to provide these for the sake of transparency, accountability of the public authorities and the evidence-based evaluation of public policy outcomes, which are key elements for sustainable development and for enhancing democracy in the region,

¹ See *Report of the tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/CEA.10/9).

² See *Report of the seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/CE.17/7), *Report of the eighteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/CE.18/5) and the draft report of the nineteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CE.19/PINF).

Recognizing further that, as a result of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, many economies in Latin America and the Caribbean have contracted or are expected to contract, thus reducing the resources available to the Governments in the region and to statistical offices, against a backdrop of increased resource requirements to address the emerging data collection problems caused by the pandemic and requests to increase the frequency and volume of statistical production,

Taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 71/313 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/7, adopting the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development prepared by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators that was agreed upon at the forty-eighth session of the Statistical Commission, held in New York from 7 to 10 March 2017, as a voluntary and country-led instrument that includes the initial set of indicators to be refined annually and reviewed comprehensively by the Commission at its fifty-first session, held from 3 to 6 March 2020, and its fifty-sixth session, to be held in 2025, and will be complemented by indicators at the regional and national levels, which will be developed by Member States,

Recalling that in the conclusions and recommendations agreed upon by the Governments attending the first meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, the countries recommended that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean, make progress with producing indicators of relevance to the region in the framework proposed by the Sustainable Development Goals and support the strengthening of national statistical capacities,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago, from 19 to 21 November 2019, and of the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth meetings of its Executive Committee, held in Santiago from 3 to 4 October 2018, in Santiago from 27 to 28 March 2019, and virtually from 25 to 27 August 2020, respectively;

2. *Also takes note* 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;³

3. *Reiterates* the importance of the increasing consolidation of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission as the intergovernmental body that coordinates regional and international statistical activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and fosters the strengthening of national statistical offices and national statistical systems of the countries of the region;

4. *Takes note* of the adoption of a prioritized set of indicators for regional statistical follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean, as a regional framework of indicators for monitoring the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that will help to prioritize measurement efforts and achieve the effective coordination of horizontal, regional and international cooperation in order to close gaps in statistical capacities;

5. *Commends* the launch of the regional portal on the Sustainable Development Goals —SDG Gateway— developed in an inter-agency effort with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United

³ LC/CEA.10/7.

Nations system in the region under the leadership of the Commission, as a key tool for supporting the countries in the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for strengthening the capacities to that end, and encourages the countries to use the SDG Gateway to promote collaborative work and horizontal cooperation for closing gaps in data availability for follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6. *Conveys its thanks* for the presentation of global, regional and national experiences in the measurement of progress towards attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals; calls upon the member States to develop metrics to calculate the achievement of the targets; recommends that these metrics be considered within national development plans; and requests the secretariat to pursue the implementation of this type of harmonized measurement for the region in line with other current developments;

7. *Acknowledges* the adoption of the generic law on official statistics for Latin America, which defines the national statistical office as the leading authority of the respective national statistical system and as a professionally independent body, and recognizes it as a regional model for countries that are interested in formulating or reformulating the legal basis for the functioning of their national statistical systems and the production of official statistics;

8. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the actions of the Knowledge Transfer Network to exchange experiences and recommendations relating to the challenges and solutions adopted by the countries of the region in the face of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and encourages the continued consolidation of dissemination and exchange activities, such as on the role of national statistical offices as data stewards and how to ensure the continuity of statistical operations in emergency situations, among other matters;

9. *Underscores* the importance for member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, through the good offices of each Government, to provide the financial and human resources needed to guarantee the implementation of data collection and statistics production, including the 2020 round of population censuses, and calls on the public and private entities that compile administrative records and other data sources to facilitate national statistical offices' access to this information, considering its usefulness for statistical purposes and recognizing that these sources allow for greater and more timely data disaggregation;

10. *Expresses* its support for the joint declaration on the integration of statistical and geospatial information,⁴ presented at the tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago, from 19 to 21 November 2019, which urges the Governments of the region to establish governance mechanisms that will better support the joint work of national statistical offices, national statistical systems and national mapping agencies through the establishment of national geostatistical frameworks.

⁴ *Declaration on the integration of geospatial and statistical information between the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas.*

**742(XXXVIII) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit on Social Development,¹ as well as other relevant internationally agreed instruments, constitute, together with the global dialogue on this issue, the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national, regional, and international levels,

Recalling that General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, represents an opportunity for the countries of the region to advance sustainable development in its three dimensions, as well as eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequality and ensure that no one is left behind,

Recalling also that by virtue of resolution 682(XXXV), adopted at the thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in 2014, the member States approved the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean as a subsidiary body of the Commission,

Bearing in mind that, by virtue of resolution 2014/32, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations endorsed the establishment of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, as set out in resolution 682(XXXV) of the Commission,

Taking into account that, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean held its third session in Mexico City, from 1 to 3 October 2019,

Bearing in mind that, since the preceding session of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean held the second and third meetings of its Presiding Officers, in Panama City on 12 September 2018 and Santiago on 23 April 2019, respectively,

Considering that, on those occasions, a number of agreements were adopted which are reflected in the respective reports,²

¹ See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995)* (A/CONF.166/9).

² See *Report of the third session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/CDS.3/6), *Report of the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/MDS.2/3) and *Report of the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/MDS.3/2).

Taking into account the additional challenges brought about by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic in terms of poverty and inequality, and acknowledging that such challenges require universal and comprehensive social protection systems to be strengthened,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the third session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Mexico City from 1 to 3 October 2019, and of the adoption of the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development;

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the second and third meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development, held in Panama City on 12 September 2018 and Santiago on 23 April 2019, respectively;

3. *Recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a universal and inclusive action plan based on the three dimensions of sustainable development—economic, social and environmental—whose goals and targets are indivisible, and that the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean is one of the platforms in which to enhance synergies and pool efforts among the various stakeholders in sustainable development with a focus on the social dimension of sustainable development;

4. *Requests* that the secretariat support the ministries of social development and equivalent entities in the countries in identifying key policy areas that can be strengthened in accordance with the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development, in keeping with national and subnational realities and with a view to the factors that hinder poverty eradication and perpetuate social inequality in the region;

5. *Also requests* that the secretariat organize, maintain and systematically update the Observatory on Social Development, on the basis of official data provided by the countries;

6. *Notes* that the fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will take place in 2020, jointly with the XII Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is convened by the United Nations Development Programme.

**743(XXXVIII) REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in September 1994, and the key actions for its further implementation, and resolution 65/234 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, whereby it was decided to extend the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, as an instrument for realizing the human rights of all, reducing inequalities and ensuring that no one is left behind,

Recalling also the commitments undertaken in the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development and their contribution to following up on the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Bearing in mind that since the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean held its third session in Lima, from 7 to 9 August 2018,

Bearing in mind also that since the thirty-seventh session of the Commission the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean held their fourth meeting in Santiago, on 9 and 10 October 2019,

Considering all relevant regional and international developments on population and development matters, in particular the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Asunción from 27 to 30 June 2017, at which the Asunción Declaration, “Building inclusive societies: ageing with dignity and rights”, was adopted, and the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018, at which the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration was adopted,

1. *Takes note* of the agreements adopted by the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean at its third session, held in Lima from 7 to 9 August 2018, and by the Presiding Officers at their fourth meeting, held in Santiago on 9 and 10 October 2019, which are reflected in the respective meeting reports;¹

2. *Renews* the countries’ commitment to implementing and monitoring the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, including by taking into account its Operational guide as a voluntary technical tool for assisting countries, and recognizes the contribution of the *First regional report*

¹ See *Report of the third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CRPD.3/5)* and *Report of the fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/MDP.4/4)*.

*on the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development*² to the global follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014;

3. *Encourages* all member States to participate actively in the fourth session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in 2021;

4. *Urges* the countries to make every effort to send inclusive, diverse and pluralistic official delegations to the fourth session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development, including, insofar as possible, representatives from ministries and national institutions engaged with the population and development agenda, as well as representatives of relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and academia involved in the process of implementing the Montevideo Consensus;

5. *Also urges* all member States that have not yet done so, to consider signing and ratifying the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, and invites all the stakeholders to ensure its full implementation;

6. *Encourages* all member States to participate in the regional review of the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, and invites all the stakeholders to engage in this process;

7. *Recognizes* the contribution of the United Nations Population Fund for its support for the activities of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and requests the other funds, programmes and specialized agencies to make their contributions, as appropriate, to the activities to be carried out by the Conference.

² LC/CRPD.3/6.

744(XXXVIII) REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which establishes the following: “Environmental issues are best handled with participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided”,

Recalling also the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and signed by 24 Governments from Latin America and the Caribbean, in which they reaffirmed their commitment to the rights of access to information, participation and justice regarding environmental issues, declared their willingness to work towards a regional instrument promoting the full application of those rights and requested the support of the Commission as technical secretariat,

Recalling further paragraph 60 of the Declaration of Santiago adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the first Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Santiago on 27 and 28 January 2013,

Recalling also resolutions 686(XXXV) and 706(XXXVI) “Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean”, adopted, respectively, at the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions of the Commission, which emphasized the importance of sustainable management of natural resources and mechanisms for informed, broad and inclusive participation,

Recalling further resolution 725(XXXVII) “Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean”, adopted at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, which took note of the adoption of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, in Escazú, Costa Rica, which constitutes an important step forward to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling also that the Regional Agreement was opened for signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of the 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on 27 September 2018 at United Nations Headquarters in New York,

Bearing in mind that since the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, the countries signatory to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean held their first meeting in San José, on 11 and 12 October 2019,

¹ A/CONF.216/13.

1. *Takes note of the Report of the first meeting of the countries signatory to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean,*² held in San José on 11 and 12 October 2019;

2. *Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda for its offer to host the second meeting of the countries signatory to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held virtually on 9 and 10 December 2020;*

3. *Takes note with appreciation of the signature of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean by 24 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and the ratification of the Regional Agreement by nine countries of the region to date as a contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions;*

4. *Invites all Latin American and Caribbean States to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, as appropriate, in accordance with its article 21, as soon as possible.*

² LC/ESZ.1/3.

**745(XXXVIII) REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME
OF ACTION FOR LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
FOR THE DECADE 2014–2024**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,¹ adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014, at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner,

Recalling that, in its resolution 69/232, the General Assembly called upon the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner,

Recalling also its resolutions 711(XXXVI) and 732(XXXVII) on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted at the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions of the Commission, respectively,

Bearing in mind the Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,²

Bearing in mind also that the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action, namely, fundamental transit policy issues, infrastructure development and maintenance, international trade and trade facilitation, regional integration and cooperation, structural economic transformation and means of implementation, are fundamental for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³

1. *Reiterates* its invitation to member States to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies at the national and regional level, as well as its invitation to regional and subregional organizations to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work and to provide technical and financial support for its implementation; and again encourages the private sector to contribute to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, including through transparent, effective and accountable public-private partnerships;

¹ General Assembly resolution 69/137.

² General Assembly resolution 74/15.

³ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

2. *Takes note with appreciation of the Report of the midterm review meeting of Latin American countries preparatory to the comprehensive midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,*⁴ held in Santiago on 11 and 12 June 2019;

3. *Calls upon* the secretariat to continue providing technical support to the region's landlocked developing countries in areas related to the Vienna Programme of Action, such as infrastructure investment, transport facilitation, logistical integration and logistics cost studies.

⁴ LC/PSL.1/2.

746(XXXVIII) CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 358(XVI) of 1975 establishing the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee as a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to coordinate activities relating to development and cooperation in that subregion,

Recognizing the important role of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee as a forum in which the Governments of the subregion exchange information and share experiences with a view to addressing the economic, social and environmental challenges to achieving sustainable development,

Bearing in mind that the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its nineteenth meeting in Port of Spain on 17 May 2019, and the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee held its twenty-eighth session virtually, on 10 September 2020, and that, on those occasions, they adopted conclusions and resolutions, which appear in their respective reports,¹

Recalling that the Caribbean Development Roundtable, which brings together high-level experts and policymakers to consider key issues relating to development in the subregion, was first established by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee in March 2010,²

Recognizing the Caribbean Development Roundtable as a valuable forum for fostering strategic thinking and stimulating the consideration of policy options to address critical Caribbean development challenges, and as a mechanism for forging partnerships between Latin America and the Caribbean through dialogue and engagement,

Highlighting the positive contribution made by the sixth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable to the consideration of key issues on the sustainable development agenda of Caribbean small island developing States, particularly debt sustainability and resilience in the time of coronavirus disease (COVID-19),

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its nineteenth meeting and the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-eighth session;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the Caribbean Development Roundtable on a biennial basis and calls on development partners to work in collaboration with the members of the Commission in support of these meetings;

3. *Reaffirms* the key role of the Commission, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in coordinating development support for the subregion, in collaboration with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and through direct engagement with Caribbean development partners, including the Caribbean Community and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States;

¹ See the resolutions adopted at the twenty-eighth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, and *Report of the nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee* (LC/CAR/2019/6).

² See resolution 73(XXIII), adopted by the Committee at its twenty-third session, held in St. George's on 15 and 17 March 2010 (LC/CAR/L.257).

4. *Welcomes* the role that the Commission, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, is mandated to play in incorporating the needs of the small island developing States in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to employ all measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-eighth session, the recommendations formulated by the Monitoring Committee at its nineteenth meeting and the conclusions reached at the sixth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable.

**747(XXXVIII) MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Taking into account the potential of information and communication technologies for furthering the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets,

Reaffirming the commitments of the World Summit on the Information Society and the vision of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015, which reaffirms the need to implement the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and requests that a high-level meeting be held in 2025,

Taking into account the provisions of paragraph 68 of that resolution, in which the regional commissions of the United Nations are invited to continue their work in implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society action lines and to contribute reviews thereof, including through regional reviews,

Recognizing that the digital economy forms a crucial component of progressive structural change aimed at increasing the relative share of knowledge-intensive production activities in the economy, enhancing competitiveness and making progress towards social inclusion and the reduction of inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Stressing the urgent need for capacity-building to create, share and utilize digital technologies to benefit from the new digital revolution and accelerate the economic and social transformation of Latin American and Caribbean countries,

Emphasizing the need to create conditions in which to boost the digital economy, by addressing barriers that hinder the deployment and diffusion of digital technologies and promoting the exchange of goods and services online,

Mindful that the development of a regional digital market could generate opportunities for innovation, jobs and growth, while stimulating investment, productivity and competitiveness,

Aware of the importance of the Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean for promoting regional cooperation on policies relating to the information society and information and communications technologies,

Recognizing that, in the 15 years since its formal establishment in 2005, the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean has made significant contributions to a common vision for building an inclusive information society in the region,

Emphasizing that digital technologies have been essential to the functioning of the economy and society during the crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

1. *Calls upon* all member States to participate in the Seventh Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held virtually from 23 to 26 November 2020;

2. *Commends* the joint efforts made by member States to strengthen regional collaboration on the information society with a view to identifying the advances achieved by Latin America and the Caribbean in the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of rethinking the digital governance model within the framework of a digital welfare state that promotes universal access to information and communications technologies, protects the economic, social and labour rights of the population, repudiates the unauthorized collection and improper or unauthorized use of personal data, and fosters innovation and the diffusion of technology in the productive system, for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and affirms the need to promote public policies for this purpose;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to continue working with the countries of the region in the implementation and follow-up of decisions adopted at the seventh Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially with regard to the advisability and feasibility of advancing an agenda for the development of a regional digital market in close cooperation with stakeholders.

748(XXXVIII) PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR 2022

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling rule 24 of the rules of procedure of the Commission and the mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations concerning the preparation and consideration of the programmes of work of all the bodies of the system,

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”¹ and General Assembly resolutions 70/1 “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and 69/313 “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)” as well as the Paris Agreement,²

Recalling further paragraphs 80 and 81 of resolution 70/1 “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which welcome the cooperation of regional commissions and organizations in the regional and subregional follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and encourage the regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2019, as well as General Assembly resolutions 72/279, 72/236, 73/248, 74/297, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2019/15 and 2020/23,

Reaffirming the role of the Commission as an essential component of the United Nations development system based on: (i) its convening function as an intergovernmental platform for policy advice and dialogue; (ii) its role as a think tank for devising analysis and policy recommendations; and (iii) its capacity to provide technical cooperation and normative and capacity-building support to its member States,

Emphasizing the importance of the regional space in successfully repositioning the United Nations Development system by: (i) strengthening regional and subregional approaches in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as well as the agreements and outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits; (ii) the need to address gaps and overlaps bearing in mind that there is no “one-size-fits-all” model for the regional approach and that it is necessary to consider the specificities of each region and the strengths of its regional mechanisms; (iii) the need to preserve the existing functions already performed by the United Nations development system at the regional level, including current interactions between the regional economic commissions and member States; and (iv) the importance of ensuring adequate regular budget resources in order to fulfil the mandate of the commissions;

*Taking into account the Report on the activities of the Commission, 2019,*³

¹ See General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012.

² See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

³ LC/SES.38/7.

Taking into account also that the thirty-eighth session of the Commission is the occasion for the relevant intergovernmental review of the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2022,⁴

Having reviewed the outcomes and activities of 2019 and the work priorities for the Commission as set out in the presentation on the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2022, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, and which updates and reinforces the priorities endorsed by the Commission at the thirty-fourth session of its Committee of the Whole,

Having reviewed also all aspects of the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2022, which further strengthens programming, results-based management and evaluation,

Bearing in mind that the basic guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2022 incorporate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and the means of implementation of that Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Paris Agreement, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the outcomes and results of major United Nations conferences and summits, and resolution 66/288 “The future we want”, by virtue of which the countries agreed to contribute to providing coordinated and integrated follow-up to the outcomes and results of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental spheres,

Taking note of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 to address the consequences of the coronavirus disease pandemic,

Acknowledging the secretariat’s efforts to update and align the content and modalities of the programme of work with the new requirements emerging from the aforementioned agendas, action plans and instruments,

1. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2022, in its entirety, including its innovations and changes in the implementation strategies, which, together with the amendments proposed and observations made in the discussions held at the thirty-eighth session, shall become the legislative mandate for the execution of programmes, projects and technical cooperation activities, and for the production of the wide range of knowledge products and publications identified therein;

2. *Emphasizes and welcomes* the fact that the draft programme of work and priorities of the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for 2022 reflects the alignment and adaptation of activities, contents and modalities of the programme of work to the new requirements arising from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, including the accelerated modalities and priorities of the Decade of Action, as well as from other internationally agreed action plans and instruments;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit the proposed budget for implementing the activities described in the programme of work to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

⁴ LC/SES.38/8.

4. *Expresses its concern* at the recent liquidity crisis which has negatively affected the budgetary resources allocated to the Commission to carry out the activities set forth in the programme of work;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the *Report on the activities of the Commission, 2019* and underlines the wide-ranging outcomes achieved by the Commission in the different areas of work, commending especially its results-based approach and capacity to respond to the needs of the region;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to strengthen accountability and evaluation with a view to enhancing the effectiveness and relevance of the Commission to the benefit of the region's development, and recommends pursuing those efforts further;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Secretary to continue the practice of convening the Committee of the Whole in the intervals between the sessions of the Commission, also with a view to strengthening and broadening the dialogue between member States and the secretariat on issues deemed to be relevant;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in implementing this resolution at the thirty-sixth session of the Committee of the Whole.

749(XXXVIII) COMMITTEE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,¹

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Recalling that General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, represents an opportunity for the countries of the region to advance sustainable development in its three dimensions, as well as eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequality and ensure that no one is left behind,

Recalling also that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, recognizes the importance of building on existing follow-up and review mechanisms at the regional level and allowing adequate policy space, encourages all Member States to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage, as well as United Nations regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard, and establishes guiding principles for follow-up and review processes at all levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, respecting policy space and priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments, and recognizing that the outcome from national-level processes will be the foundation for reviews at the regional and global levels, given that the global review will be primarily based on national official data sources,

Recognizing that South-South cooperation is increasingly critical to bolstering the productive capacities of developing countries and has positive impacts on trade and financial flows, technological capabilities and economic growth, and reiterating the importance of global partnerships,

Bearing in mind that 2019 marked the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and that the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation was held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March,

Bearing in mind also the outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,² which recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving the overarching goal of eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

Stressing the need to reinvigorate the United Nations development system in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, aiming at the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August to 12 September 1978 (A/CONF.79/13/Rev.1), chap. I.*

² A/CONF.235/3.

Acknowledging the importance of strengthening bonds with the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation in order to leverage our contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions,

Considering the key role played in recent years by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Committee on South-South Cooperation as one of its subsidiary bodies, in facilitating and encouraging dialogue among representatives of the countries of the region and in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, in accordance with its respective mandate,

Recognizing the supportive function performed by the United Nations regional commissions in the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits and conferences,

Bearing in mind the ongoing United Nations development system reform, by ongoing activities such as enhancing connectivity, harnessing the human and other resources of relevant knowledge networks, partnerships, technical and research capacity to enhance subregional, regional and interregional South-South and triangular cooperation and by continuing their technical, policy and research support for countries of their regions and by cooperating, as appropriate, with United Nations country teams to continue to support the capacity of Member States, upon their request and leadership, in areas in which South-South and triangular cooperation could have the highest development impact,

1. *Endorses* the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;

2. *Requests* the Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation to convene, with the support of the secretariat, an extraordinary meeting of the Committee on South-South Cooperation, outside the framework of the session of the Commission, as soon as possible and no later than the second half of 2021, in order to examine ways to enhance its functioning, including the need for institutional changes, with a view to providing recommendations to the Commission on these deliberations;

3. *Also requests* the Committee on South-South Cooperation, in its capacity as a subsidiary body of the Commission, to report to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development on its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in implementing this resolution at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

**750(XXXVIII) CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,¹

Considering the key role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the region in recent years in facilitating and encouraging dialogue among representatives of the countries of the region, and in promoting the consolidation of institutions devoted to science, technology and innovation, and of policies and regulatory frameworks for such activities,

Recognizing the support function performed by the United Nations regional commissions in the implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action, especially as regards the contribution made by Governments and stakeholders to the promotion of information and communications technologies for development and as regards international and regional cooperation and the creation of an enabling environment,

Recalling resolution 672(XXXIV) adopted at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission, establishing the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling also United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/242 on the Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, adopted on 22 December 2017,

Reaffirming that science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies, are essential enablers and drivers for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Aware of the importance of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies for promoting regional cooperation on policies relating to science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies,

Recognizing the strategic and essential role of science, technology, innovation and digital technologies in addressing the impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Bearing in mind that, given the need to coordinate an effective science and technology response to the challenges arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, on 2 July 2020, the Executive Committee of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies approved the regional cooperation proposal presented by the secretariat and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Telecommunications of Costa Rica, to work in three areas related specifically to the pandemic,

1. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to implement a short-term regional cooperation agenda in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis, based on science, technology, innovation and digital technologies;

¹ See chap. I of *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August to 12 September 1978* (A/CONF.79/13/Rev.1).

2. *Reaffirms* the need for a coordinated joint effort and response from the science, technology, innovation, and information and communications technology regional institutions to tackle the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic effectively and prepare for a sustainable recovery;

3. *Encourages* the prompt operationalization of the online platform of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, to share information about existing science, technology and innovation policies, initiatives and programmes.