

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

Santiago, 19–21 November 2019

RESOLUTION 11(X)

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, at its tenth meeting, held in Santiago from 19 to 21 November 2019,

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

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

Presentation and discussion of substantive issues: the future of economic statistics

1. *Notes* the need to pursue a collaborative regional response to the demand for economic statistics to support the formulation of evidence-based policy-making in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to contribute to improving the organization and management of national statistical systems, which will serve as an input for the work done at the global level by the Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics of the United Nations Statistical Commission;

Outcomes of the biennial programme of regional and international activities, 2018–2019, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

2. *Endorses the Report on the outcomes of the 2018–2019 biennial programme of regional and international activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;*¹

3. *Adopts the Proposal for a generic law on official statistics for Latin America,*² 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;

4. *Asks the Chair of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to draw particular attention, in the presentation on the Conference to be given at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, to the Generic law on official statistics for Latin America, which provides that the national statistical office is the leading authority in the respective national statistical system as a professionally independent body;*

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

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

Activities in relation to follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals

7. *Asks the countries representing the region in the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and in the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to promote dialogue and joint work to exchange information with all the countries of their respective subregions, in order to facilitate the circulation of the topics addressed and the decisions adopted in those bodies, as well as to propose common positions that represent the region as a whole;*

8. *Endorses the Report on the activities of the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean*³ for the biennium 2018–2019, and calls upon the Group to carry out the programme of work presented for the biennium 2020–2021, in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators in the region;

9. *Conveys its thanks for the work carried out by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Sustainable Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNSDG-LAC) to systematize and coordinate efforts to strengthen statistical capacities and technical assistance regarding the Sustainable Development Goal indicators of the agencies of the United Nations system in the region, and calls for these to be regularly updated;*

10. *Commends the presentation of the proposed regional portal on the Sustainable Development Goals —SDG Gateway— developed in an inter-agency effort with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system in the region under the leadership of the Economic Commission for Latin America*

¹ LC/CEA.10/3.

² LC/CEA.10/4.

³ LC/CEA.10/6.

and the Caribbean, 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 requests that it be presented at the fourth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development as a regional contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

11. *Encourages* the countries to use the regional portal on the Sustainable Development Goals —SDG Gateway—, once available, to promote collaborative work and horizontal cooperation for closing gaps in data availability for follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

12. *Invites* the countries of the region to disseminate their statistical information relating to the Sustainable Development Goals via online platforms that can be integrated with the regional portal on the Sustainable Development Goals —SDG Gateway—, making use of existing tools, such as the platform for online dissemination of Sustainable Development Goal indicators which Mexico made available to interested countries;

Review and adoption 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

13. *Takes note* of the *Draft 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*,⁴ as well as the suggestions made during the discussions at this tenth meeting of the Conference, which will be included in the respective report;

14. *Reaffirms* that all the working groups will focus on the preparation of a clearly defined final output, which will be completed within a two-year period and will be presented to the Conference at its eleventh meeting, to be held in 2021;

15. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to develop a guide to the implementation of a quality assurance framework for official statistics, as a tool to support the adoption by the countries of the region of the international standard set forth in the *United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics*, adopted at the fiftieth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission;

16. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare a document on guidelines for the processing, validation and consistency of census data, which will help to improve the quality standards of censuses in the region by disseminating the international recommendations and best practices implemented in previous censuses;

17. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare a document on a harmonized methodological framework for measuring disaster-related indicators pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, which will contribute to defining and adapting the recommendations most relevant to the production of these indicators;

18. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare a methodological guide on time-use measurements in Latin America and the Caribbean, to systematize regional experiences in measuring time use and provide guidelines for implementation of these tools and for the calculation of indicators on time use and unpaid work;

⁴ LC/CEA.10/5.

19. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to develop a protocol for the collection and dissemination of data from studies involving children and adolescents, with the aim of improving the quality of data collection on this population group;

20. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare a document of recommendations for the use of Earth observations for follow-up to Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11 and 12, in order to contribute to strengthening basic environment statistics and their integration with geospatial information;

21. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare an assessment of the capacities of statistical systems to measure international migration, in order to characterize the current situation and identify areas in which data sources and processes can be improved in the production of statistical information for measuring migration flows and the socioeconomic characteristics of the migrant population;

22. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to develop a manual on conceptualization and measurement of prices and volumes in the services sector, as a tool to strengthen estimates of the service sector and its share in gross domestic product and improve the international comparability of data;

23. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group for the preparation of a document on conceptual and methodological aspects of the statistical use of administrative records, which the countries may use as an input for generating economic statistics from that data source;

24. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to develop a manual on the design of security and criminal justice statistical systems in the countries of the region, with the aim of improving the management capacities of statistical projects to measure crime and for the administration of criminal records;

25. *Endorses* the establishment of a working group to prepare a document of best practices for the adoption of the international recommendations on statistics on work relationships, to systematize progress regarding the adoption and adaptation of the recommendations of the Twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, as a guide for countries that are at different stages of developing this area;

26. *Recognizes* the cross-cutting nature of gender issues and asks that the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas mainstream the gender perspective into their work, along with other cross-cutting elements of statistical work such as classifiers;

27. *Invites* the working groups of the Conference to foster communication and collaboration with the different subregions of Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to take into account their multiple realities;

28. *Invites* member countries of the Conference to strengthen knowledge dissemination and horizontal cooperation through the Knowledge Transfer Network, by organizing remote meetings and jointly constructing a repository of information relevant to the production and dissemination of statistics, to give continuity to topics of the working groups of the 2018–2019 biennium that are of interest and to address new topics proposed by the countries;

Joint session with members of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas

29. *Thanks* the representatives of the Governing Board of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global geospatial information management for the Americas for their participation and contributions to this joint session;

30. *Calls upon* the member States of the Conference to disseminate, among the agencies that make up national statistical systems, the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework prepared by the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information of the United Nations Statistical Commission and of the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management, and to define joint work strategies with national geospatial data infrastructures and their governing bodies, with a view to advancing towards the implementation of that Framework;

31. *Also calls upon* the member States of the Conference to make available new nationally important statistical data, disaggregated to the lowest possible national political or administrative division or statistical territorial unit, in order to increase and diversify the contents accessible via the platform of the Statistical and Geospatial Framework for the Americas (MEGA) project;

32. *Notes* the proposal on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, developed jointly by the secretariat of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas and the World Bank, as a guide for governing the process of integrating statistical and geospatial information at the national level;

33. *Adopts* the joint declaration on statistical and geospatial information,⁵ presented at this tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

Other matters

34. *Expresses* its firm and resolute support for the updating and modernization of statistical legislation and for the establishment of a national statistical institute in El Salvador and in Paraguay; this will contribute to the production of official statistics in those countries, which are essential to support decision-making on public policies and will enable them to address major challenges and adopt existing guidelines in this regard;

35. *Conveys its appreciation and thanks* for the work of the National Institute of Statistics of Chile during that country's service as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Conference during the biennium 2018–2019.

⁵ *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.*