MITAD DEL MUNDO DECLARATION OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF THE ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

We, the member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Quito on 19
November 2015, on the occasion of the eighth meeting of the Statistical Conference of
the Americas:

1. Reaffirm our commitment to generating good-quality statistics for monitoring
national agendas and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2. Urge the governments of the region to bolster their commitment to sustaining
and strengthening national statistical systems, establishing legal frameworks to
ensure the professional independence of national statistical offices, consolidate
the leading role of official statistics and guarantee the necessary human,
technological and financial resources;

3. Highlight that it is indispensable to use and facilitate access to a broader range
of information sources and take advantage of administrative records and other
non-traditional sources, including geospatial information, preserving data
confidentiality and consistency with the Fundamental Principles of Official
Statistics;

4. Recognize the need for metrics that go beyond traditional measurement
paradigms and that contribute to the process of designing, monitoring and
evaluating public policy;

5. Call upon the international community to channel resources towards efforts to
strengthen national statistical systems through cooperation, technical assistance
and financial support;

6. Urge the member countries to develop plans to foster the culture of statistics
among different stakeholders in society;

7. Request the secretariat and the Chair of the Statistical Conference of the
Americas to distribute the Declaration to all member countries of the
Conference;

8. Also request the Chair of the Conference to present this Declaration to the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its thirty-sixth
session, to be held in 2016.