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Ninth Meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas
of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Aguascalientes, 14–16 November 2017

RESOLUTION 10(IX)

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, at its ninth meeting, held in Aguascalientes, Mexico, from 14 to 16 November 2017,

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,

Taking into account resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, which sets out the commitment of the United Nations Member States to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals,

Having reviewed the *Report on the implementation of the 2016–2017 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*¹ and the *Draft biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2018-2019, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*,²

Taking into account the growing importance of and need for reliable, high-quality and timely public statistics for the exercise of transparency, for the accountability of public authorities and for the assessment of public policy advances, as key elements of institution-building in the region,

Taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its thirty-sixth session, held in Mexico City from 23 to 27 May 2016,

¹ LC/CEA.9/5.

² LC/CEA.9/6.

Taking into consideration also 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,

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,

Taking into consideration the views expressed and the contributions put forward by the Governments of the member States of the Conference and by the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and the international organizations represented at the meeting,

Integration of statistical and geospatial information

1. *Recognizes* the progress made through the interactions between the regional statistical information community, represented in the Statistical Conference of the Americas, and the geospatial information community, represented in the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas;

2. *Thanks* the organizers, panellists and participants in the seminar “Towards the integration of statistical and geospatial information” for their valuable contributions to the regional debate on this subject;

3. *Takes note* of the assessment of national capacities for carrying out the integration of statistical and geospatial information in the region’s countries and of the proposed road map for that integration prepared by the technical secretariat;

4. *Calls upon* the States members of the Conference to take concrete steps at the national level to establish coordination mechanisms and technical procedures concerning the integrated management of statistical and geospatial information, within the framework of the operation of national geospatial data infrastructures, to make it possible to meet the territorial disaggregation requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as those of future population and housing censuses and other statistical operations;

5. *Also calls upon* the regional statistical information community, represented in the Statistical Conference of the Americas, and the geospatial information community, represented in the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas, to develop joint strategies for advancing the integration of statistical and geospatial information and earth observation data, in collaboration with other regional and global agencies specializing in those areas;

6. *Invites* the member States to participate actively in the Statistical and Geospatial Framework for the Americas (MEGA) project and asks them to advise the secretariat as to the technical and institutional counterpart responsible for channelling national information and contributions relating to this initiative, in particular, as well as any other information and contributions associated with the integration of statistical and geospatial information;

Activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals

7. *Conveys its thanks* for the work carried out by the member countries of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and urges them to continue to represent the region in the process of defining and applying the global monitoring framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data;

8. *Endorses the Report on the activities of the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean in the biennium 2016-2017,*³ and conveys its gratitude for the actions undertaken to coordinate the preparation and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators and to develop capacities for that purpose;

9. *Acknowledges* the work done by the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean in assessing national statistical capacities for producing the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, and asks that the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development be notified of the relevant updates through the secretariat of the Commission;

10. *Highlights* the importance of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as the appropriate intergovernmental body to create the regional framework of indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean and to channel cooperation activities for strengthening the statistical capacities of the region's countries for the statistical monitoring of the 2030 Agenda in the region;

11. *Notes with interest* the document *Proposal on a regional framework of indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean*⁴ presented by the secretariat, and requests that the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda, with the support of the secretariat, review the document in depth and propose, at the seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Conference, a framework of indicators for regional monitoring of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account the situations, emphases and shared challenges of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, in keeping with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 71/313;⁵

12. *Urges* the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda to continue coordinating its activities with the ad hoc working group for the preparation of a proposal on the indicators for regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development that was established by the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean at its second session;

13. *Encourages* collaboration between the regional and subregional statistical agencies and the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda and its technical secretariat in the collective preparation of the regional indicator framework for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals, through the mechanisms defined by this Conference;

14. *Takes note* of the offer by Mexico to make its platform for online dissemination of Sustainable Development Goal indicators available to interested countries, in open code to facilitate its adaptation to national characteristics;

³ LC/CEA.9/3/Rev.1.

⁴ LC/CEA.9/4.

⁵ LC/CEA.9/4.

Review of progress in the implementation of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2016-2017, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

15. *Endorses* the *Report on the implementation of the 2016–2017 biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*;

16. *Thanks* 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;

17. *Also 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;

Review and adoption of the biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2018-2019, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

18. *Urges* the working groups to seek cooperation modalities and synergies in order to optimize the use of resources and achieve common goals;

19. *Requests* the working groups to formulate the final version of their programme of work in accordance with the suggestions made during the discussions held at this meeting, which will be included in the meeting report, and asks the countries to confirm their participation in the respective working groups and to designate focal points in each case;

20. *Calls upon* the working groups to take into account the particular features of the Caribbean countries in statistical matters and to promote their participation in the activities conducted;

21. *Asks* the working groups to share their documents and the outcomes of their work through the website of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and to make an effort to provide these in both Spanish and English;

Knowledge Transfer Network

22. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Knowledge Transfer Network, which includes the redefinition of its governance and financing and of the activities that will enable it to become an effective statistical knowledge management network for the region, together with the strengthening of the Network's directory of experts; and asks the secretariat to facilitate the coordination of activities between the Network and the working groups of the Conference;

Institution-building

23. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Institution-building, which includes analysing the current situation of the statistics laws of the region's countries, together with monitoring and evaluating compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean;

24. *Reiterates its call* to 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;⁶

International classifications

25. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on International Classifications, which includes continuing with the activities undertaken in the previous biennium for the adaptation of international classifications, for the dissemination of audiovisual guides to support training on selected statistical classifiers and for the standardization of agricultural product names;

26. *Encourages* the Working Group to continue expanding the thematic areas of classifications it addresses, including the Classification of Time-Use Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAUTAL);

27. *Calls upon* the member countries of the Conference to use international classifications and standards with a view to contributing to international statistical comparability;

Censuses

28. *Notes* that the coordinating country of the Working Group on Censuses for the 2018–2019 biennium is to change from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to Chile;

29. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Censuses, which includes the assessment and analysis of key issues for preparing the 2020 census round, such as technological infrastructure, cartographic updates, harmonization of census contents, integration of data sources and communicational aspects, among other topics;

National accounts

30. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on National Accounts, which includes collecting data on the Sustainable Development Goal indicators in national accounts, analysing the supply of and demand for horizontal cooperation in preparing national accounts, assessing the status of quarterly account estimates, collecting documentation on specialized methodologies and developing exchange forums;

Administrative records

31. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Administrative Records, which includes producing a manual for making full use of administrative records, creating mechanisms for intercountry collaboration in making use of records, and collaborating with other working groups that use administrative records as inputs;

Household surveys

32. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Household Surveys, which includes assessing methodological practices and institutional strategies for measuring the impact of a change in the sampling frame on estimators derived from household surveys, as well as the methodological practices associated with income and expenditure surveys in the region's countries;

⁶ 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.

Labour market indicators

33. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Labour Market Indicators, which includes monitoring the adoption and adaptation of labour force surveys to the recommendations of the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, consolidating a regional position on updates to the International Classification of Status in Employment, exchanging experiences on labour force surveys and analysing Sustainable Development Goal indicators related to labour statistics;

Gender statistics

34. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Gender Statistics, which includes developing methodological documents on the implementation of time-use surveys, the economic valuation of unpaid work and the preparation of the corresponding satellite account, strengthening statistics on violence against women and femicide/feminicide, supporting the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in global, regional and national frameworks for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals and undertaking activities to strengthen capacities for the construction of gender statistics and indicators;

Poverty statistics

35. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Poverty Statistics, which includes developing methodological tools for identifying missing dimensions in multidimensional poverty indicators, together with compiling and systematizing countries' experiences in the measurement of income and the use of imputation techniques;

Statistics on Childhood and Adolescence

36. *Notes* that the coordinating countries of the Working Group on Statistics on Childhood and Adolescence for the 2018–2019 biennium are to change from Mexico and Panama to Mexico and Costa Rica;

37. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Statistics on Childhood and Adolescence, which includes analysing the inventory of statistical availability and capabilities prepared by the Statistical Coordination Group for the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean on priority Sustainable Development Goal indicators for children, disseminating methodologies and tools for collecting data on children through household surveys, promoting the use of census information for the collection of data on the situation of children and its subsequent analysis, disseminating standardized methodologies for collecting information on various Sustainable Development Goal indicators and promoting horizontal cooperation on those topics among statistics offices;

38. *Endorses* the proposal that this Working Group include a task force on water, sanitation and hygiene statistics, which will prepare a capacity assessment and implement tools for measuring the Sustainable Development Goal indicators related to water, sanitation and hygiene;

Disability measurement

39. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Disability Measurement, which includes expanding the use and application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, applying the international recommendations for collecting and measuring disability-related data, exchanging experiences on measuring disability and preparing directories of officials and international organizations involved in the production of disability-related data in the region;

Measurement of information and communications technologies

40. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Measurement of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), which includes various online activities on ICT measurement, training in good practices for measuring ICTs in the English-speaking Caribbean countries and Haiti, designing a cooperation agenda for the regular production of ICT data and statistics, producing a list of ICT indicators with a gender perspective and promoting the integration of digital technologies as tools for the measurement of sustainable development;

Statistics on public security and justice

41. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Statistics on Public Security and Justice, which includes supporting the strengthening of national systems of statistical information on security and justice, the adoption of the data collection instrument and methodology for victimization surveys developed as part of the Latin America and the Caribbean Crime Victimization Survey Initiative, creating and sharing knowledge within the crime victimization laboratory, adopting the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and improving information for the Sustainable Development Goal indicators related to violence, security and justice topics;

Environmental statistics

42. *Notes* that the coordinating country of the Working Group on Environmental Statistics for the 2018–2019 biennium is to change from Mexico to Brazil;

43. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Environment Statistics and requests the Group to present its specific activities for consideration and adoption by the Executive Committee of the Conference;

Agricultural statistics

44. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Agricultural Statistics, which includes organizing training courses, preparing methodological documents on data-collection with a gender perspective, integrating statistical and geographical information and identifying financial resources for the pursuit of new activities;

Indicators related to disaster risk reduction

45. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Working Group on Measuring and Recording Indicators related to Disaster Risk Reduction, which includes forging links among each country's disaster risk reduction specialists and preparing assessment reports on information gaps and needs and on the indicators that could be produced in the region;

Subregional and international cooperation

46. *Notes with satisfaction* the productive subregional cooperation activities carried out by the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community and the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians of the Caribbean Community, the Central American Statistical Commission of the Central American Integration System, the Andean Statistical Committee of the Andean Community and the Specialized Statistical Meeting of the Southern Common Market;

47. *Urges* the international community to channel resources towards strengthening national statistical systems on the basis of cooperation, technical assistance and financial support;

Other matters

48. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, as regional coordinator of the International Comparison Programme, on progress made in the implementation of the Programme in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean;

49. *Also takes note* of the reports presented by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in its capacity as technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, on the statistics-related activities carried out by these subsidiary bodies of the Commission;

50. *Welcomes* the information provided on the Sixteenth Conference of the International Association for Official Statistics and urges the countries of the region to participate in it;

51. *Appreciates* the presentation on the LA-KLEMS project, the results of which may constitute a useful regional public good for all the countries;

52. *Requests* the Executive Committee to review the subregional grouping criteria for the composition of the Committee starting in the biennium 2020-2021 and to prepare a proposal in this regard for consideration and adoption at the seventeenth meeting of the Committee;

53. *Appreciates and conveys thanks* for the work of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico in its capacity as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Conference during the biennium 2016-2017;

54. *Thanks* the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico for the excellent organization of the ninth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, and for the hospitality extended to the participants.