

UNITED NATIONS

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC**



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First meeting of the Executive Committee
of the Statistical Conference of the Americas
of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 25-26 March 2002

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND

The Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is a subsidiary body of ECLAC, established in accordance with resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Its mandate includes, *inter alia*, the following tasks: to promote the development and improvement of national statistics and work to ensure that they are internationally comparable, bearing in mind the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations; to promote international, regional and bilateral cooperation among national offices and international and regional agencies; and to draw up a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities to meet the demands of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources.

During the first meeting of the Conference, held in Santiago, Chile, in May 2001, representatives of member States elected the delegations to serve on the Executive Committee: Chair: Brazil; members: Belize, Canada, Chile, Panama, Peru and Spain. Its mandate shall extend until the end of the next regular meeting, scheduled for mid-2003.

The Chair held consultations with the members of the Executive Committee and with the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, after which it was agreed that the first meeting of the Executive Committee would take place at the headquarters of the Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute (IBGE) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 25 and 26 March 2002.

According to the provisions of resolution 2000/7 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the functions of the Executive Committee are as follows: to carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference; to 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; to 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 to decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Executive Committee will have before it the following provisional agenda for adoption or amendment (LC/L.1693).

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Terms of reference and responsibilities of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC
3. Progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003
4. Report of the thirty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

5. Functioning of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC
6. Agreements and decisions of the meeting
7. Other matters

2. Terms of reference and responsibilities of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

As this is the first meeting of the Executive Committee, the Secretariat will give a brief presentation on its objectives, terms of reference and responsibilities to the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

Working document

- Establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1695)

3. Progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003

The Secretariat will present a report on the activities carried out under the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003.¹ This report will include a list of the statistical cooperation initiatives in which various member countries of the Conference, as well as regional and international organizations, have participated.

Working document

- Progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003 (LC/L.1697)

4. Report of the thirty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

The Secretariat will give an oral report on the main decisions of the United Nations Statistical Commission, which is to meet from 5 to 8 March 2002 in New York. Particular reference will be made to issues related to the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean for June 2001-June 2003, as well as to new topics of interest to the region.

¹ The Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003 (LC/L.1474/Rev.1) was approved by resolution 1 (I) of the Conference of Statistics of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its first meeting (9-11 May 2001, Santiago, Chile).

5. Functioning of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

The Chairperson of the Conference will present a report on this subject, with a view to analysing ways of making the substantive work of the Conference more efficient.

It is proposed that the meetings of the Conference and its Committee should be dynamic and that priority should be given to debating issues that are relevant at the regional and global levels. The Conference is a forum of the Governments of the member States of ECLAC, where such issues can be dealt with in a frank and open dialogue which allows for a sharing of experiences, strategies and results of national activities, as well as the identification of areas for horizontal cooperation and for cooperation with international organizations.

The topics referred to in the document include the composition of the agenda, preparation of documents, presentations and organization of the work of the meetings.

Working document

- Statistical Conference of the Americas - Modus Operandi (DDR/1)

6. Agreements and decisions of the meeting

The Executive Committee will decide, *inter alia*, the date and place of the second meeting of the Executive Committee and will select the substantive items to be included in its agenda, as well as determining the tentative date and place of the second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

7. Other matters

This item covers any other issues which delegations may deem appropriate for discussion.