



12 September 2018
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH
18-00897

Second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference
on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Panama City, 12 September 2018

AGREEMENTS

At their second meeting, held on 12 September 2018 in Panama City, on the occasion of the tenth Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed to:

1. *Welcome* the document *Towards a regional agenda for inclusive social development: bases and initial proposal*,¹ and adopt the plan of work proposed therein for the preparation of such an agenda, drawing attention to the importance of:

- (i) Building intergovernmental compacts and agreements as a foundation for progressing towards the achievement of sustainable development, the consolidation of a culture of equality and the eradication of the culture of privilege in the region;
- (ii) The centrality of inclusive social development as a pillar of sustainable development and a condition for economic development and environmental sustainability;
- (iii) Preparing the regional agenda for inclusive social development in accordance with the guidance offered by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the targets contained in the extended social pillar, tackling the imperative of eradicating poverty in all its forms, including extreme poverty, and significantly reducing inequalities in their multiple dimensions, leaving no one behind;
- (iv) The contribution of this agenda to the progressive achievement of inclusive social development, by ensuring the economic, social and cultural rights of the population, reducing gaps in access to well-being and addressing social inequalities and the axes around which they are structured, from the perspective of universalism sensitive to difference and with effective mechanisms for recognition and participation;

2. *Establish* that the regional agenda for inclusive social development should be prepared with the active participation of the members of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, under the leadership of the Presiding Officers, and should include means for consultation with civil society;

3. *Commend* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the launch of the Social Development Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean with a view to supporting the design and implementation of public policies in the region and analysing their trends;

¹ LC/MDS.2/2.

4. *Request* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to convene the third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the second quarter of 2019;

5. *Thank* the Government of Mexico for its offer to host the third session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019;

6. *Thank* the Government and people of Panama for their hospitality and excellent organization of the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, in the framework of the tenth Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Commend* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Programme for having jointly convened the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the tenth Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, thereby harnessing synergies and complementarities.