



23 November 2010

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Third Ministerial Conference on the Information
Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

Lima, 21-23 November, 2010

LIMA DECLARATION



We, the representatives of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean meeting in the city of Lima from 21 to 23 November 2010 at the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reiterating the principles and objectives agreed upon during the first and second phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in December 2003 and in Tunis in November 2005, with a view to channelling the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the Bávaro Declaration adopted in the Dominican Republic in January 2003, the Rio de Janeiro Commitment and Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2007) adopted in Brazil in June 2005, the San Salvador Commitment and Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2010) adopted in San Salvador in February 2008, and the Declaration of El Salvador, adopted at the Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean on Integration and Development, which support the work which the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have resolved to undertake in order to incorporate policies on the information society into their national development policies,

Recognizing that the global objectives of the Geneva Plan of Action are to be met by 2015 and that implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean represents an important contribution to the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming our common desire and commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society based on human rights and on the principles of peace, solidarity, inclusion, freedom, democracy, sustainable development and cooperation,

Renewing our commitment to open and participatory dialogue in keeping with the principles laid down at the World Summit on the Information Society,

Recognizing that policies on the information society must take a developed-oriented approach and incorporate gender perspectives and opportunities for all, based on an equality-seeking vision of inclusion and, in particular, on the reduction of the digital divide,

Recognizing also that policies on the information society must contribute to efforts to combat climate change and that the use of information and communications technologies must take into account the ecological issues involved,

Emphasizing the importance of creating an enabling environment for investment and innovation, which promotes cooperation and public-private partnerships and enables the investment of resources and capital to broaden access to information and communications technologies and raise awareness of their potential in the framework of corporate social responsibility,

Restating our conviction that information and communications technologies are not an end in themselves but an instrument in the quest for a more equitable and sustainable form of human development that paves the way for greater economic growth, better employment conditions and enhanced competitiveness leading to social inclusion,

Declare

Our firm conviction that the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015) represents our regional will to achieve a common agenda that reflects the efforts under way in our countries to make access to the information and knowledge society a universal right, with a view to promoting regional integration and articulating global goals with the region's needs and priorities,

Our recognition that the various working groups of eLAC have served as forums for dialogue that have enabled the reconciliation of the different priorities in the countries of the region, and that dialogue and cooperation should therefore be maintained in eLAC2015,

Our conviction that the development of public policies should mainstream information and communication technologies for development in a cross-cutting manner,

Our will to promote and strengthen regional research, technological development and innovation and knowledge networks which are important for the development of the region,

Our wish that the work of the regional agencies in the public and private sectors and civil society should continue to be vital for the development of eLAC, since their active engagement is essential if eLAC is to have real and tangible outcomes, avoid duplication of effort and focus on leveraging the resources available in the region,

Our commitment to promote and strengthen cooperation and regional e-government networks, which are fundamental for fulfillment of the goals associated with the use of information and communication technologies in public administration and in support of public policy implementation,

Our commitment to promote specific measures of solidarity and assistance in order to facilitate access to the benefits of the information society for relatively less developed countries in the region, with a particular emphasis on Haiti, the small island developing States and other countries which face particular obstacles in the process of implementing national strategies to develop the information and knowledge society,

Our determination to promote research, technological development and innovation in information and communication technologies, as a basis for the information and knowledge society,

Our conviction that we must move forward in developing public policies that support the establishment of clear guidelines regarding the use of environmentally sound technologies and proper management of technological waste,

We resolve to

1. *Adopt* the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean 2015 (eLAC2015);

2. *Adopt also* the eLAC 2015 Follow-up Mechanism;

3. *Work* to find financial mechanisms to support all the stakeholders of the region in the forging of synergies for the activities envisaged for eLAC2015;

4. *Continue to strengthen* existing cooperation with stakeholders outside the region and promote new cooperation networks;

5. *Recognize* the work of regional entities and organizations and invite them to play an active part in the implementation of eLAC2015 and request the technical secretariat to coordinate with these stakeholders in order to avoid the duplication of efforts, maximize resources and build experience;

6. *Reaffirm* the commitment of the countries of the region to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

7. *Recognize* the work carried out by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in its role as technical secretariat of eLAC and its vital importance for the continuity of the process;

8. *Thank* the European Commission for the support provided to eLAC since its beginnings and urge that body to continue to afford its firm backing to the process;

9. *Express our gratitude* to the people and the Government of Peru for the outstanding organization of the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean;

10. *Thank* the Government of Uruguay for its kind offer to provide continuity to the eLAC process and host the next Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean.