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Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting
Preparatory to the United Nations Conference
on Sustainable Development

Meeting of the member countries of the Rio de Janeiro Platform
for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002: Latin America and
the Caribbean in preparation for Rio de Janeiro 2012

Santiago, 7-9 September 2011

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- I. Background and organization of work
- II. Provisional agenda of the meeting of the member countries of the Rio de Janeiro Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002: Latin America and the Caribbean in preparation for Rio de Janeiro 2012
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UNITED NATIONS



I. BACKGROUND AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

In October 2001, the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At that meeting, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Rio de Janeiro Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002.

In December 2009, the General Assembly adopted resolution 64/236, in which it decided to organize the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which would be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, 20 years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development had been held in the same city. For that reason, the 2012 Conference is referred to as “Rio+20”. Resolution 64/236 provides that regional preparatory meetings for Rio+20 are to be held in 2011 and will replace the regional implementation meetings held in each two-year cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development will be held at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago from 7 to 9 September 2011. ECLAC is convening this meeting in fulfilment of the mandate handed down to the regional commissions of the United Nations to lend assistance to the countries of their respective regions in the achievement of sustainable development, including through the organization of regional implementation meetings. This mandate is contained in paragraph 38 of Agenda 21, paragraph 160 of the Plan of Implementation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002), Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 and, more recently, General Assembly resolution 64/236. The specific mandate of ECLAC is also set forth in Commission resolution 602(XXX) on monitoring sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by the Commission at its thirtieth session, in 2004.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/236, the objective of the Rio+20 conference will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges. Member States have agreed to develop two themes for the Conference: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development. At the regional preparatory meeting these themes will be discussed from a Latin American and Caribbean perspective.

The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean attending the meeting are expected to adopt a consensus reflecting the region’s position vis-à-vis the Rio+20 conference that includes a series of recommendations regarding the draft document to be presented on that occasion, which will be discussed at the second intersessional meeting, to be held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2011.

The regional preparatory meeting will comprise two segments.

The first segment will take place on 7 September from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A plenary session will be held in which all member countries of ECLAC will be invited to participate. Statements will be made by representatives of ECLAC, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Brazil (as the country hosting the Conference) and the major groups.

After those statements have been made, the floor will be opened to the participants and representatives of the member countries of ECLAC, international organizations and civil society.

The second segment will run from the afternoon of 7 September to the end of the day on 9 September and will consist of a meeting of the member countries of the Rio de Janeiro Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002, whose membership includes only the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The discussion will focus initially on the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, including both the situation in the countries in the region and fulfilment of international cooperation commitments in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The United Nations agencies and bodies represented in the region will present a joint assessment paper to serve as the basis for the discussion on this issue.

Oral reports will then be made on the Regional Cross-sectoral Consultation on the Environment-Foreign Affairs, Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD)/Central American Integration System (SICA): Towards Rio+20 (Guatemala City, 27-29 June 2011), and the Subregional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for the Caribbean (Georgetown, 20 June 2011).

Lastly, a proposal sponsored by Colombia and Guatemala, entitled “Rio+20: Sustainable development objectives”, will be presented.

The morning session on 8 September will be given over to the discussion of a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, while the afternoon session will focus on the institutional framework for sustainable development. In the morning of 9 September, the draft declaration will be discussed in plenary session. The declaration would then be adopted at the end of the morning and the meeting would be closed.

If the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean so agree, the secretariat will provide services and assist in the establishment of a drafting committee that could meet at the end of each day on 7 and 8 September to prepare a draft declaration setting forth the regional position on the themes of the Conference and the recommendations of the region concerning the content of the negotiating document for Rio+20. In a decision adopted at its second session, the Preparatory Committee for the Conference set a deadline of 1 November 2011 for the Bureau to receive contributions for the compilation document.

**II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES
OF THE RIO DE JANEIRO PLATFORM FOR ACTION ON THE ROAD
TO JOHANNESBURG 2002: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
IN PREPARATION FOR RIO DE JANEIRO 2012**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion of progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as an analysis of the themes of the Conference.
4. Report on the Regional Cross-sectoral Consultation on the Environment-Foreign Affairs, Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD)/Central American Integration System (SICA): Towards Rio+20 (Guatemala City, 27-29 June 2011).
5. Report on the Subregional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for the Caribbean (Georgetown, 20 June 2011).
6. Presentation of a proposal sponsored by Colombia and Guatemala, entitled “Rio+20: Sustainable development objectives”.
7. Discussion on the theme “A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”.
8. Discussion on the theme “Institutional framework for sustainable development”.
9. Consideration and adoption of the declaration setting forth the position of Latin America and the Caribbean in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

At the meeting of heads of delegation, a chair, two or more vice-chairs and a rapporteur will be elected as the presiding officers of the meeting of the member countries of the Rio de Janeiro Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Delegates will have before them, for consideration and adoption, the provisional agenda (LC/L.3344/Rev.1) prepared by the secretariat.

3. Discussion of progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as an analysis of the themes of the Conference

Working document:

- Inter-agency paper entitled “Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years on from the Earth Summit: progress, gaps and strategic guidelines” (LC/L.3346)

Background document:

- *Millennium Development Goals: advances in environmentally sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2428-P)

ECLAC will present a draft version of the inter-agency paper entitled “Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years on from the Earth Summit: progress, gaps and strategic guidelines”.

4. Report on the Regional Cross-sectoral Consultation on the Environment-Foreign Affairs, Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD)/Central American Integration System (SICA): Towards Rio+20 (Guatemala City, 27-29 June 2011)

A representative of the Central American delegations will present the agreements reached at the consultation.

5. Report on the Subregional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for the Caribbean (Georgetown, 20 June 2011)

A representative of the Caribbean delegations will present the agreements reached at the meeting.

6. Presentation of a proposal sponsored by Colombia and Guatemala, entitled “Rio+20: Sustainable development objectives”.

A proposal entitled “Rio+20: Sustainable development objectives”, sponsored by Colombia and Guatemala, will be presented to participants for consideration.

Working document:

- “Rio+20: Sustainable development objectives”. Proposal by the Governments of Colombia and Guatemala for consideration by the participating countries. Note by the secretariat (LC/L.3366)

7. Discussion on the theme “A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”

Working documents:

- Inter-agency paper entitled “Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years on from the Earth Summit: progress, gaps and strategic guidelines” (LC/L.3346)
- “Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years on from the Earth Summit: progress, gaps and strategic guidelines. Summary” (LC/L.3363)

Background documents:

- *The Transition to a Green Economy: Benefits, Challenges and Risks from a Sustainable Development Perspective*, Division for Sustainable Development of the Secretariat/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- *The Green Economy: Trade and Sustainable Development Implications*, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- *Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication. A Synthesis for Policy Makers*, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits in the area of sustainable development, as well as an analysis of the themes of the Conference. Report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.216/PC/2)
- Objective and themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.216/PC/7)
- Report of the Meeting of Government-Designated Experts of Latin America and the Caribbean Preparatory to Rio+20: A Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication and the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (LC/L.3281)

Under this agenda item, the representatives of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and major groups will discuss the opportunities and challenges relating to a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Member State representatives will be invited to suggest specific issues of importance at the regional level for inclusion in the negotiating document for Rio+20 and in the declaration to be adopted at the end of the regional preparatory meeting.

The discussion will be opened by the member countries of the Rio de Janeiro Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002; once they have made their statements, the floor will be given to other participants, including the representatives of United Nations agencies and bodies and the major groups.

8. Discussion on the theme “Institutional framework for sustainable development”

Working documents:

- Inter-agency paper entitled “Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years on from the Earth Summit: progress, gaps and strategic guidelines” (LC/L.3346)
- “Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years on from the Earth Summit: progress, gaps and strategic guidelines. Summary” (LC/L.3363)

Background documents:

- Progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits in the area of sustainable development, as well as an analysis of the themes of the Conference. Report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.216/PC/2)
- Objective and themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.216/PC/7)
- *Sustainable Development Governance towards Rio+20: Framing the Debate*, Jan-Gustav Strandenaes
- Report of the Meeting of Government-Designated Experts of Latin America and the Caribbean Preparatory to Rio+20: A Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication and the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (LC/L.3281)

Under this item, representatives of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and major groups will have the opportunity to discuss the institutional framework for sustainable development. Member State representatives will be invited to put forward specific issues of importance at the regional level.

The discussion will be opened by the member countries of the Rio de Janeiro Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg 2002; once they have made their statements, the floor will be given to other participants, including representatives of United Nations agencies and bodies and the major groups.

9. Consideration and adoption of the declaration setting forth the position of Latin America and the Caribbean in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

If the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean so decide, they will adopt a declaration reflecting the points of view of the Governments of the region on the priorities for Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to the objectives and themes of the Conference, which will include the region’s recommendations concerning the content of the negotiating document for Rio+20.

Working document:

- Inputs for the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean for formulating a regional stance for Rio+20. Note by the secretariat (LC.L.3367)