



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC

Santiago, 5 to 7 November 2013

**Seventh Regional Seminar on the Millennium Development Goals “The Post-2015
development agenda and challenges for national statistical systems
in Latin America and the Caribbean”**

Santiago, 4 to 5 November 2013

GENERAL INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

The **seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)** will be held in **Santiago, from 5 to 7 November 2013.**

In addition, **the seventh Regional Seminar on the Millennium Development Goals “The Post-2015 development agenda and challenges for national statistical systems in Latin America and the Caribbean” will be held from 4 to 5 November**, being in its second day integral part of the Statistical Conference meeting.

This document is intended to provide delegates with useful information to facilitate their work at the meeting.

The meeting coordinators will be available to answer any questions concerning logistical or organizational matters that you may wish to ask before or during the event.

1. General information on Chile

THE COUNTRY

Chile is located in the extreme south-west of South America. Its capital city is Santiago and the country has a total population of approximately 17 million. Chile lies between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountains and its long, thin territory is divided into 15 administrative regions.

Chile is a presidential democratic republic.

LOCAL CURRENCY	The national currency is the Chilean peso (CLP).
LOCAL TIME	UCT/GMT -3 (at the date of the conference)
ELECTRICITY	220 volts, 50 Hertz (AC).
AIRPORT TAX	Airport tax is included in ticket prices.
TIPPING	Tipping is usual practice in Chile, as in many other parts of the world. It is customary to leave a tip of 10% of the total bill in restaurants.

THE CAPITAL

With almost 6 million inhabitants, Santiago is the capital of the Republic of Chile. It has a Mediterranean climate with clearly differentiated seasons. Winters are rainy, with temperatures falling to around 0°C (from May to September) and summers are dry, with temperatures of around 30°C (from November to March). Nights are cool and relative humidity is low.

Buses, taxis and five subway lines serve the city's transport needs. Taxi fares are metered and, in general, drivers do not expect tips.

Tap water is safe to drink but the change of flora can upset foreign visitors, who are therefore advised to drink bottled water.

As in all big cities, for security reasons it is advisable not to wear expensive jewellery and to be careful with handbags and briefcases.

There is a variety of attractive shops and restaurants within easy walking distance of ECLAC. Places to eat include the café of the Galería Animal, La Punta and Starbucks, all of which can be found in the vicinity.

CLIMATE

Northern Chile has a dry, hot, desert climate; the south is cooler and wetter, while the central zone has a Mediterranean climate. Precipitation falls mainly during the winter months.

In most of Chile, the four seasons are clearly marked:

- Summer: 21 December - 21 March
- Autumn: 21 March - 21 June
- Winter: 21 June - 21 September
- Spring: 21 September - 21 December

2. Meeting venue

The seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC and the seventh Regional Seminar on the Millennium Development Goals “The Post-2015 development agenda and challenges for national statistical systems in Latin America and the Caribbean” will be held in the **Raul Prebisch conference room** at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), located at Avda. Dag Hammarskjöld 3477, Vitacura, Santiago, telephone (56-2) 2210-2000, fax (56-2) 2208-1946.

3. Meetings coordination

The meetings are being organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Questions on substantive matters related to the meeting may be addressed to Mr. Máximo Aguilera of the Statistics Division of ECLAC, telephone (56-2) 2210-2715, e-mail maximo.aguilera@cepal.org, and Mr. Luis Fidel Yáñez, Officer in Charge of the Secretariat of the Commission, telephone (56-2) 2210-2275, e-mail luis.yanez@cepal.org.

Questions on operational matters related to the meeting may be addressed to Ms. Paula Warnken, Protocol Assistant of the Secretariat of the Commission, telephone (56-2) 2210-2651, e-mail paula.warnken@cepal.org, and Ms. Paula Fuenzalida of the Statistics Division of ECLAC, telephone (56-2) 2210-2634, e-mail paula.fuenzalida@cepal.org.

4. Hotel reservations

The ECLAC Conference Services Unit has reserved a limited number of rooms at special rates at the hotels indicated below:

- **Hotel Director Vitacura (****)**

Av. Vitacura 3600
Telephone: (56-2) 2389-1956
Fax: (56-2) 2246-0088

Single room: US\$ 120 (including breakfast)
Contact: Ms. Sandra Rojas and Ms. Patricia Crisóstomo, Reservations Department
E-mail: reservas@director.cl or reservaciones@director.cl

- **Hotel Novotel (****)**

Av. Américo Vespucio 1630
Telephone: (56-2) 2499-2200

Single room: US\$ 140 (including breakfast)
Contact: Ms. Katia Rodríguez and Ms. Laura Riquelme, Reservations Department
E-mail: h5233-sm2@accor.com, h5233-re1@accor.com, h5233-re2@accor.com

- **Hotel Atton Vitacura (****)**

Av. Vitacura 3201
Telephone: (56-2) 2422-7902, 2947-3682

Single room: US\$ 155 (including breakfast)
Contact: Ms. Ivette Goujon, Reservations Department
E-mail: igoujon@atton.com

These rates do not include the 19% value added tax (VAT). Visitors paying in dollars, with travellers' cheques or with international credit cards are exempted from payment of VAT.

Reservations must be made directly with the hotel **by 4 October 2013**. After this date, the hotel cannot guarantee the special rate or the availability of rooms.

To maintain the special rate given to ECLAC, hotel reservations must be made personally, not through travel agencies or other means. Delegates are responsible for their own reservations. It is advisable to check that the hotel has processed your reservation and to request a reservation number or code as confirmation.

The hotel requires that you provide the flight details and the date of arrival and departure, as well as credit card details in order to guarantee the reservation. For this purpose, please complete the attached form in full, and forward it by 4 October 2013.

5. Visas and entry requirements for Chile

Delegates must be in possession of a passport valid for at least six (6) months beyond the date of entry to Chile.

Delegates from countries whose citizens require a visa to enter Chile should apply for a visa at their nearest Chilean embassy or consulate in advance.

To find out whether you require a visa, go to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile (<http://chileabroad.gov.cl/consulados/>) and click on the name of your country.

6. Transport from the airport to Santiago

The companies Transvip and Tur Transfer operate minivan services from the airport, offering passenger transport to the different areas of the city. Each van can carry 10 to 12 passengers, at an approximate cost of US\$ 15 per person. The normal taxi fare from the airport to the district where the hotels are located varies between US\$ 40 and US\$ 50.

7. Registration of participants

An **online registration system** will be available on the ECLAC website (www.eclac.cl/ceacepal/reunioncea2013.htm) from **23 September 2013**. Online registration does not exempt delegations from the requirement of providing official notification of the name of the head of delegation and all accompanying members.

Please indicate on the registration form if you will be participating in the seventh Regional Seminar on the Millennium Development Goals “The Post-2015 development agenda and challenges for national statistical systems in Latin America and the Caribbean”, which will begin on Monday 4 November.

Registration will take place in the hall of the Raúl Prebisch conference room, from 8:30 a.m. on Monday 4 November. Delegates will be issued with identification badges, which, for security purposes, must be shown at all meetings.

For further information on accreditation, please contact Paula Warnken (paula.warnken@cepal.org, telephone (56-2) 2210-2651) or Paula Fuenzalida (paula.fuenzalida@cepal.org, telephone (56-2) 2210-2634).

8. Opening session

The seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC will open at **9 a.m.** on **Tuesday 5 November 2013**. Furthermore the seventh Regional Seminar on the Millennium Development Goals will be opened at 9 a.m. on Monday 4 November 2013.

9. Internet

Delegates will have access to a wireless Internet connection (Wi-Fi) in the conference room and in open areas.

10. Languages

The official language of both meetings will be Spanish. Simultaneous interpretation into English will be provided.

11. Documentation

It will be possible to consult the meeting documents as they become available on the Conference website (<http://www.eclac.cl/ceacepal>). The same site will provide a link to access the documents of the seventh MDG seminar. **No printed copies will be distributed at the meeting.**

12. Facilities and services at ECLAC

Travel agency	Flight reservations, confirmations and other travel formalities are handled by Carlson Wagonlit Travel, located on the first basement level of the ECLAC building (office 1S7).
Bank	A branch of Banco de Chile is located on the first basement level. It is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Foreign currency may be exchanged from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Mail	There is a post office next to Banco de Chile, which opens from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Restaurants	ECLAC has a cafeteria and a coffee shop, which are open from 8.45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food and drinks must be paid for directly by participants.
Medical services	First aid is provided by the ECLAC Medical Service, located on the main floor of the building (office Z-210), telephone extension 2333. It is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Shops	“Anayhue” is a shop offering gifts, crafts, newspapers, magazines, confectionery and other items. It is located to the left of the building’s main entrance and opens from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 4 to 6.15 p.m.