

**ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC**  
**Public Participation Mechanism of the process on the Declaration on the Application of**  
**Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean**

**NOTE: ALL MEETINGS OF THE PROCESS ARE OPEN. THE ELECTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES DOES NOT IN ANY WAY REPLACE, MODIFY OR LIMIT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SANTIAGO DECISION AND THE GUADALAJARA PLAN OF ACTION**

**CALENDAR**

- Closing of voter register: **13 February 2015**
- Nominating period: **13-28 February 2015**
- Publication of candidacies: **3-11 March 2015**
- Voting: **10-11 March 2015**
- Presentation of results: **13 March 2015**

**Background**

At the Fourth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Signatory Countries of the Declaration on the Application of Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean, held on 4 to 6 November 2014, the signatory countries adopted the Santiago Decision in which they agreed:

1. To establish a Negotiating Committee of the Signatory Countries of the Declaration on the Application of Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the significant participation of the public in accordance with the provisions and modalities set forth in the Plan of Action adopted in Guadalajara (Mexico) and in which non-signatory countries may take part as observers;
2. To appoint Presiding Officers, comprising Chile and Costa Rica as co-chairs and Argentina, Mexico, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago, who will coordinate the negotiations carried forward by the committee;
3. To invite to the public to designate two representatives to maintain a continuous dialogue with the Presiding Officers and whose appointment, and any future changes thereto, shall be notified formally to the Presiding Officers;
4. To request the Presiding Officers to prepare, in consultation with the signatory countries, by 31 March 2015, a draft work plan, addressing such aspects as negotiating procedures, organization of work and a calendar of meetings, on which the committee will adopt a decision at its opening meeting, to be held in the first four months of 2015; and,
5. To invite the signatory countries, non-signatory countries and interested public to continue to carry out activities and consultations at the national level with a view to contributing substantively to the process of negotiating the regional instrument.

To honour the commitment set forth in the Santiago Decision of designating the representatives of the public and, on the basis of the proposals received from the public on the modalities of the election of such representatives, **two representatives of the public and four alternates** will be elected as follows:

## I. Process for the nomination of candidates

All candidates must fulfill the following **requirements**:

- Be registered in the Regional Public Mechanism as at **13 February 2015**
- Have the necessary availability to perform the functions of the post
- Not be a civil servant of a Government or international organization

Those interested in presenting their candidacies are recommended to have:

- A strong track record in the regional process having participated in its meetings and sent input;
- The skills to engage with other members of the public, organizations and networks, and to act on behalf of the public and facilitate the flow of information between the public and the Presiding Officers;
- Motivation and commitment to the Principle 10 process in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Those interested in presenting their candidacies shall send the attached **candidacy form** by e-mail to [principio10.lac@cepal.org](mailto:principio10.lac@cepal.org) **between 13 and 28 February 2015**.

They shall indicate their first and last names, contact details and nationality as well as a summary of their background and motivation for the post (maximum of 350 words Times New Roman 12).

All the information provided in the candidacy forms will be made public.

Nominations from all subregions of Latin America and the Caribbean are encouraged.

## II. Voting of candidates

The candidacy forms received will be publicly available at the web site of the regional process (<http://www.cepal.org/rio20/principio10>) **between 3 and 11 March 2015**.

**Between 12:00 am Chilean time (GMT-3) of 10 March and 11:59 pm Chilean time (GMT-3) of 11 March 2015**, an online survey will be open to enable all registered members of the Regional Public Mechanism to vote for a maximum of **two candidates**.

Each registered person as of 13 February 2015 will be able to vote once. Voters shall indicate their first and last names and their e-mail as registered in the Regional Public Mechanism (this information will be used to verify registration as of the date indicated above and will not be made public). The lack of compliance with the aforementioned will result in the vote being void.

You are invited to consider geographic and gender representation when casting your vote.

## III. Election of representatives

Once the voting has taken place, the Technical Secretariat will count the votes and make the results public on **13 March 2015**.

The two candidates who have received the highest number of votes will be elected as representatives. The next four most voted candidates will be elected as alternates. **The designation is intended for the elected individual and is, therefore, non-transferable.**

The Presiding Officers and the registered public will be notified of the results of the election process. The results will also be made public on the webpage of the regional process.

**The contact information of the representatives will be available on the webpage of the process so that the public can contact them.**

**Term:** the representatives will be appointed for a term equal to that of the Presiding Officers.

**Resignation:** once appointed, any representative may resign in writing. The resignation shall be sent to the Technical Secretariat and will have effect one month after it has been received. In this case, the first most voted alternate will replace the representative that resigned.

**Revocation:** the appointment of any representative can be revoked, prior to fulfilling his/her term, at the request of simple majority of those registered in the Regional Public Mechanism on the date of the vote. In this case, the first most voted alternate will replace the representative whose mandate was revoked.

#### **IMPORTANT: Tasks and functions of the representatives**

Representatives shall liaise between the public and the Presiding Officers and represent the public at the meetings of the process. This does not in any way replace, modify or limit the participation of the public in accordance with the Santiago Decision and the Guadalajara Plan of Action. **Representatives will not be paid.**

The representatives of the public shall:

- a) Maintain an ongoing dialogue with the Presiding Officers of the Negotiating Committee, either through virtual or in person meetings
- b) Prior to the meetings of the Presiding Officers, they must gather the concerns of the members of the Regional Public Mechanism
- c) After the meetings of the Presiding Officers, they shall inform the members of the Regional Public Mechanism of what was discussed and next steps
- d) Maintain an ongoing dialogue with the members of the Regional Public Mechanism
- e) Receive requests and proposals from the registered public and discuss with their authors their viability and implementation
- f) Exercise any other function that is necessary to effectively carry out his/her tasks.

The details of the mechanism of representation and its functioning shall be determined with the Presiding Officers. The opportunity of having two representatives and alternates of the public to liaise with the Presiding Officers is a great opportunity for interacting and participating in the decision-making process. The future of the agreement and its scope and content require the commitment and cooperation of all, particularly of those who will be elected to represent the public and of the interested public throughout the negotiations.

**CANDIDACY FORM**  
**ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC**  
**Regional process on Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean**

The information contained in this form will be made public and be available at:  
<http://www.cepal.org/rio20/principio10>

First and last names:	
Contact information (must include telephone number and e-mail):	
Organization (if applicable):	
Nationality:	
<b>Background and motivation</b> (maximum of 350 words, Font Times New Roman 12)	