

## **736(PLEN.34) PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR 2021**

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,*

*Recalling* rule 24 of the rules of procedure of the Commission and the mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations concerning the preparation and consideration of the programmes of work of all the bodies of the system,

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”<sup>1</sup> and General Assembly resolutions 70/1 “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and 69/313 “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)” as well as the Paris Agreement,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling* paragraphs 80 and 81 of resolution 70/1 “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which welcome the cooperation of regional commissions and organizations in the regional and subregional follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and encourage the regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2019, as well as General Assembly resolutions 72/279, 72/236, 73/248, and ECOSOC resolution 2019/15;

*Taking into consideration* that by virtue of resolution 728(XXXVII) adopted by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, member States decided that the Committee of the Whole is the appropriate body to review and adopt the annual programme of work of the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the years falling between years in which sessions of the Commission are held;

*Reaffirming* the role of the Commission as an essential component of the United Nations development system based on: (i) its convening function as an intergovernmental platform for policy advice and dialogue; (ii) its ability to act as a think tank for devising analysis and policy recommendations; and (iii) its capacity to provide technical cooperation and normative and capacity-building support to its member States;

*Emphasizing* the importance of the regional space in successfully repositioning the United Nations Development system by: (i) strengthening regional and subregional approaches in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as well as the agreements and outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits; (ii) the need to address gaps and overlaps bearing in mind that there is no “one-size-fits-all” model for the regional approach and that it is necessary to consider the specificities of each region and the strengths of its regional mechanisms; (iii) the need to preserve the existing functions already performed by the United Nations development system at the regional level, including current interactions between the regional economic commissions and member States; and (iv) the importance of ensuring adequate regular budget resources in order to fulfil the mandate of the commissions;

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<sup>1</sup> See General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012.

<sup>2</sup> See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

*Taking into account the Report on the activities of the Commission 2018,*<sup>3</sup>

*Taking into account also that the thirty-fourth session of the Committee of the Whole is the occasion for the relevant intergovernmental review of the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2021,*<sup>4</sup>

*Having reviewed the outcomes and activities of 2018 and the work priorities for the Commission as set out in the presentation on the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2021, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, and which updates and reinforces the priorities endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session,*

*Having reviewed also all aspects of the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2021, which further strengthens programming, results-based management and evaluation,*

*Bearing in mind that the basic guidelines and overarching orientation for the formulation of the Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2021 incorporate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and the means of implementation of that Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Paris Agreement, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024, the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the outcomes and results of major United Nations conferences and summits, and resolution 66/288 “The future we want”, by virtue of which the countries agreed to contribute to providing coordinated and integrated follow-up to the outcomes and results of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental spheres,*

*Acknowledging the secretariat’s efforts to update and align the content and modalities of the programme of work with the new requirements emerging from the aforementioned agendas, action plans and instruments,*

1. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021, in its entirety, including its innovations and changes in the implementation strategies, which, together with the amendments proposed and observations made in the discussions held in the plenary session, shall become the legislative mandate for the execution of programmes, projects and technical cooperation activities, and for the production of the wide range of knowledge products and publications identified therein;

2. *Emphasizes and welcomes* the fact that the draft programme of work and priorities of the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for 2021 reflects the alignment and adaptation of activities, contents and modalities of the programme of work to the new requirements arising from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, as well as from internationally agreed action plans and instruments;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit the proposed budget for implementing the activities described in the programme of work to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

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<sup>3</sup> LC/PLEN.34/3.

<sup>4</sup> LC/PLEN.34/4.

4. *Expresses its concern* at the recent decline in the budgetary resources allocated to the Commission to carry out the activities set forth in the programme of work;

5. *Notes with satisfaction the Report on the activities of the Commission, 2018* and underlines the wide-ranging outcomes achieved by the Commission in the different areas of work, commending especially its results-based approach and capacity to respond to the needs of the region;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to strengthen accountability and evaluation with a view to enhancing the effectiveness and relevance of the Commission to the benefit of the region's development, and recommends pursuing those efforts;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Secretary to continue the practice of convening the Committee of the Whole in the intervals between the sessions of the Commission, also with a view to strengthening and broadening the dialogue between member States and the secretariat on issues deemed to be relevant;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in implementing this resolution at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission.