



UNITED NATIONS



3 December 2021

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

21-00952

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Thirty-sixth session

New York, 3 December 2021

## **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**



## **751(PLEN.36) PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR 2023**

*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 further* 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* 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, 74/297 and 75/233 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2019/15 and 2020/23,

*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 role 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, with a view to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions —economic, social and environmental— in a balanced and integrated manner at the regional level,

*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 for Sustainable Development, 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, 2020,*<sup>3</sup>

*Taking into account also that the thirty-sixth session of the Committee of the Whole of the Commission provides the context for the relevant intergovernmental bodies to review the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2023,*<sup>4</sup>

*Having reviewed the outcomes and activities of 2020 and the work priorities for the Commission as set out in the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2023, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, which updates and reinforces the priorities endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session,*

*Having reviewed also all aspects of the draft programme of work of the system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023, 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 system of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023 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 integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes and results of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,*

*Bearing in mind also the Political declaration on a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean, signed by ministers of foreign affairs and high-level representatives of Latin America and the Caribbean at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission,*

*Taking note of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 to address the consequences of the coronavirus disease pandemic,*

*Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted Latin America and the Caribbean and reiterating the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in the regional and global response to achieve a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, including by engaging all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate,*

*Emphasizing that the enhanced delegation of authority framework is one of the pillars of the United Nations reforms, and recognizing the challenge to accelerate the cultural change necessary to fully implement the new management paradigm in the United Nations that promotes, inter alia, delegation of authority, transparency and accountability, sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and a culture of continuous learning,*

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<sup>3</sup> LC/PLEN.36/4.

<sup>4</sup> LC/PLEN.36/3.

*Reiterating* the importance of empowered, strategic, effective and impartial leadership through the resident coordinator system and that all entities of the United Nations development system fully support the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including through inter-agency collaboration,

*Recognizing* the efforts made by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to implement its programme of work in a timely manner despite the constraints imposed by the coronavirus disease pandemic,

*Recognizing also* the efforts made by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean 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,

*Recalling* its rules of procedure,

1. *Adopts* the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023 in its totality, including its innovations and changes in the implementation strategies, which, together with the amendments proposed and observations made in the discussions held at the thirty-sixth session of the Committee of the Whole, shall become the legislative mandate for the execution of programmes, projects and technical cooperation activities, and for the production and dissemination of a broad 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 2023 reflect the alignment and adaptation of activities, contents and modalities of the programme of work to the requirements arising from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, including the accelerated modalities and priorities of the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as from other 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, 2023 to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

4. *Welcomes the Report on the activities of the Commission, 2020* and underlines the wide-ranging outcomes achieved by the Commission in the different areas of work, commending its results-based approach and capacity to respond to the needs of the region;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* for 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 further;

6. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to ensure the continuity of its operations and availability of products and services considering the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic;

7. *Expresses* its concern at the liquidity crisis that has negatively affected the availability of budget resources allocated to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to carry out the mandates set forth in the 2020 and 2021 programmes of work;

8. *Stresses* that a downward trend in funding allocated to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean would limit its ability to carry out the activities set forth in its programme of work, and the fulfilment of the mandates entrusted to it;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the implementation of best practices in the gradual return to a new normality in the context of a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery from the COVID- 19 pandemic and the need to monitor those practices regularly to ensure that they contribute to the operations of the Commission and the implementation of its mandates;

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

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

## 752(PLEN.36) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,<sup>1</sup>

*Reaffirming also* General Assembly resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

*Recalling* that General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, represents an opportunity for the countries of the region to advance sustainable development in its three dimensions, as well as eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequality and ensure that no one is left behind,

*Recalling also* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, *inter alia*, recognizes the importance of building on existing follow-up and review mechanisms at the regional level and allowing adequate policy space, encourages all Member States to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage, as well as United Nations regional commissions to continue supporting Member States in this regard, and establishes guiding principles for follow-up and review processes at all levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, respecting policy space and priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments, and recognizing that the outcome from national-level processes will be the foundation for reviews at the regional and global levels, given that the global review is primarily based on national official data sources,

*Recognizing* that South-South cooperation is increasingly critical to bolstering the productive capacities of developing countries and has positive impacts on trade and financial flows, technological capabilities and economic growth, reiterating the importance of global partnerships,

*Bearing in mind* that 2019 marked the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and that the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation was held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March, 2019,

*Bearing in mind also* the outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,<sup>2</sup> which recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving the overarching goal of eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

*Stressing* the need to reinvigorate the United Nations development system in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, aiming at the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August to 12 September 1978 (A/CONF.79/13/Rev.1), chap. I.*

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.235/3.

*Acknowledging* the importance of strengthening bonds with the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation in order to leverage our contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions,

*Considering* the key role played in recent years by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Committee on South-South Cooperation as one of its subsidiary bodies, in facilitating and encouraging dialogue among representatives of the countries of the region and in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, in accordance with its respective mandate,

*Recognizing* the supportive function performed by the United Nations regional commissions in the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits and conferences,

*Bearing in mind* the ongoing United Nations development system reform, by ongoing activities such as enhancing connectivity, harnessing the human and other resources of relevant knowledge networks, partnerships, technical and research capacity to enhance subregional, regional and interregional South-South and triangular cooperation and by continuing their technical, policy and research support for countries of their regions and by cooperating, as appropriate, with United Nations Resident Coordinators and country teams to continue to support the capacity of Member States, upon their request and leadership, in areas in which South-South and triangular cooperation could have the highest development impact,

*Recalling* resolution 749(XXXVIII), adopted at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, which requested the Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Committee on South-South Cooperation to convene, with the support of the secretariat, an extraordinary meeting of the Committee on South-South Cooperation, outside the framework of the session of the Commission, as soon as possible and no later than the second half of 2021, in order to examine ways to enhance its functioning, including the need for institutional changes, with a view to providing recommendations to the Commission on these deliberations,

1. *Takes notes* of the report of the extraordinary meeting of the Committee on South-South Cooperation: opportunities for renewed international development cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean,<sup>3</sup> held in virtual format on 19 and 20 August 2021;

2. *Also takes note* of the document “From the Committee on South-South Cooperation to the regional conference: opportunities for renewed international development cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean. Note by the secretariat”,<sup>4</sup>

3. *Endorses* the annex contained in the document “From the Committee on South-South Cooperation to the regional conference: opportunities for renewed international development cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean. Note by the secretariat”, which is an integral part of the present resolution;

4. *Approves* the renaming of the Committee on South-South Cooperation as the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Decides* that the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean shall prioritize the implementation of the mandates conferred on United Nations regional commissions in the outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, which was endorsed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in resolution 749(XXXVIII) adopted at its thirty-eighth session, held in October 2020, and shall carry out its activities within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and General Assembly resolution 75/234 on South-South cooperation;

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<sup>3</sup> LC/RECSS.2021/4.

<sup>4</sup> LC/RECSS.2021/3/Rev.1.



6. *Agrees* that the regular sessions of the conference shall be held every two years at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, in alternating years to the sessions of the Commission, using installed capacity and within existing resources;

7. *Decides* that the first session of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in 2023, on a date to be determined.

**ANNEX****I. FUNCTIONING OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN****1. Nature**

The Committee on South-South Cooperation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean will be renamed the “Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean” and shall be a subsidiary body of the Commission that will support member States in South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, in line with the roles of United Nations regional commissions as set forth in paragraphs 21, 26 and 27 (i) of the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation and in accordance with their respective mandates.

**2. Purpose**

Its objectives shall be:

- (a) To strengthen national South-South cooperation mechanisms and possible linkages with North-South and multilateral cooperation;
- (b) To further South-South and triangular cooperation among regional and extraregional stakeholders, including donor countries and international organizations, to facilitate technology and knowledge transfer and joint activities in the field of cooperation;
- (c) To examine the experiences of South-South and triangular cooperation in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and to make progress in evaluating them, in conjunction with the relevant subsidiary bodies that conduct studies in this field, with the support of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission;
- (d) To expand and deepen information-sharing on experiences of South-South cooperation conducted by member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean between Latin America and the Caribbean and other regions of the world, to foster exchanges of knowledge on issues of mutual interest;
- (e) To promote dialogue on South-South and triangular cooperation between Latin America and the Caribbean and other regions of the world; and
- (f) To bring a Latin American and Caribbean perspective to the debates and proposals led by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC).

**3. Membership**

The members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall be members of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**4. Meetings of the Conference**

The Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean shall hold its regular meetings at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago (Chile), every two years in alternating years to the sessions of Commission. The Conference may accept an invitation from the government of a member country to host the regular meeting in that country.

## **5. Presiding Officers**

The Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean shall elect Presiding Officers in accordance with the general guidelines established in section II of this annex. The Chair of the Presiding Officers shall also preside over the meetings of the Conference.

## **6. Secretariat**

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall serve as the secretariat for the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean. The secretariat shall make available to the Regional Conference the existing facilities and resources necessary to carry out its work.

# **II. FUNCTIONING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

## **1. Nature**

The Conference shall appoint Presiding Officers to support it, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 below.

## **2. Membership**

The Presiding Officers shall be composed of a Chair and four or more members. The members shall be elected from among the member countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. Special attention shall be devoted to ensuring that the subregional groupings of countries are duly represented among the Presiding Officers.

## **3. Election of Presiding Officers and duration of mandates**

At the beginning of each meeting of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Chair of the Presiding Officers, in consultation with the Presiding Officers and the Conference, shall draw up a proposal for the election of the next Presiding Officers.

The newly elected Officers shall take up their duties upon the conclusion of the regular meeting of the Conference at which they were elected and shall remain in office until the conclusion of the next regular meeting.

The Presiding Officers, including the Chair, shall be elected by the Conference at its regular meeting for a term of two years.

The members of the Presiding Officers may be re-elected for three successive terms. The Chair may not be re-elected to that office for a second consecutive term, but may be elected as a member of the Presiding Officers. Any country which has served on the Presiding Officers for three successive terms may be elected again after two years have elapsed since the end of its last term of office.

#### **4. Duties**

The Presiding Officers shall have the following duties:

- (a) To carry out the tasks assigned to them by the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (b) To follow up on the implementation of the agreements adopted and the tasks assigned by the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (c) To decide on the documentation required for its meetings; and
- (d) To decide on requests concerning agenda items proposed by ECLAC member States for the consideration of the Conference.

#### **5. Meetings**

The Presiding Officers shall meet at least once during the interval between regular sessions of the Conference. At the meeting of the Presiding Officers preceding the next session of the Regional Conference on South-South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, they shall adopt a draft programme of activities for the Conference, which shall be submitted for the consideration of member States at its regular meeting.

The Presiding Officers may invite to their meetings any countries or experts they consider may make a contribution to the fulfilment of their duties.

**753(PLEN.36) PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION**

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

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 15 of its terms of reference and rules 1 and 2 of its rules of procedure,

*Considering* the invitation of the Government of Argentina to host the thirty-ninth session of the Commission,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Argentina for its generous invitation;
2. *Accepts* this invitation with pleasure;
3. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations approve the decision to hold the thirty-ninth session of the Commission in Argentina in 2022.