Fourth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

Virtual meeting, 15–18 March 2021

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME\(^1\)
(Costa Rican time, GMT-6)

**Tuesday, 16 March**

8 – 8.40 a.m. Opening ceremony

**Moderator**: Adriana Bolaños Argueta, Minister ad interim for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

- Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Munir Akram, President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations in New York
- Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Carlos Alvarado, President of the Republic of Costa Rica


8.45 – 8.50 a.m. Adoption of the agenda

- Adriana Bolaños Argueta, Minister ad interim for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

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\(^1\) Please note that this is a paper-smart meeting. Meeting documents may be downloaded from the website https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2021/en or by mobile application.
8.50 – 9.10 a.m.  **Presentation of the document Building forward better: action to strengthen the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, fourth report on regional progress and challenges in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean**

- Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC

9.10 – 9.40 a.m.  **Comments on the report**

**Moderator:** Adriana Bolaños Argueta, Minister ad interim for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

- John Agard, Director of the St. Augustine Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (STACIE) and Professor of Tropical Island Ecology in the Department of Life Sciences of the Faculty of Science and Technology of the University of the West Indies at St. Augustine, and Co-Chair of the United Nations 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report task team
- Luis Bértola, Professor of the Economic and Social History Programme in the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of the Republic of Uruguay

9.40 – 9.45 a.m.  **Cultural interlude: “Viniando por mi país”, Banda de Conciertos de Cartago, Grupo artístico Biketso of Costa Rica**

9.45 a.m. – 1 p.m.  **Dialogue on a resilient and sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and achieving the 2030 Agenda**

**Moderator:** María del Pilar Garrido, Minister of National Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica

- Statements by ministers and high-level authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean (5 minutes per speaker, in alphabetical order of country name in Spanish)
- Statements by ministers and high-level authorities of associate members of ECLAC (5 minutes per speaker, in alphabetical order of country in Spanish)
- Slot for presentation by civil society

1 – 2 p.m.  **Recess**

2 – 3.55 p.m.  **Building forward better in the Caribbean post-COVID-19: critical issues to keep the 2030 Agenda in sight**

**Moderator:** Diane Quarless, Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

Opening remarks: Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and Christian Guillermnet-Fernández, Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica
• Marsha K. Caddle, Minister of Economic Affairs and Investment of Barbados  
• Dean Jonas, Minister of Social Transformation and the Blue Economy of Antigua and Barbuda  
• Roshan Parasram, Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago  
• Kari Grenade, Macroeconomic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Planning, Economic Development and Physical Development of Grenada and Chairwoman of the Technical Working Group of the National Sustainable Development Plan 2035  
• Andrew Lee, Acting Director-General of e-Learning Jamaica Co. Ltd.  
• Terry Ince, Founder and Convener of the CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago  
• Birgit Gerstenberg, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Belize and El Salvador

3 – 3.55 p.m.  
**Statements by the delegations**

3.55 – 4 p.m.  
Cultural interlude: Bob Marley’s “Lively Up Yourself!” performed by The Hillside Vibration of Jamaica and Rice and Beans, Banda de Conciertos de Limón of Costa Rica

4 – 5 p.m.  
**Contribution of the United Nations system**

Moderator: Christian Salazar, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Coordination Office

Opening remarks: Christian Guillermet-Fernández, Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

Greetings by Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (by video message)

**Presentation of 2020 system-wide results report of the United Nations development system in Latin America and the Caribbean** by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and Luis Felipe López-Calva, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in their capacity as Vice-Chairs of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean
Wednesday, 17 March

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Panel 1: Health and the economy — a false dichotomy?**

**Moderator:** Alberto Arenas de Mesa, Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC

Opening remarks: Carissa F. Etienne, Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

- Joy St. John, Executive Director of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)
- Alejandro Werner, Director of the Western Hemisphere Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Blanca Margarita Ovelar de Duarte, National Senator of Paraguay and President of ParlAmericas
- Mónica Jasis, focal point of the group on migrants and persons displaced by disasters or conflicts of the mechanism for civil society participation in the Sustainable Development Agenda and in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development
- Román Macaya, Chair of the Board of the Costa Rican Social Security Institute
- Daniel Innerarity, Director of the Institute of Democratic Governance of Spain
- Martha Delgado Peralta, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico

Noon – 1 p.m.

**Statements by the delegations**

1 – 2 p.m. Recess

2 – 5 p.m.

**Panel 2: Crisis, recovery and transformation in the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals**

**Moderator:** Mario Cimoli, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC

- Cristina Gallach Figueras, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and for Ibero-America and the Caribbean of Spain
- Camillo Gonsalves, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning, Sustainable Development and Information Technology of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Chair of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)
- André Lara Resende, Adjunct Senior Research Scholar at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) of Columbia University
- José Francisco Pacheco, Member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Costa Rica
- Maurizio Bezzeccheri, Director for Latin America of Enel
• Laura Becerra Pozos, deputy focal point of the NGO networks, groupings, organizations and platforms group of the mechanism for civil society participation in the Sustainable Development Agenda and in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

4 – 5 p.m.  
Statements by the delegations

Thursday, 18 March

8 – 9.30 a.m.  
Presentation on the Regional Knowledge Platform on the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean (SDG Gateway) and on issue-based coalitions and working groups, by the Vice-Chairs of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean

Moderator: Christian Guillermet-Fernández, Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

• Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and Luis Felipe López-Calva, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in their capacity as Vice-Chairs of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean

9.30 – 9.45 a.m.  
Intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the fourth meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

Presented by the Chair

9.45 – 11 a.m.  
Closing round table “Building an inclusive and effective pathway to achieve the 2030 Agenda within the context of the decade of action and post-pandemic recovery from COVID-19”

Moderator: Christian Guillermet-Fernández, Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

• Juan Sandoval Mendiolea, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations and Chair of the Group of Friends on Voluntary National Reviews

• Maria José Lubertino, focal point of the Southern Cone regional group of the mechanism for civil society participation in the Sustainable Development Agenda and in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

• Elliot Harris, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

• Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

• Luis Felipe López-Calva, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

• Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC