



Forum of the Countries  
of Latin America and  
the Caribbean on  
**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**  
Santiago, Chile  
25-29 April  
**2023**



**NACIONES UNIDAS  
CHILE**

## CONCEPT NOTE AND PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

*The care society as a horizon and the Buenos Aires Commitment as a road map in Latin America and the Caribbean*

**Side Event on the occasion of the Sixth Meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development**

Tuesday, 25 April 9.00 to 10.30 a.m. (Chile Standard Time, GMT-4)  
Room 2, ECLAC Headquarters, Santiago Chile

[updated to 04-21-2023]

### BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Gender inequality has been recognized by different agreements that make up the [Regional Gender Agenda](#) as a historical and structural feature of the region that is manifested in four structural challenges: socioeconomic inequality and poverty in contexts of exclusionary growth; patriarchal, discriminatory and violent cultural patterns; the sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care; and in the concentration of power and hierarchical relations within the public sphere. These structural challenges reinforce each other and generate complex socioeconomic and cultural systems, as well as beliefs that hinder and reduce the scope of policies regarding gender equality and women's autonomy (ECLAC, 2017). The Regional Gender Agenda recognizes the rights of women, adolescents and girls in their diversity and gender equality as central and cross-cutting elements of all State action to strengthen democracy and for inclusive and sustainable development. This is especially relevant in the scenario of a cascading and protracted crisis and uneven recovery that the region is facing.

For 45 years, governments, international organizations and civil society organizations, particularly women and feminist organizations, have met at the [Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) to identify the progress and the challenges of guaranteeing the rights and autonomy of women and achieving gender equality. The series of agreements and commitments approved by governments contribute to the Regional Gender Agenda, which serves as a meaningful, progressive and comprehensive road map for gender equality.

The [Buenos Aires Commitment](#) adopted at the XV Regional Conference on Women in November 2022 calls for moving towards a new development pattern that fosters gender equality in the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development (ECLAC, 2022, para. 7). The Member States of ECLAC agreed to recognize care as the right to provide and receive care and to exercise self-care based on the principles of equality, universality and social and gender co-responsibility (ECLAC, 2022, para. 8). The governments called to advance recovery plans with proactive measures to achieve a transformative recovery with gender equality aimed at the sustainability of life and for the transition to a care society (ECLAC, 2022, para. 6).

In this context, the creation of comprehensive care policies is today at the centre of public and political debates, which requires political, social and economic pacts that jointly address environmental, social and gender justice. A transformative recovery with equality implies deliberate and explicit action on the part of public institutions – at different scales – to stimulate the sectors that promote the economic



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autonomy of women, while seeking positive synergies with sectors that activate the recovery, particularly highlighting the role of the care economy.

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Secretary-General's United Nations COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund was established as an inter-agency mechanism of the United Nations to address the socio-economic threats of the COVID-19 pandemic. By means of rapid and efficient funding, the Fund mobilized the expertise and global reach of the United Nations to deliver efficient and integrated responses that were led by Resident Coordination Offices to support countries and safeguard their progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The gender perspective was a transversal aspect to the pillars of the United Nations socioeconomic response plans and various countries in the region implemented projects to strengthen the economic autonomy of women through initiatives and policies in the area of care.

The exchange of experiences and good practices is essential and strategically useful for the design of comprehensive care policies and systems in the region that accelerate the transition towards the care society and the achievement of sustainable development. To this end, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Chile and the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) convene this parallel event on the occasion of the Sixth Meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development. It will count with the participation of countries that have implemented interagency projects with the support of the United Nations System.

## **Objectives**

- Promote the exchange of experiences and lessons learned from the initiatives and care policies undertaken by governments with the support of the United Nations System.
- Identify and reflect on areas of opportunity to advance the implementation of the Buenos Aires Commitment, particularly in the design and implementation of care policies and systems.



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## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

**Tuesday, 25 April**

9:00 to 9:15 a.m.

### **Opening of the event**

- Ana Güzmes García, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC (5')
- María-Noel Vaeza, Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) (5')
- Roberto Valent, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Development Coordination Office (DCO) of the United Nations (5')

9:15 to 9:50 a.m.

### **First Round – Countries: Experiences of care policies and challenges in the framework of the implementation of the Buenos Aires Commitment**

**Moderator:** Ana Güzmes García, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC

- Claudio Castro, Mayor of Renca, Chile (video) and Daniela Eroles, Director of Community Development of the Mayor's Office of Renca, Chile (10')
- Paulina Calderón, Secretary of Equality and Diversity Policies, Minister of Women, Genders and Diversity in Argentina (10')
- Mónica Bottero, Director of the National Institute for Women (INMUJERES) of the Ministry of Social Development in Uruguay (virtual presence) (10')

9:50 to 10:05 a.m.

### **Second Round – Resident Coordination Offices: Lessons learned from joint work and challenges in the framework of the implementation of the Buenos Aires Commitment**

**Moderator:** María-Noel Vaeza, Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean of UN Women

- Claudia Mojica, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Argentina (5')
- Pablo Ruiz, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uruguay (5')
- María José Torres, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Chile (5')

10:05 to 10:25 a.m.

### **Floor interventions**

10:25 to 10:30 a.m.

### **Closing**

- Ana Güzmes García, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC (5')



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## References

ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean) (2022), «Buenos Aires Commitment».

--- (2017), *Montevideo Strategy for the Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030* (LC/CRM.13/5), ECLAC, March.