



Special Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean

Technical note

Date: April 15th, 2024

Time: 11:00 am Chile (CMT-4)

Room: Aula II ILPES

Zoom registration: <https://cepal-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYldOCvpjqoHdBv1wEED1hySzQ-oUUoPRfH>

BACKGROUND

In accordance to what was agreed in the Fifth Session of the Regional Conference on Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (RCSD held in Santiago de Chile on October 2023, the Presiding Officers of the Conference is chaired by Chile, with Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Costa Rica, Panama and Venezuela as vice-chairs. During the Conference , and in accordance to what is stipulated in the [Resolution 5\(V\)](#), member states also renewed their commitment to advance further in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region, including its social dimension, and considering the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development as a key contribution in this process.

On the same Resolution, governments requested the Technical Secretariat under the responsibility of ECLAC, “to undertake a more in-depth analysis of and identify policy alternatives and financing standards to develop a strong institutional framework for social policy and effective governance of decision-making in social policies, and to strengthen social protection systems by making progress regarding the universality, comprehensiveness, sustainability and resilience thereof in the region”. In addition, they requested the Technical Secretariat “to prepare a draft road map and a document to be considered at the Sixth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in 2024, which will allow the region’s voice to be heard at the World Social Summit to be held in 2025”. On February 26th 2024 this summit was convened by the United Nations General Assembly under the title “Second World Summit For Social Development”.



Under the Resolution 5(V) ECLAC was also asked to provide technical assistance to the process of establishing working groups of the Conference on specific policy topics and areas identified by countries in order to advance towards a transformative recovery and pursue the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. During the last few months, various technical activities have taken place to go forward on this work.

Meeting objective

This Special work Meeting of the Presiding Officers is proposed as a venue to discuss and analyze the progress achieved in relation to the commitments of the Resolution 5(V), particularly to analyze the proposal for the main document that ECLAC is preparing, share the goals and action plans of four working groups already established and delineate the next steps on the road to the Sixth Meeting of Presiding Officers, to take place in Barbados on the fourth quarter of 2024.

Working format

The intent of the work meeting is to facilitate a space for the Presiding Officers to discuss and propose ideas.

The meeting will be held in a hybrid format through Zoom, and the web link will be sent soon by ECLAC.

To facilitate discussions, countries will be sent a draft proposal of the working groups, as well as an information sheet, indicating their specific regional goals and priority issues. The activities of the working groups will develop under the leadership of at least one Member state of the Presiding Officers. ECLAC will collaborate to co-organize the activities of the different working groups and will support the Presidency in order to promote and disseminate them among all member countries of the CRDS.



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

- 11:00 am – 11:10 am Inauguration
- Rodrigo Martínez, Senior Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
 - Valentina López, Advisor on International Affairs, Ministry of Social Development and Family (Chile), in Chile's capacity as Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean
- 11:10 am – 11:20 am Presentation of progress in the preparation of the document for the Sixth Presiding Officers Meeting, to take place on the third quarter of 2024 in Barbados.
- 11:20 am – 11:50 am Presentation of progress made by the Conference's Working Groups
- Information systems and social registers
 - Spending and financing standards for non-contributory social protection
 - Institutional frameworks for regional cooperation
 - Social protection and resilience to disasters in the Caribbean
- 11:50 am – 12:20 pm Comments by countries
- 12:20 pm – 12:30 pm Final considerations and closure