Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
31 March **2020**

How much do you know about the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development?

1 When and where has the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development met?

The fourth meeting of the Forum was scheduled for March 28 to 31, 2020, in Havana. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was replaced by a **one-day virtual session** to be held on **March 31**, with a reduced agenda:

- **Approval of the provisional agenda**
- **Challenges of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
  - Presentation of the Sustainable Development Goals regional portal (SDG Gateway) | The Director of Cepei, Philipp Schönrock, will be part of this session as a panelist
  - Presentation of the document *The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the new global and regional context: scenarios and projections for Latin America and the Caribbean*
- **Other issues**
- **Conclusions and recommendations**

The previous meetings of the Forum were:

- **First Forum:** Mexico City, April 26 to 28, 2017
- **Second Forum:** Santiago de Chile, April 18-20, 2018
- **Third Forum:** Santiago de Chile, April 22 to 26, 2019

2 What is the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development?

The Forum is a regional mechanism for monitoring and reviewing the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), its targets, means of implementation and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on the Financing for Development (*Resolution 700 (XXXVI) of the ECLAC*).

3 Who created the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development and when?

The Forum was created through the *resolution 700 (XXXVI)* adopted in the framework of the thirty-sixth session of the ECLAC, which met in Mexico City between May 23 and 27, 2016. The complete list of the ECLAC member countries can be consulted *here*.

4 Why was the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development established?

The 2030 Agenda was adopted by the UN member countries in September 2015. In its chapter on “Monitoring and review” it makes explicit reference to the regional level´s work. There, “all Member States [are encouraged] to determine which will be the most appropriate regional forum for their participation. The United Nations regional commissions are also encouraged to assist Member States in this regard ”(2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 81).

It is due to this commitment that Latin America and the Caribbean, recognizing the fundamental role of the ECLAC, decided to create this Forum within the institution.

5 ¿What documents do countries adopt as a result of the meetings of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development?

The main documents adopted in the framework of the annual meetings of the Forum are:

- “Summary of the Chair” *(Third session; Second session; First session)*
- The “Intergovernmentally Agreed Conclusions and Recommendations” document *(Third session; Second session; First session)*
- The “Report of the Meeting” *(Third session; Second session; First session)*

6 Do non-governmental actors participate in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development?

Yes. The Forum is a multi-stakeholder mechanism led by States. A meeting with the Latin America and the Caribbean civil society takes place on the day prior to the Forum, of which a *Civil Society Participation Mechanism has emerged in the Sustainable Development Agenda and in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development*, about which the States have limited themselves to “take note”.

The participation of multiple actors also takes place in official tables and activities and in the multiple parallel events that are organized around its sessions, among which we can point out the meeting of the “Business Forum for the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and The Caribbean of 2019”.

7 How to be informed about the Forum?

You can visit the ECLAC´s website about the fourth meeting of the Forum *here*. You can also read the reports produced by *Cepei*, analyzing what happened in each of the Forum sessions and other relevant information in the "*Publications*" section of our website. We highlight among them the following:

- *Governance of the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean: institutions and mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs* (Published in February 2020).
- *América Latina y el Caribe una perspectiva sobre el inicio de su década para la acción* (Spanish - Published in February 2020)
- *What are the countries of the LAC region talking about in their reviews in the implementation of the SDGs* (Published in October 2019)
- *Legal barriers to big data within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America* (Published in February 2019).

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