



**Third meeting of the
Conference on Science, Innovation
and Information and
Communications Technologies of the
Economic Commission for
Latin America and the Caribbean**

Virtual meeting, 13–15 December 2021

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA



A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Background

The Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies is a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) established in 2012 through ECLAC resolution 672(XXXIV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/35. Its objectives include promoting the development and improvement of national science, technology and innovation policies, and of those related to the advancement of the information and knowledge society.

Pursuant to resolution 672(XXXIV), ECLAC serves as the secretariat of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies and makes available to the Conference the documents and facilities that have been approved by the Commission.

2. Objectives of the meeting

The aim of the third meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of ECLAC is to review the progress made since the second meeting of the Conference, which took place in San José in 2016, complemented by the *Propuesta de cooperación regional en ciencia, innovación y TIC: respuesta a la crisis de la pandemia del COVID-19 desde la ciencia, la tecnología y la innovación*, and to define the priority pillars of the biennial workplan of the Conference.

3. Organization of work

The third meeting of the Conference will last three days and will be opened by government authorities from Argentina and Costa Rica. The programme includes the appointment of a new Executive Committee, the opening ceremony and the presentation of the document *Innovation for development: the key to a transformative recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean*, followed by four panels to review the document and various thematic discussion panels featuring government authorities, international experts and representatives from the academic and private sectors. Finally, there will be time set aside for a round table discussion.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Election of the Executive Committee

Delegations will elect an Executive Committee of the Conference on Science, Innovation, Information and Communications Technologies, which will serve until the appointment of the next Executive Committee at the following Conference.

In accordance with resolution 672(XXXIV), the Executive Committee shall be composed of a Chair and six members. The duties of the Executive Committee are to:¹

¹ See resolution 672(XXXIV).

- (a) Carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies.
- (b) Prepare, every two years, a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities for supporting policies on science, technology and innovation, to be submitted at the regular meetings.
- (c) Follow up on the implementation of the agreements adopted and the tasks assigned by the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, particularly with respect to the biennial programme of activities referred to in paragraph 2(c) of section I of the annex to the resolution.
- (d) Decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The delegations will have before them for consideration and adoption the following provisional agenda:

- 1. Election of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
- 3. Presentation of the document *Innovation for development: the key to a transformative recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean*.
- 4. Keynote presentations.
- 5. Thematic discussion panels.
- 6. Other matters.
- 7. Consideration and adoption of the proposed biennial programme of activities for regional cooperation in science, innovation and information and communications technologies, 2022–2023

3. Presentation of the document *Innovation for development: the key to a transformative recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean*

The Executive Secretary of ECLAC will present the document *Innovation for development: the key to a transformative recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean (Main messages only in English)*, which will analyse the importance of science, technology and innovation (STI) in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and transformative recovery. The document will address the status of STI systems in the region, health manufacturing, information and communications technologies, innovation and sustainability, mission-oriented industrial and technology policies, and international cooperation and regional integration in STI.

Working document:

- Ciencia, innovación y tecnologías de la información y las comunicaciones en América Latina y el Caribe (LC/CCITIC.3/3)

Reference document:

- Innovation for development: the key to a transformative recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean. Main messages (LC/CCITIC.3/DDR/1)

4. Keynote presentations

Under this agenda item there will be four panels and a round table to discuss the status of STI systems in the region and their role in transformative recovery, the role of science and technology in health sovereignty, the role of emerging digital technologies in the era of COVID-19, eco-innovation and sustainable production, and international cooperation and regional integration in science, technology and innovation.

The aim of these panels is to learn about and share success stories and international experiences relevant to Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the current situation in the countries of the region and the challenges and opportunities they face. Representatives of governments, the private and academic sectors, civil society and other authorities will be invited to discuss, from a holistic perspective, opportunities for cooperation and integration in the issues to be addressed.

5. Thematic discussion panels

Under this agenda item, specific themes relating to science, technology and innovation in the region will be addressed, such as the gender perspective in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; the digitization of small and medium enterprises; the use and development of aerospace and satellite technologies; technological development and value addition in the lithium chain; the retention, repatriation and attraction of highly skilled human capital; and the development of genomic biobanks in the region.

6. Other matters

Under this agenda item, the delegations may consider any other matter they deem appropriate.

7. Consideration and adoption of the proposed biennial programme of activities for regional cooperation in science, innovation and information and communications technologies, 2022–2023

The member States of the Conference will consider and adopt the proposed biennial programme of activities for 2022–2023, which will be informed by the discussions and debates held during the third meeting of the Conference and will serve as a guide for defining the work to be carried out during the biennium.