



23 November 2020  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH  
20-00865

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Seventh Ministerial Conference on the Information  
Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

Virtual meeting, November 23–26, 2020

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Ecuadorian time (UTC-5)

### Monday, 23 November

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| 9 – 9.25 a.m.    | Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lenín Moreno, President of the Republic of Ecuador (by video message)</li><li>• Alicia Bárcena Executive Secretary Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)</li><li>• Karen Abudinen, Minister of Information and Communications Technologies of Colombia</li><li>• Andrés Michelena, Minister of Telecommunications and the Information Society of Ecuador</li></ul> |
| 9.25 – 9.30 a.m. | Election of officers and adoption of the agenda  |
| 9.30 – 10 a.m.   | Presentation on digital technologies for a new future, by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC   |



UNITED NATIONS



10 a.m. – noon

**High-level panel – Digital technologies in recovery: towards a strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean**

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has underscored that digital technologies are essential to the functioning of the economy and the provision of services such as education and health. Digital technologies will have an even more important role in the economic recovery. In this panel, the measures that governments could take to seize the opportunities offered by these technologies will be discussed.

Moderator: Mario Cimoli, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC

- Marcos Cesar Pontes, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil
- Alejandro Peralta Vierci, Minister of Information and Communication Technologies of Paraguay
- Andrés Michelena, Minister of Telecommunications and the Information Society of Ecuador
- Paola Vega, Minister of Science, Technology and Telecommunications of Costa Rica
- Allyson West, Minister of Public Administration and Digital Transformation of Trinidad and Tobago

Statements by country representatives

**Tuesday, 24 November**

9.30 – 11.30 a.m.

**High-level panel – Universalization of digital technologies for social inclusion**

Access to digital technologies has become vital for the conduct of economic and social activities. However, the pandemic revealed the socioeconomic, demographic and age gaps that persist in the countries of the region. In this panel, the connectivity challenges and the possible policy measures that countries can adopt to reduce asymmetries in that regard will be discussed.

Keynote address: Mischa Dohler, Professor in Wireless Communications at King's College London

Moderator: Lidia Brito, Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for Science in Latin America and the Caribbean

- Melford Nicholas, Minister of Information, Broadcasting, Telecommunications and Information Technology of Antigua and Barbuda
- Pamela Gidi, Undersecretary for Telecommunications in the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications of Chile
- Rosa Virginia Nakagawa, Deputy Minister of Communications of Peru
- Emiliano Calderón Mercado, Coordinator of the National Digital Strategy of Mexico
- Lucas Gallito, Public Policy Director for Latin America of GSMA

- Rodrigo de la Parra, Vice President for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
- Ángel Melguizo, Chair of the Inter-American Association of Telecommunication Enterprises (ASIET)
- Yacine Khelladi, Regional Coordinator, Latin America and the Caribbean - Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI)

11.40 a.m. – 1.40 p.m. **Workshop 1 – Towards policy coherence and digital integration in Latin America and the Caribbean**

ECLAC and the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network

2.30 – 4 p.m. **Special session**

Dialogue of representatives and high-level authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean on the digital agenda and its role in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic

**Wednesday, 25 November**

9.30 – 11.30 a.m. **High-level panel – Productive transformation and skills in the digital age**

This panel will address the challenges in the adoption and uptake of digital technologies by businesses in Latin America and the Caribbean and the policies needed to bring about a productive and social transformation in the region, as well as the challenges related to the promotion of digital enterprise.

Keynote address: Roberto Viola, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology of the European Commission

Moderator: Sebastián Cabello, Chief Executive Officer of SmC + Digital Public Affairs

- Rodrigo Alejandro Yáñez, Undersecretary for International Economic Relations of Chile
- Hebert Paguas, Executive Director of the National Agency for e-Government and Information Society (AGESIC) of Uruguay
- Matías Kulfas, Minister of Productive Development of Argentina
- Lisardo Bolaños, Vice-Minister for investment and competitiveness of Guatemala
- Marushka Chocobar, Secretary of Digital Government the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers of Peru
- Raúl Echeberría, Executive Director of the Latin American Internet Association (ALAI)
- Mauricio Agudelo, Senior Specialist, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)
- Oscar Robles, Executive Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC)

11.40 a.m. – 1.10 p.m. **Workshop 2 – The potential of digital technologies for changing the dynamics of production in SMEs**

2 – 3.30 p.m. **Workshop 3 – Data innovation for measuring the digital economy**

2 – 3.30 p.m. **Workshop 4 – The rise of e-commerce amid the pandemic and future challenges**

#### **Thursday, 26 November**

9 – 10.20 a.m. **Workshop 5 – Latin American Economic Outlook 2020: digital transformation for building back better**

9 – 10.20 a.m. **Workshop 6 – Women's autonomy in the digital economy**

10.30 – 10.35 a.m. Consideration and adoption of the proposed digital agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2022)

10.35 – 11.30 a.m. Close of the meeting

- Jolita Butkeviciene, Director of Development Coordination for Latin America and Caribbean of the European Commission
- Mario Pezzini, Director of the Development Centre of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- Rodrigo Ferrés, Undersecretary in the Office of the President of Uruguay
- Andrés Michelena, Minister of Telecommunications and the Information Society of Ecuador
- Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC