

CONFERENCE ROOM DOCUMENT

8 February 2008

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

San Salvador, 6-8 February 2008

SAN SALVADOR COMMITMENT

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We, the representatives of the Latin American and Caribbean countries meeting in the city of San Salvador from 6 to 8 February 2008 at the Second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reiterating the principles and objectives agreed upon during the first and second phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in December 2003 and in Tunis in November 2005, with a view to channeling the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the Bávaro Declaration, adopted in the Dominican Republic in January 2003, and the Rio de Janeiro Commitment and Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (élan 2007), adopted in Brazil in June 2005, which define an agenda, a plan of action and a platform for promoting regional cooperation in the area of information and communications technologies,

Recognizing that the global objectives of the Geneva Plan of Action are to be met by 2015 and that implementation of the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2007) constitutes an important contribution to the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Underscoring the importance of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development as a coordinating centre for follow-up and evaluation of the progress made by the World Summit on the Information Society in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/46,

Emphasizing the important role and support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the facilitation, follow-up, provision of technical advisory services, and exchange of information and best practices for the preparation of national strategies and the application of the outcomes of regional conferences in accordance with the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society and ECLAC resolution 629(XXXI),

Reaffirming our commitment to achieving the goals and priorities upon which our strategies for the development of the information society are based,

HEREBY REAFFIRM:

Our common desire and commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society based on the principles of peace, human rights, solidarity, freedom, democracy, sustainable development and cooperation so that the individuals, communities and peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean may achieve their full potential in promoting their development,

Our commitment, as Governments, to facilitate the inclusion of all stakeholders –the private sector, civil society, the scientific and academic community and any other community– in the process of creating an information society based on shared knowledge in accordance with the mechanisms established to these ends by the World Summit on the Information Society,

In this connection, we:

Recognize that eLAC is a platform that promotes regional integration and cooperation in the area of information and communications technologies and that acts as a link between goals at the international level and the needs and priorities of the Latin American and Caribbean region and its countries;

Welcome with satisfaction the progress made in implementing the eLAC2007 Plan of Action, particularly in the areas of access and infrastructure, e-government and capacity-building;¹

Take note with satisfaction of the results achieved by the following eLAC2007 working groups dealing with regional infrastructure, telework, alternative technologies, software, education and research networks, creative and content industries, Internet governance, e-government, financing and legislative frameworks;²

Draw special attention to the good results and strategic importance of the @LIS and RedCLARA initiatives for the development of national knowledge networks linking countries of the region and energetically support the strengthening and continuity of the @LIS programme and RedCLARA, as well as the extension of interregional cooperation to the Caribbean through C@ribNET;

Recognize the importance of the work of regional public, private and civil society agencies which contribute to the development of the information society in the region and which, in so doing, cooperate with and contribute to the eLAC platform;³

Gathered here today in San Salvador to evaluate the progress made thus far and to discuss priorities and measures for optimizing the eLAC platform's operation with the group of parties interested in building the region's information society,

WE HEREBY RESOLVE:

To approve the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2010) as the second step in the eLAC process up to the year 2015;

¹ See "Monitoring eLAC2007: progress and current state of development of Latin American and Caribbean information societies" (LC/W.151).

² See eLAC2007 Newsletter No. 3 (October 2007) and www.cepal.org/SocInfo/eLAC.

³ See annex 2.

To adopt the regional follow-up mechanism for eLAC2010;⁴

To renew the mandate of the working groups on infrastructure, creative industries, telework, financing, Internet governance, software and legislative and legal frameworks, and to create new working groups on e-health, ICTs and disability, technological wastes and gender;

To seek financial mechanisms to support the region in forging synergies among the activities included in this platform, such as @LIS and, with the financial support of Canada, ICA-IDRC, among others;

To stimulate existing cooperation with extraregional actors such as Europe and Canada and to foster initiatives with new partners;

To redouble our efforts to ensure that, through the eLAC platform, our principal actions focus on the priorities of education, infrastructure and access, health, public administration, production activities, and policy instruments and strategies;

To underscore the commitment of the countries of the region to the full implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

Finally,

We thank the Government of the Republic of El Salvador for its hospitality and the effort devoted to the organization of this Second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC);

We also thank the Government of Peru for offering to endow the eLAC process with continuity and hold the next Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean in Peru in 2010;

We thank, furthermore, ECLAC for its support of the eLAC process and hope to continue to have the benefit of that support;

The Second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean wishes to express its satisfaction with the support for eLAC provided by the European Commission and requests the Government of El Salvador to transmit this to the fifth Summit of Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, to be held in the city of Lima in May 2008.

⁴ See annex 1.

PLAN OF ACTION (eLAC2010)

The aim of the measures proposed below is to build an inclusive and development-oriented information society. In this regard, the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean invite all actors in their societies and the international community to provide their cooperation, through the “eLAC” platform, in order to achieve the objectives set forth in this Plan of Action.

Taking into account the heterogeneity of the countries of the region in terms of capacities, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, in the light of their national priorities and policies and in conformity with their legal frameworks, commit themselves to implementing the following measures so that measurable and verifiable results surpassing those of 2007 are registered in respect of the proposed objectives by 2010. The goals will express average values for the region rather than for countries.

Regional ministerial conferences should evaluate the implementation of the eLAC programme and establish verifiable policy measures for the next conference. The technical level, represented by the working groups, will report at the next conference and will translate policy measures into measurable objectives for the region.

Chapter 1: Education, our first priority

Number	Description of measure
Framework	
1**	Develop school curricula that cover data, information and knowledge management and that strengthen teamwork, learning capacity, and problem-solving ability.
2**	Conduct annual studies on the impact of ICT use in the educational system which, inter alia, address the following: the impact of technologies on teaching-learning processes in public and private educational centres, the level of use of ICTs by teachers as a complement in their classes and the state of development of educational software.
Access	
3*	Connect 70% of public educational institutions to the Internet, preferably via broadband connections, or triple the current number.
Capacities	
4*	Ensure that, by the time they complete school, 90% of students have used computers for educational purposes for at least 100 hours, or double the current number. Such use requires appropriate training according to the type and level of education and should contribute to students' job skills.
5*	Train 70% of teachers in the use of ICTs or triple the current number.
6*	Train 70% of teachers and civil servants in the education sector in the use of ICTs for the development of school curricula, or triple the current number.
Applications and content	
7*	Ensure that all national education portals meet the eligibility requirements for full membership in such portals' regional networks.
8**	Seek to establish a regional market for digital services and content, to include the implementation of forums, through a public-private partnership with commercial providers.
9**	Increase the exchange of experiences and high-quality content in regional networks of education portals, including Web 2.0 applications and other distribution channels such as television and radio.
10**	Disseminate experiences with the use of virtual reality tools as ICT applications in educational curricula designed to foster cultural diversity and tolerance and to combat discrimination on the basis of, inter alia, race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, illness and/or disability.

Chapter II: Infrastructure and access, our second priority

Number	Description of measure
Framework	
11**	Promote and foster ICT quality while ensuring ICT sustainability and access for persons with disabilities with a view to the genuine social, educational, cultural and economic inclusion of all social sectors, especially vulnerable groups.
12**	Strengthen and support the development of community-based network initiatives such as, for example, communication centres, training centres, telecentres, and community-based radio and television stations, to include the use of traditional and new technologies while respecting prevailing legal frameworks.
13**	Support the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives which take advantage of the economies of scale and scope of the relevant countries, particularly in order to serve those sectors that have been marginalized from technological progress, such as @LIS, RedCLARA, C@ribNET, Puebla Panama Meso-American information highway.
14**	Promote the development of infrastructure in each country and in the region, fostering the deployment of traffic nodes, the installation of copies of root servers and local content hosting, with the object of improving the network's quality and stability and reducing access costs.
15**	Carry out actions geared towards promoting the adoption of the IPv6 protocol at the public and private levels with a view to making all public services offered via the IP protocol, as appropriate, available on IPv6 and ensuring that the main State infrastructure and applications are IPv6-compatible. Actions to be implemented will, to the extent possible, include the early implementation of requirements to ensure that government procure equipment and applications that are IPv6-compatible.
Access	
16*	Provide coverage for 70% of the population in urban areas with a reliable, preferably high-capacity, network, or double existing coverage.
17*	Provide coverage for 60% of the population in rural areas with a reliable, preferably high-capacity, network, or double existing coverage.
18*	Increase the number of ICT access centres serving the community, including libraries and other facilities, in order to halve the average ratio of potential users per centre, or achieve a ratio of 1,750 people per centre, regardless of whether it is public or private.
19*	Connect 80% of research and educational centres, particularly centres of higher education, to advanced data communications networks for research and education, such as RedCLARA and C@ribNET, or triple the current number.
20**	Develop advanced networks in the Caribbean for education and research within the framework of C@ribNET, in coordination with RedCLARA, with consideration for their sustainability and scalability in all cases.
21**	Conduct biennial studies on the price structure of fixed telephony, mobile

	telephony and Internet telecommunications services in relation to an international average, to be estimated by common accord, in order to share experiences and develop public policies aimed at achieving universal coverage and affordable prices for all and at improving service quality.
22**	Promote the creation of specially-priced baskets of appropriate-content digital services for socially vulnerable sectors, including, but not limited to, older adults, children, rural communities, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, the unemployed, displaced persons and migrants.
23*	Review the functionality, design and purpose of universal ICT access funds, and execute at least 80% of those funds.
24*	Maintain the working group on infrastructure, which will support the preparation of studies at the national and regional levels to define the best options for the development of infrastructure to meet the requirements of local or regional traffic flow more efficiently, ensure the continuity of interconnection services and exchange experiences regarding the impact of ICT convergence.
Capacities	
25**	Identify and support projects that have produced good results, index existing regional portals and exchange experiences regarding community Internet access centres with a view to increasing their effectiveness and improving their sustainability, while also considering exchanges with other regions of the world.
26**	Strengthen and interconnect regional platforms for electronic disaster management in areas such as prevention, identification, management and mitigation, including training in their use in cases of emergency, and promote collaboration among these systems through the adoption of international agreements and standards.
27**	Promote agreements involving, in particular, geographically and demographically small and medium-sized countries, under which neighbouring countries provide infrastructure to underpin emergency disaster-management systems.
Applications and content	
28**	Offer response systems such as, inter alia, victim databases and emergency-response resource management systems, that are developed with public funds, and promote their use in countries of the region at national and local levels.

Chapter III: Health, the third priority

Number	Description of measure
Framework	
29**	Promote the proper integration of information and communications technologies into the health sector, fostering the adoption of public policies that provide for people-centred content production and consumption attitudes and practices that focus on service continuity.
Access	
30*	Establish electronic health services, including Internet-based services, in 70% of public health centres and 80% of public hospitals or double the current number.
Capacities	
31*	Train 80% of public health professionals in the use of ICTs or double the current number.
32**	Promote the inclusion in the training of health professionals, particularly decision-makers, of issues relating to the planning and operation of ICT-based health services.
33**	Establish, among other follow-up mechanisms in the area of health, a working group to undertake a situational baseline study, identify regional challenges and best practices, as well as issue recommendations that facilitate the transfer of knowledge and the adoption of standards in this area in order to support processes related to health services in the region.
Applications and content	
34*	Ensure that 70% of health centres and hospitals work with process-planning and management software or applications, ensuring their interoperability, or double the current number.
35**	Link up national health portals with a view to establishing a regional network that can be used to share experiences, exchange content and promote their development, adaptation and relevance, taking into account the need for appropriate data protection.
36**	Promote improvements in regional health networks through the adoption of standards that will permit digital systems' interoperability, software exchange, interactive applications, the interconnection of applications, and the interconnection of virtual health-related libraries and portals.

Chapter IV: Public management

Number	Description of measures
Framework	
37**	Strengthen means of data exchange on e-government services, developing regional cooperation for the exchange or transfer of technologies, platforms, applications and software and the corresponding knowledge, skills and best practices. Use these networks to implement interoperability standards for e-government services
38**	Promote the interoperability of standards-based e-government systems in Latin America and the Caribbean and continue with the development of a regional interoperability platform and standards for e-government services in order to ensure that the option of interconnecting services within a single jurisdiction or across different jurisdictions remains open, taking into account recommendations relating to work in this area such as the white book on e-government interoperability. ⁵
Access	
39*	Ensure that 80% of local governments interact with citizens and other branches of the public administration via the Internet, or double the current number.
40*	Ensure that 70% of national and local public entities are connected using the “one-stop window” approach for citizen transactions, or double the current number, as appropriate.
Capacities	
41*	Train 80% of civil servants, particularly decision-makers, in national, regional and local governments in the use of ICTs, in line with their levels, in such a way as to have a positive impact on their performance of their functions, or triple the current number.
42**	Promote and/or facilitate training in the use and application of ICTs for the purpose of generating new capacities and skills on the part of members of civil society organizations, socially based organizations, other stakeholders and final users in general.
43**	Contribute to the use of electronic documents and electronic and/or digital signatures having evidential weight in government procedures by both civil servants and citizens.
44**	Promote the adoption or development of electronic means of payment in order to encourage the use of electronic transactions with the State.
Applications and content	
45*	Ensure that 50% of the entities making up the public administration post relevant, useful and timely information on their portals, including information about decision-making processes, in order to facilitate the government’s relationship with citizens and other stakeholders, or double the current number.
46**	Establish accessibility mechanisms for government portals that guarantee transactions and ensure access for the majority of citizens, eliminating communicational and other barriers.

⁵ LC/R.1243.

47**	Promote electronic contracting mechanisms in the public sector.
48**	Promote the creation of mechanisms for the standardization and consolidation of geo-referenced information in order to provide government, the private sector and all other stakeholders with decision-making tools.

Chapter V: Production sector

Number	Description of measure and level of priority
Framework	
49**	Facilitate access to the necessary resources and capacities for the introduction of ICTs into the production processes of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in order to improve their competitiveness in order to generate decent employment.
50**	Facilitate access to the necessary resources and capacities for the development of technology enterprises (hardware, software, content and services) and stimulate innovation in existing enterprises, with particular priority being placed on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises.
51**	Promote cooperative networks and links among scientific and technological institutions in order to strengthen the adaptation of ICTs and their innovative capacities.
Access	
52**	Identify, develop and promote initiatives to provide access to information and communications technologies (including the Internet, fixed and cellular telephony, and media such as radio and television) and permit their use in the production sector in general and in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in particular with a view to strategic and operational management, increased value added, competitiveness and improved working conditions. In addition, promote or further develop existing initiatives that facilitate individuals' access to ICT devices and the Internet at affordable prices.
53**	Encourage a regional dialogue with the aim of fostering the development of complementary equipment and services for use with products or equipment of extraregional origin so that new technologies will be accessible to small and medium-sized radio broadcasters and new reception equipment will be accessible to the most disadvantaged classes.
Capacities	
54**	Maintain the working group on creative and content industries, take up its proposal for the establishment of an observatory for content industries in the region and promote the search for means of financing its operation. Devise other regional cooperation mechanisms for addressing common challenges, such as those posed by the need to protect cultural heritage, strengthen national identities, finance intangible goods and increase the production capacity for local content that respects cultural diversity and identity.
55**	Promote the development of nationally accredited instructional curricula, as appropriate, for employment-oriented ICT training and promote their adoption by vocational training institutions through the press, radio, television, the Internet and other media within a framework of regional cooperation.
56**	Promote cooperation among universities, vocational training institutions and the private sector in order to deepen scientific knowledge and strengthen the ICT industry in the region.

Applications and content	
57**	Promote the creation of telework, mobile work and other forms of employment via electronic networks, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, by means of appropriate equipment (software and digital services), certified training and the validation of experience. Maintain the working group on telework so that suggestions may be made regarding ways of attaining a normative and administrative framework which includes dispute settlement mechanisms.
58**	Promote the development of a regional portal to provide information on practices in ICT use in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and seek resources for its financing.
59**	Create regional networks using various types of public-private partnerships to promote the development of internationally competitive software, taking into special consideration the local requirements of local productive and social organizational processes, and foster digital inclusion.

Chapter VI: Policy instruments and strategies

Number	Description of measure and level of priority
Framework	
60**	Strengthen national policies for the information society from a regional perspective, including coordination and participation by public agencies, civil society and the private and academic sectors, within their respective roles and areas of responsibility, in the design and dissemination of ICT programmes.
61**	Nominate or confirm and maintain an entity or mechanism to coordinate national strategies for the information society in all the countries of the region and to act as a national focal point.
62**	Prepare comparative studies on the economic and social impacts of ICTs in terms of agendas and policies.
63**	Actively seek out formulas for horizontal and triangular cooperation for the benefit of the countries of the region.
64**	Create links among centres engaging in ICT research and development in order to increase investment in this field.
65**	Continue with the tasks of the working group on financing in order to contribute to the attainment of more and better financial resources for the development of information societies, taking into account the findings of the study entitled “Alternatives for ICT Financing” and the particular defining characteristics of each country in the region.
66**	Continue to carry out work and hold annual technical seminars on ICT statistics, with the participation of national and regional statistical agencies, in order to improve the measurement of information societies in the region in close connection with international advances in the field.
67**	Develop indicators, in consultations with the Governments, on progress made in terms of the multi-participatory approach in national policy processes aimed at the development of the information society.
68**	Request OSILAC to continue the monitoring of activities as a means of identifying best practices, and facilitate the exchange of experiences among public-sector authorities in the region.
69**	Promote concrete actions aimed at affording solidarity and assistance in order to facilitate access to the benefits of the information society for the region’s less developed countries, small island developing States and others faced with special obstacles in their attempts to implement their national strategies for the development of the information society.
70**	Formulate concrete regional initiatives and proposals to overcome obstacles to the effective execution of national strategies for the development of the information society stemming from the current international economic, trade and financial order by exploring formulas such as debt relief for the promotion of investments to enhance infrastructure development and training in ICT use and development.
71**	Request the eLAC Follow-up Mechanism to consult with ITU and relevant

	regional organizations on a periodic basis regarding activities geared towards the appropriate use of the radioelectric spectrum in the interest of the public and of diversity in accordance with the principle of legality and in full compliance with the relevant international laws and agreements, as well as national and international regulations.
72**	<p>Assist the region's various stakeholders to make progress towards fulfilling the principles adopted at the World Summit on the Information Society, particularly those relating to multilateralism, transparency and democracy in e-governance, and maintain the regional working group on e-governance with a view to playing a more active role in international processes and debates and achieving the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote dialogues for regional cooperation regarding experiences and best practices in e-governance at the national and regional levels. Strengthen spheres of collaboration and cooperation between existing governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to enhance capacity-building and information exchange among national and regional stakeholders. • Promote the participation of governments, the private sector, civil society and regional organizations in existing international forums on e-governance with a view to gaining influence and playing an active role in the decision-making processes of those forums. • Strengthen the regional dialogue on aspects of public policy related to e-governance for the benefit of the region based on a people-centred, development-oriented and inclusive vision of the Internet.
73**	Set up a regional working group for the purpose of facilitating an exchange of different social actors' experiences and visions with respect to the relationship between gender and ICTs so as to encourage the formulation of proposals for the development of national and regional ICT initiatives based on a gender perspective that will serve to guide the mainstreaming of the gender perspective in the implementation of eLAC2010.
74**	Renew the mandate of the regional working group on software and maintain the same objectives as those for which it was created.
75**	Design and execute policies to foster the proper development of e-commerce, including policies designed to inform providers and consumers about their rights and obligations.
76**	Promote the progressive allocation of resources for ICT development and for research and development in this area in the region.
77**	Promote the greatest possible access for citizens to public information on a timely basis while respecting cultural, linguistic, disability and other differences in accordance with international standards.
78**	Renew the mandate of the working group on the information society's legal framework to facilitate dialogue and the coordination of various regulatory initiatives at the regional and local levels that may contribute to the region's regulatory harmonization.
79**	Update and expand the PROTIC database in order to facilitate synergies and the

	sharing of experiences.
80**	Invite countries that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations to consider the possibility of ratifying or acceding to that convention.
81**	Invite countries to consider the possibility of ratifying or acceding to the Council of Europe Cybercrime Convention and its Additional Protocol as an instrument to facilitate our integration and regulatory adaptation in this area within the framework of principles of protection of the right to privacy.
82**	Promote the design of national strategies and regulation of technological waste management to deal with the environmental impact of such waste and take advantage of their potential in, inter alia, recycling and rehabilitation programmes, as well as to create a working group to address this subject.
83**	Stimulate the production of interactive and interoperable digital content based on existing initiatives or the creation of new instruments, such as national centres of excellence, attempting to ensure that such initiatives are interoperable in the region, use high-speed networks and generate information available through various channels (cellular telephony, fixed telephony, television, radio, computers, film and others). These initiatives and instruments will seek regional coordination, offering environments in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for the development of and experimentation with interactive digital content, studies, analyses and evaluations of the programmes pursued, arrangements, programme linkages, and technology exchange for the production of digital content. Content production includes exchanges with universities, research and development institutes, and other public or private institutions for the development of educational content, e-health services, e-justice, e-government, e-trade, entertainment and others. It is also proposed that training be provided for stakeholders involved in the formation of new centres of excellence.

ANNEX 1

A. Establishment of the eLAC Regional Follow-up Mechanism

1. The Regional Follow-up Mechanism shall be composed of various levels of coordination:

(a) Presiding Officers

2. The Presiding Officers will constitute a first level of general coordination for the operation of the eLAC platform and shall be composed of representatives of the following four groups of countries until the next Ministerial Conference:

- For Mexico and Central America: El Salvador, Chair
- For the Andean countries: Peru, with the agreement of the Government of Ecuador, Deputy Chair
- For the Southern Cone: Argentina, Deputy Chair
- For the Caribbean: Trinidad and Tobago, Deputy Chair

3. The Presiding Officers shall be responsible for directing the administration of the Follow-up Mechanism and, in particular, the activities of the thematic coordinators and working groups.

4. In accordance with the participation mechanisms established at the World Summit on the Information Society, the Regional Follow-up Mechanism shall invite the following entities to participate as observers in accordance with their respective roles and responsibilities:

- An entity of regional scope selected by consensus by civil society organizations; and
- An entity of regional scope selected by consensus by the private sector.

(b) Thematic coordination

5. The Follow-up Mechanism shall also have a second level of thematic coordination for each of the chapters of the eLAC platform. This level of coordination shall be composed of representatives of the following countries until the next Ministerial Conference:

- Education: Cuba
- Infrastructure and access: Costa Rica
- Health: Mexico
- Public administration: Peru
- Production sector: Uruguay
- Policy instruments and strategies: Bolivia

6. Each of these thematic coordinators will be responsible for monitoring progress towards the goals included in the corresponding chapters, identifying opportunities for collaboration based on the continuation of working groups or creation of new ones, and encouraging the use of collaborative elements, such as forums or other electronic media, including, inter alia, coordination with ECLAC for the preparation of newsletters referring to each chapter and consulting services.

(c) Working groups

7. The working groups established under eLAC 2010 and any such groups created at a later date will form part of the Mechanism.

B. Designation of national focal points

8. By means of a note addressed to ECLAC as the Technical Secretariat, each country shall designate an entity as its national focal point for coordinating work with the Follow-up Mechanism.

9. Each country's national focal point shall have the authority to appoint representatives of that country to the various mechanisms for the implementation of eLAC 2010.

C. Operations

10. At each Ministerial Conference held to monitor eLAC, Presiding Officers will be elected. These Presiding Officers shall include a Chair and three Deputy Chairs for that meeting, with one post for each of the above-mentioned groups of countries. The Chair shall be filled by the host country. One Deputy Chair shall be filled to the outgoing Chair. Another Deputy Chair shall be filled by the country that is to host the following meeting.

11. The Presiding Officers will carry out consultations, as appropriate, with all the region's countries and informally with relevant regional and international organizations before carrying out any action for the implementation of eLAC 2010.

12. The Presiding Officers and the thematic coordinators will provide inputs for a virtual forum which will be maintained with the technical cooperation of ECLAC on an extranet that may be used to post proposals and receive feedback.

D. Decisions relating to ECLAC and other regional agencies, offices or networks

13. We request ECLAC to provide technical support for a the eLAC2010 Follow-up Mechanism through studies, statistics and substantive reports on the information society and associated public policies, the preparation of newsletters, the maintenance and expansion of a collaborative virtual forum. We further request the Economic Commission's cooperation in the organization of technical meetings and the conference to be held to evaluate eLAC2010, along with its preparatory process.

14. We request that ECLAC provide technical support to the Presiding Officers so that synergies may be sought with initiatives of international agencies that may contribute to achievement of the goals set out in eLAC2010. The Presiding Officers shall consult the member States regarding any such initiatives.

ANNEX 2⁶

Non-comprehensive list of institutions and entities active in the areas addressed by each measure

⁶ To be distributed by the Technical Secretariat within one week's time.