FACTSHEET

What is the Session?

The Session is a conference held every two years that steers the work of ECLAC. It gathers ministerial and technical delegates of its member and associate States to discuss issues related to the region's economic, social and environmental development, examine the activities carried out by ECLAC in the preceding biennium, and set the priorities of its programme of work for the following two years. Every session is held in a different member State, which acts as host, but in 2020 it will be held virtually (online) for the first time in the history of the Commission.

ECLAC's Thirty-eighth session of ECLAC will take place on October 26-28, 2020. Government delegates and representatives of United Nations specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and special guests, including prominent economists from the region, are expected to attend.

The main working document to be analyzed by delegates to the Session is Building a new future: transformative recovery with equality and sustainability, which proposes a strategy for a big push for sustainable development in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Given the existence of a crisis in international governance, a crisis of inequality and the environmental crisis—all three simultaneously—, as well as the impacts of the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the need is evident to move in the direction of a new development pattern capable of overcoming these. With this in mind, the document offers guidelines and public policy proposals that link up the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental, focusing on the synergies between them.