



## BIOGRAPHY

## José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs

## **Executive Secretary of ECLAC**



José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, of Costa Rica, was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres as Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. He will take charge of his new position as from October of the current year.

Mr. Salazar-Xirinachs served as Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Labour Organization (ILO) from 2015-2018. He joined the ILO in 2005 as Executive Director of its Employment Sector and served as Assistant Director General for Policy from 2013 to 2015.

Prior to joining the ILO, he served from 1998 to 2005 as Director of the Trade Unit of the Organization of American States (OAS). Mr. Salazar was Minister of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica from 1997 to 1998, Executive President of the Costa Rican Development Corporation from 1988-1990 and Chief Economist and then Executive Director of a Central American private sector think tank (FEDEPRICAP) from 1990-1996. He was also a Member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Costa Rica from 1995 to 1997.



## Thirty-ninth session of ECLAC



Born in 1953, Mr. Salazar-Xirinachs has a Master of Philosophy Degree in Development Economics and Doctorate in Economics from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom; he also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Costa Rica. He has taught at the Universities of Costa Rica; the National University of Heredia, Costa Rica; Cambridge University, United Kingdom, England, and Georgetown University, Washington D.C. He is also the author of numerous journal articles on development, trade, productive transformation, competitiveness and employment policies, and has written and edited several books.

He was also a member of the Advisory Panel for the 2010 Human Development Report (UNDP, New York), a member of the Board of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (Geneva) and a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Trade and Financial Architecture Project chaired by the former President of Mexico Ernesto Zedillo.