Guidelines for the interventions of the ministers of foreign affairs and high-level authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean

(Centro Cultural Kirchner, Wednesday, 26 October, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (Buenos Aires time))

It is a great honour for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Government of Argentina that you will participate in the thirty-ninth session of the Commission and, in particular, in the Dialogue of ministers of foreign affairs and high-level authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, under item 10 of the provisional agenda.

The economic, social and sustainability situation of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in 2022 is determined, not only by their internal dynamics but also by almost two decades of external shocks that, despite having different signs and intensities from one country to another, have deteriorated the investment and production conditions in the region in a context of persistent uncertainty. These shocks include the international financial crisis of 2008-2009, the economic tensions between the United States and Europe, on the one hand, and China, on the other, as of 2017, the crisis of the coronavirus disease pandemic (COVID-19), as of 2020, environmental deterioration and the current war in Ukraine.

The conjunction of shocks of different nature and duration has resulted in changes that have fed each other, have weakened globalization as the engine of growth and have led to geopolitical reasons prevailing over efficiency reasons. All this in a context in which two megatrends continue to modify the parameters of sustainable development: the environmental emergency and the technological revolution.

In the light of this scenario, critical thought must be given to the exit strategy for these crises. If the region's pre-pandemic economic and social trajectory reveals anything, it is that a successful exit strategy cannot simply be a return to the status quo.

Due to the high number of confirmations received from ministries of foreign affairs, the floor will be given to those ministers of foreign affairs and high-level authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean present for no more than five (5) minutes, so that they can share their thoughts on these topics.

It is worth noting, that this will be the first opportunity of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, to share with the ministers of foreign affairs his views on the challenges of the region and the role of ECLAC in this regard.
Date and time: Wednesday, 26 October 2022: 9 a.m.–1 p.m. (Buenos Aires time) To see the time in your country, you can check: https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/?low=c&sort=1.

Chair: Santiago Cafiero, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina

Order of speakers: The secretariat will prepare a list of speakers which will be circulated to delegations on 25 October, as follows:

- Santiago Cafiero, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina (5 minutes)
- Statement by José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary of ECLAC (5 minutes)
- Statements by ministers of foreign affairs of Latin America and the Caribbean, in the alphabetical order of the names of their countries in Spanish (5 minutes)
- Statement by Josep Borrell, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union and Vice-President of the Commission (5 minutes)
- Statements by ministers and other high-level authorities of members of ECLAC other than Latin America and the Caribbean (5 minutes)

Languages: The interventions can be made in Spanish, English or French, according to your preference. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in those three languages.

Statements: You are kindly requested to send a written version of your statement by email to secretariadelacomision@cepal.org, so that it can be posted on the Commission's website for the session after delivery.

Documentation: The documentation for the thirty-ninth session of ECLAC is available on the ECLAC website https://periododesesiones.cepal.org/39/en