XX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean

28-31 March 2016. Cartagena, Colombia

**Decision 1. Latin American and the Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development: Moving together towards a Sustainable Future**

The Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean gathered at the XX meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean:

**Decide**

1. **To adopt** the update of the Latin American and the Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development, as follows:
2. **Background**
3. Almost 15 years after its adoption by the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC) has played a pivotal role in making sustainable development one of the top priorities in the region. ILAC has been the source of a wide range wide range of programmes and projects focused on promoting, facilitating and enabling the integration of the social, economic and environmental dimensions at various levels, from local to national and regional.
4. ILAC has also served as a regional platform for the implementation of multilateral agreements, such as the Agenda 21 (adopted at the [Earth Summit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Summit) held in [Rio de Janeiro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rio_de_Janeiro), [Brazil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil), in 1992); the Barbados Programme of Action (adopted by the 1994 United Nations Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States), and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action – the Samoa Pathway (adopted at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Apia on 1st to 4th September 2014). In particular, since its inception 10 years after Rio-92, ILAC has helped to identify and propose solutions to some of the most pressing sustainable development challenges to be met in the region. The recently adopted 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development[[1]](#footnote-1) provides a new framework for action; it is in this context that the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean have decided to renew, affirm and strengthen the ILAC as a strategic initiative to effectively support the region in advancing towards the promotion of sustainable development, taking into account the different approaches, visions and tools to achieve this end.
5. The ILAC has promoted actions at national and regional level to address environmental challenges of the region. Likewise, it has supported the mobilisation of resources for cooperation, including South-South cooperation, aimed at strengthening the capacities of environmental authorities, institutions and other stakeholders to promote the integration of environmental sustainability into policies and programmes. Some examples of the accomplishments, which provide the foundations for a new phase of the ILAC, include the following:
6. Progress on the mainstreaming of environmental sustainability in development and sectoral planning and programming at the national level and strengthening of the institutional capacity on environment at the subregional, national and local levels.
7. The establishment of networks[[2]](#footnote-2) of experts on ILAC priority areas, which have allowed the exchange of experiences, knowledge and information. These networks have focused on capacity building activities, experiences sharing and technical assistance, mostly on the basis of South-South cooperation, with the support of the Interagency Technical Committee.
8. The positioning of the interests and priorities of the region in international political fora and negotiations. This includes the joint contributions, according to the countries’ interests, to the development of an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing, reflected in the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity; the regional meetings of climate change negotiators to share views, identify and discuss elements of convergence with regard to the international negotiations; the regional contribution to the adoption of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) in Rio+20; and, the region´s leadership in the negotiations of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, among others.
9. The progress made in the development, adoption and implementation of a framework of ILAC indicators, which has contributed to the development and consolidation of the National Environmental Information Systems in some countries of the region, becoming one of the focal areas for cooperation, transfer of technologies and improvement of capacities. The results obtained will support the implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Sustainable Development Goals’ indicators to be agreed in 2016.
10. The implementation of specific actions through the cooperation of developed countries, multilateral and regional organizations, including financing and strengthening of South-South cooperation.
11. South-South cooperation activities promoted through the implementation of joint projects at the regional and subregional levels, and the development of technical studies and evaluations for informed decision-making on environmental policies, such as assessments on the environmental situation at regional, subregional or local levels, and others on emerging and priority issues for the region.
12. **ILAC Objectives**
13. In light of the results of the implementation of ILAC, as well as the commitments made by the region in the multilateral framework, and changes at regional and global levels**,** the objectives of the Latin American and the Caribbean Initiative are as follows:
14. To consolidate the ILAC as a platform for regional cooperation and dialogue for the monitoring of and feedback into the agreements adopted by the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, taking account of the decisions adopted by other relevant high-level policy dialogue spaces, aiming to avoid duplication of efforts towards fast-tracking the implementation of sustainable development solutions in Latin America and the Caribbean.
15. To support efforts that aim to eradicate poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.
16. To continue and deepen the efforts in selected thematic areas, based on the political will of States, to stimulate the active participation of the private sector and civil society and other forms of social organisation, and therefore mobilise resources and promote investments to support the achievement of the SDGs and the INDCs, applicable to those countries which have submitted it, in accordance with national capacities and policies.
17. To promote, in accordance with national capacities and policies, the implementation of sustainable development models backed by public policies and enabling conditions, which facilitate the development and application of science and clean technologies, financing sources, human resources capacity-building, and institutional strengthening for sustainable development.
18. Periodically monitor and analyse information and knowledge management on the progress made by the region towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account each country's social, economic, environmental and political conditions;
19. To contribute to identifying and prioritising financial, technological, technical and institutional mechanisms, and the creation of capacity to effectively implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Samoa Pathway; and,
20. To contribute to the dialogue in the framework of the United Nations Environment Assembly.
21. This Initiative will also identify mutually agreed themes for cooperation with ministerial fora from other regions, such as the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Asia and Pacific and the Council of Ministers of the Middle Eastern Region, among others, and will also promote partnerships amongst multiple stakeholders.
22. **Priority Areas, Guiding Goals and Indicative Purposes**
23. The proposals for action identified in this Initiative aim at the full and comprehensive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They may guide future cooperation and high-level political dialogue on policies for Latin American and Caribbean countries in terms on sustainable development imperatives, taking into consideration the progress that has already been made. The region recognises that, to fully achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, means of implementation and possible partnerships must be identified and mobilised, both from national and international sources. The Guiding Goals and Indicative Purposesare presented below:
24. **Protection and restoration of ecosystems and their biological diversity.**

* Ecosystems

1. By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements (SDG 15.1)
2. By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally (SDG 15.2).

* Territory under protected areas

1. Create the conditions to ensure the comprehensive and effective management of network of protected areas administered by the countries in the region, in an effective and equitable manner, including, as correspond, transition zones and biological corridors in line with target 11 of the Aichi Targets.
2. Enhance the effective protection of existing designated terrestrial and marine protected areas through south-south cooperation and capacity building initiatives.

* *Genetic resources - Equitable sharing of benefits*.

1. Promote mechanisms and regulatory frameworks for access to genetic resources, as well as for fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from their use, including the protection of associated traditional knowledge, compatible with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol, in accordance with national legislation.
2. Promote cooperation, information exchange, awareness raising and the enabling conditions to assure that the sustainable use of genetic resources, the protection of associated traditional knowledge and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits comply with national legislations compatible with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol, in accordance with national legislation.
3. Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities (SDG 15c).
4. By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forest, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and restoration globally (SDG 15.2).

* *Marine biodiversity*

1. Ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources in the region, with particular emphasis on marine and coastal ecosystems.
2. Collaborate to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries, to allow the recovery of highly impacted ecosystems and promote activities such as sustainable artisanal fishing which also contributes to the eradication of poverty.
3. **Water resources management**

* Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all – all SDG 6

1. By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (SDG 6.1).
2. By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations (SDG 6.2).
3. By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally (SDG 6.3).
4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater (SDG 6.4).
5. By 2030 Implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate (SDG 6.5).
6. By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes (SDG 6.6).
7. By 2030, guarantee the responsible participation of the private sector in the efficient use of water and establish mechanisms to solve conflicts when private use collides with the accomplishment of the objectives described above.

* *Watershed management*.

1. Improve at national level the institutional arrangements for the integrated management of water basins and aquifers, among other measures, by strengthening basin organisations and establishing water basin committees with the participation of all subnational levels of government, civil society, the private sector and all involved stakeholders.

* *Management of marine and coastal areas and their resources*.

1. Implement local, sub-national and national action plans to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, and adopt measures for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
2. By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution (SDG 14.1).
3. Adopt a holistic and integrated approach to the management of marine ecosystems, through the development of a comprehensive strategy for their conservation and sustainable use.
4. By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information in each country (SDG 14.5).
5. Develop and strengthen national systems to address overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
6. **Climate change**
7. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries through, among others, accessing resources for and stepping up investments in adaptation, including ecosystem-based approaches, and participatory or community-based approaches as appropriate.
8. Develop and strengthen policies and programmes towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement, that will be applicable to those country that become Parties, through among others: the implementation of the iNDCs, for those countries submitting them; the improvement of the sustainability of the energy mix in many countries; the mobilisation of resources for the public and private investment in clean technologies; acquisition, adaption and deployment of appropriate technology; and, strengthening of human and institutional capacity, including the design, and enforcement of climate change legislation.
9. Mainstreaming climate change measures into all relevant national policies, strategies and planning, and national budgets.
10. Develop cooperation projects on adaptation, mitigation, loss and damages, creation of capacities and technology transfer, towards a resilient and low-carbon development. Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning (SDG 13.3).
11. **Vulnerability, human settlements and sustainable cities**

* *Land-use planning*.

1. Implement land-use planning policies and plans from a sustainable development approach.
2. Incorporate risk management instruments in land-use planning.
3. Promote sustainable urban-rural linkages in land-use policies and plans.

* *Sustainable, resilient and inclusive cities*

1. Substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters.
2. Implement integral programmes towards sustainably in cities regarding, among others, proper management of solid waste and sanitation, urban energy supplies, building efficiency codes, improvement of air quality and transport systems.
3. Implement programmes to ensure access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all.
4. By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities (SDG 11.7).

* *Air pollution*.

1. Regulate, monitor and control the pollutant emission sources to reduce the concentration in the air of polluting emissions, according to goals and capacities of countries.

* *Waste*

1. By 2030 reduce significantly waste generation through policies for prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, according to the countries’ targets and capacities (SDG 12.5).
2. Implement integrated management of wastes, including appropriate treatment and final disposal, according to goals and capacities of countries.

* *Vulnerability to anthropogenic disasters and those caused by natural phenomena.*

1. Implement and strengthen regional risk management cooperation mechanisms to lessen the impact of anthropogenic disasters and those caused by natural phenomena, including setting up a regional early warning system and forming immediate response groups, in accordance with the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Management.
2. By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations (SDG 11.5).
3. Mainstream disaster risk reduction strategies in national development plans.

* *Vulnerability and risk management*

1. Refine and apply vulnerability indicators and map the most vulnerable areas at the regional level in accordance to the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Management.
2. Incorporate vulnerability and resilience indicators into national development plans.
3. **Social issues, including health, inequity and poverty**

* *Poverty and inequity.*

1. By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.25 a day (SDG 1.1).
2. By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions (SDG 1.2).
3. Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable (SDG 1.3).
4. By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance (SDG 1.4).
5. By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters (SDG 1.5).
6. Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions (SDG 1a).
7. Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions (SDG 1b).
8. By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round (SDG 2.1)
9. By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality (SDG 2.4)
10. By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed (SDG 2.5).

* *Health and environment.*

1. Implement policies and plans to reduce environmental risks that cause damage to health, in particular those transmitted by water, vectors, air pollution, paying special attention to sanitary factors affecting countries, considering in particular the situation in Haiti in relation to the proliferation of transmittable diseases, and exposure to chemical substances and hazardous waste.
2. By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment (SDG 12.4).
3. Increase the proportion of green and healthy areas per inhabitant.

* *Environment and job creation*.

1. Promote the formulation and implementation of sustainable development projects and programmes that will help to create jobs.
2. Support the development of climate-resilient and sustainable livelihood opportunities in local communities.
3. **Economic issues, including competitiveness, trade and sustainable patterns of consumption and production**

* 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP)

1. Improve progressively, through 2030, resource efficiency and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, to support equitable inclusive economic growth.
2. By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources (SDG 12.2).
3. Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
4. By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature (SDG 12.8).
5. Increase the regional contribution to the development and implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) and the SDGs and increase the regional participation in the development and implementation of the 10YFP programmes, considering the region’s and each country priorities.
6. Provide further support for the development and/or implementation of regional, subregional and national SCP strategies/programmes with an active inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder engagement, in accordance with national mechanisms.
7. Consolidate and strengthen the regional network of Cleaner Production and Resource Efficiency Centres, in order to scale up the adoption of key SCP approaches.
8. By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities (SDG 9.4).
9. Promote awareness raising and the enabling conditions (regulatory, economic and infrastructural) to adopt sustainable lifestyles in harmony with nature at regional, subregional and national levels.

* *Energy*.

1. By 2030, guarantee universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services (SDG 7.1).
2. By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the energy mix (SDG 7.2).
3. By 2030, substantially increase energy efficiency in the region.

* *Economic instruments*.

1. Strengthen the use of economic and financial instruments to promote greater resource efficiency and an inclusive and sustainable growth.
2. Development of methodologies for the identification and promotion investments that maximize the economic, environmental and social benefits.
3. Evaluate instruments and mechanisms to support to redirect investment in key economic sectors, as well as enhance sustainable productive and industrial processing that will save natural resources and energy and eventually reduce the amount of effluents discharged into water, land and the air.
4. **Governance and institutional arrangements**

* Governance

1. Develop and implement regulatory frameworks and sectoral regulations that include appropriate instruments and mechanisms to implement sustainable development policies, programmes and projects, in accordance with national laws.
2. Strengthen mechanisms and institutional coordination for compliance with and enforcement of environment law.

* *Environmental education*.

1. Improve and strengthen the incorporation of the environmental dimension into formal and non-formal education.
2. Incorporate environmental sustainability as cross-cutting issue in primary, secondary and university education.

* *Training and capacity building of human resources*.

1. Build capacities to address vulnerabilities in the region.
2. Establish programmes for capacity building and the creation of new skills needed for the public and private sectors and at the community level, thorough cooperation.
3. Build capacity among financial institutions in environmental and social risk analysis.

* *Evaluation and indicators.*

1. Strengthen environmental information systems and effectively integrate them into national information systems for sustainable development.
2. Develop and implement an outreach mechanism on the goals and targets, to follow up the progress made towards attaining the Sustainable Development Goals, adopting national and regional sustainable development indicators that respond to the region's and each country’s unique social, economic and political features.

* *Participation of society*.

1. Establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure that environmental information is available to the public in a clear and accessible manner.
2. Establish and strengthen participation mechanisms to deal with sustainable development issues, with representatives from government, non-government and the new forms of social organisation in accordance with national realities, in all countries of the region, in accordance with Principle 10.
3. Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle (SDG 12.6).
4. Incorporate society as a protagonist, in its various forms of organization, to the plans, programmes and projects conducive to achieving the objectives of SDGs.
5. **Guiding principles for the Initiative**
6. The operational guidelines of this Initiative are:
7. Make progress in the accomplishment of the multilateral commitments, including those under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Samoa Pathway, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Doha Declaration, as well as those reflected in the multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant global agreements;
8. Highlight the challenges that the countries of the region face as middle‐income economies, particularly with regard to access to technologies and financing under preferential terms without conditions.
9. Ensure the full implementation of Rio Principle 10, , strengthening the participation of relevant all relevant type of social organisations, in accordance with the reality of each country, and the transparency in the decision-making processes and supported by adequate and relevant education, knowledge and skills.
10. Contribute to an inclusive, resource efficient and resilient economic growth to face potential global and regional crises;
11. By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries. (17.19)
12. Recognize, demonstrate and incorporate the capacities of regeneration of ecosystems, environmental functioning and environmental services in decision making processes in public and private prioritizing based on the environmental, social and economic impacts.
13. Establish new and strengthen existing public-private partnerships and/or scientific panels to promote the technical, technological and scientific progress contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and the implementation of an integrated approach to sustainable development.
14. Promote a participatory and inclusive follow‐up and monitoring process of ILAC.
15. Fully implement the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities of States, and the respect for the sovereign rights of each country over its natural resources.
16. Reiterate the commitment to the precautionary principle as defined in the Rio Declaration, as a key component of environmental policy, so as to safeguard our natural and social heritage;
17. Urge developed countries to fulfil their commitment to support Small Island Developing States of the region in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and countries of the region to support its implementation through regional cooperation and other means as appropriate.
18. Mobilise resources and assistance from national and multilateral financial institutions, and global, regional and subregional cooperation organizations, as well as the private sector, including the financial sector, to support programmes and projects identified in the framework of this Initiative, in accordance with the legislation of each country.
19. These guidelines will be followed when implementing the programmes and projects intended to face the region's sustainable development challenges, by:
20. Supporting the implementation of public policies aimed at promoting inclusive economic growth eradicating poverty and reducing social inequality while maintaining the healthy functioning of the Earths ecosystems, by increasing resource efficiency, creating jobs and new opportunities for a sustainable development.
21. Implementing integrated human health and environment measures to ensure that more recognition is given to the health and well-being of the people of the region, and that those measures are systematically and effectively translated into policies and programmes.
22. Underlining the urgency to achieve sustainable consumption and production patterns and its related economic, social and environmental benefits, promoting the enabling conditions for governments, enterprises and consumers to apply approaches and behaviours that imply social and environmental responsibilities.
23. Creating or strengthening, in accordance with the countries’ capacities, regulatory, economic, tax and fiscal instruments to incentivize progress toward sustainable development, as well as stimulating the adoption, by governments and the productive sector, of voluntary instruments in order to create the enabling conditions for sustainable development.
24. Initiating or continuing, as appropriate, environmental or natural resources evaluation processes to make better use of the region’s comparative advantages, incorporating sustainability indicators related to environmental liabilities and assets to permit their inclusion in national accounting systems and the metrics of sustainable development.
25. Initiate or continue, as appropriate, the characterization of ecosystem functioning and services and the non-monetary valuation processes of the natural resources.
26. Strengthening cooperation with regional, sub-regional and national institutions, as well as sub-national mechanisms, to implement, follow up and monitor policies, programmes and projects deriving from this Initiative.
27. Formulating strategies to promote the transfer and development of appropriate technologies, and developing South-South and triangular cooperation for capacity building, knowledge sharing and education activities across all ILAC goals.

1. As a follow-up, on 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, which also seeks to strengthen universal peace and access to justice. Member States of the United Nations adopted a resolution recognising that the greatest challenge in the world today is to eradicate poverty. They reaffirmed that ““Poverty eradication, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development”. The Agenda 2030 proposes 17 Goals and 169 targets for Sustainable Development, integrated and indivisible, and encompassing economic, social and environmental dimensions. In this regard, States expressed their resolve to protect the planet against degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, inclusive and quality education, sustainable management of natural resources and urgent measures to address climate change, in order to meet the needs of present and future generations; and to ensure that all human beings can enjoy a prosperous and fulfilling life. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The network of ILAC environmental indicators, which has identified indicators to measure progress in its implementation, as well as common methodologies; the Council of Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production, which was key for the approval of the Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Conference on Sustainable Development, 2012, and that actively participates in its implementation; the Intergovernmental Network on Atmospheric Pollution, whose work led to the adoption and implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on Atmospheric Pollution; the Environmental Training Network through which an active community of practice has been consolidated among education units of Ministries of Environment, resulting in the exchange of experiences on policies and programmes on environmental education at national and local level as well as increased cooperation between universities and ministries of environment in the development of environmental indicators of universities. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)