



Santiago, 18 February 2009

To: National Statistical Offices
ICT related Ministries
Partnership on Measuring ICT for development
National / Regional / International organizations involved in ICT measurement

Subject: Fifth Regional Workshop on Information Society Measurement in Latin America and the Caribbean

Dear Madam/Sir:

It is our pleasure to invite you to the **Fifth Regional Workshop on Information Society Measurement in Latin America and the Caribbean** that will take place on April 6, 7 and 8, 2009 in Rio de Janeiro. The workshop is organized by OSILAC, the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (initiative from UN ECLAC, with the support of ICA-IDRC / @LIS-EU), in collaboration with the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), SOFTEX, and the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee. Additionally, OSILAC is aligned with the regional and international cooperation program of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA) of ECLAC and with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development.

This Fifth Workshop is part of a series of events that OSILAC organizes annually as a response to regional and international requests for having technical seminars with National and Regional Organizations in charge of statistics, in order to discuss the issue of the information society measurement. These requests have been stipulated in goal 66 of the Plan of Action eLAC2010, which was approved during the Second Ministerial Conference on Information Society, held in San Salvador from February 6 to 8, 2008.

The main purposes of the forthcoming workshop are: (1) to highlight the progress made in the elaboration and analysis of indicators on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) access and usage, in the countries of the region, (2) to discuss and agree on the revised version of the Compendium of Practices on the implementation of ICT questions in household and business surveys, (3) to discuss and analyze the revised list of ICT core indicators for measuring the Information Society; (4) to present the ITU Manual on ICT Households Statistics and the revised UNCTAD Manual on ICT Business Statistics; (5) to agree on next steps in the process of elaborating new indicators that allow the monitoring of eLAC2010 goals; (6) to discuss the importance of harmonized indicators for the development of public policies and to review practical examples from countries; (7) to plan the future activities of the group, including relevant work in order to monitor advances towards Latin American and Caribbean information societies.

For further information on this event, please contact Ms. Alejandra Cáceres via e-mail: alejandra.caceres@cepal.org or phone: +562-210 2649.

Sincerely yours,

Luis Beccaria, Director
División de Estadística y Proyecciones
Económicas

Martine Dirven, Oficial a cargo
División de Desarrollo Productivo y
Empresarial