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VIRTUAL EDITION
**XI AMERICAS
COMPETITIVENESS
FORUM**
ECUADOR - FEBRUARY 25, 2021

PRELIMINARY AGENDA - AMERICAS COMPETITIVENESS FORUM

Re-Defining the Competitiveness Agenda in the Americas:
Imperatives for a Post-COVID Recovery
Thursday, February 25, 2021

MORNING SESSION (9:00 am to 1:00 pm Washington, D.C. Time, EST)

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Registration and Connectivity Test

9:00 am – 9:30 am

Opening Ceremony

Welcome: Iván Fernando Ontaneda Berrú, Minister of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment, and Fisheries, Government of Ecuador, Chair Pro Tempore of RIAC

Opening Remarks

Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS)

Official Opening

H.E. Lenín Moreno, President of the Republic of Ecuador

9:30 am – 11:00 am

RIAC Plenary Meeting of Ministers, High-Level Authorities and Competitiveness Councils of the Americas

3 minutes presentations from delegations pre-registered to Share Solutions and Proposals for Economic Recovery and the New Competitiveness Agenda of the Americas regarding one of the following topics:

- Digital Transformation and SME and Citizen Readiness;
- Innovation-driven Business Development and Empowering Entrepreneurs;
- Improving the Regulatory Environment, Trade Facilitation and Regional Value Chains;
- Climate Adaptation and Post-COVID Recovery.

11:00 am – 11:10 am Pause – Transition between sessions (10 minutes)



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11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Ministerial Dialogue with Senior Executives from the Private Sector: Opportunities for the Americas in Strategic Sectors Post-COVID

11:10 am – 12:00 pm

3 minutes presentation from private sector representatives about the needs, opportunities, and priorities to accelerate a Post-COVID recovery in the Americas

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Dialogue between the private sector and ministerial authorities regarding priorities and strategic opportunities for the region's economic recovery Post-COVID

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm LUNCH BREAK

AFTERNOON SESSION (2:00 pm to 4:30 pm Washington, D.C. Time, EST)

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm Special Key Note Presentation

Competitiveness in the Next Economy, 2021 Report of the U.S. Council on Competitiveness
Deborah L. Wince-Smith
President and CEO of the U.S. Council on Competitiveness

2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

Presentation and Dialogue on Vulnerability and Resiliency of the Export Sector of Ecuador, Government of Ecuador and the OAS

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm

Presentation and Dialogue on Resiliency and Challenges for the Caribbean Tourism Sector

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm

**Closing Remarks. RIAC Priorities for Post-COVID Recovery in the Americas
Chair Pro Tempore of RIAC, Government of Ecuador**

Friday, February 26, 2021. Parallel Events to the ACF

9:00 am – 11:00 am (Washington, D.C. Time, EST)

ACE Meet-up: The Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) as the Premier Economic Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Network of the Americas #ACXchange

11:00 am – 12:00 pm (Washington D.C., Time, EST)

Presentation of the Study on Digital Transformation for Economic Recovery, Group of Experts on Subnational Competitiveness (GTECS), OAS.