

SC012/01-2024

Hamburg, 14 February, 2024

Distinguished Minister,

We are pleased to greet you and extend a cordial invitation to participate in the High-Level Dialogue "Foundations for a Bi-Regional Pact of Care between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union", which is organised by the EU-LAC Foundation, ECLAC, UN Women, in partnership with the National Institute of Women of Mexico, the Global Alliance for Care and UNDP. This in-person event will take place on 14 March 2024 at 09:30-11:30 (EST) at the Instituto Cervantes in New York (211 East 49th Street).

The objective of the high-level dialogue is to provide a space for authorities and country representatives to exchange their perspectives on a proposal for closer cooperation between the two regions in the field of care, based on different elements such as technical cooperation, studies and analysis, and policy dialogue.

The dialogue is convened in the context of the 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), taking advantage of the presence of representatives of the EU Member States, the EU and Latin American and Caribbean countries in New York.

It would be an honour for us to count on your participation in this dialogue. Your contributions would be greatly appreciated in this discussion, which will be of significant importance to disseminate the proposal and the contents that the Pact could contain, as well as to agree on the next steps to advance towards the inclusion of the Pact in the agenda of the next EU-CELAC Summit of Heads of State to be held in Colombia in 2025.

We invite you to prepare a short intervention of no **more than five minutes in English or Spanish for the opening dialogue session moderated by Ms Leire Pajín, President of the EU-LAC Foundation,** focusing on the following guiding questions:

- Despite the diversity that exists in the approach and design of care systems between European, Latin American and Caribbean countries, what could be, from your perspective, a common agenda and shared needs?
- How can your government promote the Bi-regional Pact for Care between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union and promote joint actions between both regions?
- What areas do you see as priorities for your government in the implementation of a biregional Pact for Care and how could your country contribute?
- What, from your perspective, could be the next steps in view of the next CELAC-EU Summit scheduled to take place in 2025 in Colombia? What are the challenges and opportunities to advance this proposal?

For more information you can find the concept note and the tentative agenda in the attachment.

I would be grateful if you **could confirm your participation until 20 February 2024** with my colleagues Dr Anna Barrera, Director of Programmes at the EU-LAC Foundation (<u>abarrera@eulacfoundation.org</u>) and Marta Castro, consultant for the EU-LAC Women's International Network (<u>eulacwin@eulacfoundation.org</u>), who can also answer any questions related to this event.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leire Pajín Iraola President EU-LAC Foundation