



II Latin America and the Caribbean-China Development Forum: mutual learning in modernisation and high-level cooperation Rapporteur's Report

Economic Recovery

Lima, Peru

11 June 2025

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El [II Latin America and the Caribbean-China Development Forum: mutual learning in modernisation and high-level cooperation](#) was held on 11 June 2025 in Lima, Peru, as a follow-up to the process initiated in 2024 in Beijing. Organised by SELA, the Andean Community (CAN) and the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) of CASS, the event brought together high-level representatives, academics, regional organisations and key development actors to strengthen bi-regional dialogue and promote strategic and sustainable cooperation.

I. MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

During the speeches by the Latin American and Caribbean delegations, a vision focused on the comprehensive development of the region was highlighted, emphasising the following areas:

1. Cooperation for development, especially in technology
The need to move towards cooperation that transcends trade in raw materials was emphasised, promoting technology transfer, knowledge sharing and innovation applied to productive and social processes.
2. Infrastructure development
The delegations stressed the urgency of strengthening physical and digital infrastructure, with an emphasis on ports, transport, logistics connectivity and digital networks, as a basis for improving regional competitiveness and integration with Asia.
3. Investment in energy
Chinese investment in energy projects, with an emphasis on renewable energy, was viewed positively. A call was made to increase this type of investment, promoting sustainable schemes with local value added.
4. Environmental preservation
The regional delegations reaffirmed the regional commitment to environmental sustainability and proposed strengthening environmental cooperation with China in the context of the fight against climate change and the protection of natural resources.
5. Improving trade balance with China
Several participants highlighted the need to diversify the region's exports and move towards a more balanced trade relationship, which would reduce current asymmetries by increasing trade in higher value-added products.
6. Development of the agricultural sector
The enormous agricultural potential of Latin America and the Caribbean as a source of safe, healthy and sustainable food was emphasised. Greater cooperation was recommended to improve access to agricultural technology, biotechnology and more efficient export channels.
7. Digitalisation and technology
Regional delegations stressed the importance of digital transformation as the basis for inclusive development and proposed advancing partnerships that facilitate connectivity, digital skills training and cybersecurity.

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II. MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CHINA

On behalf of the People's Republic of China, principles and proposals aimed at strengthening bi-regional ties were reaffirmed:

1. **Mutual support**
Emphasis was placed on the need to consolidate a relationship based on respect, shared benefits and non-interference, strengthening mutual support in international forums and in the implementation of joint projects.
2. **Support for multilateralism**
A firm defence of the multilateral system as a tool for resolving global challenges was expressed, and the role of Latin America and the Caribbean as relevant partners in building a more just and equitable international order was highlighted.
3. **Reducing barriers to trade**
The Chinese delegation proposed identifying mechanisms to eliminate obstacles to trade, both from a regulatory and operational perspective, improving the efficiency of logistics and customs flows.
4. **Reducing tariffs**
It was suggested that progress be made on agreements to reduce tariffs and entry costs for Latin American products in the Chinese market, with an emphasis on agricultural goods, processed foods and green products.
5. **Trade and investment facilitation**
China reiterated its willingness to increase investment in key sectors such as infrastructure, technology, energy and services, as well as to promote the simplification of procedures to facilitate the participation of companies from both regions.

III. COMMON GROUND AND JOINT COMMITMENTS

Both sides agreed on the need to give greater institutionality to the bi-regional dialogue process. In this context, the following agreements were reached:

- **Institutionalisation of the LAC-China Forum**
It was agreed to establish the Forum as a permanent space for strategic dialogue, with regular meetings and a technical and political follow-up mechanism. The third edition will be held in Beijing, consolidating the alternation of venues.
- **Publication of results**
The preparation and subsequent publication of a document containing the conclusions and proposals of the Forum was announced, to be used as a basis for the design of joint policies and the orientation of future investments.

IV. CLOSING

The Forum concluded with strong political and technical support for strengthening ties between the Latin American and Caribbean region and China, highlighting the willingness of both parties to build a modern, inclusive relationship focused on sustainable development. The organisers reaffirmed their commitment to working towards a cooperation framework that translates common ground into concrete, sustainable projects that benefit both parties.