



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF BELIZE ASSUMES PRO TEMPORE PRESIDENCY OF CENTROESTAD

Belmopan City, July 15, 2026 – The Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) will serve as the Pro Tempore President of the Central American Statistical Commission (CENTROESTAD) from July to December 2026, succeeding the Dominican Republic. The official handover took place during the 31st Ordinary Meeting of CENTROESTAD, held from 8 to 12 June 2026.

CENTROESTAD is the statistical Commission of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and brings together the heads of the national statistical offices of its member countries. The Commission works to promote timely, comparable, and high-quality regional statistics. Its presidency rotates every six months among member states. During Belize's term as President, the Institute will help set the Commission's agenda, coordinate meetings and trainings, and advance the implementation of priorities agreed upon by its members.

"The SIB is honored to assume Pro Tempore Presidency of CENTROESTAD on behalf of the country of Belize," said Ms. Diana Castillo, Director-General of the Statistical Institute of Belize. "In this capacity, we are committed to continue working closely with the SICA Secretariat and our counterpart national statistical offices to advance the work of strengthening official statistics for evidence-based decision-making across the countries of the SICA region through the implementation of the CENTROESTAD plan of activities for the remainder of this year."

At the June meeting, members reviewed the development of municipal maps to support nutrition-related decision-making, led by the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP). They discussed a platform to track investment in water, sanitation, and hygiene. Mexico's INEGI also presented a pilot project, run with the National Institute of Statistics of Honduras, that uses artificial intelligence to help code economic activity in household surveys.

To learn more about the Statistical Institute of Belize and its work, visit www.sib.org.bz.

MEDIA CONTACT

Javier Romero

Communications and Marketing Officer

Statistical Institute of Belize

jromero@mail.sib.org.bz

+501 822 2207 ext. 209

END