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**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION
OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION**

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I. ORGANIZATION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

The twenty-ninth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) will be held in Brasilia, Brazil, from 6 to 10 May 2002. By a resolution adopted at the twenty-eighth session (Mexico City, 3-7 April 2000) and subsequently approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2000/8, the member States accepted the offer of the Government of Brazil to host the session. The meeting is being held in accordance with the calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2000-2002.¹

The session is the most important meeting of each biennium for ECLAC. It provides a forum for the consideration of issues of importance for the development of the countries of the region and for a review of the activities of the Commission. The theme chosen for this session, in consultation with the host country, is "Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization".

The session also enables the Governments of member States to apprise themselves of the work carried out by ECLAC during the past biennium by examining the secretariat's report on the Commission's activities, and to define the mandates that will guide the Commission's work in the future by adopting the programme of work and the calendar of conferences.

In the present note, the secretariat has put forward some suggestions which, should the Governments of the member States decide to accept them, may facilitate the consideration of the various items on the provisional agenda and help make the best possible use of the time available. As is customary at ECLAC meetings, these suggestions on the organization of work could be considered together with the provisional agenda and the election of officers at the meeting of heads of delegation, scheduled to be held at the beginning of the twenty-ninth session, on Monday, 6 May. The secretariat will provide delegations with working and reference documents for the various agenda items.²

The secretariat is proposing that the work be divided into two phases. The first, called the technical phase, is to last from Monday, 6 May to Wednesday, 8 May, and the second, called the ministerial phase, is to be held on 9 and 10 May. On Monday, 6 May, in addition to the meeting of heads of delegation and the opening ceremony for the technical phase, two working meetings will be held with the representatives of member Governments, at which the substantive theme will be considered and relevant recommendations formulated; these will subsequently be submitted to the Commission for consideration in the ministerial phase (agenda item 3). On Tuesday, 7 May and the morning of Wednesday, 8 May, the delegations will meet to analyse the report of activities and the programme of work (agenda items 4 and 5). At the same time, the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development will meet on Tuesday, 7 May (agenda item 8).

In addition, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) will meet all day on Wednesday, 8 May (agenda item 9), while the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions will meet on Wednesday afternoon (agenda item 10).

¹ Commission resolution 579(XXVIII).

² See Documents presented at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission (LC/G.2165(SES.29/11)).

The opening of the ministerial phase will take place on the morning of Thursday, 9 May, and the rest of that day and Friday morning will be devoted to a high-level seminar entitled “Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization” (agenda item 11), the purpose of which is to consider the region’s performance in relation to this phenomenon and to examine a series of policies for addressing the risks and opportunities it represents for Latin America and the Caribbean. The participants in the seminar will include Ministers of State and high-ranking government officials, representatives of international organizations, scholars and distinguished experts from both within and outside the region. The secretariat is proposing that the Ministers, in addition to participating actively in the high-level seminar, should devote Friday afternoon to a general debate and to the consideration of the conclusions reached in the technical phase of the session, including the programme of work for the biennium 2004-2005, and the adoption of the corresponding resolutions.

The provisional agenda and annotations presented below contain background information on each of the proposed items and offer suggestions for their consideration within the framework of the session. In this respect, it may be useful to recall Commission resolution 419(PLEN.14), which states that, in order for the session to be fully successful, “government delegations should include experts in the specific matters to be covered”.

II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the twenty-ninth session
3. Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization
4. Report on the activities of the Commission since the twenty-eighth session
5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2004-2005
6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2002-2004
7. Some recent resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations organs which should be brought to the attention of the Commission
8. Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development
9. Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)
10. Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions
11. High-level seminar on Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization

12. Other matters
13. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the twenty-ninth session

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, and in accordance with past practice, the Commission shall, at the commencement of each session, elect a Chairman, two or more Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. In conformity with the practice established at previous sessions of the Commission, the Chairman shall be the head of the delegation of the host country. It should also be noted that rule 20 of the rules of procedure provides that “the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited”.

It is suggested that the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development and the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions should each have their own presiding officers, consisting of a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

It is proposed that the composition of these groups of presiding officers should be considered at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on 6 May 2002.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the twenty-ninth session

Delegations will have before them, for consideration and adoption, the provisional agenda (LC/G.2155(SES.29/1)), prepared by the secretariat in accordance with chapter II of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, bearing in mind the various mandates of the Commission. Representatives of member States may make such observations or suggest such modifications as they deem appropriate under the aforementioned rules of procedure.

It is suggested that the agenda be considered at the meeting of heads of delegation on Monday, 6 May.

3. Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization

Working document:

- Globalization and development (LC/G.2157(SES.29/3))

Reference documents:

- *Equity, Development and Citizenship* (LC/G.2071/Rev.1)
- *Una década de luces y sombras. América Latina y el Caribe en los años noventa* (ECLAC/Alfaomega copublication)

- *Growth with Stability. Financing for Development in the New International Context* (ECLAC/Alfaomega copublication)
- Rethinking the Development Agenda (LC/L.1503)
- The Sustainability of Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges and Opportunities (LC/G.2145(CONF.90/3))
- *A Territorial Perspective. Towards the Consolidation of Human Settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2116/Rev.1-P)
- The Equity Gap. A Second Assessment (LC/G.2096(CONF.87/3))
- *The Fiscal Covenant. Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges* (LC/G.1997/Rev.1-P)

The secretariat has prepared a document, entitled “Globalization and development”, that contains a proposal for meeting the challenge of globalization in the region. It consists of two parts: an overview and assessment of the economic, social and political effects of globalization, and a proposed approach to these phenomena.

The point of departure for this proposal is the recognition that Latin America and the Caribbean must adopt a proactive agenda for building a new international order and must be effectively committed to that agenda. The ECLAC proposal for attaining this objective begins by defining four basic principles: shared objectives, rules and institutions that respect diversity, complementarity among national, regional and international authorities and equitable participation under appropriate rules of international governance.

The national component of this agenda focuses on the issues of macroeconomic stability in a broad sense, creation of systemic competitiveness, environmental sustainability and active social policies. Under this proposal, a key role is assigned to the regional component, in a dual sense: on the one hand, as a forum for harmonizing and implementing policies and initiatives and, on the other, as an intermediate level of organization for raising the profile of the region’s participation in multilateral forums. The international component of the agenda is structured around the following issues: provision of global public goods, correction of asymmetries in the international order (in the financial and macroeconomic areas, in production and technology and in factor mobility) and consolidation of a rights-based international social agenda.

4. Report on the activities of the Commission since the twenty-eighth session

Working documents:

- Report on the activities of the Commission since April 2000 (LC/G.2160(SES.29/6))
- Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI) (LC/G.2158(SES.29/4))
- Programme performance report of ECLAC for the biennium 2000-2002. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2161(SES.29/7))

Reference documents:

- Report of the eighteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (LC/CAR/G.611)
- Draft report of the nineteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

- Report of the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6))
- Report of the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1335(MDM.30/3))
- Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4))
- Report of the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3))
- Report of the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1654(MDM.33/4))
- Report of the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1545(CEA.2001/7))
- Report of the open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (LC/L.1703)
- Report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (LC/G.2173(CONF.90/9))
- Report of the Second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development (LC/G.2108(CONF.87/4))
- Report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the Special Session of the General Assembly for an Overall Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Habitat Agenda (LC/G.2126(CONF.88/4))
- Report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development (LC/G.2132(CONF.89/4))
- Information note on the Second United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting for the Latin American and Caribbean Region (LC/R.1993)
- Briefing note on the First United Nations Inter-Agency Technical Coordination Meeting on Regional Statistical Information (LC/R.2055)

The secretariat will submit, for the consideration of delegations, a report summarizing the activities carried out under the programme of work of the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). The report covers the two years which have elapsed since the Commission's preceding session, held in April 2000.

The secretariat has introduced some innovations in the presentation of the activities. The most significant are: (i) a new section on preparations for and follow-up to world conferences on economic and social issues; (ii) a summary of multidisciplinary institutional activities, highlighting some of the results of inter-divisional studies; (iii) a descriptive summary of the general orientation and main features of the work carried out under the 12 substantive subprogrammes of the ECLAC secretariat, as well as numerical information on ECLAC documents and publications. The section on cooperation activities is divided into three subdivisions: (i) the current status of ECLAC technical cooperation activities and cooperation projects; (ii) new scenarios for cooperation; and (iii) activities relating to technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC). Each of these subdivisions is illustrated with data and figures. The last section of the report contains a summary of the Commission's principal information activities, including the work carried out by its new Internet Development and Coordination Unit.

5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2004-2005

Working document:

- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2004-2005 (LC/G.2162(SES.29/8))

Reference document:

- Programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2002-2003 (LC/G.2075(SES.28/7))
- Medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1)

The secretariat will submit, for consideration in plenary session, the draft programme of work of the Commission, including the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), for the biennium 2004-2005. The thematic and legislative frame of reference for this draft is the medium-term plan of the United Nations system for the period 2002-2005.

The draft programme of work comprises 12 subprogrammes that reflect the Commission's organizational structure and the work carried out by its substantive divisions, its two subregional headquarters for Central America and the Caribbean, respectively, its four national offices and its office for liaison with other international organizations. Accordingly, it covers issues related to: linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation; productive, technological and entrepreneurial development; macroeconomic policies and growth; social development and equity; mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development; population and development; planning of public administration; environment and human settlements; natural resources and infrastructure; statistics and economic projections; and subregional activities in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

Once adopted and modified to incorporate the relevant amendments and changes, this programme will form the basis for the preparation, at the end of 2002, of the Commission's proposed programme budget for the biennium, which the Secretary-General of the United Nations will then submit to the General Assembly for consideration by Member States as part of his budget proposal for the Organization as a whole.

6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2002-2004

Pursuant to resolution 419(PLN.14), adopted by the ECLAC Committee of the Whole at its fourteenth session, held in November 1980, the focal points around which meetings of the Commission are organized are the biennial sessions. It was decided in that resolution that sessions should be held in even-numbered years, so as to coincide with the two-year budget programming cycle introduced by the United Nations General Assembly. It was also agreed that at each session, the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the next session should be considered, stipulating, where possible, the date, duration and location of each meeting. In compliance with this resolution, the secretariat has prepared a table of the meetings scheduled for the period 2002-2004 (annex to document LC/G.2163(SES.29/9)), in accordance with the mandates approved by the Governments concerning meetings of ECLAC and its subsidiary bodies.

7. Some recent resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations organs which should be brought to the attention of the Commission

Working document:

- Some recent resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations organs which should be brought to the attention of the Commission. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2164(SES.29/10))

At the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions of the United Nations General Assembly and at the substantive sessions of 2000 and 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, the Member States adopted various resolutions which are of particular interest to the Commission and which the secretariat is therefore bringing to the attention of member States at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission.

8. Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development

Working documents:

- Provisional agenda (LC/G.2168(SES.29/14))
- Annotated provisional agenda (LC/G.2169(SES.29/15))
- Sociodemographic vulnerability: old and new risks for communities, households and individuals: Summary and conclusions (LC/G.2170(SES.29/16))
- Report of the open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (LC/L.1703)

Reference documents:

- Sociodemographic vulnerability: old and new risks for communities, households and individuals (LC/R.2086)
- Population, development and sociodemographic vulnerability in the Caribbean (Población y desarrollo series, No. 25 (LC/L.1704-P))
- Propuesta de indicadores para el seguimiento de las metas de la Conferencia Internacional sobre la Población y el Desarrollo en América Latina y el Caribe (Población y desarrollo series, No. 26 (LC/L.1705-P))

The Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, the ECLAC Population Division (CELADE) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Latin America and the Caribbean Division will report on the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action, particularly in the period since the twenty-eighth session of ECLAC.

In accordance with the relevant resolution adopted by ECLAC at its twenty-eighth session, the dimensions and causes of sociodemographic vulnerability in the region will be considered at this session in the context of socio-economic development and of demographic trends and forecasts in the region. At the request of the member countries, and to facilitate the discussions on this topic, the secretariat has prepared a working document for submission to delegations.

In line with the agreements reached at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee (Mexico City, April 2000) and at the open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers (Santiago, Chile, 4-5 December 2001), special attention should be focused on priority lines of action for the future, with a view to the continuing implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development, in the context of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development and of the key measures identified in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the Twenty-first Special Session of the General Assembly (30 June-2 July 1999).

In this connection, it would be useful to consider the achievements and activities planned for the period 2002-2003 in relation to the priority issues identified both at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee (Mexico City, April 2000) and at the open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers (Santiago, Chile, 4-5 December 2001):

- Regional system of indicators for following up on the commitments made at world summits held in the 1990s, particularly the International Conference on Population and Development;
- Population ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Human resources training in the field of population in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Other priority lines of action (2000 censuses, demographic situation, international migration, spatial distribution of population and internal migration).

In addition, countries are invited to provide information on the activities they have implemented and planned under the Programme of Action.

9. Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)

Working document:

- Provisional agenda

The twenty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) will be held within the framework of the twenty-ninth session of the Commission, in conformity with Commission resolution 581(XXVIII), which contains a recommendation that meetings of the Presiding Officers that are held in the years when the Commission holds its session should be held within the framework of that session.

Two working meetings will be held with the representatives of member Governments. At the first meeting, the participants will consider the activities carried out in the biennium 2000-2001, the programme of work for 2002-2003 and the regular system of government contributions. At the second meeting, participants will consider the convening, the central theme and the proposed agenda of the twelfth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning and the eleventh Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, in the context of the fortieth anniversary of ILPES.

10. Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions

Working documents:

- Provisional agenda (LC/G.2166(29/12))
- Annotated provisional agenda (LC/G.2167(SES.29/13))

Reference document:

- Report on the activities of the Commission since April 2000

The note by the secretariat to be submitted to delegations contains a summary of the activities carried out since the Committee's last meeting, which was held during the twenty-eighth session.

The note contains a general analysis of technical cooperation among developing countries and regions (TCDC) in the past biennium and the specific activities which have been directly incorporated into the various technical cooperation projects implemented by ECLAC with extrabudgetary funds.

11. High-level seminar on Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization

Working documents:

- Globalization and development (LC/G.2157(SES.29/3))
- Preliminary agenda for the high-level seminar on Latin America and the Caribbean in an era of globalization

To enable participants to consider in depth the region's performance in the era of globalization and to analyse a set of public policy proposals for addressing the risks and opportunities it represents for Latin America and the Caribbean, the secretariat has organized this high-level seminar in the framework of its twenty-ninth session. The seminar participants will include Ministers, representatives of member countries, representatives of international organizations, scholars and distinguished experts.

This seminar will be divided into five panel discussions on the following topics: (i) the region's response to the challenges of globalization; (ii) macroeconomic policies in a globalized economy; (iii) production and technology policies in the global era; (iv) globalization and equity; and (v) environmental sustainability in a globalized world.

The discussions will be moderated by representatives of the host country designated for this purpose by the Government of Brazil. After each panel discussion, a debate will be held in which, in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, statements by representatives of member Governments will be heard first, after which the floor will be opened to other participants in the seminar.

Lastly, the presentations given by the panelists, the exchanges and debates that take place and the conclusions of the high-level seminar will be reproduced in a special document that will be issued and distributed separately from the report of the Commission's twenty-ninth session.

12. Other matters

This item includes the consideration of any other issues which delegations may wish to raise.

13. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC