

**616(XXXI) POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: PRIORITY ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 2006-2008**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Latin American and Caribbean Consensus on Population and Development adopted in Mexico City in May 1993; the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in September 1994; the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development of 1994; the document entitled “Latin America and the Caribbean: review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development”;¹ the report of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly entitled “Overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly entitled “Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development”; the United Nations Millennium Declaration of September 2000; the report of the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing;² resolution 604(XXX) entitled “Population and development: priority activities for 2004-2006”, adopted by the Commission at its thirtieth session, held in July 2004 in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,³ in particular paragraph 57 and subparagraphs thereof;

Recalling also that April 2007 will mark the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, and bearing in mind that, in resolution 604(XXX), the Commission welcomed the Regional Strategy on the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and adopted the recommendation that it should take charge of monitoring the Strategy’s implementation in the region;

Considering the report of the Meeting of Experts on Ageing - Second Central American and Caribbean Forum on Policies for Older Persons,⁴ held in San Salvador from 10 to 12 November 2004; the report of the Caribbean Symposium on Population Ageing,⁵ held in Port of Spain from 8 to 10 November 2004; and the conclusions of the Meeting of Governments and Experts on Ageing of the countries of South America, held in Buenos Aires from 14 to 16 November 2005;

Taking into account that on 17 February 2006 the United Nations Commission for Social Development adopted resolution 44/1, entitled “Modalities for the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing”,

Bearing in mind that 2007 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre-Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

¹ LC/DEM/G.184(1999).

² LC/L.2079.

³ Resolution 60/1.

⁴ LC/L.2347.

⁵ LC/CAR/L.41.

1. Thanks the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre-Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for organizing the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee and preparing the substantive documentation, the United Nations Population Fund for the support it has provided, and both organizations for the support given to the countries of the region in implementing the Programme of Action adopted in Cairo at the International Conference on Population and Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing;

2. Reiterates the importance of improving data sources, in particular population censuses and vital statistics, for the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing and the Millennium Declaration, as well as the importance of developing reliable, timely and high-quality national statistical information systems for decision-making and for the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and development programmes;

3. Calls upon the countries of the region to make all necessary efforts to provide the requisite resources in order to continue to implement the key measures of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development with special reference to the agreements contained in resolution 604(XXX) adopted at the thirtieth session of the Commission and the Madrid International Plan of Action and its Regional Strategy, particularly within the framework of policies aimed at reducing social and ethnic inequalities, overcoming gender inequity and eradicating poverty, and urges the international community to increase their technical and financial cooperation for the fulfilment of these objectives;

4. Requests the secretariat, in coordination with the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee and with the support of the United Nations Population Fund, to continue to give priority to addressing the following issues from a gender perspective: the status, determinants and implications of demographic trends; demographic dynamics; equity and poverty; ageing; indigenous and Afrodescendant populations; international and internal migration; human resource training in the fields of demography and population and development; and the 2010 round of population and housing censuses and vital statistics;

5. Also requests that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the activities carried out in the areas mentioned in paragraph 4;

6. Urges the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre – Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Women and Development Unit of the Commission and the United Nations Population Fund to provide support for the preparation of the plans of action that the countries will need to prepare during 2006 in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, as agreed at the 2005 World Summit;

7. Exhorts the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre – Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Population Fund to support the countries, to the extent that they are able, in the follow-up of the agreements of the 2006 follow-up meeting on the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

8. Asks the secretariat, in coordination with the organizations of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing and the competent institutions of the host country, to organize a regional intergovernmental

conference in 2007 to review and assess the advances made by the countries of the region in the application of the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and to prepare the relevant substantive documentation;

9. Also asks the secretariat to undertake joint activities with the organizations belonging to the Inter-Agency Group, with governmental networks such as the Ibero-American Technical Cooperation Network, and with civil society networks to support countries in the follow-up and evaluation of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing;

10. Asks further that the secretariat support activities for building the countries' technical capacity for the effective application of the "bottom-up approach" in the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, as adopted by the Commission for Social Development at its forty-fourth session in 2006;

11. Deems it fitting and important that the secretariat should organize a special regional event to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre during the second half of 2007 and requests the countries and the international community to provide substantive and financial support for this activity;

12. Recommends that, at its next regular meeting in 2008, the Ad Hoc Committee should analyse the issue of demographic changes from a gender perspective and their influence on development, as well as their impact on poverty and inequality, and asks the secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, to prepare the relevant substantive documents.