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Thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers  
of the Regional Conference on Women in  
Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, Chile, 13-15 September 2000

**ACTIVITIES OF THE ECLAC SECRETARIAT RELATING TO THE INTEGRATION  
OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

(1 September 1999 to 30 June 2000)

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## I. INTRODUCTION

This report presents a new format designed to underscore the importance of mainstreaming the gender perspective in the work of ECLAC and to report on the achievements made in this regard, especially in terms of the increasing response to requests for technical assistance and support projects designed to help countries to introduce a gender approach. This format reflects new priorities and places greater emphasis on substantive work. In this way, the activities of the substantive divisions and subregional offices have been given a more prominent place in the chapter entitled “Main activities” (instead of being presented at the end of the report as in previous years) and a new section, entitled “Other activities” has been added, to supplement the information on the tasks carried out by the Women and Development Unit. A new heading, “Activities of the electronic network” has also been included to provide information on the secretariat’s constant effort to maximize its use of new technologies in fulfilment of its mandate.

The activities carried out by the Women and Development Unit from 1 September 1999 to 31 May 2000 form part of the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennia 1998-1999 and 2000-2001. The work of the Unit was focused on following up on the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and on preparing and organizing the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima, Peru from 8 to 10 February 2000. Both of those functions were directed expressly towards strengthening preparations at the regional level for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century, which was held in New York in June 2000.

The first six months of the period covered by this report were devoted to substantive and operational preparations for the Regional Conference, which focused on three functions: (i) strengthening links between the ECLAC secretariat and member States of the Commission, non-governmental organizations and bodies within the United Nations system; (ii) preparation of a position paper representing the point of view of all Governments in the region and entitled “The challenge of gender equity and human rights on the threshold of the twenty-first century”,<sup>1</sup> and other, diagnostic documents on the status of women in Latin America and the Caribbean, for consideration at the eighth session of the Regional Conference, and (iii) dissemination of the system of gender indicators developed by the Women and Development Unit for the implementation and evaluation of the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 and the Beijing Platform for Action. That series of actions served as a basis for the adoption of the Lima Consensus,<sup>2</sup> in which countries participating in the Regional Conference pledged to correct the inequalities and guarantee human rights for women and girl children.

The second six months of the period under review coincided with the adoption of the new subprogramme 6, entitled “Mainstreaming the gender perspective into the regional development process”, which was presented formally to countries of the region at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission,

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<sup>1</sup> LC/L.1295(CRM.8/3), January 2000.

<sup>2</sup> LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6).

held in Mexico from 3 to 7 April 2000. In this context, special emphasis was given to the role of the Women and Development Unit in collaborating with other ECLAC divisions as well as with other organizations within the United Nations system. This was done basically through the project “Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectorial ministries” and growing substantive support for the elaboration of extrabudgetary projects, whether with the Programme Planning and Operations Division or the substantive divisions responsible for their implementation. At the institutional level, the formulation of an inter-divisional, inter-agency project on gender indicators<sup>3</sup> seems to be the long-desired opportunity for strengthening coordination activities within the United Nations system. It is to be hoped that this willingness will be strengthened also for the preparation underway of a database requested in resolution 3 (VIII) of the eighth session of the Regional Conference, which contains a list of all the programmes and projects carried out in the region by organizations or bodies in the United Nations system.

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<sup>3</sup> See *infra*, under Projects (II.B.1) and Inter-Agency meetings (III.A.3).

## II. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

### A. FOLLOW-UP TO THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 1995-2001

#### 1. Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

##### Eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

The eighth session of the Regional Conference, held in Lima, Peru, from 8 to 10 February 2000, was convened by the Executive Secretary of the Commission in compliance with the provisions of the Regional Plan of Action of 1977. At the conference, new presiding officers were elected including representatives from Peru (Chair), Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Netherlands Antilles, Paraguay, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Vice-Chairpersons) and Mexico (Rapporteur).<sup>4</sup>

On the agenda were two key issues: gender equity and human rights and peace. On the basis of the documentation presented by the ECLAC secretariat and the country reports presented at the two working groups, which met during the session, the Conference evaluated the achievements and setbacks recorded in terms of the advancement of women. The Conference also adopted the Consensus of Lima, which was ratified in resolution 576(XXVIII) of the twenty-eighth session of ECLAC (Mexico, 2000), together with three resolutions; one of these contains a recommendation that ECLAC should “establish a general data base to be updated regularly, in which all programmes and projects carried out in the Latin American and Caribbean region by agencies or organizations of the United Nations system are listed”.<sup>5</sup>

A political statement adopted at the meeting of non-governmental organizations held prior to the eighth session of the Conference was read out by the representative of the Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos.<sup>6</sup>

##### Meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women

During the period under review, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference held two meetings, which were well attended by representatives of bodies and agencies within the United Nations system and by intergovernmental organizations.

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<sup>4</sup> LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6).

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., paragraph 64.

At the twenty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers, held on 11 and 12 November 1999 in Santiago, Chile, the representatives of member countries serving as Presiding Officers approved the reference documents prepared by the Secretariat for presentation at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women and drew up a working agenda.<sup>7</sup>

At the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers, held on 7 February 2000, participants considered the criteria for election of countries to that organ and requested the Regional Conference's approval for one of its annual meetings to be open to all member countries of the Conference and for that meeting to be held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile.<sup>8</sup>

### Subregional meetings preparatory to the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

Two subregional meetings were held in preparation for the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The third Caribbean Ministerial Conference on Women was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from 5 to 7 October 1999 to assess the progress achieved in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action and to determine future orientations. That Conference culminated in the adoption of the Port-of-Spain Consensus.

The Central American Preparatory Meeting for the Eighth Session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San Salvador, El Salvador, from 11 to 12 October 1999 gave representatives of countries a broader perspective of the measures taken by national Governments in compliance with the Beijing Platform for Action and the Regional Programme of Action. Participants also articulated a 19-point proposal for the eighth session of the Regional Conference.

The Central American proposal and the Port-of-Spain Consensus were incorporated into the working documents of the Regional Conference as those subregions' contribution to the tasks to be addressed at the turn of the millenium.

## **2. Meetings of bodies within the United Nations system**

During the period under review, representatives of ECLAC participated in the fifth session of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality (New York, 23-25 February 2000) and in the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 28 February to 17 March 2000). The first was devoted to the appraisal of achievements and persistent challenges of the strategies for mainstreaming the gender perspective in the work of participating agencies, while the second was based on the activities preparatory to the Special Session of the General Assembly entitled Women 2000: gender equality development and peace for the twenty-first century" (New York, 5-10 June 2000).

The ECLAC secretariat was represented at the Special Session of the General Assembly (New York, 5-10 June 2000), which adopted by consensus the document entitled "Further actions and initiatives

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<sup>7</sup> LC/L.1298(MDM.29/3).

<sup>8</sup> LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6).

to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.<sup>9</sup> During the session, ECLAC, in collaboration with the other regional Commissions, organized a Round Table on the theme: “Dialogue among non-governmental organizations and Governments for gender-sensitive citizens” whose purpose was to demonstrate the wide range of situations existing in the different regions and the common challenges with respect to relations between civil society and Governments. In addition, officials of the Commission and representatives of Santiago-based non-governmental organizations specializing in gender issues witnessed the inaugural ceremony of the Special Session at ECLAC headquarters through teleconferencing organized (5 June 2000) by the Commission in collaboration with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations.

### **3. Inter-agency meetings**

Within the framework of the follow-up activities to the Regional Programme of Action, ECLAC organized a meeting with specialized agencies and other bodies in the United Nations system on the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean (the eighth in the series) (Santiago, Chile, 9-10 November 1999). Participants in that meeting complemented the organization of their preparations for the eighth session of the Regional Conference drawing up a list of their activities for the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to develop coordination within the United Nations system. Agencies agreed to collaborate on two main projects: one on the need for an integrated system of gender indicators and the other on gender mainstreaming in public policies.

## **B. PROJECTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **1. Projects**

During the period under review, the Women and Development Unit continued to work on the project “Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectorial ministries”, initiated at the end of the previous biennium, provided substantive technical support for the projects of other ECLAC divisions and formulated two new projects, to be executed by the Unit once the relevant funding has been obtained.

The above-mentioned project, scheduled to last two years, is being executed by the Unit with the collaboration and financial support of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). It was started on 1 July 1999 and is designed to strengthen and consolidate an institutional mechanism for mainstreaming the gender approach in the Commission’s research and cooperation activities for development, in addition to providing assistance in the same area to selected countries in the region, namely, Argentina, Ecuador and El Salvador.

At the country level, activities were centred on supporting mainstreaming of the gender perspective in labour policies in the current economic context. During the initial phase, a regional appraisal was made of gender mainstreaming in national economic and labour policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of information from governments and other sources. In each of the countries under review, the project focused on a specific sector: health in the case of Argentina, tourism in Ecuador and the *maquila* industry in El Salvador. In addition, cooperation agreements were signed by

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<sup>9</sup> See the unedited version at the Web site of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations (<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/followup/finaloutcome.pdf>).



ECLAC and the national mechanisms for the advancement of women and an effort was made to involve other governmental actors, representatives of civil society and academic centres in the project activities. The country appraisal provided information on the linkage between productive sectors and the economic development of the countries, the characteristics of labour integration in those sectors from a gender perspective and the extent to which the gender perspective had been incorporated in relevant labour and economic policies. These studies will be used as inputs in inter-agency meetings and agreements to prepare an inter-sectoral plan of action that outlines measures and strategies for increasing the incorporation of the gender perspective in labour policies aimed at the productive sector and drawing up a national agenda of future priorities, from the perspective of gender, research and public policy.

Within ECLAC, efforts were made to strengthen cooperation between the divisions in order to mainstream the gender perspective in the substantive work of the organization. In this sense, activities were coordinated with the Environment and Human Settlements Division and the Programme Planning and Operations Division, as well as with ECLAC subregional offices in Mexico and Port-of-Spain.

Another purpose of the project is to generate technical resources in order to assist government officials and ECLAC specialists in incorporating the gender perspective in their work, specifically in the policies and programmes relating to the labour world in the current economic context.

#### Substantive technical support for other projects

As regards inter-divisional cooperation, the Women and Development Unit provides technical support for the projects described below:

- (i) Improved damage assessment methodology to promote natural disaster mitigation and risk reduction awareness and preparedness in Latin America and the Caribbean

The ECLAC subregional offices in Mexico and the Caribbean are responsible for this inter-divisional project, which was initiated in August 1999 and is being carried out with the collaboration and extrabudgetary financing of the Government of Holland. The Women and Development Unit provides substantive technical support for the preparation of two subregional gender-disaggregated studies on the impact of natural disasters and for the revision of the handbook for assessing the socio-economic impact of natural disasters, prepared originally by ECLAC in 1991.

- (ii) Development and social equity in Latin America and the Caribbean

At the request of the Programme Planning and Operations Division, the Women and Development Unit participated in the preparation of the project on gender-mainstreaming. This inter-divisional project is coordinated by the Social Development Division and financed with extra-budgetary funding, in cooperation with GTZ.

- (iii) Policies to improve the quality, efficiency and relevance of technical and professional training in Latin America and the Caribbean, phase II

The Women and Development Unit has also participated in project planning by objectives (ZOPP) conducted by the Joint ECLAC/UNIDO Industrial and Technological Development Unit of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management. The second phase was initiated in October 1999

and aimed especially at training to improve competitiveness of companies with special emphasis on quality control, the internal environment (health and security) and the external environment.

Lastly, project profiles have been developed (for which additional financing is being sought) on the following issues:

(i) The impact of pension reforms on the gender gap in the region, including an analysis of the legal framework; and

(ii) Preparation and dissemination of a system of gender indicators which would be useful for the formulation of public policies, thus responding to the mandates received in different regional and international forums, such as the eighth meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 9-10 November 1999),<sup>10</sup> the fifth session of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality (New York, 23-25 February 2000),<sup>11</sup> and the last meeting of the regional commissions preparatory to the Special Session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

## **2. Technical assistance**

During the period under review, the Women and Development Unit carried out or supervised the following technical assistance missions:

(i) Provision of technical assistance for the preparation of the third report on human development in Guatemala, through the inclusion of gender indicators (Guatemala, 5-11 March 2000) and an additional study (April to December 2000); and

(ii) Preparation of a proposal on gender indicators for the science and technology sector for the Argentine Network on Gender, Science and Technology (RAGCyT) (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 27-29 April 2000).

## **C. ACTIVITIES FOR INCORPORATING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN THE WORK OF ECLAC**

The following section contains an account of some of the relevant activities carried out by ECLAC during the period under review.

### **1. Office of the Executive Secretary**

The Office of the Executive Secretary frequently requests substantive support from the Women and Development Unit in its activities in follow-up to regional conferences organized under the

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<sup>10</sup> LC/L.1285.

<sup>11</sup> See *Report of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality on its fifth session* (ACC/2000/3), New York, 23-25 February 2000, United Nations, Administrative Committee on Coordination.

auspices of ECLAC. During the reporting period, the Unit participated in activities relating to the twenty-eighth session of the Commission, held in Mexico from 3 to 7 April 2000 and, in particular, prepared inputs to discuss the draft position paper presented by the secretariat at that session (Santiago, Chile, 30 November-1 December 1999).<sup>12</sup>

At the session itself, the delegation of Ecuador, acting on behalf of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, presented to member countries the principal points contained in the Lima Consensus, which was adopted as the regional contribution to the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”. Representatives of Governments of the region recommended “increasing the technical and financial resources at the national, international, regional and subregional levels with a view to speeding up attainment of gender equity and the full integration of women in the development process, together with full enjoyment of citizenship within the framework of sustainable development, social justice and democracy”.<sup>13</sup> The Women and Development Unit presented the new subprogramme governing its work as from the current biennium and entitled “Mainstreaming the gender perspective into the regional development process”. This subprogramme refers expressly to the role of the Unit in coordinating the process of institutionalizing the gender perspective, which should strengthen the Commission’s capacity to support Latin American and Caribbean countries in terms of cooperation for development.

## **2. Population Division (CELADE)**

As mentioned in the previous report, CELADE makes a systematic effort to incorporate the gender perspective in its work topics and this approach is evident not only in the database it maintains but also in its studies and dissemination, technical assistance and training activities. In each of these core areas, gender activities were developed as shown below.

The essential role of the Division is to monitor population trends; since population estimates and projections as well as derived projections relating to the urban-rural population, the economically active population, population by simple age, to name a few, are all presented with data disaggregated by sex and age, gender issues are extremely relevant.

Moreover, new population censuses will provide material for updating the database for the project “Investigation of International Migration in Latin America” (IMILA), for which the gender dimension is also an important element. In this respect, the most recent issue of the Demographic Bulletin<sup>14</sup> lays the foundation for the joint study to be undertaken with the University of the Republic of Uruguay, entitled “Migrantes latinoamericanos y caribeños: síntesis histórica y tendencias recientes” (Latin American and Caribbean Migrants: An overview of past and current trends). Thus, IMILA data will serve as a basis for papers to be presented in San José, Costa Rica in September 2000 at the Symposium on International Migration in the Americas, organized by CELADE and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), under the auspices of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The studies to be presented at this event will continue to attest to the intensification of female migration in international migratory flows.

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<sup>12</sup> LC/G.2071(SES.28/3)).

<sup>13</sup> Draft report of the twenty-eighth session of ECLAC, resolution 576(XXVIII).

<sup>14</sup> No. 65, LC/G.2065-P, January 2000.

Since the Demographic Bulletin is one of the most frequently consulted pages on the ECLAC Web site, the intention is to set up a widely accessible virtual version, which will be updated whenever revised estimates and projections for one or more countries are available. This database allows access to information on the country or countries selected and preparation of tables with the desired combinations and aggregations.

The Division also has a database on spatial distribution of the population and urbanization in Latin America and the Caribbean (DEPUALC), which is a single block of systematized census information and which serves as a basis for gender-disaggregated distribution of the population in national territories. On this basis, a study is being conducted on patterns of territorial distribution of the population in the context of economic and social changes experienced by countries in the region. The abstracted data on spatial distribution of the population and urbanization may be consulted at the Division's Web site.

Since the censuses are the main source of data for decision-making on social policies which clearly require a gender approach, the Division is continuing to provide technical assistance in those areas in which it is most qualified, in particular, the conceptual design of the operation (definition of the type of census, topics to be included, design of the questionnaire, table layout), data processing and generation, evaluation and accuracy of data. In order to carry out this technical assistance, funding is required, which will come in part from IDB loans, since countries have requested a budget line for assistance from CELADE. Moreover, the Division is holding negotiations with IDB with a view to the approval of a long-term project, at the regional level, which can lead to the availability of standardized databases for the countries in the region, as well as comparative analyses with socio-demographic profiles based on the 2000 round of censuses.

At the recent meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, held in Mexico in April 2000, the Division was requested, in its capacity as secretariat of the Committee to prepare as the main document for the next meeting in 2002 a study on social vulnerability, a concept considered by CELADE as a basic framework for examining the links between population and development, and one in which the gender variable was considered to be of the utmost importance. In this regard, various studies are underway: one on sociodemographic inputs for the management of sectoral policies, another to be presented at the tenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, which will be held in Panama in November 2000 and the central theme of which will be youth<sup>15</sup> and two other socio-demographic analyses of the vulnerable situation of young people and older persons.

Another activity of special importance for CELADE is the mandate it received at the last meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Mexico, April 2000) to provide assistance to countries in the design of a system of indicators for monitoring progress towards the population targets set out in the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. The progress made in constructing indicators—which should incorporate the gender variable—will be transmitted to the meeting of experts to be held in 2000 to examine the achievements in implementation of the recommendations of the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development.

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<sup>15</sup> A preliminary input for this study was presented at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission (Mexico, 3-7 April 2000) (LC/L.1339).

During the period under review, CELADE stepped up its work on incorporating the gender perspective in its teaching activities, bearing in mind that the adoption of such a perspective in the treatment of population and development issues is based on the need to identify the socio-cultural forces underlying and influencing demographic trends, which calls for explicit consideration of distinctions made between men and women at the policy-making level. In this regard, the Division is evaluating these activities in order to identify emerging needs for training on population issues and to make the necessary adjustments to the curriculum of the Intensive Regional Course, its main teaching programme in the region.

### 3. Social Development Division

The Social Development Division has conducted the following studies and publications incorporating a gender analysis: “Avance de las mujeres en el contexto actual de América Latina”, *Revista Umbrales*, published by the Inter-American Centre for Integrated Social Development (OAS) and the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés (Bolivia), No. 6, October 1999 (La Paz, Bolivia); Límites económicos, sociales y políticos a la participación de las mujeres en América Latina” in the book, *Reestructura política y transformación social*, published by Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN) and the Women’s Popular Education Network (REPEM) (Doble Click Editoras, Montevideo, October 1999); a compilation of the document, *Género y Pobreza: perspectivas y políticas*, published by the University of the Academy of Christian Humanism, in collaboration with the Centre for Women’s Studies of Chile, the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) and the Women’s Institute of Chile (Santiago, Chile, 1999); *The equity gap: a second assessment*, presented at the second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit on Social Development (Santiago, May 2000);<sup>16</sup> “Prevenir or reprimir: falso dilema de la seguridad ciudadana” in the *Revista de la CEPAL*, No. 70, April 2000; “Nuevas familias para un nuevo siglo?” in *Control ciudadano*, No.4, 2000, published by the Instituto del Tercer Mundo (Montevideo, Uruguay); and “Globalización y terciarización: oportunidades para la feminización de mercados y políticas?”, to appear in *Revista de la Maestría de Ciencias Sociales* of the University of the Republic (Montevideo, Uruguay).

Officers from the Division participated in training activities on the issue including those on the theme: “Seguridad ciudadana y violencia en América Latina: diagnóstico y políticas” (public security and violence in Latin America: an assessment and policies), organized as part of the third international course on public security policy design and project evaluation, Santiago, (Chile, 3-6 September 1999); the module on poverty, gender and generations for the Masters in Social Policies and Local Management at the University of Art and Social Sciences (ARCIS), Santiago, Chile, 7 April 2000; and the course on social inequality, collective responses and social policies, as part of the module on social policies and gender in the Master’s programme in Sociology at the University of the Republic, July 2000.

The Social Development Division has also made contributions from the gender perspective for its presentation at conferences and evaluation meetings. One such contribution was the paper entitled “Globalization and Tertiariation: opportunities for engendering market and policies?”, presented at the International Seminar “Women Transforming Policy: Recognizing Gender in International Relations”, organized by Harvard University (Boston, 11-13 May 2000) and the participation in radio programmes of Radio Tierra and Radio Universidad de Santiago, on the employment of women and public policy, crime and violence, and work for women (Santiago, Chile).

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<sup>16</sup> LC/G.2096.

Officers of the Division also participated in joint monthly workshops on labour studies organized by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Centre for Women's Studies (CEM), the Department of Labour (Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Chile), the Latin American Sociology Association (Santiago, Chile, second half 1999); in the subregional seminar "Planificación subregional: programe de fortalecimiento institucional sobre género, pobreza y empleo", organized by ILO (Santiago, Chile, 13-16 September 1999); at the discussion workshop, "Growth, reform and employment", organized as part of the project "Growth, employment and equity: Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s", conducted by the Economic Development Division<sup>17</sup> (Santiago, Chile, 25-26 November 1999); and at the workshop, "Las transformaciones del trabajo: género, flexibilización e inserción laboral femenina", organized by the Centre for Women's Studies (Santiago, Chile, 24-26 November 1999).

Moreover, the Division has carried out technical advice activities relating to the gender perspective. An officer from the Division participated in the monthly meetings of the committee of external experts on the family of the National Women's Service (SERNAM), where she also presented a study entitled "Políticas hacia la familia en Chile" (Santiago, Chile, 1999-first half 2000). She also participated as a panelist in the presentation of the biannual report on the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) at the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives, where the paper "Indicadores de género: visibilidad de las mujeres e invisibilidad de la voluntad política" was presented (Geneva, 28 June 2000).

#### **4. Division of Production, Productivity and Management**

The Division of Production, Productivity and Management carried out activities incorporating the gender dimension. The Agricultural Development Unit in this Division is considering including a module on gender indicators in the information system for the follow-up to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa. This system will be set up using information from household surveys, agricultural censuses and demographic censuses. The Unit is also working towards the inclusion of gender indicators in agricultural censuses in Chile and in other countries. Moreover, it is preparing a study on the impact of female heads of household on the level of income and on the job quality of the family nucleus and the gender dimension is being integrated in terms of age in all the Unit's documents relating to rural and agricultural employment trends.

In addition, officers from the Division participate in the work of the Committee on Women in Statistics, of the International Statistical Institute with a view to strengthening women's participation in the profession and fostering the generation and use of gender statistics. Within this framework, they attended the fifty-second session of the General Assembly of the International Institute of Statistics: The Profession Speaks"(Helsinki, Finland, 10-18 August 1999) and the annual conference of the programme of global education indicators on of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and presented a paper entitled "Measuring Labour Market Outcomes of Education: International and Latin American Experience"<sup>18</sup> (Geneva, 28 November-3 December 1999) and the Conference on Statistics, Development and Human Rights of the International Association for Official Statistics, organized by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (Montreux, Switzerland, 4-8 September 2000). In addition, the Division is participating in the

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<sup>17</sup> See *infra*, in Extra-budgetary projects (item 9).

<sup>18</sup> UNESCO/OECD/WEI 99 (22).

organization of two international meetings on the role of women in the production of statistics, “Measuring the Status of Women and Minorities in Society” and “Women’s Contributions to Leadership in Statistical Education”, organized jointly with the Committee for Women in Statistics of the International Statistical Institute and the International Association for Statistical Education, which will participate in the fifty-third General Assembly of the International Statistical Institute (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 22-29 August 2001).

### **5. Environment and Human Settlements Division**

#### Seminar for the updating the methodology for evaluating the socio-economic effects of natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean

This seminar, which also took place at ECLAC headquarters from 1 to 3 December 1999, was organized by the Environment and Human Settlements Division. The Women and Development Unit presented a paper on item (a) of the third working session, entitled “Temas nuevos: Mayor detalle y especificidad en sectores sociales: sectores vulnerables y discriminación por género”.

### **6. Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division**

The Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division is currently launching a cooperation programme with the Gender Alliance Group to identify water-related legislation that incorporates a gender perspective, such as has been identified in other regions, for example, South Africa (1998).

### **7. Programme Planning and Operations Division**

The Programme Planning and Operations Division, through the Project Management Unit, has continued to provide support and technical assistance in integrating the gender perspective in ECLAC projects in terms of both objectives and proposed activities. In this regard, professionals of the Women and Development Unit are systematically invited to participate in work plan definition workshops (project planning by objective).

### **8. CEPAL Review**

During the reporting period, a number of articles dealing with women’s issues were published in the *CEPAL Review*, including: “Prevenir o reprimir: falso dilema de la seguridad ciudadana” by Irma Arriagada and Lorena Godoy, and “El surgimiento de la violencia doméstica como problema público y objeto de políticas” de Kathya Araujo, Virginia Guzmán and Amalia Mauro (No. 70. April 2000).

### **9. Extrabudgetary projects**

The following is a list of the ECLAC projects in which the gender perspective has been incorporated in objectives and concrete activities:

In the IDB/ECLAC regional technical cooperation programme, launched in March 2000, CELADE carried out technical assistance activities which should take into account the gender variable in projects of different types. The main activities are related to the epidemiological shield programme and support for the health sector reform in Bolivia; the development of a system of social indicators and social policy analysis also in Bolivia; community development in Suriname; improving the surveys on living conditions in Peru; support for preparation of the 2000 round of population and housing censuses and population ageing and pension schemes.

CELADE has also continued to coordinate the regional biliteracy programme on production, environmental, gender and reproductive health issues, financed by UNFPA and UNIFEM. The project, which was started in 1999, is testing its integrated adult biliteracy or simultaneous bilingual literacy methodology in various countries of the region through community discussions on human and civil rights, modernization of the production structure, constant protection of the environment, family and community organization, raising children and comprehensive and reproductive health. Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Ecuador, where large indigenous populations recently experienced armed conflict, population movements, natural disasters or where people live in absolute poverty, are high priority areas calling for immediate technical intervention by the project.

In the second phase of the joint ECLAC/GTZ project "Policy options to promote the development of rural land markets" conducted by the Agricultural Development Unit in the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, a review is being carried out of gender differences in terms of women's access to land ownership. Since it was clear that women faced restrictions in terms of their chances of benefiting from agrarian reforms and since they also faced special difficulties in gaining access to land through the market, emphasis was placed on the need to adopt specific measures to put an end to this unequal access to land between men and women. These restrictions are demonstrated together with the costs to the society of this inequality based on the analysis of information from microdata contained in the agricultural censuses and household surveys.

At the beginning of 2000, the joint ECLAC/UNIDO Industrial and Technological Development Unit of the above-mentioned Division initiated the second phase of the joint ECLAC/GTZ project "Policies to improve the quality, efficiency and relevance of technical and professional training in Latin America and the Caribbean". Based on the recommendations of the first phase of the project, a consultant was hired to synthesize the results obtained in incorporating the gender perspective and the issue was included in all the activities planned for the second phase. A seminar/workshop was also organized on gender and race in the ABC industrial sector, in collaboration with the Brazilian Centre for Analysis and Planning (CEBRAP) and the Prefecture of Santo André in Brazil (15-16 May 2000).

As part of the project "Growth, employment and equity: Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s", executed by the Economic Development Division and financed by the Government of the Netherlands, a report was prepared entitled *Reformas económicas, crecimiento y empleo: los mercados de trabajo en América Latina y el Caribe*.<sup>19</sup> At a workshop held in October 1999, a preliminary version of the study was considered with the participation of ECLAC experts, including officers from the Women and Development Unit, and other agencies. In the document, gender-differentiated changes observed on labour markets in the region were examined together with other aspects such as labour force participation, the sectoral composition of employment, the wage gap and job quality.

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<sup>19</sup> Being prepared. Will be published jointly by ECLAC and the office in Santiago, Chile, of the Fondo de Cultura Económica.



Lastly, under an agreement with the Regional Secretariat for Planning and Co-ordination (SERPLAC, Chile), the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) is participating in a project funded by IDB and the Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo Regional of Chile to update the strategy for development of the Santiago metropolitan region. A list of guidelines and specific actions relating to five subject areas is being prepared for the specific government agencies which will be responsible for the execution. Proposals were put forward for improving the status of women and disseminating the gender perspective at the regional government level in three of the subject areas: citizenship, competitiveness and identity, and regional culture. In addition, preparations are being made for a meeting of women belonging to social organizations for strengthening citizenship, organized jointly with the National Women's Service, SERPLAC and the Office of the Intendant of the Metropolitan Region of Santiago, Chile.

## **D. ACTIVITIES OF ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

### **1. ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico**

During the period covered by this report, the subregional headquarters in Mexico, which also covers the Central American countries, focussed its activities on the preparations for the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Special Session of the General Assembly in June 2000. Further progress was also made on the process of mainstreaming the gender perspective into the substantive activities of the subregional headquarters and in the countries of the Central American subregion, whose institutions have been encouraged to mainstream the gender issue into all spheres of action. The document "Centroamérica: avances en el cumplimiento de la Plataforma y el Programa de Acción Regional; (1995-1999)", financed with extra-budgetary resources, and presented in preliminary version during the Central American Preparatory Meeting for the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (San Salvador, El Salvador, 11 and 12 October, 1999), was completed. The final version of the document includes an information extract for each country of the Central American subregion.<sup>20</sup>

The Social Development Unit is beginning work on a document on the labour and educational situation of rural women in Central America, which will draw on data published for the first time in the statistical appendix to the 1999-2000 edition of the *Social Panorama*, published by the Commission's Headquarters. Through analysis of statistical data, the objective is to identify the educational and labour determinants of poverty among rural women, with a view to suggesting suitable lines of action and proposing public policies directed at overcoming obstacles to the participation of women in rural development, and reinforcing areas in which progress has already been made. The working guidelines of the document "Vulnerabilidad social y económica de los jóvenes marginados en México, El Salvador, Nicaragua y Panamá",<sup>21</sup> produced by the Social Development Unit, were also reviewed in order to incorporate gender aspects. In addition, the Unit continues to compile quantitative and qualitative information for its publication "Indicadores sociales básicos de la subregión norte de América Latina y el Caribe"<sup>22</sup>, with an ever greater quantity of data gender-disaggregated data.

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<sup>20</sup> In preparation.

<sup>21</sup> In preparation.

<sup>22</sup> See LC/MEX/L.387 for the 1998-1999 edition. The publication of the 2000-2001 edition is scheduled for August 2001.

Likewise, the Social Development Unit has compiled input and bibliographical information for the preparation of a document due to be published in the second quarter on social policy in the ten countries of the subregion. The Unit also participated in the preparation of the chapter on social situation of the Dominican Republic project, drawing up statistical tables and incorporating gender analysis.

The subregional headquarters in Mexico also participated in the organization of the national Colloquium on the application of the Convention on the Eradication of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the administration of justice, to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Eradication of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in coordination with the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs of the Government of Mexico and the National Council of Women, UNIFEM and UNICEF (Mexico, D.F., 10 December 1999).

With respect to participation in other meetings, the Subregional headquarters took part in the Central American Meeting on Progress and Challenges to Equity, Health and Development in relation to gender aspects for the decade, held by the Council for Social Integration of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in the framework of the project Women, Health and Development (San Salvador, El Salvador, 23 and 24 March 2000). For International Women's Day in Mexico, the subregional headquarters prepared a paper on "The situation of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean", which was presented in the cycle of conferences and at the launch of the state women's programme of the State Council on Population and of the State Government of Campeche (Campeche, 8 and 9 March 2000). The presentation "Public policy and gender" was also given at the launch of the Diploma in Public Policy and Gender organized by the Guanajuato Women's Institute (City of Guanajuato, 10 and 11 March 2000). The presentation "Los derechos humanos de la mujer y del hombre" was given at two meetings of health sector staff of the Social Security and Social Service Institute for State Workers (ISSSTE) in the North Zone and South Zone Delegations of the Federal District (Mexico D.F., 28 March and 19 May, 2000).

With regard to projects carried out by the subregional headquarters, activities began on the project on reproductive education and responsible parenthood in the countries of the Central American Isthmus, the activities of which will promote gender equality. A *Power Point* presentation was developed for use as an introductory tool with governments of the subregion, and a public presentation was given for ECLAC staff, as part of the substantive training activities of the subregional headquarters. The project "Competitividad de la micro, pequeña y mediana empresa en Centroamérica" executed by the Industrial Development Unit and financed by GTZ, envisages the production of four documents for Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador and a regional report which will incorporate the gender perspective as a major variable. The Mexico headquarters is also supporting the project "Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectorial ministries" carried out by the Women and Development Unit with financing from GTZ.

During the period covered by this report work began to establish a training programme in cooperation with the Interdisciplinary Programme for Studies on Women (PIEM) of the Colegio de México, in order to strengthen training in mainstreaming the gender perspective into the substantive work of the subregional headquarters, in the framework of planning for a training programme for the countries of the Central American subregion.

Technical assistance was also provided to prepare the paper "Contratación de la mujer ejecutiva", presented by the group Consultores en Relaciones Industriales de la Ciudad de México at the seminar "La

presencia de la mujer en el mundo de trabajo”, organized by the Universidad Iberoamericana (Mexico, D.F., 11 April, 2000).

With regard to inter-institutional relations and coordination with other agencies of the United Nations system, the subregional headquarters continues to participate actively in the tasks of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Group on Gender Issues, including the United Nations inter-agency campaign to eliminate violence against women and children; the seminar on gender policies for focal points of the system agencies in Mexico; and the workshop for analyzing institutional conditions for mainstreaming and/or consolidating the gender perspective in the workplace. The latter was intended to take stock and analyse progress on the mainstreaming and/or consolidation of the gender perspective in each agency and draw up recommendations to serve as input for establishing strategies to strengthen the issue and make it cut effectively across the substantive work of the participating agencies. International Women’s Day saw participation in various events organized by the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Group on Gender Issues, such as the press conference; at which a message from the Secretary General was read out, the Women’s Fair, together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the ILO, the United Nations Programme for Development (UNPD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNICEF and UNIFEM; an exhibition to promote the work of the United Nations on the issue of women and the design, issue, dissemination and distribution of the poster and calendar launched by the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Group on Gender Issues to commemorate International Women’s Day. Within the same framework of inter-agency collaboration, the headquarters participated in the seminar “El gasto público: Un marco con enfoque de género”, organized by the Gender Studies Programme of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), with the participation of the UNIFEM Headquarters and of Mexican governmental institutions (Mexico, D.F., 19 and 20 June 2000).

## **2. ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean**

During the period covered by this report, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean prepared the report “The Caribbean Subregional Review and Appraisal Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action”,<sup>23</sup> which was presented at the Third Caribbean Ministerial Conference on Women (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 5 to 7 October, 1999), held in preparation for the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women. Likewise, the headquarters for the Caribbean concluded the report “A Study on Gender Mainstreaming in the Caribbean”,<sup>24</sup> which examines the incorporation of the gender issue in the development of ten countries of the subregion; this report was begun in the second semester of 1999 with a financial contribution from Canada, and presented to a meeting of experts on the issue held at the beginning of the following year (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 13 and 14 January 2000). Both the study and the meeting of experts examined the Caribbean governments’ implementation of mandates concerning the incorporation of gender analysis and planning into all aspects of national development, and recommendations were made on which this subregional headquarters would base its action in order to strengthen its activities of technical assistance to the countries of the subregion.

In the framework of its technical cooperation activities, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean provided assistance to the Government of Suriname for incorporating gender analysis into its analysis and planning work. Likewise, assistance was provided to the Directorate of Gender Affairs of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, to draw up a national action plan to implement the Beijing Platform

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<sup>23</sup> LC/CAR/G.583.

<sup>24</sup> LC/CAR/G.607.

for Action, which included the evaluation of the capability of the sectorial ministries to work with the Directorate on developing the action plan and the establishment of commitments from these ministries.

With respect to training activities, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean organized a training workshop on gender mainstreaming in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat, aimed at substantive technical and professional employees of national agencies for the advancement of women of the subregion (Trinidad and Tobago, 2 to 4 May, 2000), in which 30 representatives from the following countries took part: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Turk and Caicos Islands, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The workshop activities focussed on evaluating the region's best practices; clarifying the concept of gender and the use of gender as an analytical tool for planning and formulating public policies; the evaluation and planning of activities of mechanisms for gender mainstreaming in the State.

### **III. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

#### **A. MEETINGS**

##### **1. Meetings organized by ECLAC**

###### Meeting of experts on gender indicators and public policies in Latin America

This meeting was held at the ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, on 21 and 22 October 1999, in order to analyse and systematize activities carried out in Latin America concerning the use of socioeconomic indicators in decision-making processes, with a particular focus on gender aspects. Experts and stateswomen from some of the countries of the Latin American region took part, together with representatives of agencies of the United Nations System and ECLAC staff. In their conclusions, the experts identified a set of challenges and put forward proposals ranging from further study of conceptual aspects and methodologies to the dissemination of statistical data, and including the production of information relevant to decision-making.

##### **2. Meetings co-sponsored by ECLAC**

ECLAC participated in a workshop on regional and local coordination held at its Headquarters and organized by the Intendance of the Metropolitan Region, the Chilean Municipalities Association and the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), in the framework of the process of updating the 2000-2005 Metropolitan Region development strategy and managing local authority development plans (Santiago, Chile, 20 June 2000).

Under the auspices of the Government of the United States, in fulfillment of the Summit of the Americas Plan of Action, ECLAC also hosted the international seminar “Mejores prácticas relativas a trabajadores migrantes y sus familias”, organized by the International Organization for Migration, with the cooperation of the Population Division (CELADE) of ECLAC and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) of the OAS. At this gathering, the Women and Development Unit gave a paper entitled “Género en la migración laboral internacional en América Latina y el Caribe. Pautas para “buenas prácticas” en la formulación de políticas y programas dirigidos a trabajadoras y trabajadores migrantes”(Santiago, Chile 19 and 20 June 2000).

##### **3. Inter-agency meetings**

In regard to other aspects of inter-agency coordination, the Women and Development Unit held various coordination meetings during the first semester of 2000 with the International Labor Organization (ILO), in the framework of the ECLAC-GTZ project, “Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and

sectorial ministries”.<sup>25</sup> Likewise, coordination and consultation meetings were held in the framework of developing the outline of the project “Making gender indicators available for policy-making” with representatives of the agencies of the United Nations system, the regional commissions and the donor organizations, with were held in both New York and Santiago, Chile.

Likewise, several coordination meetings were held with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to prepare the outline of the joint project “Desarrollo de pautas para la definición de indicadores básicos y su utilización en el análisis y el monitoreo de la equidad de género en el ámbito de la salud”, which is currently at the stage of seeking financing. During the same period, the Women and Development Unit participated in the political Advisory Committee which advises on the study “Género y equidad en el acceso a la atención de la salud en las reformas de los sistemas de salud y seguridad social”, carried out by PAHO in Chile through its Research Coordination Programme and the Programme on Women, Health and Development of its Division of Health and Human Development. Support was also provided for the theme group on gender of the United Nations Programme for Development (UNPD) in Chile.

With regard to the follow-up of commitments undertaken by ECLAC concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas, a representative of the ECLAC office in Washington took part as a observer in the Regional Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-ranking Authorities Responsible for Advancement of Women in the Member States of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in Washington on 27 and 28 April 2000. With respect to the implementation and follow-up of the commitments on the situation and condition of women, the meeting recommended in its resolution “Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas” the use of the Gender Indicator System developed by ECLAC as one of the strategies for following up on commitments originating within the Summits of the Americas.<sup>26</sup> Likewise, the document mentioned in the resolution, “Gender Indicators for follow-up and evaluation of the Regional programme of Action for the Women of Latin American and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 and the Beijing Platform for Action”<sup>27</sup> was provided, as requested, to the Ministers of Canada and the United States.

In addition, ECLAC participated, together with other United Nations agencies, in a meeting convoked by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in the framework of the visit of the Director of the Division for Women and Population of the Department for Sustainable Development of FAO in Rome, who was interested in gaining information and sharing data on activities related to the process of gender mainstreaming in the region (Santiago, Chile, 15 June 2000).

#### **4. Participation in other meetings**

(i) Workshop on “Working lives, men and development”, the third in the series of seminars “Men, masculinity and gender relations in development”, organized by the School of Development Studies of the University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom. A paper was presented, entitled “Equitable social practices and masculine personal history: a Santiago study” (Norwich, United Kingdom, 8 and 9 September, 1999);

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<sup>25</sup> See *supra*, in Projects (title 1, section B).

<sup>26</sup> See documents OEA/SER.L/II.7.8. and CIM/MINIS/doc.21/00/rev.1, par.7.

<sup>27</sup> LC/L.1186.

(ii) Analysis forum “Reflexión para una nueva sociedad”, organized by the Secretariat of Foreign Relations of Argentina. A paper was presented, on “Transformaciones en el sector público e integración de la perspectiva de género” (Buenos Aires, 20 September, 1999);

(iii) Expert meeting “North-South Research Partnership. Issues and Challenges”, organized by the Netherlands Development Assistance Research Council (RAWOO). A paper was presented, entitled “The Bolivian Experience” (Trivandrum, India, 27 September to 1 October, 1999);

(iv) Seminar “Political Restructuring and Social transformation”, organized by DAWN/REPEM. A paper was presented, entitled “Institucionalización de la perspectiva de género en América Latina” (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 22 to 24 October, 1999);

(v) Roundtables of the seminar “Plan de igualdad de oportunidades entre mujeres y hombres 2000-2010”, organized by the Chilean National Women’s Service (SERNAM) (Santiago, Chile, 25 October, 1999);

(vi) Panel on gender and power: discourse, practice and institutions, at the Fifth National Political Science Congress on “Lo política en la encrucijada: representación, ciudadanía y conflicto”, organized by the Chilean Association of Political Science. A paper was presented, entitled “Mujeres y poder: itinerarios y paradojas de un desencuentro”(Santiago, Chile, 17 and 18 November, 1999);

(vii) Roundtable on paternity and family responsibilities, in the first encounter of masculinity studies organized by the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO). A paper was presented, entitled “Procesos de cambio en la visión masculina de las responsabilidades familiares” (Santiago, Chile, 17 and 18 November, 1999);

(viii) Annual meeting of the Integration and Regional Programs Department of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), on the subject “Women and Development”. A paper was presented, on “Women in poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean” (St. Michaels, Maryland, United States, 9 and 10 December, 1999);

(ix) Discussion days and proposals on domestic work and social security organized by the National Women’s Council of Ecuador (CONAMU). A paper was presented, entitled “Visibilizar el trabajo “reproductivo” con miras a una economía eficiente y equitativa. Algunos aportes sobre el trabajo doméstico en América Latina” (Quito, Ecuador, 26 to 28 January, 2000);

(x) First encounter of businesswomen of the Fifth Region (RedPyme), organized by the Federación de Mujeres de Negocios y Profesionales de Chile. A paper was presented, on “Mujeres empresarias en América Latina: el difícil equilibrio entre dos mundos de trabajo. Desafíos para el futuro” (Valparaíso, Chile, 24 February, 2000);

(xi) Twenty-second International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). A paper was given on “Sustainable development, water resources management and gender” at Panel 463 on the same subject (Miami, United States, 15 to 19 March, 2000);

(xii) International Seminar on basic indicators for urban development and local authority management, organized by the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA), the Latin American Centre for Local Government Training and Development (CELCADEL), the Latin American Network of Cooperation for Local Authority Development (REDCOMUN) and the United Nations Urban

Management Programme. A paper was presented, entitled “Indicadores de género en el desarrollo local”, at the workshop on gender focus and indicators in the urban environment and local government management (Viña del Mar, Chile, 22 to 24 March, 2000);

(xiii) Working session of the National Women’s Service (SERNAM) to establish a permanent instance of mutual collaboration between the academic world and non-governmental organizations (Santiago, Chile, 14 April, 2000);

(xiv) Seminar on “Caminos de innovación en ciudadanía”, organized by the Centre for Public Policy Analysis of the University of Chile. Comments were made on the paper “Democratización de la gestión municipal y ciudadanía de las mujeres: Sistematización de experiencias innovadoras” (Santiago, Chile, 18 May, 2000);

(xv) Regional conference on resolutions for the Latin American Local Agenda 21, organized by Towns and Development, Local Initiatives for Global development, International Council for Local Initiatives Relative to the Environment, IULA, CELCADEL and the Local Authority of Porto Alegre. A paper was presented entitled “Incorporación del análisis de género en las políticas ambientales a nivel local”, on the panel “Intercambios de Cooperación entre norte y Sur” (Porto Alegre, Brazil, 23 to 26 May, 2000);

(xvi) Seminar “Psycho-social and economic costs of domestic and intra-familial violence in Chile” organized by the DOMOS Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Chilean National Women’s Service (SERNAM), Diego Portales University and University of Arts and Social Sciences (ARCIS). ECLAC acted as moderator of Panel II “Efectos de la violencia doméstica y familiar en las personas” (Santiago, Chile, 15 June, 2000).

## **B. TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

As in the previous two-year period, teaching and training activities were carried out. In addition, the rapidly growing body of knowledge in the area of gender studies is generating increasing interest in the possibility of professionals from the Women and Development Unit sharing the experience compiled in the Commission on gender mainstreaming in the various spheres of regional development. Bearing in mind the contribution that these activities can offer in the formulation of public policy, these activities are given a high priority, despite the scarcity of resources. Among those carried out over the period are the following:

(i) Class on gender perspective in human settlements policy presented in the framework of module IV, “Sustainable human resources development”, of the regional diploma in human settlements organized by the ECLAC Environment and Human Settlements Division, the University Promotion Corporation (CPU), the Architecture and Town Planning Faculty of the University of Chile, the Chilean Housing and Town Planning Ministry and the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) (Santiago, Chile, 24 May, 2000);

(ii) Supervision of six professional placements: the first of these was a graduate of the Doctorate Programme in Applied Economics of the University of Oviedo (Spain), and its purpose was to establish the current state of knowledge on macroeconomic and gender issues. The second was a student from the



Faculty of Economic and Administrative Sciences of the University of Chile, who compiled information for the preparation of the project on the impact of pensions systems reforms on the gender gap in the region. The third, a graduate from the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen (Geographisches Institut) of Tübingen, Germany, studied the integration of gender analysis into Latin American decentralization processes. The fourth, a graduate of the Psychology Department of the University of Chile, dealt with women in the legislation of the reformed pensions systems in Latin America.<sup>28</sup> The fifth, an Economics student from the Berlin Freie Universität (Germany), joined the activities of the ECLAC-GTZ project “Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectorial ministries”. The sixth, a student from the Political Sciences Masters programme of the University of Uppsala, on a scholarship from the Swedish Government, contributed to the establishment of the current state of gender indicators in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean. Likewise, supervision was provided for a sabbatical year study by a researcher from the Colegio de México, on “Las organizaciones dedicadas a la mujer en un escenario de reforma. El Caso de México”.

### **C. ACTIVITIES ON THE ELECTRONIC NETWORK**

In recent years, the work carried out by ECLAC in all the spheres of regional development has been increasingly reflected in the electronic network known as the Internet. Since the beginning of 1999, the Women and Development Unit, with the support of the Division of Programme Planning and Operations, has accorded increasing importance to the design of an electronic site of its own, to be accessible from the organization’s home page. This offers direct access to, for example, the Directory of national organizations dealing with women’s programmes and policies in Latin American and the Caribbean and to the full version of substantive documents published by the Unit since 1998. Data from the ECLAC site concerning documents downloaded on-line show that this initiative has greatly increased the region- and world-wide dissemination of ECLAC work on developing a system of gender indicators.

During the preparations for the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women, there was a massive increase in the use of the Internet to accelerate exchanges of information about governmental institutions, international organizations and civil society. The possibilities offered by Internet communication also served to widen at least symbolic participation in the Session of the Conference, through multimedia dissemination of the opening speeches, the debates of the expert panel and the simultaneous publication of press releases.

On the basis of the successful use of the electronic network, the Women and Development Unit and the Programme Planning and Operations Division are currently redesigning the Unit site, in order to offer wider coverage of ECLAC activities related to the gender issue, which should be operational by the third quarter of 2000. The new front page allows Internet users access to the complete versions of regional and international tools for the advancement of gender equity and all the information concerning the eighth

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<sup>28</sup> In the framework of this placement, a document was prepared entitled “La mujer en la legislación de los sistemas de pensiones reformados en América Latina”, which was presented for the debate of a working meeting held in Santiago, Chile, on 26 June, 2000. ECLAC staff members and representatives of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and of academic centres participated in the meeting.

session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and its Presiding Officers. As well as information about the Unit's publications, meetings and projects, there is a page especially for women's national machineries and another for information on gender indicators. It is also hoped to organize conferences on-line on issues of interest for the countries of the region.

## Appendix

### STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS

#### 1999

Activities of the ECLAC Secretariat Relating to the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean from 1 September 1997 to 30 August 1999 (LC/L.1261(CRM.8/5)).

Activities at the Caribbean subregional level relating to the integration of women into the economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean from September 1997 to December 1999 (LC/L.1261(CRM.8/5)/Add.1).

Report on the Meeting of Experts on Gender Indicators and Public Policy in Latin America (Santiago, Chile, 21 and 22 October, 1999) (LC/L.1285).

Report of the Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 11 and 12 November, 1999).

Participation and leadership in Latin America and the Caribbean: gender indicators (LC/L.1302).

Eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean; background information (LC/L.1303).

Report of the Eighth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 9 and 10 November, 1999) (LC/L.1313).

The challenge of gender equity and human rights on the threshold of the twenty-first century (LC/L.1295(CRM.8/3)).

The Caribbean Subregional Review and Appraisal Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (DDR/3).

La situación jurídico-social de las mujeres a cinco años de Beijing. El panorama regional (DDR/4).

Ciudad y relaciones de género (DDR/5).

Examen de los modelos económicos desde la perspectiva de género (DDR/6).

Aspectos económicos de la equidad de género (DDR/7).

**2000**

El proceso de institucionalización del enfoque de género en el trabajo sustantivo de la CEPAL (DDR/1).

Part-time work in Chile: is it precarious employment? Reflections from a gender perspective, Serie Mujer y desarrollo, No. 26 (LC/L.1301-P).

The challenge of gender equity and human rights on the threshold of the twenty-first century, Serie Mujer y desarrollo, No. 27 (LC/L.1295/Rev.1-P).

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