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**REPORT OF THE 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

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## **A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

### **Place and date of meeting**

1. The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held their thirty-first meeting from 13 to 15 September 2000 in Santiago, Chile. As agreed at the thirtieth meeting, which had been held one day prior to the eighth Session of the Regional Conference (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000), the thirty-first meeting was open-ended to enable all States members of the Conference to participate (Agreement, paragraph 2).<sup>1</sup>

### **Attendance**

2. The Presiding Officers participating in the meeting were representatives of the following States which had been elected to serve in that capacity: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. The following States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) were also represented: Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal and Spain. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following United Nations bodies and programmes: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Development Fund (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). The following United Nations specialized agencies were also represented: International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization-Pan-American Health Organization (WHO-PAHO) and International Telecommunications Union (ITU). The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Latin American Faculty for Social Sciences (FLACSO), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Inter-American Commission of Women-Organization of American States (OAS).

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<sup>1</sup> By virtue of Paragraph 2 of the Agreement, which was subsequently ratified by the Regional Conference, the States members whose representatives served as Presiding Officers requested "the Regional Conference to make one of the annual meetings of the Presiding Officers open to all member countries of the Conference and to hold that meeting at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile" (see *Report of the eighth Session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean*, LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6)).

### **Chairperson and rapporteur**

3. The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Luisa María Cuculiza, Minister for Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru and current Chairperson of the Presiding Officers. The duties of rapporteur were fulfilled by Ambassador Aída González, Head of the Delegation of Mexico and Director General for International Women's Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico.

### **B. AGENDA**

4. The Presiding Officers adopted the following agenda:
  1. Adoption of the agenda
  2. Review of activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat since the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers
  3. Evaluation and follow-up of provisions and resolutions adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) and at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (New York, June 2000)
  4. Follow-up to major United Nations world conferences and summits and to activities of other intergovernmental organizations
  5. Report on the activities of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations
  6. Evaluation and follow-up of progress made in Latin America and the Caribbean in the use of gender indicators in the formulation of public policy
  7. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat
  8. Liaison between countries with representatives serving as Presiding Officers and other countries in the region
  9. Other matters.

### **C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

5. At the inaugural meeting, addresses were delivered by Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Executive Secretary of ECLAC and Luisa María Cuculiza, Minister of Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru and Chairperson of the Presiding Officers.

6. The Executive Secretary of the Commission, after welcoming participants, reiterated his commitment to continue to mainstream the gender perspective in the substantive work of ECLAC divisions. Underscoring the progress achieved at the special session of the General Assembly, where Governments had endorsed their firm resolve to implement the agreements reached on the twelve areas for action, he welcomed the agreement to eliminate all the discriminatory biases still persisting in national legislations. He pointed to the advances made in studying the impact of globalization on gender equality, the formulation of government policy and especially the effort to combat domestic violence. Progress had been achieved in terms of access of women to education, although more intensive efforts were needed to achieve equal employment opportunities for women and income equality.

7. Some of the major challenges were to translate the ideals contained in the Platform for Action into specific goals for each country, to work for the development of an economic and social environment that were conducive to gender equality, to make greater efforts to prepare a human rights framework for public policy, to accelerate progress towards the full empowerment of women at all levels of decision-making, to increase resources for institutionalizing the gender perspective in State activities and to provide greater stability, resources and political capacity to all the mechanisms for the advancement of women.

8. The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers and Minister for Women's Issues and Human Development of Peru fully endorsed the Executive Secretary's analysis and said that the best development strategy would be to give women the opportunity to exercise their rights and to participate in the decision-making process. Countries of the region should combine efforts to ensure that there was no step backwards in terms of the agreements adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and those of the Lima Consensus.

9. Serious efforts were needed in order to eliminate family violence, including training women for employment to free them from situations of economic and psychological dependency. In addition, public policies for women were needed, especially on the issue of the eradication of poverty.

10. She called for legislation on women's rights to reaffirm their equality with men and to advocate universal education in favour of equal opportunities. Lastly, she said that the meeting was an extremely valuable opportunity for exchanging experiences and emphasized the need for gender indicators in national statistics and in public policy design and formulation.

Review of activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat since the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers (agenda item 2)

11. The States members of the Commission participating in the meeting reported on the activities carried out at the national and regional levels since the thirtieth meeting of Presiding Officers within the framework of the mandates contained in the Regional Programme of Action, the decisions adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially the Lima Consensus and the document adopted at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". Representatives of the following countries took the floor: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela.

12. In the context of the analysis presented by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC and the Chairperson of the Presiding Officers, representatives of member States reported on the progress achieved in women's participation in the decision-making processes and on the steps taken to strengthen institutional machineries for the advancement of women. Gender was a multidimensional issue which cut across sectoral ministries; representatives were conscious of the need to move forwards in applying working methodologies for ensuring that provision was made for incorporating the gender approach in the planning estimates of the different ministries.

13. In most countries, new laws or amendments had been introduced to punish family violence and combat poverty (especially in rural sectors), two areas where women were particularly vulnerable. With respect to health care, emphasis was placed on responsible sexual practices and on the recognition that women's sexual and reproductive rights were part of their human rights. Reference was made to new issues, including women and drugs. In the area of education, various countries reported on their efforts to incorporate the gender approach in the study programmes of institutes and universities as well as to eliminate sexist language from text books.

14. Various representatives pointed out that the composition of the delegations that had attended the special session of the General Assembly had been pluralistic and broad-based, with strong participation by civil society.

15. Some delegations stated that they had signed the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and had adopted new measures for the full application of the provisions of the Convention.

16. Turning to the prospects for the future, delegations recognized that there was still a great deal of ground to be covered in terms of implementing fully the agreements contained in the Platform for Action, guaranteeing sufficient financial resources, consolidating public sector agencies responsible for promoting women's participation in decision-making and effectively incorporating the gender approach at the institutional level and giving continuity to national plans of action for the advancement of women.

17. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit said that the current open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers strengthened coordination among countries and organizations. She briefly reviewed the relevant activities conducted by ECLAC<sup>2</sup> and pointed out that at the current meeting, the secretariat was focusing on the study of an integrated system of indicators for use in public policy formulation.

18. The consultant of the Women and Development Unit presented a reference document entitled: "La institucionalidad de género en el Estado. Nuevas perspectivas de análisis", which highlighted the complexity of the process of public-policy formulation and its specific character in each country, while proposing a conceptual framework for including gender issues on the organization's agenda.

19. The Social Affairs Officer with responsibility for Women's Affairs at the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean then presented the report of activities of that office.<sup>3</sup> The negative impact of globalization on small economies, the debt burden and the perpetuation of the culture of violence, in particular violence against women, were all cause for concern. The incidents of violence in the Caribbean needed to be documented more accurately.

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<sup>2</sup> See 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) (LC/L.1397(MDM.31/3)).

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

20. Another important issue was that of poverty, especially considering the effect on female-headed households in the Caribbean. She pointed out in that regard that at the meetings of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), ECLAC had been urged to facilitate the analysis of macroeconomic policy from a gender perspective. Activities for institutionalizing the gender approach in the Caribbean hinged on three main factors: research, training and technical assistance. On the third issue, ECLAC played a predominant role.

21. The representative of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico then reported on support activities being carried out for integrating the gender perspective in institutional mechanisms for promoting gender equity in Mexico and Central America.<sup>4</sup>

22. The Social Affairs Officer of the Women and Development Unit referred to the project entitled: "Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectoral ministries", which was being carried out with the assistance of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). She explained the strategy and methodology adopted and listed the advances at the country level and outlined the objectives and area of intervention, that is, existing labour policies in the economic context of specific countries. The national analysis would provide an opportunity for intersectoral dialogue, strengthening existing initiatives and the establishment of new inter-agency agreements, strategic alliances and agreements. The methodology applied could be adapted in other countries of the region with respect for the specific processes and contexts.

23. The ECLAC/GTZ specialist for the above-mentioned project presented the regional study "Institutionalization of the gender approach in economic and labour policies in Latin America and the Caribbean", on the basis of information provided by countries.

24. In that connection, the delegates of Argentina, Ecuador and Mexico expressed their recognition for the work done by ECLAC as part of the project presented.

25. The representative of Chile said that the function of the government offices for women was to mainstream the gender perspective in State activities and that the efforts being made in the three countries included in the project, although outstanding, should be expanded; furthermore, the Women and Development Unit should hold a workshop with national organizations on integrating the gender perspective into sectoral ministries (see agreement 8).

26. The ministries of finance or planning should also be encouraged to adopt a cross-disciplinary approach and to define clearly and harmonize the concepts with which they were working. Specific indicators should be sought to enable them to sound out the advances made in terms of cultural perceptions and to find faster ways of progressing. The discourse on social debt vis-à-vis women should be abandoned in favour of another which would highlight the potential benefits of equal opportunities for women in terms of development.

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<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

Evaluation and follow-up of the provisions and resolutions adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) and at the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” (New York, June 2000) (agenda item 3)

27. The Chairperson of the meeting gave an evaluation of the special session of the General Assembly and highlighted the advances being reflected in the document “Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action”. She expressed regret that there had been difficulties at the special session in obtaining recognition for the commitments and agreements adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women, although the final document did, fortunately, contain recognition for the contribution of regional agreements.

28. In the same connection, the representative of Mexico recalled that at the special session of the General Assembly the region had reaffirmed the regional commitments it had undertaken at the preparatory conferences and that efforts were needed to follow up and promote the implementation of those agreements as well as to construct alliances among the countries and the organizations working in the region. She also presented the proposals that gave rise to the adoption of agreements 4 and 5, which are set forth in section D of this report.

29. The representative of Cuba said that the review process for the document adopted at the special session of the General Assembly had been conflictual and difficult. A number of issues raised in the position paper were still being treated in an ambiguous manner and she pointed to different organizational problems, including some relating to the integration of non-governmental organizations, which should be resolved with a view to future evaluation meetings as they had an adverse effect on the working environment for delegations.

30. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit compared briefly the Lima Consensus and the preliminary version of the document of the special session of the General Assembly pointing out that owing to the major differences in structure between the two, she had preferred to await the publication of the final text before carrying out a comprehensive study. She mentioned that a preliminary reading of that kind revealed that notwithstanding structural differences between the two documents, all the issues of the Lima Consensus appeared in the final document, confirming the regional agreements and setting individual priorities, while the New York document contained nuances that reflected the complexity of the consensus achieved. Nonetheless, it included most of the issues addressed in the Lima Consensus,

Follow-up to major United Nations world conferences and summits and to activities of other intergovernmental organizations (agenda item 4)

31. The representative of Paraguay, reporting on the meeting of ministers and high-level authorities responsible for policies on women in States members of the Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW) (Washington, D.C., 27-28 April 2000), said that participants should not lose sight of the agreements adopted at that meeting on the implementation of and follow-up to the Inter-American programme on women’s human rights and on gender equity and equality.

32. The representative of Argentina referred to the review of International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention concerning Maternity Protection (Convention No. 103) drawn up at the Conference of that body in Geneva in June 2000 and pointed out the differences between that convention and the preceding



one which the Argentine Government, together with other countries of the region had opposed, since they believed that on many points it marked a retrograde step compared with the original convention.

33. The representative of Costa Rica requested the floor and explained that her Government had abstained from signing the revised Convention 103 as it considered that the existing legislation in its country was more advanced. She drew attention to the negative effects that globalization and labour market deregulation were having on women.

34. The representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO) gave a detailed explanation of the process leading to the adoption of Convention 183 (revised version of Convention 103), drawing attention to the tripartite nature of that organization. She explained the fundamental issues of the debate, the distribution of votes and the amendments introduced as a complement and background to country votes.

35. The representative of Panama reported on the sixth Ibero-American Meeting of Ministers for Women's Issues held in Panama from 4 to 5 May 2000. The meeting was held as part of the activities preparatory to the tenth Ibero-American Meeting of Heads of State and Government to be held in November 2000, where the central issue of the Summit was considered along with issues relating to children and adolescents. Lastly, he said that delegations adopted a resolution in which the President of Panama was requested to act as spokeswoman for Ibero-American women at the tenth Summit of Heads of State and Government.

36. The Human Settlements Officer of the Environment and Human Settlements Division of ECLAC referred to the objectives 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, which was scheduled to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 25 to 27 October 2000. Those objectives were to review fulfilment of the agreements signed at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), promote regional cooperation and formulate recommendations in that connection and serve as a forum for countries to consider the issue.

37. The representative of Peru reported on the activities preparatory to Symposium 2000: gender-based violence, health and rights in the Americas. She said that the purpose of the symposium was to strengthen links between Governments, non-governmental organizations and donors for addressing the problems of gender-based violence, providing a forum for exchanging models and experiences in all relevant areas, strengthening the role of the health sector in that sphere and promoting the fulfilment of international agreements which defined such violence as an infringement of the human rights of women.

38. The representative of Costa Rica reported on the activities of the network of women's bureaux. The network served as an informal forum for communication by national machineries on women in support of the Lima Consensus.

Report on the activities of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations (agenda item 5)

39. The representatives of specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system who had attended the meeting gave detailed accounts of the activities they were carrying out, in accordance with their respective mandates and areas of competence.

40. Most of the agencies and bodies had helped to organize the different preparatory meetings for the special session of the General Assembly, strengthening coordination with national machineries and civil society. The principal issues that appeared in the work programmes of those organizations were, among others, economic justice, the revision of legislation and human rights of women, training programmes and the promotion of international instruments, inequalities on the labour market and technical cooperation in the area of reproductive health, domestic violence and leadership roles for women.

41. The Associate Social Affairs Officer of the Women and Development Unit reported on the results of the work carried out pursuant to resolution 3(VIII) of the eighth session of the Regional Conference on ECLAC regional cooperation activities in gender mainstreaming and presented a preliminary report entitled “Programas y proyectos relacionados con el adelanto de la mujer ejecutados en la región de América Latina y el Caribe”. She said that the organizations and specialized agencies within the United Nations system had collaborated closely and had provided the information required for the construction of the data base referred to in the resolution. Although the database was still under construction, she was submitting a preliminary report to give an idea of the scope of the coverage in the region with respect to project execution, strategic direction and the number of international organizations present in the region.

42. The Argentine representative said that the document presented by the ECLAC secretariat on the progress made in implementing resolution 3(VIII) contained valuable information for Governments, especially in terms of the programmes and projects matrix, which allowed the exchange and comparison of quantitative and thematic information. She suggested recording specific definitions for each project, its cost and information in order to evaluate its impact. Stressing the importance of the initiative proposed in the resolution, which had also been welcomed by other bodies and was a matter of priority for the countries, she emphasized that use of the future electronic gateway should not be restricted to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, but should be opened up for all Governments (see agreement 14).

43. The representative of Mexico supported Argentina’s proposal that the use of the future electronic gateway to the United Nations specialized agencies and other bodies should not be restricted, but rather should be kept open to all Governments; it was important to have an idea of the number of users that benefited from the projects and to know in which areas they had had positive results and in which they had faced setbacks.

#### Evaluation and follow-up of progress made in Latin America and the Caribbean in the use of gender indicators in the formulation of public policy (agenda item 6)

44. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit presented a preliminary report prepared by the secretariat on the availability of gender indicators in selected Latin American and Caribbean countries and explained that the relevant substantive presentations for that agenda item would be made at three panels: the first to reflect the technical experience of ECLAC, the second on the work being of the national statistical agencies in the States members of the Commission and the third on the progress made by other bodies in the United Nations system.

45. At the first panel, the Assistant Statistician in the Statistics and Economic Projections Division of ECLAC said that a clear conceptualization of the issues at stake was important for designing indicators and identified available sources of information; the consultant of the Women and Development Unit gave examples of how gender indicators could be used to assess the status of women and listed some of the gender differences to be taken into account in the work of ECLAC so as to be really in a position to speak

of equity; the consultant for the Agricultural Development Unit of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management reported on that Division's experience in producing gender indicators on land tenure and highlighted the relevant variables which should be reflected, problems of calculation generated by the different concepts of land and problems with sources due to the fact that the agricultural census data for some countries were not gender-disaggregated. The Social Affairs Officer of the Social Development Division of ECLAC presented a paper which indicated that the advances made on the issue of gender indicators depended to a great extent on the political will to give a high profile to the status of women in their country.

46. The second panel started with a technical report by the delegation of Argentina on the advances made by the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) in terms of gender indicators, followed by a graphic presentation of steps taken by the National Council for Women to incorporate the gender perspective in public policy. The delegation of Ecuador presented the computerized version of the Integrated System of Social Indicators for Ecuador, which included a subsystem of indicators on the status of women in that country. The representative of Mexico presented the document entitled "Las estadísticas de género en México", summarizing the history of the system of indicators for monitoring the status of women in Mexico developed by the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information (INEGI) in the context of the projects carried out in collaboration with the National Commission on Women and with inter-institutional cooperation from UNIFEM, UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA. The representative of Cuba presented the publication "Perfil estadístico de la mujer cubana" and underscored her country's experiences with surveys on use of time.

47. This panel was completed with the participation of the representative of Portugal, who gave some examples of indicators that give greater visibility to the status of women in that country. Lastly, the Chief of the Women and Development Unit announced that El Salvador had sent in a written report on the advances recorded in that country in the use and application of gender indicators.

48. The third panel heard the presentations by the ILO representative on that organization's experience in introducing the gender dimension in the "Labour Overview"; by the UNIFEM representative on the Fund's strategy on gender indicators in the region; and of the PAHO representative on the basic elements of a system for analysing and monitoring statistics on gender equity with respect to health care.

49. In the discussions following the presentations, some delegations reported on the situation in their respective countries. The representative of Bolivia advocated building strategic alliances between agencies that generated information and those responsible for gender issues and fostering the exchange of products available in different countries for the design of gender indicators. That proposal was endorsed by the delegations of Chile, Panama and Peru.

50. Before concluding the agenda item, the Chief of the Women and Development Unit reported on the progress made with the inter-agency gender indicators project prepared by the ECLAC secretariat for joint execution with other organizations in the United Nations system. She said that ECLAC was trying to solve the problem of demand for information, promoting horizontal collaboration with a view to carrying out an integrated project for taking advantage of the strengths of each organization in the field of indicators. Lastly, she urged Governments to maintain confidence in the effort at coordination being made by the Commission.

Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat (agenda item 7)

51. The representative of Costa Rica offered her country as the venue for the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers.

Liaison between countries with representatives serving as Presiding Officers and other countries in the region (agenda item 8)

52. The countries represented among the Presiding Officers and present at the meeting reviewed the distribution of their liaison activities with other countries of the region (see decision 16).

Other matters (agenda item 9)

53. The Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC, in bringing the meeting to a close, said that there had been definite progress towards mainstreaming the gender approach in public policy and that the region was clearly ready to take on new strategies for achieving that objective. As discussed at the meeting, gender indicators were an important issue and the results obtained suggested that a comparable, integrated system would soon be available for the region as a whole. In conclusion, he said that while a great deal remained to be done, the region had proved that it possessed valuable human and institutional resources which could be used for the common objectives of promoting the status of women.

#### **D. AGREEMENTS ADOPTED**

54. The member countries with representatives serving as Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed as follows:

1. To reaffirm that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, constituted, together with the Santiago Consensus and the Lima Consensus, the legal and institutional framework for the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
2. To reaffirm their commitment to working at the regional level through the Regional Conference in order to ensure the consistency of the agreements adopted globally.
3. To recommend that the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations assign to the regional commissions of the Economic and Social Council responsibility for promoting the implementation of the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the recommendations adopted at the five-year review process at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". To this end, they agree to inform the ministers for Foreign Affairs, and, in particular, the permanent missions to the United Nations in New

York of the will to strengthen the role of the regional commissions in processes for reviewing fulfilment of commitments made for the advancement of women.

4. To recommend that the General Assembly request the Commission on the Status of Women to include in its multi-year programme of work a systematized follow-up of the implementation of the agreements adopted under the Platform for Action and the Beijing review process, with due attention to the work of the regional commissions.
5. To recommend that countries of the region insist on the need for a review period of at least 10 years before the next appraisal of the fulfilment of international commitments on the status of women, since five-year reviews leave just barely enough time for an actual reporting period of three years.
6. To welcome the collaboration and cooperation between the Commission and other organizations within the United Nations system and regional and international finance agencies, and to foster the pursuit and strengthening of such collaboration and cooperation.
7. To urge all participating countries and all States members of the Commission to reaffirm their commitment to the application of the above-mentioned Convention by signing and ratifying the optional protocol thereto, the ideal date suggested for this purpose being 8 March.
8. To request the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Commission to strengthen the ECLAC subprogramme for incorporating the gender perspective in order to provide support for the work of national machineries for women and to promote institutionalization of the gender perspective in public policy and to request the Women and Development Unit to include panel discussions on integration of the gender perspective in sectoral ministries on the agenda of the next open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers.
9. To promote, through the Commission and with its assistance, the harmonization of sex-disaggregated statistics, and commitment to the use and development of gender indicators, thus encouraging the exchange of experiences and cooperation among national machineries for the advancement of women and statistical offices in member countries and the convening of a technical meeting to harmonize systems of indicators in the region.
10. To request countries to submit to the secretariat of the Commission, together with their comments on the draft report of the current meeting, their views on the document entitled "La institucionalidad de género en el Estado: nuevas perspectivas de análisis".
11. To request countries to send on a regular basis to the secretariat of the Commission information on the functioning of their competent national machineries together with statistical data that reflect the progress achieved in terms of the advancement of women in their country.
12. To request the secretariat of the Commission to compare the measures and initiatives set forth in the substantive document emerging from the special session of the General

Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” with the agreements contained in the Lima Consensus, in order to promote or facilitate the design of a system for monitoring its application in member countries.

13. To ask the Commission to ensure that the next open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers should be devoted to the analysis of issues of mainstreaming the gender approach and/or perspective in development policies in member countries.
14. To thank the Commission for its work and to commend the Women and Development Unit for the preliminary report on programmes and projects relating to the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean and to invite the Commission, in continuing to prepare the data base in response to resolution III (VIII) of the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to include, among the sources of information, international and regional finance agencies, such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration. Further, to request the Commission to keep the homepage of its Web site open to the Governments of member States.
15. To welcome the offer by the delegation of Costa Rica for the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers to be held in that country. In accordance with the decision adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference whereby one meeting in each calendar year will be restricted to the member States serving as Presiding Officers while the other will be open to all States members of the Commission, to confirm that the thirty-second meeting will be reserved exclusively to the Presiding Officers.
16. To welcome Chile’s offer to serve as liaison with Colombia, the only country in the South American sub-region not represented among the Presiding Officers and that of Cuba to be responsible for liaising with the Spanish- and English-speaking Caribbean, with assistance from the ECLAC sub-regional headquarters for the Caribbean.

**LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES  
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**A. Estados miembros de la Comisión  
Member States of the Commission  
États membres de la Commission**

ARGENTINA

Representante/Representative:

- Lila Subirán de Viana, Embajadora, Representante Especial para los Temas de la Mujer en el Ámbito Internacional, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Carmen Storani, Presidenta del Consejo Nacional de la Mujer
- Magdalena Von Beckh, Directora de la Mujer, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto
- María Fernanda Silva, Primera Secretaria, Embajada de la República Argentina en Chile
- Daniela Chubarovsky, Responsable del Área Situación de la Mujer – Dirección de Estadísticas Sectoriales, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INDEC)

BOLIVIA

Representante/Representative:

- Jarmila Moravek de Cerruto, Viceministra de Asuntos de Género, Generacionales y Familia, Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member:

- Walter Castillo, Subdirector, Instituto Nacional de Estadística

BRASIL

BRAZIL

Representante/Representative:

- Solange Bentes Jurema, Presidenta, Consejo Nacional de los Derechos de la Mujer, Ministerio de Justicia

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member:

- Carmen Rocha Dias, Consejera, Consejo Nacional de los Derechos de la Mujer, Ministerio de Justicia

COSTA RICA

Representante/Representative:

- Gloria Valerín Rodríguez, Ministra de la Condición de la Mujer

CUBA

Representante/Representative:

- Magalys Arocha Domínguez, Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores de la Federación de Mujeres Cubanas

CHILE

Representante/Representative:

- Adriana Delpiano Puelma, Ministra, Directora, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer (SERNAM)

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Teresa Rodríguez, Jefa del Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales y Cooperación del Servicio Nacional de la Mujer
- María Soledad Gómez, Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales y Cooperación del Servicio Nacional de la Mujer
- Gladys Eugenia Zalaquett, Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales y Cooperación del Servicio Nacional de la Mujer
- Andrés Benavides, Tercer Secretario, Departamento Naciones Unidas, Dirección de Política Multilateral, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

ECUADOR

Representante/Representative:

- Lola Villaquirán de Espinosa, Directora Ejecutiva del Consejo Nacional de Mujeres (CONAMU)

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Lily Jara, Directora/Especialista, Área de Comunicación e Información del Consejo Nacional de Mujeres
- Isabel Albornoz, Segunda Secretaria de la Embajada del Ecuador en Chile

ESPAÑA

SPAIN

Representante/Representative:

- Rafael Garranzo, Consejero de Cooperación, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional



Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Félix Juárez, Experto en Cooperación Internacional, Oficina Técnica de Cooperación de la Embajada de España en Chile
- Beatriz Lorenzo, Encargada de Becas y Seguimiento de Proyectos, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional

GUATEMALA

Representante/Representative:

- Irma Ruth Barrera Arenales, Directora Ejecutiva, Oficina Nacional de la Mujer, Ministerio del Trabajo y Previsión Social

HAITÍ

Representante/Representative:

- Guy Pierre André, Embajador de Haití en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Guerda Amazan Cantave, Chef de Service de Recherche et Documentation, Direction d'Orientation et d'Intégration Socio-économique, Ministère à la Condition Féminine et aux Droits de la Femme
- Marie Mercie Etienne Desravines, Educadora/Promotora, Dirección de Orientación, Ministerio de la Mujer

HONDURAS

Representante/Representative:

- Miriam Elizabeth Mejía de Crespo, Subsecretaria de Gobernación y Justicia, Presidenta de la Junta Directiva del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer, Subsecretaria del Ministerio de Gobernación

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member:

- María Mercedes Hernández Reyes, Subdirectora del Instituto Nacional Agrario con rango de Viceministro, Miembro de la Junta Directiva del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

MÉXICO

Representante/Representative:

- Aída González, Embajadora, Coordinadora de Asuntos Internacionales de la Mujer, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Sandra Samaniego Breach, Directora General de Seguimiento y Asuntos Internacionales, Comisión Nacional de la Mujer
- Marcela Eternod, Directora de Estudios Sociodemográficos, Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática
- Elda Patricia Paz Gutiérrez, Cónsul, Embajada de México en Chile

PAÍSES BAJOS  
NETHERLANDS

Representante/Representative:

- Menno Lenstra, Primer Secretario, Embajada de los Países Bajos en Chile

PANAMÁ

Representante/Representative:

- Elia de Tulipano, Directora Nacional de la Mujer, Ministerio de la Juventud, la Mujer, la Niñez y la Familia

PARAGUAY

Representante/Representative:

- Cristina Muñoz, Ministra de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Lylian Mires, Asesora de Gabinete de la Ministra de la Mujer
- Hebe Chaves, Asesora, Secretaría de la Mujer
- Carlos Scavone, Ministro, Embajada del Paraguay en Chile
- Haydée Dienstmaier, Primera Secretaria, Embajada del Paraguay en Chile

PERÚ

Representante/Representative:

- Luisa María Cuculiza, Ministra de Promoción de la Mujer y del Desarrollo Humano (PROMUDEH)

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Nancy Tolentino, Gerenta de Promoción de la Mujer y del Desarrollo Humano (PROMUDEH)
- Patricia Raez Portocarrero, Segundo Secretario, Embajada del Perú en Chile

PORTUGAL

Representante/Representative:

- Ligia Nobrega, Técnica Superior Primera, Comisión para la Igualdad y los Derechos de las Mujeres

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Representante/Representative:

- Yadira Henríquez, Secretaria de Estado de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Nora Nivar de Fernández, Subsecretaria Técnica, Secretaría de Estado de la Mujer
- Sergia Galván, Encargada de Asuntos Internacionales, Secretaría de Estado de la Mujer

VENEZUELA

Representante/Representative:

- Delma Miralles, Ministro Consejero, Encargada de Negocios a.i., Embajada de Venezuela en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Reyna Arratia, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer (INAMU)
- Chafica Fina Jurdi, Segundo Secretario de la Embajada de Venezuela en Chile
- Gilberto Jaimes Correa, Agregado Comercial de la Embajada de Venezuela en Chile

**B. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas  
United Nations bodies  
Organisations rattachées à l'Organisation des Nations Unies**

Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (FNUAP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/Fonds des Nations Unies pour la population (FNUAP)

- Belkys Mones, Asesora en Género, Población y Desarrollo/Advisor on Gender Issues, Population and Development

Programa Mundial de Alimentos (PMA)/World Food Programme (WFP)/Programme alimentaire mondial (PAM)

- Lucía Echeopar, Asesora Principal de Programas/Principal Programme Advisor

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD)

- Thierry Lemaesquier, Representante Residente/Resident Representative
- María José Moreno, Oficial de Programas/ Programme Officer

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)/Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (FISE)

- Gladys Acosta Vargas, Regional Advisor for Women and Gender Equity
- Eleonor Faur, Gender Focal Point in Argentina

Fondo de Desarrollo de las Naciones Unidas para la Mujer (UNIFEM)/United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)/Fonds de développement des Nations Unies pour la femme (UNIFEM)

- Guadalupe Espinosa, Directora Regional para México, Centroamérica, República Dominicana y Cuba/ Regional Director for Mexico, Central America, Dominican Republic and Cuba

Programa Común de las Naciones Unidas sobre el VIH/SIDA/Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)/Programme Commun des Nations Unies sur le VIH/SIDA

- Pedro Chequer, Senior Country Program Advisor, Latin American Desk

**C. Organismos especializados**  
**Specialized agencies**  
**Institutions spécialisées**

Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/International Labour Office (ILO)/Organisation internationale du travail (OIT)

- Lais Abramo, Especialista en Cuestiones de Mujer y Género/Expert on Women's Issues and Gender

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)/Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture

- Marcela Ballara, Regional Officer (Women in Development)

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO)/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/Organisation des Nations Unies pour la science et la culture (UNESCO)

- María Luisa Jáuregui, Especialista en Educación, Coordinadora para Asuntos de Género/Specialist in Education, Coordinator for Gender Issues

Organización Mundial de la Salud-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OMS-OPS)/World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (WHO-PAHO)/Organisation mondiale de la santé-Organisation panaméricaine de la santé (OMS-OPS)

- Elsa Gómez, Programa Mujer, Salud y Desarrollo
- Lily Carabantes, Coordinadora del Grupo Interagencial de Género y Avance de la Mujer del Sistema de Naciones Unidas en Guatemala

Unión Internacional de Telecomunicaciones (UIT)/International Telecommunications Union (ITU)/Union internationale des télécommunications (UIT)

- Mónica Millán, Secretaria Oficina de Área UIT

**D. Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales**  
**Other intergovernmental organizations**  
**Autres organisations intergouvernementales**

Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica (BCIE)/Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)/Banque centraméricaine d'intégration économique (BCIE)

- Norma Marina Díaz Gómez, Departamento de Desarrollo Sostenible

Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)/Banque interaméricaine de développement (BID)

- Gabriela Vega, Especialista en Desarrollo Social en la Unidad de la Mujer en Desarrollo

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)/Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences/Faculté latino-américaine de sciences sociales

- Teresa Valdés, Subdirectora Académica

Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA)/Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture/Institut interaméricain de coopération pour l'agriculture

- José Nagel, Representante del IICA en Chile

Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)/Organisation des États américains

- Mercedes Kremenetzky, Especialista Principal de la Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres

Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres (CIM)/Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW)/Commission interaméricaine des femmes (OAS)

**E. Secretaría  
Secretariat  
Secrétariat**

**Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)/Commission économique pour l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes (CEPALC)**

José Antonio Ocampo, Secretario Ejecutivo/Executive Secretary  
 Reynaldo Bajraj, Secretario Ejecutivo Adjunto/Deputy Executive Secretary  
 Sonia Montaña, Jefa, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo/Chief, Women and Development Unit  
 Nieves Rico, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo/Social Affairs Officer, Women and Development Unit  
 Diane Alméras, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo/Social Affairs Officer, Women and Development Unit  
 Lieve Daeren, Experta, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo/Expert, Women and Development Unit  
 Raúl García Buchaca, Oficial de Programas, División de Planificación de Programas y Operaciones/Programme Officer, Programme Planning and Operations Division  
 Luis Yáñez, Asesor Legal, Oficina del Secretario de la Comisión/Legal Advisor, Office of the Secretary of the Commission  
 Irma Arriagada, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, División de Desarrollo Social/Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division  
 Rosa Bravo, Asistente de Estadística, División de Estadísticas/Statistical Assistant, Statistics Division  
 Daniela Simioni, Oficial de Asentamientos Humanos, División de Medio Ambiente y Asentamientos Humanos/Human Settlements Officer, Environment and Human Settlements Division  
 Soledad Parada, Consultora, Unidad de Desarrollo Agrícola/Consultant, Agricultural Development Unit  
 Thelma Gálvez, Consultora, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo/Consultant, Women and Development Unit

**Sede Subregional de la CEPAL para el Caribe/ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean/Bureau sous-régional de la CEPALC pour les Caraïbes**

Roberta Clarke, Social Affairs Officer

**Sede Subregional de la CEPAL en México/ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico/Bureau sous-régional de la CEPALC à Mexico**

Pilar Vidal, Asistente de investigación, Programa Mujer y Desarrollo/Research Assistant, Women and Development Programme