

**UNITED NATIONS**

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR LATIN AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC**



Distr.  
LIMITED

LC/L.1579(MDM.33/2)  
13 August 2001

ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 9-11 October 2001

## **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

### **A. BACKGROUND**

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean is a permanent subsidiary organ of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The Conference is convened at regular intervals of no more than three years in fulfilment of the mandates contained in the Regional Plan of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean as adopted at the sixth session of the Regional Conference, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, in September 1994.

At their thirtieth meeting, which took place in Lima in February 2000, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed that one of their two annual meetings would be open to all member countries of the Conference and that it would be held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

At their thirty-second meeting, held in San José, Costa Rica, in April 2001, the Presiding Officers decided to open their thirty-third meeting to all member countries and to hold it at the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

### **B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Presiding Officers will have before them the following provisional agenda (LC/L.1565(MDM.33/1)) for their adoption or modification.

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Review of activities relating to poverty eradication carried out by the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-second 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, 5-9 June 2000)
4. Report on activities relating to poverty eradication carried out by specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations
5. High-level seminar on gender mainstreaming in public policies in Latin America and the Caribbean (one and one-half days devoted to special panel sessions)
6. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat
7. Other matters

## **2. Review of activities relating to poverty eradication carried out by the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers**

(a) In accordance with agreement No. 9 as adopted by the Presiding Officers at their thirty-second meeting, whereby they decided to undertake an examination at their next meeting of substantive issues to be considered by the Commission on the Status of Women and to incorporate therein the subject of poverty eradication,<sup>1</sup> the secretariat will submit a report on the activities conducted by all substantive divisions of the Commission that have a bearing on the integration of women into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean, with special emphasis on poverty. The secretariat's report will be presented by its Population Division (CELADE) and the Women and Development Unit.

### **Working documents**

- 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 July 2000 to 30 June 2001
- Jorge Rodríguez Vignoli (2000), *Vulnerabilidad y grupos vulnerables: un marco de referencia conceptual mirando a los jóvenes* (LC/R.2043), ECLAC Population Division (CELADE)

### **Reference documents**

- ECLAC, Women and Development Unit (2001), "Género y pobreza: los mandatos internacionales y regionales"
- John Durston (2001), "¿Qué es el capital social comunitario?"

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<sup>1</sup> ECLAC, Report of the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3)), paragraph 44, agreement 9.

- Roberto Pizarro Hofer (2001), "La vulnerabilidad social y sus desafíos: una mirada desde América Latina" (LC/L.1490-P), ECLAC Statistics and Economic Projections Division
- Report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development, Bogotá, Colombia, 9 and 10 November 2000 (LC/G.2132(CONF.89/4))

(b) The members of ECLAC represented by the Presiding Officers will report on activities relating to the eradication of poverty that have been carried out at the national and regional levels since the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers and will evaluate their results.

### Reference document

- Guidelines for the presentation of oral and written reports of the member countries of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

### 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, 5-9 June 2000)

(a) Member countries of the Regional Conference will report on the progress made by the countries of the region in signing and ratifying the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in accordance with agreement No. 7 as adopted at the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers, whereby they resolved to call upon the legislative bodies of the countries that had not yet done so to expedite completion of the procedures leading to the signature, approval or ratification of that instrument.<sup>2</sup>

(b) In accordance with agreement No. 12 as adopted at the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers,<sup>3</sup> the secretariat will present a comparative study of the measures and initiatives set forth in the substantive document which emerged 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 their application in member countries, particularly as they relate to poverty eradication.

### Working document

- Comparative analysis of the Lima Consensus and "Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action"

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<sup>2</sup> ECLAC, Report of the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3)), paragraph 44, agreement 7.

<sup>3</sup> ECLAC, Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)), paragraph 54, agreement 12.

**4. Report on activities relating to poverty eradication carried out by specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations**

The representatives of specialized agencies, other organizations within the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies in attendance will report on activities carried out since the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers, especially as they relate to the eradication of poverty in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Reference document**

- Written reports presented by organizations participating in the meeting of the Presiding Officers

**5. High-level seminar on gender mainstreaming in public policies in Latin America and the Caribbean**

(a) At their thirty-second meeting the Presiding Officers decided that the main topic to be addressed at the thirty-third meeting would be gender mainstreaming in public policies and that this topic would be considered within the framework of a high-level seminar in which both sectoral ministers and experts would participate.<sup>4</sup> This high-level seminar will be structured as follows:

- An analysis will be presented by the Chief of the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC of regional experiences with gender mainstreaming in public policies;
- The first panel will focus on public policies aimed at ensuring equality between men and women. Government ministers from Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic are scheduled to take part in this panel. Time will be set aside following their presentations for comments and questions by other delegates;
- The second panel will focus on gender mainstreaming in the judicial system and human rights. Government ministers from Ecuador and the Dominican Republic are scheduled to take part in this panel. Time will be set aside following their presentations for comments and questions by other delegates;
- The third panel will focus on gender mainstreaming in the health care system. Government ministers from Argentina, Cuba and Mexico are scheduled to take part in this panel. Time will be set aside following their presentations for comments and questions by other delegates;
- The fourth panel will focus on theoretical and methodological challenges for gender mainstreaming in the region's development policies. Prominent experts are scheduled to take part in this panel. Time will be set aside for a general discussion following the panelists' presentations.

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<sup>4</sup> ECLAC, Report of the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3)), paragraph 44, agreement 15.

(b) The panelists' presentations, the content of discussions and comments and the conclusions reached at the high-level seminar will be compiled in a special publication which will be distributed as a separate document rather than being incorporated into the report of the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers.

#### **Reference document**

- Written reports prepared by the countries on gender mainstreaming in public policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

### **6. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat**

(a) In accordance with agreement No. 3 as adopted at the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers,<sup>5</sup> the secretariat will inform the participants about the postponement of the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean until 2004 so that regional follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, can be harmonized with the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

(b) Taking into consideration agreement No. 9 as adopted at the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers, which called for a technical meeting to be convened for the purpose of harmonizing systems of gender indicators in the region,<sup>6</sup> the secretariat will report to the participants on preparations for a meeting on gender statistics and indicators for measuring the occurrence of violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean and trends in this respect, which is to be held in La Paz, Bolivia, from 21 to 23 November 2001. This meeting will take place within the framework of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003, as approved at the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held at ECLAC headquarters from 9 to 11 May 2001.

- (c) The Presiding Officers will determine what activities are to be undertaken in the future.

### **7. Other matters**

Consideration will be given to any other issues that the delegations feel to be of interest.

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<sup>5</sup> ECLAC, Report of the thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3)), paragraph 44, agreement 3.

<sup>6</sup> ECLAC, Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)), paragraph 54, agreement 9.

