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**NINTH 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, 12 September 2000)

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Mandate

1. The ninth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in compliance with the provisions of the Regional Plan of Action adopted at the first session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, held in Havana, Cuba, in 1977. Furthermore, at the United Nations inter-agency coordination meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago, Chile, on 6 May 1999, the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations asked the Commission to assume responsibility for the general follow-up of new cooperation and coordination mechanisms in the region.

Place and date of the meeting

2. In compliance with the above-mentioned mandates, the ninth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women was held in Santiago, Chile, on 12 September 2000.

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Labour Organization (ILO), Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). Also present at the meeting were representatives of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW/OAS).

B. AGENDA

4. The participants at the ninth meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Activities relating to women in Latin America and the Caribbean carried out or planned within the framework of the United Nations system since the eighth session of the

Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000)

3. Analysis of 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. Presentation on the inter-agency project on gender indicators prepared by the ECLAC secretariat in accordance with agreement No. 6 reached at 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
5. Presentation on the inter-agency project on mechanisms for the advancement of women prepared by the ECLAC secretariat in accordance with agreement No. 6 reached at 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
6. Follow-up to resolution 3(VIII) on regional cooperation in mainstreaming the gender perspective, as adopted by the Regional Conference at its eighth session
7. Priority tasks and cooperation strategies for regional inter-agency coordination
8. Other matters

C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

5. After welcoming participants, the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) referred to the presentation made by Mrs. Angela King, Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women at the panel discussion of the Economic and Social Council on the main challenges faced by the United Nations system in its effort to provide integrated and coordinated support for the agreements adopted at world conferences (New York, July 2000). After reviewing the advances made in implementing the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, he recalled the issues identified by the Special Adviser as some of the most important new challenges for women, namely, the trend towards globalization, which had both positive and negative implications for women, empowerment of women at all levels of decision-making, access to quality education, access to adequate sexual and reproductive health care services, the pandemic of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), involving men in certain tasks so as to promote gender equity and eliminate gender stereotypes.

6. The Deputy Executive Secretary said that the meeting marked another step forward in the direction outlined by the Special Adviser; the traditional regional meeting of specialized organizations and other bodies was worthy of emulation, since it brought home to participants their responsibility in terms of living up to the expectations that had been generated.

Activities relating to women in Latin America and the Caribbean carried out or planned within the framework of the United Nations system since the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) (agenda item 2)

7. The Principal Programme Adviser of the World Food Programme (WFP) presented a written report on the main activities conducted by that body in South American, Central American and Caribbean countries. She said that the priority at the last session had been on indicators and the need for further efforts to build awareness among their government counterparts of how gender issues impinge on food production, an area in which UNFPA and UNIFEM were collaborating. One of the major concerns for WFP, although outside of its traditional sphere of action, was the provision of literacy programmes for rural women, since illiteracy was an obstacle to women's participation in decision-making. The organization was therefore promoting open dialogue at the national level to address the issue, with the forthcoming dialogues scheduled to take place in Peru, Bolivia and Nicaragua.

8. The FAO representative submitted a written report on the priority activities carried out under the organization's Plan of Action for the integration of women in rural development (1996-2001). She said that the impact indicators developed to facilitate the follow-up of the Plan were proving useful in internal discussions for the formulation of the Plan 2000-2007. FAO was also giving special attention to providing training to public-sector officials in the formulation of gender-sensitive projects, the highlight of which would be a two-week seminar/workshop in Nicaragua, in October, which would be attended by 30 officials from ministries of agriculture in the region. Agreements had been signed with the Centre for Marketing Information and Advisory Services for Fishery Products in Latin America (INFOPECSA) to support the establishment of a regional network of women engaged in small-scale fishing and on the organization's willingness to initiate activities relating to the use of pesticides, which affected particularly women and children.

9. The UNICEF regional adviser on women and gender equity presented a written document on the Fund's priority projects for the advancement of women in the region and reported on the preliminary work and technical assistance activities for the preparatory ministerial meetings of the tenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government scheduled to be held in Panama in November 2000. She said that the agenda for the Summit would, for the first time, include the issue of childhood and adolescence. Preparations were also being made for a special appraisal session of the General Assembly on the outcome of the World Summit for Children (New York, September 1990) to be held in 2001 to identify the unmet goals along with the challenges for the next decade. One of the important tasks in that regard would be the construction of qualitative appraisal indicators; 20 countries in the region from the local UNICEF offices would collaborate on the analytical work, which would serve as a basis for further commitments. Lastly, one of the new challenges for the organization was to integrate adolescents as well as children into its work and to ensure a true gender perspective.

10. The UNDP Resident Representative in Chile said that the organization's new approach was to strengthen its work in the area of gender equity, including measuring methodologies. Collaborating with ministries, such as the ministries of the economy, in formulating public policies was vital and UNDP wished to participate with authorities to foster dialogue, especially with regard to budgets. The bodies in the United Nations system needed stronger coordination forums. He drew attention to the difficulties UNDP itself encountered in its efforts at subregional programming. The programmes launched in Central America and the Caribbean for poverty alleviation and the advancement of gender equity had been highly

successful and should be extended to the Andean countries and those of the Southern Cone subregion. In that regard, country reports on human development should be standardized.

11. The ILO Principal Specialist on Gender Issues for Latin America and the Caribbean reported on the revision of Convention 103 concerning maternity protection at the eighty-eighth meeting of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, May 2000). She said that it had been a controversial process since the idea was to adapt maternity protection to new situations in the labour world and the trend towards globalization. She referred to the ILO institution-building programme and to the organization's interest in providing training workshops and technical assistance to member countries on gender, poverty and employment; Chile had made advances in that regard with the establishment of the Forum for Social Dialogue on Women and Employment. The regional project on collective bargaining sought to establish to what extent clauses for the elimination of discrimination against women were being incorporated in collective bargaining contracts. The organization was deeply interested in indicators and their capacity to measure compliance with commitments.

12. The IDB specialist on social development said that the Women in Development Program Unit of the Bank placed a great deal of emphasis on financing and had succeeded in ensuring the review of all projects to ensure that they incorporated the gender perspective. Whereas the focus of the Unit's agenda continued to be issues such as violence against women and women's health, the review of projects was aimed at preparing indicators based on absolute results as well as on the way the process operated; a sample of projects was examined to see whether the gender perspective had been incorporated at the design phase and, if not, whether it had been applied by the team of project officers at the time of execution. Indicators were designed for the following main areas of analysis: poverty and inequality, and human development, with emphasis on health and education. Lastly, since the IDB annual meeting for 2001 was scheduled to be held in Santiago, consideration was being given to the possibility of organizing a joint meeting with ECLAC on the issue of gender indicators.

13. The Adviser on Gender, Population and Development of the UNFPA Technical Support Team for Latin America and the Caribbean reported on the Fund's review of its system of indicators based on the monitoring project being executed jointly with the Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network. The system, which included an Internet-linked database, sought to monitor improvement in healthcare services, the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS and the participation of women in decision-making through the use of indicators that measure the impact, process and results of such initiatives. Other important areas of intervention for UNFPA were ensuring that sexual and reproductive rights were treated as priorities on parliamentary agendas throughout the region, providing support for the establishment of national machineries for the advancement of gender equity—including the creation of the Institute of Women in Mexico and the Secretariat of State for Women in the Dominican Republic—and promoting the monitoring system for school curricula established with UNESCO. Lastly, she stressed the need to monitor activities for incorporating the gender perspective in cross-disciplinary cooperation programmes and reiterated the Fund's support for strengthening inter-agency teams on gender issues within the United Nations system.

14. The UNESCO coordinator for gender issues presented a report on the organization's activities in follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action and said that a new statistical institute had been set up as well as a system of indicators on science, technology and education, which would be placed at the disposal of participants in the meeting. The institution's agenda continued to place emphasis on issues such as the

masculinity ratio and the promotion of a culture of peace. Various follow-up meetings were being sponsored by the organization on education, including the regional meeting to appraise the implementation of the outcome of the World Conference on Education for All (Dominican Republic, February 2001), the regional meeting of ministers of education scheduled for late October in Bolivia and, lastly, the tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas on Adolescence (Lima, Peru, October 2000); in connection with which UNESCO was collaborating with UNFPA and UNICEF with a view to the including sex education on the agenda.

15. The IACW/OAS Senior Specialist on Gender reported on the first meeting of ministers and high-level authorities on gender policies in member states, which culminated in the adoption of the Inter-American Programme on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (Washington, D.C., 27-28 April 2000). She referred to the objectives of the Programme and to the mechanisms being proposed in order to integrate systematically the gender perspective in all the organs, bodies and entities of the Inter-American system and said that delegates had reiterated their support for the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, the Beijing Platform for Action and the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas. Turning to the IACW project on international trafficking in women and children, she said that additional resources were needed for the construction of a database and for combating trafficking.

16. The PAHO Regional Adviser referred firstly to the inter-agency work in preparation for the symposium on violence scheduled to be held in Lima in November 2000 to facilitate dialogue between ministries of health, government offices for women's affairs and civil society organizations. She said that a system of indicators and of monitoring was being designed to document patterns and trends in gender disparities in the area of health with a view to guiding public policy, taking into account the state of healthcare for both sexes, access to quality care, financing and the participation of women in formal and informal decision-making processes relating to the healthcare system. She said that the organization had received financing for a cross-disciplinary project for mainstreaming the gender perspective in the reformed health systems in the region; the project in question comprised three basic components involving the participation of both government agencies and civil societies: production and dissemination of information, strengthening the capacity of actors and institutionalization of participatory systems for monitoring and accountability. She also mentioned the integration project on the gender perspective in environmental health programmes, especially in relation to the use of pesticides in Central America and advocated the creation of more efficient inter-agency cooperation mechanisms at the country level.

17. The UNIFEM Regional Director for Mexico, Central America, Dominican Republic and Cuba reported that on the Fund's agenda, priority was being given to education, the problem of violence against women and economic justice, with special emphasis on poverty alleviation. As examples of the different approaches adopted for each issue by the different subregional offices, she mentioned, firstly, the exercise being conducted in countries of the Southern Common Market (Mercosur) to monitor the situation in terms of economic justice in the Southern Cone, and secondly, Costa Rica's coordination activities in support of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. She drew attention to the advances made in Cuba in preparing gender-sensitive budgets and said that significant efforts had been made to construct poverty indicators. She also expressed concern for the lack of communication between gender focal points and at the executive level of many organizations of the United Nations system, which impeded efforts to coordinate their respective activities. She advocated

strengthening the role of ECLAC and fostering a true commitment to the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all programmes and projects.

18. The IOM representative reviewed briefly the efforts to integrate the gender perspective in the work of the organization and explained that the main factor of change had been the conceptualization of women as subjects, whose situation as migrants incorporated variables that were distinct from those experienced by men. She reported on the establishment of an information centre on women migrants which was already operating in Santiago, Chile.

19. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC reported on the additional mandates for inter-agency coordination received by ECLAC, especially the coordination of the working group on gender indicators for an impact analysis and monitoring of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the United Nations (New York, 23-25 February 2000). She also referred to the Unit's efforts to incorporate the gender perspective in inter-agency activities relating to the national machineries for the advancement of women and to harmonize the use of gender indicators in the formulation of public policy. After giving some successful examples of how the gender issue had been incorporated into the internal activities of ECLAC, such as the statistical analysis prepared for the *Social Panorama 1999-2000*, she expressed concern as to the real scope of such integration and, since other participants seemed to share that concern with respect to their own organizations, suggested adopting it as the theme for the next inter-agency meeting.

20. The Social Affairs Officer of the Women and Development Unit outlined the progress made in executing the project "Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectoral ministries", which was designed to strengthen and consolidate an institutional approach to mainstreaming the gender perspective in the research and cooperation activities for development being carried out by ECLAC, in addition to supporting the same process in selected countries in the region, namely, Argentina, Ecuador and El Salvador. The principal achievements were the establishment of tripartite working groups in countries covered by the project and the efforts made to bring the ECLAC project in line with those conducted in each country by other organizations within the United Nations system. The project had been a good opportunity to create alliances and open up scope for collaboration with other agencies, as witness the cooperation with PAHO, ILO and UNIFEM in Ecuador and UNDP support for the implementation of the El Salvador project.

21. The representative of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico reported on the efforts made by the Social Development Unit to incorporate the gender perspective in the substantive activities of that office and in the countries of the Central American subregion. She mentioned the study entitled "Vulnerabilidad social y económica de los jóvenes marginados en México, El Salvador, Nicaragua y Panamá" and the compilation of quantitative and qualitative information for the document "Indicadores básicos de la subregión norte de América Latina y el Caribe (LC/MEX/L.326/Rev.1), for which increasing amounts of sex-disaggregated data were being collected. She said that a document was being prepared on the labour situation and on the education of rural women in Central America, for which she was relying on the data provided in the statistical annex of the *Social Panorama 1999-2000*, published by the ECLAC headquarters, where, for the first time, sex-disaggregated data had been provided for a wide selection of rural and urban variables.

22. The Social Affairs Officer of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean referred to the activities for strengthening national machineries developed by that office. They had included the publication of a study on the integration of the gender perspective in 10 countries of the subregion and in the CARICOM secretariat, a three-day workshop for presentation of the study and identification of the technical cooperation requirements and the delivery of technical assistance reports to Antigua and Barbuda, and Saint Kitts and Nevis. During the period, the subregional headquarters had also worked, in conjunction with the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA), on the issue of violence against women, specifically on training for high-level police officials in Caribbean countries, and planning a meeting on the issue with non-independent countries in the subregion, scheduled to be held in Barbados in February 2001. As regards poverty, one of the most pressing issues in the subregion, ECLAC had also participated in poverty evaluations at the country level and was preparing for a seminar on macroeconomics and gender to be held in October.

Analysis of 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) (agenda item 3)

23. The UNDP Resident Representative in Chile expressed concern at what he perceived as policy exhaustion in many countries, which made it difficult for democracy to generate citizenship and equal opportunities. A number of participating organizations endorsed that assessment and the UNICEF Regional Adviser added that, in her view, one of the elements of that crisis of tools for democracy was the lack of participation by women. As regards other forms of exclusion, she said Caribbean countries were not sufficiently integrated at the regional level in the programming of the United Nations system and it was necessary for all bodies to incorporate them as soon as possible in their activities.

24. As regards the role of organization within the United Nations system at the special session of the General Assembly, the general consensus was that the lack of coordination of activities relating to mainstreaming the gender perspective in institutional agendas was due mainly to the absence of internal coordination among gender advisers and at the management level. The UNESCO representative regretted that there had not been an inter-agency evaluation of the performance of the system following the special session.

25. In terms of the work needed to address that problem, participating organizations agreed that directors of international organizations needed to strengthen their commitment to mainstreaming the gender perspective in the activities of the organizations under their responsibility.

Presentation on the inter-agency project on gender indicators prepared by the ECLAC secretariat in accordance with agreement No. 6 reached at 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 (agenda item 4)

26. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit presented the project “Making Gender Indicators Available for Policy-Making”, prepared in response to the mandate received by ECLAC at the preceding inter-agency meeting. She said that the main objective of the project was to reinforce the capacity —of countries and of the United Nations system as a whole— to use gender indicators in the formulation of public policy and to ensure that such indicators were comparable and integrated. The scope of that effort

was directly related to the amount of funding available, although with the resources of the Unit, the first phase of establishment of the current situation of indicators in the region had already been started and it was imperative to secure external funding and to determine the level of commitment of the participating organizations.

27. The representatives of participating organizations considered the project to be of great value and expressed their interest in taking part in it. They sought clarifications on the budget and undertook to make enquiries on the prospects for collaboration and to inform the ECLAC secretariat accordingly.

Presentation on the inter-agency project on mechanisms for the advancement of women prepared by the ECLAC secretariat in accordance with agreement No. 6 reached at 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 (agenda item 5)

28. The consultant of the Women and Development Unit presented the rationale and the broad lines of the project for “Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with gender perspective”, prepared once again in response to the mandate received at the preceding meeting. She said that the project had two components, one for research and the other for intervention and that the main research objectives were to give an insight into the processes, actors and strategies at the national level and to identify the networks where those actors performed in order to generate technical assistance proposals for the intervention component geared towards strengthening national machineries.

29. Participants expressed interest in the project as well as concern at the importance being given to the research component. They felt the need to translate the project language into institutional policies that would enable them to negotiate their participation and obtain support and financing from their respective organizations. Interpreting the reaction of the group, the WFP representative suggested integrating the research component into the project so as to incorporate intervention actions periodically with specific results.

Follow-up to resolution 3(VIII) on regional cooperation in mainstreaming the gender perspective, as adopted by the Regional Conference at its eighth session (agenda item 6)

30. The Associate Social Affairs Officer reported on the results of the work carried out in fulfilment of resolution 3 (VIII) of the eighth Meeting of the Regional Conference on the activities of the ECLAC secretariat relating to regional cooperation for gender mainstreaming, for which she 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”. The organizations within the United Nations system (including the participants at the present meeting) that she had approached for the information required for designing the database contemplated by the resolution had given their full cooperation. Although the database was still being constructed, she had wished to present a progress report in order to give an idea of the breadth of coverage in the region in terms of project execution, strategic orientation and concentration of international organizations. She asked the organizations represented to review the data on their activities and send any other relevant information as soon as possible.

31. Representatives of participating organizations were extremely interested in having such databases and stressed the importance of keeping them updated. Their value lay not only in their relevance for inter-agency coordination or accountability vis-à-vis the countries of the international community; they were also valuable internally for purposes of supporting political negotiations for mainstreaming the gender perspective in each organization.

Priority tasks and cooperation strategies for regional inter-agency coordination (agenda item 7)

32. The organizations represented at the meeting adopted a series of agreements for strengthening the high-level of support received by the focal points for gender matters in their respective organizations and for enhancing inter-agency coordination.

Other matters (agenda item 8)

33. No other matters were raised.

D. AGREEMENTS ADOPTED

34. Participants at the meeting reached the following agreements:

1. To strengthen inter-agency coordination forums at the regional and national levels between United Nations organizations, to request ECLAC, UNDP, UNIFEM and UNFPA to establish a working group whose mandate would be to design a strategy for speeding up incorporation of the gender perspective in the work of coordination and the programming priorities of the bodies of the United Nations system and to present it at the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations Staff College to be held in ECLAC in November 2000;
2. To strengthen commitment at the highest level to the agreements of the Economic and Social Council on mainstreaming the gender perspective in the work of the United Nations system, to request the ECLAC/UNDP/UNIFEM/UNFPA working group to send a written reminder to the Directors of all organizations in the system underscoring the importance of working together on the Common Country Assessment processes and under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) established by the United Nations Development Group (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP) and urging that these entities adopt a gender approach from their inception;
3. To urge participating organizations to intensify efforts to open up opportunities for exchange with Caribbean countries;
4. To ask the Commission—in view of the need to harmonize gender indicators applied in the region—to specify more precisely the deadlines for execution of the project entitled “Making Gender Indicators Available for Policy Making” and to include a budget detailing the contributions expected from each body within the United Nations system;
5. To advise the ECLAC secretariat of the scope and nature of its participation in the project on indicators within six weeks of receiving the revised version;
6. Bearing in mind the concern for strengthening national machineries for the advancement of women in the region, to request the Commission to amend the project “Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with gender perspective” in order to link

them more directly with the research and intervention components and give a breakdown of the budgetary implications;

7. To send in their final comments and concrete proposals for participation in the project within six weeks of receiving the corrected version circulated by ECLAC;
8. In view of the concern for the sometimes unforeseeable effects of mainstreaming the gender perspective in the work of the organizations within the United Nations system, to suggest that the next inter-agency meeting should give careful consideration to ways of integrating the gender perspective in the work of each participating organization in terms of project execution, thematic priorities and budgetary decisions;
9. To request the Commission to send all relevant correspondence requiring comment not only to the persons responsible for their formulation but also to the Office of the Executive Director or Executive Secretary of each organization in order to secure the necessary mandate;
10. To support the work carried out by the ECLAC secretariat in compliance with Resolution 3 (VIII) of the Regional Conference on Women and to stress the need for periodic updates.

Annex

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

United Nations programmes and specialized agencies

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Marcela Ballara, Chief Officer, Women in Development

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Lais Abramo, Principal Specialist on Gender Issues for Latin America and the Caribbean

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Sara Ward, Head, Center for Information on Migration in Latin America

Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)

Elsa Gómez, Regional Adviser

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Gladys Acosta Vargas, Asesora regional sobre mujeres y equidad de género
Eleonor Faur, Gender Focal Point - Argentina

United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

Guadalupe Espinosa, Regional Director for Mexico, Central America, Dominican Republic and Cuba
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Thierry Lemarisquier, Resident Representative
Sylvia Broder, Senior Programme Officer
María José Moreno, Programme Officer

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

María Luisa Jáuregui, Education Specialist, Coordinator for Gender Issues

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Belkys Mones, Gender Adviser, Population and Development Technical Support Team for Latin America and the Caribbean

World Food Programme (WFP)

Lucía Echeopar, Senior Programme Adviser

Intergovernmental organizations

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Gabriela Vega, Specialist on Social Development, Women in Development Unit

Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW/OAS)

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