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CEPAL
 Economic Commission for Latin America
 Preparatory Activities for the International Year
 of Disabled Persons (1981)
 Regional Technical Meeting and Regional Seminar
 Santiago, Chile, 5-11 November 1980

REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING
 5-7 November 1980

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. National measures envisaged towards the attainment of the objectives of the international Year of Disabled Persons.
4. The implementation of the IYDP Plan of Action to the benefit of the entire population and particularly those in rural areas.
5. Follow-up action on the activities of the Year.
6. Other matters relating to paragraph 14 of the Plan of Action.

NOTES ON THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING AND THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The purpose of the Regional Technical Meeting is to promote an exchange of national experience and to consider the most effective way to implement and follow up the objectives of the International Year of Disabled Persons from the standpoint of the institutions of each country.

Each Government is invited to nominate for the meeting officials responsible for programmes for the prevention of disability and the rehabilitation of disabled persons.

ITEM: National measures envisaged towards the attainment of the objectives of the International Year for Disabled Persons (IYDP)

This item will serve for the exchange of experience, since each country can benefit from the activities envisaged in others.

Member States should bear in mind the IYDP Plan of Action adopted by the General Assembly in Resolution 34/154. Some of the activities which could be undertaken at the national level are described in the IYDP Plan of Action, particularly paragraph 12.

Participants are requested to confine their statements to the sphere of the IYDP Plan of Action.

In view of the nature of the item, no documents will be distributed.

ITEM: The implementation of the IYDP Plan of Action to the benefit of the entire population and particularly those in rural areas

This item is considered to be of particular importance from the standpoint of the objectives of the IYDP. The aim is to tackle the specific problem arising from the wide gap, especially in developing countries, as regards the maldistribution of social services and the consequent disequilibrium between rural and urban areas. This point is particularly emphasized in the IYDP Plan of Action in paragraphs 1 to 12. The Secretariat will distribute a background document on this item, indicating the specific problems which arise when measures are expanded in rural areas. The scale and seriousness of these problems are common to all countries of the region, so that efforts to tackle them jointly will be very beneficial.

/ITEM:

ITEM: Follow-up action on the activities of the Year

The IYDP Plan of Action calls on governments to submit a national report to the United Nations Secretary-General by 31 March 1982 concerning the measures taken in observance of the Year.

The idea behind this item is to bring about some continuity in the activities envisaged for IYDP so that the project will have longlasting effects. Consideration of the Plan of Action will depend on the activities envisaged within the framework of the Year.

In order to examine and appraise the implementation of the IYDP Plan of Action and foster international exchanges and comparisons, it is desirable to have some benchmark or criteria with which to measure the progress made. The Secretariat of the Year will present some suggestions to that end for discussion during the regional meeting.

ITEM: Other matters relating to paragraph 14 of the Plan of Action

This refers to regional activities. In particular, it is recommended that the regional commissions, other regional intergovernmental organizations and/or interested governments should be urged to convene regional or subregional meetings or seminars to study the best possible means, within the different regions, of implementing the objectives of the Year and the principles of the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons, and to draw up proposals for a draft long-term plan of action.

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