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**TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL
CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

(Santiago, Chile, 16-18 November 1994)

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Mandate and objective

1. Paragraph 88, subparagraph 2, of the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, adopted in 1977 at the eleventh extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), stipulates that the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean will be the link between member Governments and the secretariat of ECLAC in the field of women's integration in development.
2. In accordance with the agreement reached at the sixth session of the Conference, the purpose of the meeting of the Presiding Officers was to consider and adopt the strategic actions proposed for inclusion in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. The meeting was open to countries not represented by the Presiding Officers, and to international organizations.

Place and date of the meeting

3. Pursuant to this mandate, the Presiding Officers who had been elected at the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean held their twentieth meeting on 16-18 November 1994 in Santiago, Chile.

Attendance

4. Attending the meeting were participants from the following countries represented by the Presiding Officers: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles and Uruguay. The following States members and associate member of ECLAC were also represented: Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Venezuela. Also, participating as an observer was a representative of the People's Republic of China. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following United Nations bodies: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). The following United Nations specialized agencies were also represented: International Labour Office (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), World Bank-International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Monetary Fund (IMF) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). In addition, the meeting was attended by representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States (IACW-OAS) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). Representatives of the Non-Governmental Forum on Women Beijing '95.

Chairperson and Rapporteur

5. The meeting was chaired by Ambassador Zelmira Regazzoli, head of the Argentine delegation. The functions of Rapporteur, entrusted to the Mexican delegation, were carried out by Ms. Gloria Brasdefer, Technical Secretary of the National Coordinating Committee for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

Agenda

6. The main item on the agenda was consideration and adoption of the strategic actions proposed by countries at the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean for inclusion in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001.

Documentation

7. Delegations had before them the following documents: Provisional agenda; Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (LC/L.868(MDM.20/2)); Material for preparing strategic actions (DDR/1), and Revised list of strategic actions proposed by the countries at the sixth session of the Regional Conference (DDR/2).

Opening meeting

8. Statements were made at the opening meeting by Mr. Gert Rosenthal, Executive Secretary of ECLAC; Ms. Josefina Bilbao, Minister-Director of the National Women's Service (SERNAM) of Chile; and Ambassador Zelmira Regazzoli, Chairperson of the Presiding Officers.

9. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC, after welcoming the participants, said that their task at the current meeting was very similar to that of a working group. At the sixth session of the Regional Conference, held at Mar del Plata, consensus had been reached on the final version of the Programme of Action, of which only the section on strategic actions remained to be completed. Considering that the region had played a leading role in international meetings on women's issues, he hoped that the countries could adopt a final document for submission to the General Assembly and, subsequently, to the forthcoming World Conference on Women.

10. The Minister-Director of the National Women's Service (SERNAM) of Chile briefly summarized the activities of SERNAM over the last year, and said that they were part of a process of consolidating and deepening democracy. She referred in particular to awareness campaigns and to the recent promulgation of a law on domestic violence. She noted that SERNAM had participated in the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo, and that Chile valued the progress being made internationally on women's issues and therefore attached great importance to the meeting of the Presiding Officers.

11. The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers said that the process of formulating the Regional Programme of Action was very close to completion. At the current meeting, the Presiding Officers would focus on a very important aspect of that process: the strategic actions to be included in the Programme. In approaching the overall objective of achieving women's full participation, it was important to take into account the rich cultural diversity of the region, as well as the issues of greatest concern to the countries. The World Conference on Women, which would take place at Beijing, would offer a valuable opportunity to consider the strategies adopted in the past and specific proposals for the future, from the perspective of a commitment to gender equity. In that regard, she stressed the responsibility involved in the task that lay before the participants in the current meeting.

B. AGREEMENTS

12. The participants in the meeting adopted the strategic actions contained in the annex to this report.

13. The delegations of Argentina, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru entered the following reservations:

Reservations and interpretations of Argentina

"The Argentine Republic enters a reservation with respect to the concept of 'reproductive health', wherever it is mentioned in the present Programme of Action, if it covers abortion as a method of birth control. The present reservation is based on the universal character of the right to life.

"The Argentine Republic enters a reservation with respect to strategic action II.3.i on account of the fact that the link between 'technologies' and 'reproductive roles' of women implies reference to scientific developments whose ethical aspects have yet to be regulated fully.

"The Argentine Republic declares that the concept of 'reproductive rights', wherever it is mentioned in the present Programme of Action, is interpreted according to article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as to paragraph 41 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993).

"The Argentine Republic declares that it accepts those paragraphs which refer to the concept of 'family', on the understanding that the meanings used do not alter its original meaning and basis, which is the union between man and woman for the purpose of producing offspring.

"The Argentine Republic, with respect to strategic action II.5.i, declares that the 'compulsory' nature formulated therein with respect to 'sex education' does not alter the principle that parents are primarily responsible for the education of their children, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child."

Reservations of the Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic supported the overall consensus reflected in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. However, it entered a reservation with respect to all paragraphs in which the following concepts appeared: i) reproductive rights; ii) reproductive health; iii) sexual health; iv) family structures and v) democratic relations.

Reservations of Ecuador

"The Government of Ecuador supports the overall consensus reflected in this Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001.

"It wishes, however, to enter the following reservations for inclusion in the final report of this meeting:

"The delegation of Ecuador, with respect to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, and in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic, the relevant laws and the principles of international law, reaffirms inter alia the following principles laid down in its Constitution: the inviolability of human life, the protection of the child from the moment of conception, freedom of conscience and religion, protection of the family as the fundamental unit in society, responsible parenthood, the right of parents to educate their children, and the formulation of population and development programmes by the national Government, in accordance with the principles of respect for sovereignty.

"Consequently, the Government of Ecuador enters a reservation with respect to expressions such as control of fecundity and fertility, termination of pregnancy, reproductive health, reproductive rights and unwanted pregnancy, which could in any way, within the context of the document, imply abortion.

"The Government of Ecuador also enters a reservation with respect to various concepts which could be construed as contrary to the essence of the family, as well as all expressions and definitions which could violate the fundamental principles on which it is based.

"The Government of Ecuador is prepared to collaborate in all tasks whose purpose is to seek the common good; however, it does not and cannot accept principles which infringe upon its sovereignty, its Constitution and its domestic laws."

Reservations of Guatemala

The delegation of Guatemala entered its Government's reservations with respect to the following strategic actions: II.5.b, II.5.c, II.5.l and VI.d. With regard to the first two strategic actions, it indicated that Guatemala had stated its position at the sixth session of the Regional Conference. With regard to the third strategic action, concerning the protection of women's reproductive rights, it stated that Guatemala regarded as women's reproductive rights those set forth in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and those set forth in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights. With regard to strategic action II.3.i, it indicated that Guatemala understood "productive and reproductive roles" in terms of the scientific approach of gender theory in relation to productive and reproductive labour. It also stated that Guatemala did not accept the reference to "family structures".

Reservations of Honduras

The delegation of Honduras entered a reservation with respect to all texts concerning democratic relations, family structures, reproductive rights and sexual rights.

Reservations of Mexico

"The Government of Mexico has demonstrated its interest in the elimination of violence against women, inter alia by participating actively in United Nations forums that have promoted actions by the international community to strengthen efforts to combat such violence. Mexico supports and will continue to support regional and international efforts towards effective social change to stop the perpetration of the various forms of violence against women, which are found in all geographical regions and all socio-economic strata. Mexico was therefore an enthusiastic participant in the preparatory work of the Inter-American Commission of Women that led to the elaboration of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women; in the same spirit, it voted in favour of the resolution by which the General Assembly of the Organization of American States adopted this Convention of Belém do Pará on 9 June 1994.

"Notwithstanding the foregoing, the delegation of Mexico at the twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers must enter a reservation with respect to the wording of strategic action II.2.e, since the Senate of the Republic has exclusive authority to ratify the international conventions and treaties, whether bilateral or multilateral, that are signed by authorities of the executive branch. This delegation therefore cannot commit its Government to signing and ratifying by a given deadline, as stipulated in the aforementioned strategic action, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women."

Reservations of Nicaragua

The delegation of Nicaragua entered a reservation with respect to all texts concerning sexual and reproductive rights (particularly in relation to abortion) and diversity of family structures, indicating that the Nicaraguan Government had entered the same reservations at the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo, Egypt.

Reservations of Peru

"Peru supports the overall consensus reached on the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001.

"It wishes, however, to enter a reservation with respect to the reference to the concept of reproductive health, particularly in the programme area on economic and social development with a gender perspective and the programme area on human rights, peace and violence.

"Peru regards 'reproductive health' as meaning complete psychological and biosocial well-being for the individual with regard to the functioning of the reproductive system. It regards 'reproductive rights' as meaning rights relating to free access to and use of services for maintaining reproductive health.

"Peru also wishes to enter a reservation with respect to the reference to the concept of 'diversity of family structures' in the programme area on shared family responsibilities.

"Peru's position is based on full respect for human life, freedom of the individual and protection of the family, in accordance with the provisions of its Constitution and domestic legislation."

14. These reservations are to be included in the final text of the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001.

15. The delegations agreed to state the following:

"The Presiding Officers, delegates and secretariat staff attending the twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, held at ECLAC headquarters, in Santiago, Chile, from 16-18 November 1994 wish to extend their sincere condolences to President Jean Bertrand Aristide and the people of Haiti at this time of natural disaster, and loss of lives, as a consequence of tropical storm Gordon.

"The Governments of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean join with all other Governments and organizations in sympathy and pledge their support, offering any necessary assistance to help at this time of need."

Annex 1

**STRATEGIC ACTIONS ADOPTED AT THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE PRESIDING
OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF
WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

(Santiago, Chile, 16-18 November 1994)

AREA I**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I****STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action I.a**

Ensuring that those responsible for formulating and implementing plans and policies are familiar with the gender perspective and trained in its application, so that women and men are given equal opportunities for access to and participation in the countries' development processes and in the equitable distribution of benefits.

Strategic action I.b

Conducting comparative analyses of women's and men's needs, capacities and participation in development processes to detect and correct gender inequities in the design of public policies; and considering, in the processes of analysis and evaluation, the impact of economic and social measures on women and men, using quantitative and qualitative indicators, as well as case studies at the local, national and regional levels.

Strategic action I.c

Conducting broad-based, permanent awareness campaigns on the gender perspective, making use of the local and international media and public education programmes run by Governments and the private sector, to make society sensitive to the need for more balanced, egalitarian participation by women and men in development processes.

Strategic action I.d

Establishing permanent training mechanisms and ensuring that all social groups have access to them, and introducing the gender perspective in all stages of training.

Strategic action I.e

Instituting action programmes to achieve more balanced and egalitarian participation by women and men in the development process, and ensuring that these programmes have the continuity they need in order to make a real cultural impact.

AREA II

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II.1

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action II.1.a

Setting up, in countries where they do not exist, or consolidating government institutions for women; ensuring their definitive incorporation into the highest level of the State structure, and seeing that they are provided with the necessary financial, technical and material resources on an ongoing basis.

Strategic action II.1.b

Providing those responsible for the design, implementation and coordination of public policies with systematic training in the elaboration and analysis of gender variables and indicators, to ensure that the gender perspective is applied to the processes of diagnosis, monitoring, systematization and evaluation and to uphold high standards of technical preparation.

Strategic action II.1.c

Promoting the establishment of a system for monitoring and evaluating compliance with agreements, conventions, programmes and policies to benefit women, with the participation of non-governmental organizations and women's movements.

Strategic action II.1.d

Promoting the participation of government institutions for women in the design, discussion, formulation and amendment of draft laws, to ensure that women's interests and needs are taken into account.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II.2**STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action II.2.a**

Making national legislation consistent with international and regional norms that promote the advancement of women, especially in the areas of education, employment, health, human rights, political participation and the eradication of violence, and adopting and implementing policies, programmes and measures to guarantee the effective implementation of legal norms designed to improve the situation of women; proposing the legal provisions needed to achieve full gender equity, and promoting their adoption; and supplementing and amending secondary legislation, where necessary, to make it consistent with the legal provisions adopted at the constitutional level.

Strategic action II.2.b

Conducting, through the mass media, systematic campaigns, educational programmes and legal aid seminars to disseminate detailed information on women's rights and on judicial and administrative procedures for the effective exercise thereof, as well as on the work of government and non-governmental organizations that support women, to increase women's legal literacy, and ensuring that these campaigns and programmes primarily target vulnerable groups of women that suffer from discrimination.

Strategic action II.2.c

Raising the awareness of legislators and public officials of the need to carry out legal reforms to achieve gender equity.

Strategic action II.2.d

Preparing and promoting the adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women that provides, among other mechanisms, for the right of individuals to submit petitions, as recommended in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights.

Strategic action II.2.e

Urging the States of the region to sign, ratify and implement, before the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, adopted by the Organization of American States.*

* The delegation of Mexico entered a reservation on this strategic action.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II.3**STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action II.3.a**

Establishing follow-up and evaluation procedures to monitor compliance with the agreements adopted by the countries of the region to ensure that all women have access to employment on the same terms as men, guaranteeing them career advancement opportunities, job stability and equal pay for work of equal value.

Strategic action II.3.b

Promoting the design and implementation of human resources training policies geared towards achieving social and gender equity by radically redirecting the training and vocational education offered to all women, especially young women, towards non-traditional fields, followed up with activities in the areas of guidance, formal education and industry and the use of advanced technologies, in order to meet the requirements of labour markets and demands for human resources in the public and private sectors, and especially within enterprises.

Strategic action II.3.c

Designing strategies that take women's socio-economic and cultural differences into account, and creating the necessary policy tools to ensure that women have the same access as men to all productive resources (land, capital and labour) and to technological resources and special credit lines.

Strategic action II.3.d

Improving women's working conditions by eliminating wage discrimination, ensuring full respect for women's labour rights and guaranteeing their access to social security systems, and enacting legislation geared towards setting up support services for working women and men, such as child care and other socio-domestic services, and establishing mechanisms for the effective implementation of such provisions.

Strategic action II.3.e

Promoting, through affirmative action, women's egalitarian participation in the decision-making processes of workers' organizations, taking diversity into account and encouraging the application of the gender approach in those organizations; carrying out business and trade union coordination activities to improve women's integration in the labour market and enhance their capacity to negotiate with the public sector, workers' organizations and private employers.

Strategic action II.3.f

Promoting research that can be used as a basis for comparative analysis of the employment and work situation of women and men in urban and rural areas, disaggregating the data collected by sex, class, ethnic origin and region; evaluating the impact of international trade liberalization on employment and migration.

Strategic action II.3.g

Creating mechanisms for quantifying and determining the value of the economic contribution of women's unwaged work in the home and in agriculture, food production, reproduction and community work; designing gender indicators to recognize the value of these contributions to GDP; and defining as workers, in the System of National Accounts, persons who perform unwaged labour.*

Strategic action II.3.h

Ensuring that statistical data from any source, especially censuses, national surveys and permanent statistical systems, is disaggregated by sex and ethnic origin, with particular attention to statistics on labour, wages and the production system in general, in both the public and private sectors; revising techniques and methodologies for compiling data; and guaranteeing civil society's access to statistics and their dissemination at the national level.

Strategic action II.3.i

Conducting research, creating economic opportunities and designing technologies which address the specific needs of women and help them to meet some of the challenges posed by their multiple productive and reproductive roles.**

Strategic action II.3.j

Improving the working conditions of women who perform unwaged labour and women who work in the informal sector; compiling information on the value of their work to ensure that commensurable benefits accrue to them under social security and retirement systems.

Strategic action II.3.k

Promoting legislation that guarantees equal employment opportunities for women and men and includes measures against gender discrimination.

* The delegation of France entered a reservation on this strategic action.

** The delegations of Argentina, Ecuador, El Salvador and Venezuela entered reservations on this strategic action. The delegation of Guatemala said that it understood "productive and reproductive roles" in terms of the scientific approach of gender theory.

Strategic action II.3.l

Ensuring that women's demands are taken into account in the process of negotiating integration agreements in the region, and systematizing information on those demands.

Strategic action II.3.m

Eliminating employers' discriminatory practices with respect to women, such as requiring proof of use of contraceptives and reporting of pregnancy.

Strategic action II.3.n

Promoting women's access to the highest levels of administration and management in public and private industry, commerce and services.

Strategic action II.3.o

Promoting and strengthening alternative financing systems and models, including the involvement of non-governmental organizations in this process.

Strategic action II.3.p

Increasing women's opportunities for education and training in administration, management and the other skills they need in order to participate actively at all levels of the public and private sectors.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II.4

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action II.4.a

Ensuring that the countries of the region comply with the agreements adopted on promoting the education of women and girls and preventing discrimination for reasons of gender, race or ethnic group, guaranteeing respect for cultural identities, and measuring this compliance through follow-up and evaluation bodies specializing in the gender perspective.

Strategic action II.4.b

Eliminating sexism and other forms of discrimination from educational processes and the messages conveyed by education and the mass media, to promote more equitable relations between women and men and to eliminate the stereotypes that are reproduced and inculcated through those channels.

Strategic action II.4.c

Promoting women's access to non-traditional scientific and technical careers —following the conduct of feasibility studies— by disseminating, as widely as possible, information on all available options for professional training and on the demands and conditions of the job market, adapting school curricula and instituting affirmative-action programmes for that purpose.

Strategic action II.4.d

Strengthening the full exercise of citizenship by promoting reforms in formal and non-formal education, reorienting research and adapting school curricula.

Strategic action II.4.e

Conducting research and taking actions to eradicate female illiteracy, reduce women's drop-out and repetition rates and encourage women, especially rural and indigenous women, to remain in the educational system.

Strategic action II.4.f

Establishing and promoting communication policies and strategies to combat the dissemination of stereotyped images of women and men in the media, and encouraging messages that reflect the diversity of women's roles, living conditions and viewpoints; designing gender awareness and training programmes for teachers in the educational system and for media personnel to induce them to adopt attitudes characterized by gender equity.

Strategic action II.4.g

Reducing disparities in access to tertiary education, where they exist, and ensuring that training opportunities are available to women so that they can enter and stay in universities and that women have equitable access to career development scholarships and fellowships abroad and at home.

Strategic action II.4.h

Conducting multidisciplinary research on the different roles played by women throughout history, disseminating the findings thereof and incorporating them into school textbooks at all levels of education.

Strategic action II.4.i

Ensuring the creation of a policy environment which facilitates the access of drop-outs and teenage mothers to continued education.

Strategic action II.4.j

Promoting the access of women of all ages to physical education and sports, to enhance their self-esteem and autonomy by encouraging them to value their bodies and their leisure time.

Strategic action II.4.k

Incorporating the issues of environment and sustainable development, sexual and reproductive health and gender equity into programmes of study and improving their content, to promote greater responsibility and awareness in those areas.*

Strategic action II.4.l

Developing educational actions that take advantage of the talents and skills inherent in women's cultural identities, and especially those of disabled women.

Strategic action II.4.m

Promoting increases in budgetary allocations for education, recognizing them as a form of productive public investment.

Strategic action II.4.n

Fostering collaboration between organizations of the women's movement and government institutions for women in the formulation of proposals on education policies.

* The delegations of Argentina, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador and Peru entered reservations on this strategic action.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II.5

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action II.5.a

Promoting the establishment of decentralized programmes of integral, prevention-oriented health care, especially in rural areas, ensuring that women participate equitably in their design and execution and that steps are taken to provide quality services which are affordable, accessible and culturally acceptable.

Strategic action II.5.b

Promoting research to identify women's health care needs, especially in the areas of mental health; drug use; sexual and reproductive health; breast-feeding; teenage pregnancy; fertility by place of residence, educational level and income bracket; all causes of maternal mortality; specific occupational and sexually transmitted diseases, and women's vulnerability to them and to AIDS; the health of girls and older women; and all the health risk factors linked to the social construct of gender and to socio-economic conditions; and promoting actions to meet such needs.*

Strategic action II.5.c

Encouraging the adoption of measures to protect and promote women's reproductive rights, to guarantee democratic discussion of those rights and to provide the necessary services in conformity with the paragraphs on reproductive rights contained in chapter 7 of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo, Egypt.**

Strategic action II.5.d

Respecting the right of couples and of women to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children, and strengthening women's capacity to exercise this basic right by giving both women and men access to the information, education and means they need to act on those decisions; carrying out educational programmes and activities to encourage men to participate more equitably and responsibly in family planning.

* The delegations of Argentina, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru entered reservations on this strategic action.

** The delegations of Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru entered reservations on this strategic action. The delegation of Argentina said that it accepted the concept of reproductive rights as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights and in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Strategic action II.5.e

Promoting the inclusion, in public health policies, of specific programmes for women and men to prevent and deal with teenage pregnancy, especially in early adolescence, in a context of integral health care that includes actions such as the provision of non-sexist sex education.

Strategic action II.5.f

Promoting measures to improve information on women's health and record-keeping in that regard, by incorporating gender analysis into statistical information systems.

Strategic action II.5.g

Maximizing the use of local health care systems by promoting the incorporation of gender criteria, community participation and self-care, especially in preventive health care programmes.

Strategic action II.5.h

Considering health indicators for women as indicators of a country's development.

Strategic action II.5.i

Designing compulsory sex education programmes, at the level of school boards, from the first year of school.*

Strategic action II.5.j

Allocating human, material and financial resources for integral health care for women throughout their lives; improving the health and nutritional status of pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers, *inter alia* by providing breast-feeding education and support services which can contribute to birth spacing, better maternal and child health and higher child survival rates.

* The delegations of Argentina and United States entered a reservation on this strategic action.

Strategic action II.5.k

Fostering collaboration between organizations of the women's movement and government institutions for women in the formulation of proposals on health care policies.

Strategic action II.5.l

Providing better family planning services and establishing systems for offering information and compassionate counselling to all women, including those with unwanted pregnancies, while recognizing the importance of abortion as a public health problem and the principle that abortion should in no case be considered a method of family planning. The implementation of this action should conform to the provisions of the relevant paragraphs of chapter 7, on reproductive rights, of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo, Egypt.*

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II.6

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action II.6.a

Creating the necessary material, technical and training conditions to enable women and men to contribute to environmental protection in both urban and rural areas, taking their needs and viewpoints into account.

Strategic action II.6.b

Providing and appropriately channelling the financial resources needed to strengthen women's participation in environmental management; enlisting the support of the international community, especially international technical and financial cooperation agencies, to encourage them to allocate more financial resources for the implementation of specific projects related to the sound use and protection of natural resources.

* The delegations of Argentina, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru entered reservations on this strategic action.

Strategic action II.6.c

Elaborating policies, laws, regulations and other instruments, in all relevant areas and at all levels, to ensure the protection of the environment and natural resources, making use of the results of specialized meetings, such as Agenda 21 adopted at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; urging Governments to ensure the equitable integration and participation of women and men in the planning, design, formulation and implementation of environment policies and programmes and in the implementation of specific actions in that field.

Strategic action II.6.d

Requesting Governments to set up programmes to raise the awareness of the public at large about the sustainable use of natural resources to ensure the survival of future generations, and the need to endeavour to improve and conserve the environment, especially in regions where ecological costs are particularly onerous for the female population.

Strategic action II.6.e

Promoting research by government and non-governmental institutions on the relationship between women and the environment to determine how the two issues interact, especially with regard to natural resources, in both urban and rural areas, to support the formulation of appropriate policies.

Strategic action II.6.f

Promoting, through formal and non-formal education programmes, at various educational levels, in the communications media and in the process of development policy planning, the concept that sustainable development is indissociable from the elimination of gender inequalities.

Strategic action II.6.g

Encouraging the use of appropriate production technologies, giving priority to research, promoting endogenous technologies and suitably adapting imported technologies, so as to achieve harmonious development of the community while preserving the environment.

Strategic action II.6.h

Expanding economic opportunities for women in sustainable natural resource management and environmental protection to encourage these practices.

Strategic action II.6.i

Addressing the structural issues that inhibit women's use of sustainable agricultural and natural resource management techniques, such as market imperfections; lack of land tenure; limited access to appropriate technologies, training and credit; and low levels of participation in community resource management groups.

Strategic action II.6.j

Introducing, in formal educational curricula, instruction modules on the relationship between the environment and survival and on environmental preservation.

Strategic action II.6.k

Developing environmental policies and education programmes that address the impacts of environmental degradation on women and men and management initiatives in this field.

AREA III**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III.1****STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action III.1.a**

Raising the level of employment and personal development of women and men who are marginalized and poor by providing equal opportunities for access to free technical and vocational training and to scholarships. Encouraging women's entry into training and economic activities that are directly linked to current demands and that can yield substantially higher wages or profit levels.

Strategic action III.1.b

Promoting employment and vocational programmes that provide support to women's cooperatives, informal-sector women entrepreneurs, associations of female producers, self-managed enterprises and other forms of productive organization. Expediting the enactment of legislation to provide legal protection for those programmes, so that women in the formal and informal sectors, especially those who are heads of household, can improve their linkages with the market and increase their productivity and income levels.

Strategic action III.1.c

Improving the quality of life of women, especially those in the poorest groups, by establishing credit systems for small businesses run by women and eliminating obstacles to women's access to all productive resources, especially training, technical assistance and basic social services.

Strategic action III.1.d

Redoubling efforts to generalize the use of statistics disaggregated by sex and to ensure that they include gender and ethnic indicators, and promoting the incorporation of analyses differentiated by sex into statistical systems, thereby facilitating the conduct of more precise studies of the needs of women and men; and ensuring the provision of the necessary technical and financial resources for that purpose.

Strategic action III.1.e

Formulating and implementing development policies aimed at substantially improving the living conditions of the poor, ensuring that women, especially young women, participate equitably in designing and implementing them, and that enough resources are allocated to meet the objectives of those policies; evaluating the impact of economic and social policies on the groups of women they affect.

Strategic action III.1.f

Promoting the consideration, in the allocation of investments, of the social, economic and cultural asymmetries or differences between different areas or communities, giving special attention to groups living in extreme poverty.

Strategic action III.1.g

Ensuring that women in small and medium-sized businesses receive training on technical-administrative issues.

Strategic action III.1.h

Designing labour capacity-oriented programmes for women heads of household and facilitating their access to adequately paid work or their efforts to establish income-generating activities by themselves.

Strategic action III.1.i

Promoting mechanisms for the systematic involvement of national machinery on women's affairs in designing and monitoring economic and social policies with an integrated approach, to guarantee social equity and equality.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III.2

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action III.2.a

Ensuring that women and men, girls and boys, especially those in vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination, receive an education that incorporates the gender approach and seeks to strengthen the exercise of citizenship in conditions of equity, *inter alia* by teaching them about their human and civil rights and duties.

Strategic action III.2.b

Supporting the cause of indigenous peoples and women so that they can define their own development goals and preserve their cultural identity, without prejudice to their civil rights or to the unity of the State, and allocating the necessary financial and material resources for that purpose.

Strategic action III.2.c

Supporting women's efforts and advancement through a wide-ranging public education process conducted by the government and private sectors, with the help of the mass media, recognizing their autonomy and decision-making capacity and strengthening organizations of all types, especially grass-roots organizations, that help women to meet their objectives.

Strategic action III.2.d

Carrying out literacy programmes and projects to eradicate illiteracy, especially among women in vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination, ensuring respect for cultural differences.

Strategic action III.2.e

Creating quality informal educational opportunities for women and girls.

Strategic action III.2.f

Designing educational programmes that specifically address the special needs of street children, especially girls, to enable such children to stay in school.

Strategic action III.2.g

Establishing decentralized entities to monitor, supervise and evaluate the educational achievements of women and men, especially in terms of variables such as whether they live in urban or rural areas or belong to vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination, and ensuring that women can enter all fields of education and training.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III.3**STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action III.3.a**

Establishing and equipping local centres that provide comprehensive health care and give priority to the major health risks to women in vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination, with emphasis on preventive services and with the participation of women.

Strategic action III.3.b

Allocating resources to provide comprehensive health care to women throughout their lives, especially during pregnancy, puerperium and breast-feeding, and to ensure health care for working women.

Strategic action III.3.c

Providing appropriate health information, education and services to young women, especially pregnant teenagers.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III.4**STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action III.4.a**

Designing and implementing housing programmes especially tailored for women in vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination —rural and urban women who are in the subsistence economy or who are heads of household, displaced, refugees or disabled— and providing credit on easy terms and technical assistance to ensure their access to basic infrastructure.

Strategic action III.4.b

Promoting women's and men's involvement in the design, construction and improvement of their dwellings so that their needs and sociocultural differences are taken into account, and ensuring greater decentralization of housing policies to facilitate this process at the local level, making use of local resources.

Strategic action III.4.c

Eliminating legal barriers that prevent women from obtaining housing in their own names or claiming the status of heads of household, and designing housing policies that give priority, in terms of access to credit for urban and rural housing, to single mothers who are heads of household.

Strategic action III.4.d

Removing legal barriers that deny women the right to gain, hold and transfer title to their homes and properties.

Strategic action III.4.e

Establishing building codes, enforceable at the community level, to guarantee access of the disabled to physical and social infrastructural services.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III.5

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action III.5.a

Improving the situation of rural women by investing in rural development, designing employment policies and programmes and taking specific measures (provision of infrastructure, technology and services) to help reduce poverty in that sector and the rate of rural-to-urban migration, as well as the consequent break-up of families.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III.6

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action III.6.a

Revising legislation, policies, plans, programmes and projects to facilitate women's access to land, production facilities and natural resources.

Strategic action III.6.b

Designing programmes to support the activities carried out by rural women, including food production, employment in agro-industry and product marketing.

Strategic action III.6.c

Improving the living conditions of rural women by providing basic infrastructure and services and promoting programmes designed to alleviate their burden of housework.

Strategic action III.6.d

Training women already in the rural productive sector to become effectively involved as exporters individually and in groups in their own right.

Strategic action III.6.e

Making public and private agricultural organizations and the general population aware of the rights of rural women, and providing training on the subject.

Strategic action III.6.f

Disaggregating agricultural production data by sex and socio-economic situation, to heighten the visibility of rural women's economic contribution to agricultural production.

Strategic action III.6.g

Providing training to ensure that the methodologies and timing of technology transfer activities are suitable for rural women.

Strategic action III.6.h

Developing the capacities of rural women through the promotion of organization and training, to strengthen them as social agents.

AREA IV**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE IV.1****STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action IV.1.a**

Using training modules that incorporate the gender perspective to train women, including indigenous women, in leadership and empowerment, to strengthen their possibilities of performing leadership functions in the upper echelons of the State structure and in all institutions of society, and to raise awareness of the need for women to participate equitably in decision-making processes.

Strategic action IV.1.b

Urging political parties to guarantee equality of opportunity for women in terms of access to party leadership positions and to the process of selecting candidates for elective office, including the adoption of specific affirmative-action measures such as reforms of electoral codes and the establishment of progressive minimum quotas until equitable participation is assured, and carrying out programmes of information and guidance—for both women and men—on the importance of women's participation in political parties.

Strategic action IV.1.c

Encouraging and supporting, through the mass media, the effective participation of women and young women, especially new voters, in decision-making processes and in the exercise of their political rights and responsibilities, including that of standing for elective or appointive office, as part of their citizenship.

Strategic action IV.1.d

Strongly encouraging all newly elected Governments to appoint, on equal terms, more women to decision-making positions in their cabinets and administrations, especially in the field of economics, in the various branches of government.

Strategic action IV.1.e

Encouraging the communications media to include women, on an equitable basis, in positions where decisions are taken on administrative issues, programming and the content of the messages conveyed.

Strategic action IV.1.f

Establishing mechanisms and procedures to guarantee women's equal opportunity for advancement in public, political and union careers, and fostering gender equity in terms of promotions, professional development and other areas.

Strategic action IV.1.g

Promoting operational changes in public and private organizations to encourage greater participation by women in their activities and meetings.

Strategic action IV.1.h

Ensuring women's equitable participation in all high-level commissions and entities, *inter alia* as official foreign representatives and as diplomats.

Strategic action IV.1.i

Promoting the creation of conditions and opportunities for women to be elected to public office.

Strategic action IV.1.j

Demanding that training in the gender perspective be made compulsory at all levels of State coordination.

Strategic action IV.1.k

Encouraging the establishment of women's rights commissions, consisting of both women and men, in the legislative branch of government, and promoting their coordination with government institutions for women.

Strategic action IV.1.l

Stimulating, in all areas of society, both public and private, processes of change geared towards consolidating equitable and democratic relationships between women and men.*

* The delegations of Dominican Republic and Honduras entered a reservation on this strategic action.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE IV.2**STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action IV.2.a**

Designing, implementing and strengthening formal and informal training programmes on management, organization, negotiation, administration and leadership for women's organizations and women in general.

Strategic action IV.2.b

Supporting the funding and strengthening of women's organizations, systematizing and disseminating the knowledge they generate and promoting their linkage with other social entities.

Strategic action IV.2.c

Promoting the empowerment of women in all aspects of private and public life so that they can exercise their rights, express their needs and interests and gain greater autonomy and personal, economic and social power, in their capacity as citizens.

Strategic action IV.2.d

Promoting collaboration between government agencies and non-governmental organizations to raise awareness of the need to eliminate existing inequalities, and establishing joint monitoring procedures to ensure the effective implementation of policies designed to correct that inequality.

Strategic action IV.2.e

Funding and conducting studies to identify the factors that obstruct or hinder women's full participation in decision-making processes; establishing mechanisms to help increase their participation in those processes; and disseminating all information gleaned from these studies.

Strategic action IV.2.f

Promoting changes in the inequitable and sexist conceptions underlying the behaviours of women and men.

Strategic action IV.2.g

Promoting recognition of and respect for the autonomy of women's movements and non-governmental organizations, and raising the awareness of other organizations of civil society so that they incorporate the gender approach and use equitable procedures for distributing posts; and systematizing processes of consultation with non-governmental organizations and women's organizations in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies that support women.

Strategic action IV.2.h

Carrying out awareness campaigns to promote women's full participation in all public power structures, recognizing the need to change the distribution of responsibilities and work in the private sphere.

Strategic action IV.2.i

Raising public awareness of the necessity and desirability of women's participation in decision-making processes and power structures.

Strategic action IV.2.j

Adopting affirmative-action measures to help increase women's participation in decision-making processes.

AREA V

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE V.1

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action V.1.a

Establishing and strengthening mechanisms for ensuring compliance with international conventions and all programme areas of regional and national plans of action, in order to close the gap between de jure and de facto equality to help ensure that women, particularly those in situations of greater vulnerability, participate fully in all areas of society, and urging States which have not ratified the relevant conventions to do so without reservations.

Strategic action V.1.b

Establishing and/or updating legal and administrative mechanisms for the protection of women's human rights to ensure that they effectively safeguard the full exercise of those rights.

Strategic action V.1.c

Eliminating or amending all national legislative provisions whose application promotes or permits discrimination against women in civil, criminal, family, procedural, labour, commercial and administrative law, and in the areas of education and health.

Strategic action V.1.d

Creating or strengthening appropriate national and subregional mechanisms and follow-up procedures for promoting the human rights enshrined in national and international instruments, particularly the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights and the Inter-American Convention on the Forced Disappearance of Persons, as well as procedures for reporting human rights violations; guaranteeing the effective involvement of women's movements in such mechanisms and procedures, and paying special attention to all forms of violence against women in situations of vulnerability and discrimination—particularly forced prostitution of women and girls, sexual abuse of and trafficking in women, teenagers and children, and sexual harassment in the workplace— and to the victims of such crimes.

Strategic action V.1.e

Promoting the promulgation of affirmative-action laws to expedite the process of achieving equity between women and men.

Strategic action V.1.f

Promoting research on violence against women of all ages, using non-traditional statistics and data from other available sources and devising a system for recording such information, disaggregated by sex, in public entities that deal with situations of violence, such as police departments, legal offices and health services; disseminating the findings thereof, conducting public awareness campaigns and integrating reports and studies by Governments and specialized non-governmental organizations for that purpose; and ensuring that States cooperate with regional and international research mechanisms.

Strategic action V.1.g

Establishing more appropriate legal, psychological and medical services for victims of human rights violations and violence, and giving priority to the allocation of resources to establish, operate and develop such services.

Strategic action V.1.h

Promoting the adoption and implementation of an international convention against all forms of overt and covert sexual exploitation, including sex tourism and child prostitution, which provides for the establishment of social services to assist victims of all forms of sexual exploitation and for the prosecution of traffickers and managers of the sex industry.

Strategic action V.1.i

Establishing and strengthening programmes to promote a culture of peace, foster peace processes and help eradicate violence in society and in the upbringing of girls and boys, with particular emphasis on the elimination of the type of violence portrayed in the mass media, including that in the movies, on television and in cartoons.

Strategic action V.1.j

Urging the region's Governments to sign, ratify and implement the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, adopted by the Organization of American States (OAS).

Strategic action V.1.k

Bringing national legislation into line with international norms, especially with regard to women's human rights, and urging Governments to draw up and promulgate new national laws and penal, civil, administrative and procedural regulations to prevent, punish and eradicate all forms and manifestations of violence against women.

Strategic action V.1.l

Disseminating information on legally recognized human rights so that women become fully aware of them and learn to demand that they be respected in all areas of national life.

Strategic action V.1.m

Ensuring that national constitutions expressly set forth the principle of equality between women and men and prohibit all forms of sex discrimination; making secondary legislation consistent with constitutional provisions that reflect international commitments in that regard and with all provisions that safeguard human rights.

Strategic action V.1.n

Adopting the recommendations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) on recognizing the value of housework.

Strategic action V.1.o

Promoting the adoption of measures to protect women's reproductive rights.*

Strategic action V.1.p

Giving priority to proposed legislation in the economics field that would help ensure women's access to the resources they need for integral development, as well as to capital and markets.

* The delegations of Ecuador, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru entered reservations on this strategic action. The delegation of Argentina said that it accepted the concept of reproductive rights as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights and in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Strategic action V.1.q

Encouraging the efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to prepare an optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, providing for the right of individual petition, as recommended in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights.

Strategic action V.1.r

Including specific provisions in national legislation to safeguard respect for the rights of uprooted and migrant women and women who belong to particular ethnic groups.

Strategic action V.1.s

Decentralizing and broadening the coverage of services for the administration of justice, especially in rural and marginal urban areas, and adopting other mechanisms to give women greater access to legal services.

Strategic action V.1.t

Urging States to incorporate gender-sensitive educational programmes on human rights into all levels of formal and non-formal education and training programmes for government officials.

Strategic action V.1.u

Creating the necessary conditions and providing sufficient resources for the incorporation into society of women affected by armed conflicts and pervasive violence, with special emphasis on young, refugee, displaced and repatriated women. Providing the means to facilitate intervention by human rights organizations and women's organizations so that their efforts can help prevent and eliminate all forms of violence or abuse perpetrated against women.

Strategic action V.1.v

Creating conditions in which victims of human rights violations, particularly those deriving from political violence, are assured of the right to take appropriate action under civil, criminal and administrative law.

Strategic action V.1.w

Adopting a theoretical framework with which more effective steps can be taken to promote equality and combat violence, taking the concept of human rights as the cornerstone of that framework; to that end, including the subject of human rights in national education programmes to ensure that all women are fully aware of the human rights enshrined in international and national law so that they can promote and protect those rights.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE V.2

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action V.2.a

Promoting research and studies on the situation of women, taking into account the specific features of different vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination, to influence the formulation and reformulation of laws and policies to eradicate violence in all its manifestations.

Strategic action V.2.b

Implementing training activities aimed at the communications media and journalists' associations to ensure that they promote respect for women and censure violence against women.

Strategic action V.2.c

Promoting the conduct of awareness, training and development programmes, incorporating the gender perspective, to ensure that persons and organizations that deal with female victims of violence or disabled women can provide timely and increasingly humanized technical responses.

Strategic action V.2.d

Raising the consciousness of women to make them aware of how women are portrayed as objects in advertisements and in programmes which do not highlight women's full capacity.

Strategic action V.2.e

Heightening the visibility of the phenomenon of violence through legislation, and penalizing it as a public problem of law-and-order; promoting the decentralization of systems for reporting acts of violence and of mechanisms for providing protection against all forms of violence against women.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE V.3

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action V.3.a

Carrying out mass communication campaigns to promote peace, tolerance, solidarity and mutual respect.

Strategic action V.3.b

Promoting information activities or campaigns on the existence of a pervasive culture of violence in the region, its manifestations in the form of violence against women and possible techniques for addressing both problems positively by eliminating the discriminatory image of women in public advertisement, television and radio programmes and the print media.

Strategic action V.3.c

Providing gender sensitivity training for personnel in the communications sectors, especially film producers; audio, visual and print media; advertising and marketing personnel and their agencies; and specialized organizations and associations, in order to reduce and eliminate the negative and stereotyped images of women and the impact of these images on the perpetuation of and increase in violence against women in particular and society in general.

AREA VI**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VI****STRATEGIC ACTIONS**Strategic action VI.a

Promoting public campaigns and the necessary changes in educational plans and programmes in order to raise society's awareness of the value of the time socially necessary for the care of the home and family and of the need for equitable distribution of these tasks among all members of the household.

Strategic action VI.b

Promoting the implementation of communication strategies to highlight issues such as the new roles being played by women in society, the diversity of family structures and the democratization of the distribution of housework among members of households, women and men, promoting democratic relations among family members.*

Strategic action VI.c

Conducting studies and establishing mechanisms to quantify the contribution and the economic value of the unpaid work performed by women, especially housework, participation in agriculture and the care and feeding of children, and incorporating that contribution into national accounts.**

Strategic action VI.d

Persuading Governments to increase budgetary allocations to social development programmes, and harmonizing economic adjustment measures with actions to strengthen the capacities of families of all types to ensure their proper development and socialization.***

* The delegations of Dominican Republic and Honduras entered reservations on this strategic action.

** The delegation of France entered a reservation on this strategic action.

*** The delegations of Argentina, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru entered reservations on this strategic action.

Strategic action VI.e

Ensuring, in each country, that women and men have access to contraceptives and that women are enabled to exercise their reproductive rights freely; promoting research on scientific methods of regulating male fertility to balance the use of contraceptives for women. In the context of this action, it is considered that, as stated in paragraph 8.25 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, "in circumstances in which abortion is not against the law, such abortion should be safe".*

Strategic action VI.f

Helping families to improve parenting skills in order to help combat gender biases; fostering the analysis of families as the place where the socialization process significantly contributes to the origin of the gender-based division of labour and gender stereotypes.

Strategic action VI.g

Stressing the need for Governments to recognize, in their migration and assignment policies, the importance of enhancing the development potential of families, preserving their integrity and contributing to their reunification.

Strategic action VI.h

Demanding that the State provide favourable conditions for motherhood and breast-feeding, and raising society's awareness of its shared responsibility for protecting these practices.

Strategic action VI.i

Fostering and encouraging the equal participation of women and men by promoting measures such as parental leave for both sexes, to enable them to achieve a better balance between their household and public responsibilities. Taking steps to ensure that the rights of the child are observed, with particular reference to adequate financial support from parents, by way of the enforcement of laws on child-support payments, and to the legal and social protection of children from all forms of child abuse.

* The delegations of Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru entered a reservation on this strategic action. The delegation of Argentina said that it accepted the concept of reproductive rights as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights and in the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Strategic action VI.j

Conducting gender studies to identify institutional barriers to equal access to justice, and imposing remedies in cases where gender bias has tainted the decision of the courts.

Strategic action VI.k

Promoting the consideration of housework as an economic contribution in the relevant legislation.

AREA VII

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.1

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.1.a

Supporting the cause of indigenous peoples, ethnic groups and other vulnerable groups that suffer from discrimination so that they can preserve their cultural identity and define their own development goals, and supporting the organization of women in these groups so that they can participate equitably in designing, managing and administering such development efforts.

Strategic action VII.1.b

Promoting the enactment of the necessary legislation to ensure that indigenous languages are recognized and officially used in areas where indigenous peoples live, and adopting measures to facilitate the education of people in their own language and the teaching of the official language as a second language.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.2

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.2.a

Highlighting the negative impact on women of the sexism rooted in family structure and relations.

Strategic action VII.2.b

Promoting a positive attitude towards women's integration into public life and men's integration into private life.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.3

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.3.a

Implementing actions to motivate the family, the educational system and all social organizations to become involved in the creation and transmission of culture, to ensure that they assign equal value to the sexes and respect gender equity in all forms of cultural expression. Ensuring that the existing cultural plurality and diversity is reflected in the visible and equitable participation of the members of all ethnic groups in the wider areas of society.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.4

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.4.a

Projecting a realistic and pluralistic image of women in the messages transmitted and campaigns waged by Governments and organizations of civil society through the mass media, and promoting the extension of that image to all of the messages conveyed by the mass media.

Strategic action VII.4.b

Encouraging women's involvement as spokespersons on issues of public interest.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.5

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.5.a

Fostering women's artistic and cultural development by promoting their participation in creative processes and in competitions, programmes and other activities in the cultural field.

Strategic action VII.5.b

Promoting women's participation in high-level positions in national and intergovernmental public entities that organize and finance artistic and cultural projects.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.6

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.6.a

Promoting the adoption of measures to eliminate sexist expressions in linguistic usage and to help create a form of discourse that expresses the reality of women's situation, especially in school curricula and educational materials.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.7

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.7.a

Stimulating the establishment of information networks linking women to organizations concerned with gender issues, to promote and support efforts towards cultural change.

Strategic action VII.7.b

Promoting women's participation in the development of innovative initiatives in the mass media, especially with respect to the incorporation of new information technologies.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VII.8

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Strategic action VII.8.a

Systematically and continually raising awareness of the goal of non-discrimination against women among media managers and professionals of both sexes.

AREA VIII**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE VIII.1****STRATEGIC ACTIONS****Strategic action VIII.1.a**

Negotiating with bilateral and multilateral organizations on increasing the amount of funds earmarked for the implementation of actions, plans and projects through which the countries can put this Regional Programme of Action into practice, considering research as a priority aspect of their design and execution and emphasizing gender training for both government officials and international cooperation agency staff.

Strategic action VIII.1.b

Urging international cooperation agencies to support the conduct of a critical analysis of the structural causes and the effects of poverty among women, with a view to reorienting and channelling resources to help achieve the objectives of the Regional Programme of Action.

Strategic action VIII.1.c

Promoting an ongoing process of dialogue among Governments, government institutions for women, international cooperation agencies and women's organizations, through the establishment of national commissions to promote coordination and collaboration and to facilitate the analysis of various processes, the identification of cooperation priorities and the new theoretical approaches that emerge from the day-to-day implementation of actions. All the participants in those commissions should be involved in designing and monitoring the national plan of action deriving from this Regional Programme of Action.

Strategic action VIII.1.d

Ensuring that this Programme of Action is used as a frame of reference in distributing the support of international cooperation and that efforts are made to strengthen the operations and mechanisms of both government and non-governmental agencies that promote the advancement of women at all levels.

Strategic action VIII.1.e

Urging cooperation agencies to establish and guarantee the operation of inter-agency committees at the national, regional and international levels, in order to coordinate their actions and contribute to the implementation of this Regional Programme of Action in the context of their respective mandates.

Strategic action VIII.1.f

Promoting horizontal negotiation between cooperation agencies and organizations of the women's movement with a view to increasing the amount of funds earmarked for women's projects.

INPUT TO THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION*

AREA VIII. INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND COOPERATION

DIAGNOSIS

OBSTACLES

- a) Tardy and unequal access to international cooperation for the application of the Nairobi strategies.
- b) A lack of emphasis and application of women-in-development approaches, and limited flexibility for incorporating the gender perspective in cooperation policies and programmes of some organizations from the viewpoint of acquisition and exercise of power by women.
- c) Weakness in strategic planning and the failure to adopt indicators which facilitate an assessment of behaviour, directionality and impact in projects financed by different organizations.
- d) Limited access to financing in major areas such as research, diagnosis, systematization, and follow-up of actions, as well as in training, raising of awareness and communication.
- e) Conditions (even if only occasional) imposed by a number of cooperation agencies and organizations which do not entirely reflect women's interests.

PROGRESS

- a) Financial contribution for the development of projects designed to generate income and which target women in vulnerable situations.
- b) Support for the establishment and strengthening of women's organizations and for the creation of alternative services.
- c) Technical and financial cooperation that promote Government institutions dedicated to the advancement of women.

* Suggestion to complete Area VIII, in the section setting forth the diagnosis.

Annex 2

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES**

A. Member States of the Commission
Estados miembros de la Comisión
Etats membres de la Commission

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Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Marva Alleyne, Director of Women's Affairs

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Representative/Representante: Sonia Montaña, Subsecretaria de Género

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BRASIL

Representative/Representante: Marcia Coutinho Adorno, Segunda Secretaria, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

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Representative/Representante: Margarita Flórez Madam, miembro del Secretariado Nacional de la Federación de Mujeres Cubanas

CHILE

Representative/Representante: Josefina Bilbao, Ministra Directora, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Regina Rodríguez, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer; Maggie Irigoín; Servicio Nacional de la Mujer; Pedro Oyarce, Sub-Director de Política Multilateral, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores; Patricio Pradel, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

ECUADOR

Representative/Representante: Rodrigo Valdez, Embajador del Ecuador en Chile

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Hernán Veintimilla, Embajada del Ecuador en Santiago

EL SALVADOR

Representatives/Representantes: Mariella Avila, Directora de la Unidad de la Mujer de la Secretaría Nacional de la Familia

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: José Roberto Mejía Trabanino, Asesor Técnico, Oficina de la Primera Dama

SPAIN
ESPAÑA

Representative/Representante: José Valentín Antón, Consejero Laboral, Embajada de España en Santiago

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

Representative/Representante: Joseph MacLean, Agregado Laboral

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: D. Michael Reinert, Diplomático, Embajada de los Estados Unidos en Santiago

FRANCE
FRANCIA

Representative/Representante: Alain de Keghel, Conseiller, Représentant permanent adjoint

GUATEMALA

Representative/Representante: Emma Soffa Rodas de Artigas, Presidenta de la Oficina Nacional de la Mujer

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Delia Cristina Castillo Godoy, Directora de la Oficina Nacional de la Mujer

HAITI

Representative/Representante: Jacqueline Cauvin André, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères

HONDURAS

Representative/Representante: Guadalupe Jerezano, Vice Presidente de la República

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Bertilia Aminta Chévez de Siminic, Agregada, Embajada de Honduras en Santiago

JAMAICA

Representative/Representante: Portia Simpson, Minister of Labour and Welfare

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Dr. Lisa Holt-Lawrence, Executive Director, Bureau of Women's Affairs

MEXICO

Representative/Representante: Gloria Brasdefer, Secretaria Técnica de la IV Conferencia Mundial de la Mujer; Embajadora Aída González Martínez, Coordinadora de Asuntos de la Mujer, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Sandra Samaniego, Coordinadora de Acciones Sectoriales, Consejo Nacional de Población

NICARAGUA

Representative/Representante: Marfa Auxiliadora Pérez de Matus, Directora Ejecutiva, Instituto Nicaragüense de la Mujer

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Mayra Passos, Socióloga, Consultora y Cecilia Fanjul Lizarralde, Asesora

NETHERLANDS
PAISES BAJOS

Representative/Representante: Klaas van der Tempel, Primer Secretario de la Embajada Real de los Países Bajos, Santiago

PANAMA

Representative/Representante: María Enriqueta Ortega de Sánchez, Sub-Directora General de Bienestar Social

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Cristóbal Sarmiento Calderón, Encargado de Negocios, Embajada de Panamá en Santiago

PARAGUAY

Representative/Representante: Rosa Lina Ferreira, Directora, Área Población y Desarrollo, Secretaría de la Mujer

PERU

Representative/Representante: Liliam Ballón, Primera Secretaria, Dirección de Naciones Unidas, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Carmen Barrantes, Coordinadora Comisión de Seguimiento Plan Nacional de Acción por la Infancia/Consultora responsable de la Elaboración del Informe sobre la Situación de la Mujer del Perú, Asesora de la Delegación

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
REPUBLICA DOMINICANA

Representative/Representante: Rosa Roa de López, Ministra de Estado y Directora General de Promoción de la Mujer

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Raisa Facundo, Coordinadora Programa Preparatorio IV Conferencia, Dirección General de Promoción de la Mujer

SURINAME

Representative/Representante: Nadia Becker, Special Staff Member on Women's Policy

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TRINIDAD Y TABAGO**

Representative/Representante: Denise Noel-DeBique, Director, Division of Women's Affairs

URUGUAY

Representative/Representante: Celina Burmester de Maynard, Directora, Instituto Nacional de la Familia y de la Mujer

VENEZUELA

Representative/Representante: María Bello de Guzmán, Presidenta, Consejo Nacional de la Mujer

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Carmen Teresa Martínez, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales, Consejo Nacional de la Mujer

B. Associate Members
Miembros Asociados
Etats membres associés

**NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
ANTILLAS NEERLANDESAS**

Representative/Representante: Ann Philips, Staff member of the Bureau for women and Humanitarian Affairs

PUERTO RICO

Representative/Representante: Albita Rivera, Directora Ejecutiva de la Comisión para Asuntos de la Mujer de la Oficina del Gobernador

Delegation members/Miembros de la delegación: Enid Gavilán, Asesora Legal de la Comisión para Asuntos de la Mujer; Ana María Niggeman, Asesora Legal del Departamento de Estado

Observer countries
Países observadores

CHINA

Representative/Representante: Ding Shan, Segundo Secretario, Embajada de la República Popular China en Santiago

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

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)/Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados (ACNUR)/Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés (HCR)

Emily Takahashi, Oficial de Programa

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

Marcela Villarreal, Asesora Mujer, Población y Desarrollo
Isabel Hernández, Asesora Regional en Investigación
Sociocultural en Población

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

Rosa Inés Antolín, Country Director, Ecuador

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

Sylvia Burlé, Asistente Principal de Programa

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

Lola Rocha Sánchez, Coordinadora Regional Programa
Género/Mujer
Lola Ocón Núñez, Consultora Género

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

Branca Moreira Alves, Coordinadora Regional
Mónica Muñoz, Coordinadora Regional para la Región Andina

D. Specialized Agencies
Organismos especializados
Institutions spécialisées

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

Petra Ulshoefer, Especialista Principal en Cuestiones de Mujeres y Género

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

Severino de Melo Araujo, Oficial a Cargo de la Oficina Regional
Vilma Aray, Oficial Regional, Mujer en el Desarrollo

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

María Luisa Jáuregui, Especialista Regional Educación de la Mujer

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

Patricia Pittman, Consultora Programa "Mujer, Salud y Desarrollo"

World Bank-International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)/Banco Mundial-Banco Internacional de Reconstrucción y Fomento (BIRF)/Banque mondiale-Banque internationale pour la reconstruction et le développement (BIRD)

Aysegul Akin-Karasapan, Senior Operations Advisor

International Monetary Fund (IMF)/Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI)/Fonds monétaire international (FMI)

Armando Linde, Assistant Director in the Western Hemisphere Department

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)/Organización de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo Industrial (ONUDI)/Organisation des Nations Unies pour le développement industriel (ONUDI)

Iván Contreras, Director Nacional de ONUDI en Chile

E. Other Intergovernmental Organizations
Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales
Autres organisations intergouvernementales

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

Paul E. Kohling, Representante del IDB en Chile

Caribbean Community (CARICOM)/Comunidad del Caribe/Communauté des Caraïbes

Rudolph Collins, Assistant Secretary General
Sonja Harris, Consultant
Cora Bain-Colebrooke, Director, Women's Affairs Bahamas

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

Teresa Valdés, Coordinadora Área de Estudios de Género

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

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

Dilma Quezada de Martínez, Residente CIM/OEA

International Organization for Migration (IOM)/Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)/Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)

Ximena Garri, Jefe, Centro de Información sobre Migraciones en América Latina (CIMAL)

F. Non-governmental organizations recognized by the Economic and Social Council as having consultative status
 Organizaciones no gubernamentales reconocidas como entidades consultivas por el Consejo Económico y Social
 Organisations non gouvernementales auxquelles le Conseil économique et social reconnaît le statut consultatif

Non-Governmental Organizations Forum on Women Beijing' 95/Foro de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales sobre la Mujer Beijing' 95

Virginia Vargas, Coordinadora de las ONGs de América Latina y el Caribe
 Ana Falú, miembro del Comité Facilitador
 Cecilia Olea, Asistente de la Coordinación
 Mercedes Urriolagoitia, Coordinadora de la subregión Andina
 Guacira Cesar de Oliveira, representante de la subregión, Brasil
 Gemma Tang Nain, representante de la subregión Caribe
 María Teresa Blandón, representante de la subregión Centroamérica
 Lilian Celiberti, representante subregión Cono sur
 Cecilia Lorfa, subregión México

G. Secretariat
 Secretaría
 Secrétariat

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

Gert Rosenthal, Secretario Ejecutivo
 Ernesto Ottone, Secretario de la Comisión a.i.
 Miriam Krawczyk, Jefa, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo y Secretaria Adjunta de la Comisión
 Adriana Valdés, Directora, División de Documentos y Publicaciones
 Diane Alméras, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales
 Molly Pollack, Consultora, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo
 Asha Kambon, Social Affairs Officer, CEPAL Puerto España
 Pauline Van der Aa, Experta Asociada, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo