

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



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**Seventeenth 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, 9-10 December 1993

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda

The following provisional agenda will be submitted to the Presiding Officers for adoption. This agenda was adopted by the Presiding Officers at their sixteenth meeting.

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda
2. Analysis of the outline for the regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean
3. Drafting of the outline for the preparation of national reports
4. Preparations for the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Buenos Aires, 26-30 September 1994)
5. Preparations by non-governmental organizations and criteria for their selection to participate in the Regional Conference
6. Evaluation of the recommendations of the sixteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers
7. Formulation of recommendations by the Presiding Officers at their seventeenth meeting.

2. Analysis of the outline for the regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean

The secretariat will present the Presiding Officers with the results of the informal meeting of the Presiding Officers that will be held on 6-7 December to analyse the outline for the regional programme of action, taking into account the following:

- Main applicable instruments: Regional Plan of Action adopted by regional Governments in 1977, Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council since 1985, and recommendations of the regional conferences and meetings of the Presiding Officers held since the Nairobi Conference.
- Supporting documents, especially the draft Platform for Action prepared by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-seventh session, the outline for the preparation of national reports for the World Conference in Beijing, and substantive studies on priority topics.

**3. Drafting of the outline for the preparation
of national reports**

Pursuant to resolution 37/7 of the Commission on the Status of Women, national preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women will begin with the preparation of national reports. The Presiding Officers will review the guidelines for the preparation of national reports suggested by the Commission.

4. Preparations for the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Buenos Aires, 26-30 September 1994)

At their seventeenth meeting, the Presiding Officers will draft a provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Regional Conference and will suggest to countries mechanisms for holding it.

5. Preparations by non-governmental organizations and criteria for their selection to participate in the Regional Conference

A report will be given on preparations by non-governmental organizations and the criteria for selecting those that will participate in the Regional Conference at Buenos Aires will be analysed.

**6. Evaluation of the recommendations of the sixteenth meeting
of the Presiding Officers**

The Presiding Officers will evaluate the implementation of the agreements adopted at their sixteenth meeting, which were as follows:

- "a) Pursuant to resolution 1 of the fifth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, a regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean would be prepared that would update the Regional Plan of Action.
- b) Pursuant to the same resolution, the Governments of the States members of ECLAC were once again urged to strengthen their national mechanisms for the advancement of women, to position them at a high decision-making level and to integrate them into the political, economic and social planning processes of their countries.
- c) Taking into account the heterogeneity of Latin America and the Caribbean with respect to the capacity of Government offices for women to respond to the demands of preparing for the Regional Conference, to recommend that that capacity be analysed in order to obtain resources to strengthen it, through the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Government Offices and in cooperation with UNIFEM and UNICEF, and that a questionnaire be sent first to ECLAC and then to countries. To make use of the recently established subregional networks in order to strengthen the coordination of regional activities preparatory to the Regional Conference.

- d) To hold an informal, two-day meeting of the Presiding Officers, prior to the seventeenth meeting, to continue work on the regional programme of action.
- e) To adopt the following programme of activities:
 - i) Reception of comments from the Presiding Officers on the outline for the regional programme of action: 30 July 1993.
 - ii) Distribution of the new proposed outline to the member countries of the Presiding Officers: 30 September 1993.
 - iii) Informal meeting of the Presiding Officers to draft the outline for the regional programme of action: 8-9 November 1993.*
 - iv) Seventeenth meeting of the Presiding Officers: 10-11 November 1993.*
 - v) Third meeting of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system: 12 November 1993.*
 - vi) Distribution of the new outline for the regional programme of action to all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean: 2 January 1994.
 - vii) Reception of comments from countries: 1 April 1994.
 - viii) Eighteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers: May 1994 (Curaçao).
 - ix) Nineteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers: 22-23 September 1994 (Buenos Aires).
 - x) Sixth session of the Regional Conference to prepare for the World Conference: 26-30 September 1994 (Buenos Aires).
- f) To recommend that the sixth session of the Regional Conference work in two commissions and that countries that so desire make available to delegations the reports they will not be presenting in plenary meeting, so that such meetings are limited to one day.
- g) To support the initiative of the Caribbean subregion to hold a meeting of the member countries of CARICOM in November 1993 and another in January 1994 of the English-speaking countries of the subregion and the Netherlands Antilles, as preparatory activities for the Regional Conference and the World Conference. To likewise recommend that the meeting of the CARICOM countries be held prior to the seventeenth meeting of the Presiding Officers.
- h) At the seventeenth meeting of the Presiding Officers, to begin preparing a preliminary outline for national reports, based on the guidelines formulated by the Commission on the Status of Women and taking into account the situation in the region.

* The Presiding Officers later agreed to change the dates of the meeting.

- i) To recommend that the outline for the regional programme of action, 1995-2001, be sent to countries for their comments, in order to ensure that the region participates as fully as possible in its final drafting, a process which should be completed by January 1994. To take into account, in this process, the results of the inter-sessional meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women at which the Platform for Action will be analysed.
- j) To recommend to the inter-agency group of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system that it provide support, through technical and financial cooperation, for national activities preparatory to the 1995 World Conference and the 1994 Regional Conference. To recommend also that the mobilization of national (financial, human, etc.) and international resources be facilitated, and to suggest the creation of inter-agency groups of international agencies and bodies in individual countries to channel assistance to national commissions and identify focal points in each country.
- k) To reiterate the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women in its thirty-sixth session that "Governments establish a national committee or designate a national focal point to initiate and promote preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, by organizing and coordinating national activities, including assembling information and gender-disaggregated statistics for the elaboration of national reports on the situation of women, and increasing public awareness about the Conference, and requests that reports on such activities be made available to the Secretary-General" (resolution 36/8 B) (see also decision 1992/272 of the Economic and Social Council).
- l) To send ECLAC lists of non-governmental organizations working on women's issues to help identify the organizations that will be invited to participate in the Regional Conference.
- m) To request the following from ECLAC:
 - i) that it send a letter to the Government of Argentina, on behalf of the Presiding Officers, requesting that the Regional Conference be held from 26 to 30 September 1994, and also that it support the forum of non-governmental organizations to be held immediately before the Conference;
 - ii) that it suggest to non-governmental organizations, on behalf of the Presiding Officers, that the regional forum now scheduled to take place at the same time as the Regional Conference be held immediately before it, so that the forum's proposals can be submitted to the Conference for consideration;
 - iii) that it send a selection of basic documents and resolutions to all specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system that carry out activities in Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - iv) that it determine what activities national offices for women are carrying out in preparation for the Regional Conference;
 - v) that it distribute among the Presiding Officers all the information they send it on international activities.

- n) To adopt the following agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Presiding Officers:
- Adoption of the agenda
 - Analysis of the outline for the regional programme of action
 - Preparations for the sixth session of the Regional Conference and determination of its agenda
 - Evaluation of the implementation of the recommendations of the sixteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers
 - Information on non-governmental organizations and analysis of the criteria for their selection to participate in the Regional Conference
 - Preparation of the outline for the presentation of national reports
 - Formulation of recommendations by the seventeenth meeting of the Presiding Officers."

7. Formulation of recommendations by the Presiding Officers at their seventeenth meeting

The Presiding Officers will recommend the main activities to be carried out in the period between the seventeenth meeting and the 1994 meeting in Curaçao.