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Eleventh 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

Varadero, Cuba, 19-20 November 1990

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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A. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSES OF THE MEETING

1. Mandate of the Presiding Officers

The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, pursuant to the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (RPA), are the link between governments and the Secretariat of ECLAC in the field of women's integration in development.*/ The RPA also provides that the ECLAC Secretariat will act as the Permanent Secretariat of this Regional Conference and will regularly consult with its Presiding Officers.

2. Main agreements adopted at the tenth meeting of the Presiding Officers

At the tenth meeting, the representative of Netherlands Antilles reported that her Government had offered to host the next regional conference, and it was agreed that it would be held from 10 to 13 September 1991 in Curaçao. It was decided that the final agenda of that conference would be discussed at the eleventh meeting of the Presiding Officers, to be held in Cuba from 19 to 20 November 1990. In principle, however, the following items were proposed: incorporation of the gender dimension in the ECLAC proposal; culture and gender relations in labour and education; information, documentation, statistics and data bases on women; evaluation of new technologies and their impact on women; adolescent and young women; women and the informal sector; and migrant women.

The Presiding Officers requested ECLAC to launch a core project as a focus for these activities, which would be discussed at the next meeting of the Presiding Officers. They also recommended that ECLAC should deal with certain priority topics, by holding small seminars or technical meetings. One of the topics suggested was the preparation of projects, especially those having to do with production and oriented towards micro-enterprises.

*/ ECLAC, Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (E/CEPAL/1042/Rev.1), Santiago, Chile, November 1977, para 88 (2).

The Presiding Officers also recommended a return to the system of holding technical meetings with national experts such as the members of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN); this system had been in operation at the beginning of the decade and had made an important contribution to the analysis.

It was stressed that there was a need to make the subject of women at the regional level compatible with the issues being discussed internationally through the Division for the Advancement of Women in Vienna.

3. Purposes of the present meeting

The purposes of the present meeting are to review the activities carried out in the region from 1 May to 31 October 1990; to decide on the agenda for the Fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, and regional preparations for it; to analyse prospects for regional projects; and to discuss the overall future work programme.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Presiding Officers may decide to adopt the provisional agenda proposed by the Secretariat or may suggest any changes they deem appropriate.

2. Report on the activities of the Chairman of the Presiding Officers, the Presiding Officers and the Secretariat from 1 May to 31 October 1990

Under this agenda item the activities for the second half of 1990, as summarized in the document Actividades de la Secretaría de la CEPAL con relación a la integración de la mujer en el desarrollo económico y social de América Latina y el Caribe desde el 1 de mayo al 31 de octubre de 1990 (LC/L.601(MDM.11/3)), will be reviewed. Outstanding activities in that period included technical assistance (Bolivia, Chile and Cuba), substantive participation in seminars and the preparation of studies and projects.

For purposes of analysing these topics further, the Secretariat will submit for the consideration of the Presiding Officers the following documents:

- ECLAC, Actividades de la Secretaría de la CEPAL con relación a la integración de la mujer en el desarrollo económico y social de América Latina y el Caribe desde el 1 de mayo de 1990 hasta el 31 de octubre de 1990 (LC/L.601(MDM.11/3)).
- María Rebeca Yáñez, Formación de recursos humanos y diferencias de género (LC/L.598(MDM.11/4)).
- Myrtle Bishop, Frank Long and Joaquin St. Cyr, Expert processing zones and women in the Caribbean (LC/L.586(MDM.11/5)).
- Monique Lagro and D. Plotkin, The suitcase traders in the Free Zone of Curaçao (LC/L.587(MDM.11/6)).
- Monique Lagro, The Hucksters of Dominica (LC/L.588(MDM.11/7)).
- Monique Lagro and D. Plotkin, The agricultural traders of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Dominica and Saint Lucia (LC/L.589(MDM.11/8)).
- ECLAC, Mujeres refugiadas y desplazadas en América Latina y el Caribe, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 4 (LC/L.591).
- ECLAC, Mujeres, culturas, desarrollo (preliminary version, to be discussed).
- ECLAC, Mujer y nuevas tecnologías, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 6 (LC/L.597).
- ECLAC, Nuevas metodologías de participación en el trabajo con mujeres, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 7 (LC/L.592).
- ECLAC, Selección de documentos y publicaciones de la CEPAL sobre la integración de la mujer en el desarrollo económico y social de América Latina y el Caribe (LC/L.460/Rev.2).

3. Fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean

The Fifth Regional Conference will be held at Curaçao from 10 to 13 September 1991.

The proposed provisional agenda contained in the annex will be submitted for the consideration of the Presiding Officers at their eleventh meeting.

4. Preparation of regional projects. Present situation
and future prospects

In relation to agenda item 4, the Secretariat will report to the Presiding Officers on the activities carried out during the period under consideration in relation to project preparation and future prospects in this area. It is hoped that the ECLAC Division of Operations will participate in the discussion of this agenda item. The item basically refers to the incorporation of women into comprehensive development programmes, the inclusion of projects relating to women in the overall topic of development and their consideration as larger-scale projects, and, lastly, priority areas and funding possibilities.

Annex

FIFTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN
INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
(CURAÇAO, 10-13 SEPTEMBER 1991)

Proposed provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the provisional agenda.
3. Report of the Chairman 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 on the work accomplished since the Fourth Regional Conference.
4. Review and evaluation of the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Report of the ECLAC Secretariat on the activities carried out since the Fourth Regional Conference, and submission of documents.
5. Regional preparations for the meeting preparatory to the 1995 world conference on women, and discussion of priority topics for Latin America and the Caribbean.
6. Other matters.
7. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting.

