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



Distr. LIMITED LC/L.431(MDM.6/1) 6 October, 1987 ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SPANISH



REPORT OF THE SIXTH 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 */

(Havana, Cuba, 19 November 1984)

^{*/} This report was originally distributed in an unnumbered version at the Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean in Preparation for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (Havana, Cuba, 19 to 23 November 1984).

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I. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

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- 1. Pursuant to paragraph 88(2) of the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, adopted at the eleventh special session of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), it is incumbent upon the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women to serve as a liaison between the member governments and the ECIAC Secretariat in the integration of women into development.
- In compliance with this mandate, the Presiding Officers elected at the third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean held their sixth meeting on 19 November 1984 at the Palacio de las Convenciones at Havana, Cuba.

<u>Attendance</u>

3. The meeting was attended by Presiding Officers from the following member countries: Argentina, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico and Panama. Cuba was represented by an observer. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Ana María Martinez Lavin (Mexico).

- 4. The Presiding Officers adopted the following agenda for their sixth meeting:
 - 1. Election of Officers
 - 2. Adoption of the agenda
 - 3. Report of the Chairman of the third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 8 to 10 August 1984)
 - 4. Critical review and appraisal of the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered in the realization of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, particularly in the areas of employment, health and education 5. Formulation of strategies for the advancement of women up to the year 2000 and of practical measures for overcoming obstacles to the

achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, particularly in the areas of employment, health and education

6. Consideration and adoption of the report

II. SUMMARY OF THE DEBATES

- 5. The Chairman welcomed the other Presiding Officers and described the items to be dealt with at the meeting.
- 6. Consideration was then given to the provisional agenda for the Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean in Preparation for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to be held at Havana, Cuba, from 19 to 23 November 1984, and it was decided to recommend its adoption to the countries members of ECLAC.
- 7. The Presiding Officers then considered the Officers who would preside over the work of the preparatory regional meeting. On the basis of the findings of contacts made by the Secretariat and of paragraph 88(2) of the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, which provides that "the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference will continue their functions until new ones are appointed", it was suggested that it would be advisable for the Officers elected at the Third Regional Conference held in Mexico City from 8 to 10 August 1983 to preside over the preparatory regional meeting about to begin. In support of that proposal and in accordance with the practice of ECIAC, the Presiding Officers agreed to suggest that the representative of the host country (Cuba) should be elected to preside over the work of the preparatory meeting.
- 8. It was therefore recommended that the following Officers be elected to conduct the work of the Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean in Preparation for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace:

Chairman:

Cuba

Vice-Chairmen:

Mexico, Ecuador, Guyana and Panama

Rapporteur:

Argentina

9. With regard to the organization of the work of the regional preparatory meeting, the Chairman of the meeting of Presiding Officers reported that in connection with agenda item 3, there would be a general presentation in which details would be given concerning the work accomplished since the third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean. In order to facilitate the formulation of strategies and concrete measures (agenda item 5), it was recommended that a drafting committee open to all the delegations from

countries members of ECLAC should be established and chaired by the representative of Mexico.

10. Finally, the Presiding Officers took note of the document prepared by the Secretariat entitled "Insumo para la Reunión Regional de América Latina y el Caribe Preparatoria para la Conferencia Mundial para el Examen y la Evaluación de los Logros del Decenio de las Naciones Unidas para la Mujer: Igualdad, Desarrollo y Paz" and recommended that it be submitted to the drafting committee mentioned in paragraph 9 of this report.