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10 June 1998

ECLAC
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Twenty-seventh session
Oranjestad, Aruba, 11-16 May 1998

DRAFT REPORT

In accordance with the established procedure for meetings of the Commission and its auxiliary bodies, member countries and associate members have 45 days to submit their comments and observations on this draft report to the ECLAC secretariat. At the end of this period, the final version of the report will be issued.

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of the session

1. The twenty-seventh session of the Commission was held in Oranjestad, Aruba, from 11 to 16 May 1998.

Attendance¹

2. The session was attended by representatives of the following 34 States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.
3. Three associate members of the Commission were also represented: Aruba, Netherlands Antilles and United States Virgin Islands.
4. In accordance with paragraph 6 of the Terms of Reference of the Commission, observers from the following States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Commission were present in a consultative capacity: China, Croatia, Germany, India, Japan and Romania.
5. An observer from the Holy See participated in the session in a consultative capacity.
6. Numerous experts, whose names appear in the list of participants, attended the session as guests.
7. Mr. Gert Rosenthal, a former Executive Secretary of ECLAC, attended the session as a special guest.

¹ See annex 1 for the list of participants.

8. The session was attended by representatives of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

9. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were represented: United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations University.

10. The following specialized agencies of the United Nations were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization, World Bank-International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Universal Postal Union and International Telecommunications Union.

11. The session was also attended by representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Association of Caribbean States, Caribbean Community, Central American Monetary Council, Inter-American Development Bank, International Organization for Migration, Latin American Economic System, Latin American Energy Organization and Organization of American States.

12. A representative of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta attended as an observer.

13. The following non-governmental organizations enjoying consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were represented: Special Consultative Status: Bahá'í International Community, Women's International Zionist Organization, World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations and World Vision International; Roster: Caribbean Conservation Association and International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions.

14. The following non-governmental organizations were also represented: Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action, Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development, Integrated Women's Services of Nicaragua, Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network, Latin American Workers Federation, Research Centre on Population and Responsible Parenthood of Ecuador, Women's Population Policy Forum of Mexico and Women's Studies and Research Foundation of Argentina.

15. The Director of the Comprehensive Programme on Population and Sustainable Development of the University of Chile also attended the session as a guest of the Commission.

Credentials

16. Pursuant to rule 15 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the credentials of the delegations as submitted to the Executive Secretary were examined and found to be in order.

Election of officers

17. At the first plenary meeting, the delegations elected the officers of the twenty-seventh session.

18. The officers elected to preside over the twenty-seventh session were as follows:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Aruba
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Ecuador
	Italy
	Mexico
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Chile

Organization of work

19. The session was divided into three stages. The first two stages were of a technical nature, while the third was held at the ministerial level. During the first stage, which took place on 11 and 12 May, the attending delegations reviewed the report on the activities of the Commission since 1996 and the draft programme of work for the ECLAC system for the biennium 2000-2001 and considered the subject of the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC. During the second stage, held on 13 and 14 May, representatives of member countries and associate members, together with a number of experts who had been invited as special guests, discussed the issues addressed in the study entitled *The Fiscal Covenant: Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges* and a companion document entitled *Impact of the Asian crisis on Latin America*. The ministerial stage of the session, which took place on 15 and 16 May, provided an opportunity for the issues analysed during the technical stage to be reviewed at the highest level and for a commemoration of the Commission's fiftieth anniversary.

20. In accordance with the relevant statutory provisions, concurrent meetings were held by the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions and by the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development. The ministerial stage of the seventeenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was also held.

21. The officers elected to preside over the meetings of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions were as follows:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Costa Rica
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Antigua and Barbuda
	Cuba
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Venezuela

22. The officers elected to preside over the meetings of the sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development were as follows:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Argentina
	Haiti
	Jamaica
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Peru

23. The reports of the above committees may be found in annexes 3 and 4 of this report.

Documentation

24. A list of the working documents submitted by the secretariat at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission appears in annex 2.

B. AGENDA

25. The Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the twenty-seventh session.
3. The fiscal covenant: strengths, weaknesses, challenges.
4. Meetings of subsidiary bodies and regional meetings sponsored by ECLAC in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations.
5. Other activities of the secretariat of the ECLAC system since the twenty-sixth session and programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001:
 - (a) ECLAC;
 - (b) Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development;
 - (c) Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - (d) Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE);
 - (e) Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES).

6. Calendar of conferences for the period 1998-2000.
7. Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC.
8. Some recent resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations organs which should be brought to the attention of the Commission.
9. Follow-up to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development.
10. Cooperation among developing countries and regions.
11. Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC).
12. Fiftieth anniversary of ECLAC.
13. Other matters.
14. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the twenty-seventh session of ECLAC.

C. OPENING MEETINGS

Opening meeting of the technical stage

26. At the opening meeting of the technical stage of the session, statements were made by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Tourism of Aruba and by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC.

27. The Minister of Economic Affairs and Tourism of Aruba said that his Government was proud to be hosting the twenty-seventh session of ECLAC and welcomed the participants. After offering an overview of the situation in Aruba and the changes that had occurred during the past two decades, he noted that, as was true of all major crises, the effects of the debt crisis and adjustment process had not all been negative. During the past 15 years the region had also made great strides, including the democratization of a majority of the countries; political convergence and respect for human rights; increasing openness to the rest of the world; the restructuring or reform of the State; and improved management of tax sources, greater equity in the allocation of public resources and more responsible and rational forms of debt management.

28. There was no one formula for fiscal and State reform in a generally market-oriented economy. Within that framework, strategic directions for the effort to strengthen the fiscal covenant included such steps as increasing social investment and its productivity and coupling adjustment programmes with short-term compensatory social measures. Four inseparable and fundamental factors in terms of the fiscal covenant and State reform were the adoption of a limited number of well-defined objectives and priorities, a set of democratic concepts and institutions, a good sense of public management, and intellectual leadership based on scientific

information. At the political level, pluralism, social participation and consensus-building within an increasingly broader context were essential.

29. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC thanked the host Government for its hospitality and discussed how the consideration of the programme of work and of the reform of the United Nations fit in with the Commission's essential task of assisting the Governments with the long-term reform process upon which they had embarked. In order to accomplish that task, the Commission was constantly updating and reworking its thinking as part of an ongoing process of both continuity and change in the conceptual frameworks it employed. That rethinking of its ideas and policy proposals had been reflected in the documents prepared for recent ECLAC sessions, the latest of which dealt with the fiscal covenant.

30. Three of the major subject areas addressed by the ECLAC programme of work were the interaction between economic and social development, growth within a context of liberalization and globalization, and new forms of State action. A great deal of importance would also be placed on the crucial matter of the dissemination of the Commission's work on the Internet, in publications and through the press and other media. The aim of those activities was increased interaction not only with the Governments but also with the region's legislative bodies, other multilateral agencies, civil society and a regional network of research centres. The Executive Secretary also referred to the reform of the United Nations and the effectiveness displayed by the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI), which helped the secretariat to maintain contact with the Governments between sessions and provided a means of updating the programme of work as circumstances changed.

Opening meeting of the ministerial stage

31. The opening ceremony for the ministerial stage of the session was held on 15 May. Statements were made by Mr. Jan Hendrik Albert Eman, Prime Minister of Aruba; Mr. Roberto Rojas López, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, the country which had chaired the twenty-sixth session of the Commission; and Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Executive Secretary of ECLAC.

32. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, the country which had chaired the Commission since 1996, was the first to address the participants. Speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI), whose purpose was to define priorities for the work programme and recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, he noted that the Government of Costa Rica had submitted the Group's final report to the member States for their consideration.

33. In referring to the challenges confronting the region during the present era of globalization, he underscored the importance of developing a fiscal covenant that would make it possible to boost the productivity of public management, consolidate the fiscal adjustment and

endow government action with greater transparency. The steps taken to put public finances in order should be in keeping with an improvement in the population's quality of life and with the promotion of social equity. To that end, it was necessary to continue to strengthen democracy and reinforce macro- and microeconomic stability. Costa Rica had mounted a determined effort to make headway in those areas, but it was concerned about the fact that military spending was still on the rise in Latin America. In his Government's view, that was one of the issues which the countries would need to discuss in the future.

34. In concluding his statement, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship thanked ECLAC for the assistance it had furnished to the Government of Costa Rica when it chaired the twenty-sixth session and expressed his Government's gratitude to the Government of Aruba for its generous hospitality.

35. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC thanked the Government and people of Aruba for their hospitality and presented the main document being submitted for discussion at the session. Noting that *The Fiscal Covenant: Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges* offered a complete, well-balanced picture of the role of public finances in regional development, he summarized its main theoretical conclusions and policy recommendations and characterized it as an effort to provide a comprehensive analysis of the fiscal adjustment processes occurring in the region over the last two decades.

36. The Commission was proud to be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. The economic history of Latin America could not be written without reference to ECLAC and the major contributions it had made to regional development. Created at a time when the economic, social and political realities of the region were very different from what they were now, ECLAC had developed a dynamic line of thought which --contrary to the assertions made by some critics who caricatured the positions it adopted-- had been responsive to the changes that had occurred in Latin America and its external environment over the course of time. In the midst of a transition from economies strictly controlled by the State to economies in which the interplay of market forces predominated, the institution had formulated a new message centred around the concept of changing production patterns with social equity.

37. That concept was based on an appreciation of the importance of having a sound macroeconomy and an efficient State; an awareness of the existence of numerous, non-substitutable development objectives; the absence of a straightforward connection between growth and social equity; the need to combine a healthy macroeconomy with strong meso- and microeconomies in order to achieve a dynamic form of productive development; the importance of social capital for economic growth; and the existence of myriad ways of utilizing the complementarities existing between the State and the market. All that required assertive public policies operating within a context of complementarity between an improved State and more efficient markets.

38. The history of ECLAC encompassed far more than merely a contrast between the initial stages of two different development styles. It was also a history of contribution to the succession of debates held at different stages on such topics as the distribution of the fruits of development, sustainable development, inflation, the debt crisis and the various modalities of macroeconomic adjustment. What is more, it was also a history of the development of a methodology of work and analysis that combined the quest for an integrated vision of development, a dialectic of thought and action, and the search for a regional identity. Thus, it was a history of both continuity and change, of pride in past achievements and of a tradition of forward-looking creativity.

39. The Prime Minister of Aruba expressed his pleasure at the fact that ECLAC was holding its session in Aruba and noted that the Commission provided its member States with inspiration and guidance in the form of tools that enabled them to enhance their economic performance and thereby increase the well-being of their citizens. He hoped that the session would spur ECLAC to redouble its efforts to expand its research activities and policy work in respect of the Caribbean economies, since paying greater attention to regional heterogeneity would serve to enrich the proposals formulated by ELCAC and would facilitate the adaptation of those proposals to the level of development, structural characteristics and specificities of each country.

40. The document on the fiscal covenant had generated an interesting debate that would aid the countries in updating their agendas and had opened up a promising opportunity for an exchange and dissemination of experiences. With the presentation of that document ECLAC had once again demonstrated its commitment to serving the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, providing relevant proposals that directly addressed the concerns of the Governments and societies of the region. It was also an eminently timely contribution as the century drew to a close within a context of accelerating globalization in which uncertainties tended to overshadow certainties; in view of that state of affairs, the countries were in need of a vision of the future that would enable them to mount a determined effort to further their economic, social and political development.

41. In closing, he reiterated the commitment of the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to ECLAC and to the reinforcement of its effectiveness within the context of the reform of the United Nations, as well as his conviction that the Commission, in close collaboration with the Governments of its member States, would, as in the past, acquit itself with distinction as it continued to make its unique contribution to the analysis of major development issues as viewed from the vantage point of the region.

D. REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR

First technical stage

42. During the first technical stage of the session, the delegations examined the report on the activities of the Commission since 1996 and the draft programme of work for the ECLAC system for the biennium 2000-2001. The representatives also considered the subject of the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC as well as other matters in connection with follow-up to the work of the Commission.

43. The Commission, meeting in plenary, took note with satisfaction of the report on the activities of the Commission since April 1996 and observed that, despite the reduction of budgetary resources, 87% of the programmed activities had been completed.

44. The plenary reviewed each of the 12 subprogrammes contained in the ECLAC programme of work. A presentation on each subprogramme was given by the director of the division responsible for its implementation; presentations on subregional activities were given by the director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico and the director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. The discussions which took place following those presentations generally reflected widespread support for the work programme submitted by the secretariat and provided an opportunity for the formulation of observations and clarifications by the attending delegations. Emphasis was placed on the need for a specific subprogramme to promote efforts to mainstream the gender perspective in the main spheres of regional development addressed by the work programme. The activities planned in the areas of social development and equity, the environment, productive development, and regional and subregional integration processes, especially with regard to the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), were also discussed. A number of the representatives congratulated the secretariat on the work carried out by the subregional headquarters in Mexico and for the Caribbean, asked that the work of those offices be intensified and urged the Commission to devote special attention to the small island States of the Caribbean and the more vulnerable countries of Central America.

45. Several delegations spoke of the need to incorporate certain topics into the Commission's current programme of work in a way which ensured their systematic linkage with the rest of the activities in the programme. The secretariat was asked to consider the possibility of expanding and intensifying its work in the field of information management and infrastructure. In addition, it was proposed that issues relating to children should be addressed as part of subprogramme 5 and that the Commission should play a greater role in following up on the relevant action plans. In reference to subject area 5.4, which dealt with the drug problem, emphasis was placed on the need to support crop substitution strategies. Other important issues included corporate incentives for environmental re-engineering and the award or clarification of land titles in both the agrarian and urban sectors.

46. Following the debate, the representatives approved the general thrust of the programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001. Several representatives felt that in future the programme of work should include cost estimates. The Executive Secretary agreed that this would be desirable and noted that the inclusion of such estimates would be linked to projected changes in the rules and procedures of the United Nations system.

47. The discussion on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC was preceded by three presentations. The representative of Costa Rica, the country chairing the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI), submitted a report on the work carried out by the Group and the secretariat submitted two notes entitled "General review of the regional commissions by the Economic and Social Council: the case of ECLAC" and "Reform of the ECLAC management scheme: delegation of authority and accountability".

48. The representatives expressed their appreciation to the Government of Costa Rica for the excellent work it had done in chairing the Ad Hoc Working Group and congratulated the secretariat on the progress it had made in carrying out reforms. They also reaffirmed the need to view the Commission's reform process within the overall framework of the reform of the United Nations and, in that connection, emphasized the importance of ensuring that in taking any further steps to carry forward that process, especially with regard to the delegation of authority in the area of financial management, the secretariat should bear fully in mind the decisions of the relevant legislative organs, especially paragraphs 11 and 12 of part II of resolution 52/220 and paragraph 25 of resolution 52/212B as adopted by the General Assembly. They also urged the secretariat to develop improved performance indicators for evaluating the work that was being done, particularly with regard to measurements of the impact of ECLAC publications.

49. The representatives also agreed to renew the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group so that, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, it could continue to define priorities for the programme of work and recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, taking into account the development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean. All of the foregoing decisions were set forth in a draft resolution entitled, "Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC".

50. During this stage of the session the Commission also reviewed the proposed calendar of ECLAC conferences for the period 1998-2000 and considered the questions of the full incorporation of CELADE into the ECLAC secretariat as a division of the Commission and support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). Draft resolutions on each of those subjects were prepared.

51. In accordance with the instructions issued at the seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, in her capacity as the Chairperson of that session of the Conference, the Minister-Director of the National Women's Service of Chile submitted the report on the

seventh session of the Conference to the plenary. The discussion concerning the adoption of the report also led to the formulation of a draft resolution.

Second technical stage

52. During the second technical stage of the session discussions were held in which the representatives of the member countries were joined by a number of experts who participated as special guests. It was during this stage that the ECLAC secretariat presented *The Fiscal Covenant: Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges* and a companion document entitled *Impact of the Asian crisis on Latin America*.

53. The secretariat gave brief presentations on the five main elements of a new fiscal covenant: (i) consolidating the adjustment; (ii) improving the productivity of public expenditure; (iii) transparency in public spending; (iv) promoting social equity; and (v) strengthening the institutional framework of democracy. The representatives welcomed the proposals set forth in the document, particularly with regard to the role of the fiscal covenant as a unifying concept, and agreed with the secretariat as to the importance of the five above-mentioned elements.

54. During the debate, it became clear that the delegations regarded fiscal consolidation as a cornerstone of the stabilization and adjustment programmes carried out by Latin American and Caribbean Governments following the crisis of the 1980s. They recognized the significant achievements made possible by that process, which had included major reductions in the fiscal deficit and the development of a form of deficit and public debt management that met international standards of budgetary discipline. Important areas of fragility had also been identified, especially in relation to government revenues and social equity, which needed to be addressed.

55. The productivity of fiscal expenditure and the transparency of fiscal measures were also discussed. Emphasis was placed on the need for much greater transparency in decision-making on matters of expenditure and for a considerable limitation of quasi-fiscal practices. The participating delegations urged the secretariat to deepen its analysis of quasi-fiscal practices and its work with regard to the gradual standardization of methodologies for measuring domestic debt and, to that end, to maintain direct contact with the Governments and work in close collaboration with other regional or multilateral bodies.

56. Reference was also made to the importance of raising the productivity of public expenditure by increasing the effectiveness, efficiency and usefulness of public-sector services. In order to accomplish that, the system of incentives would need to be changed and steps would have to be taken to establish a true "culture" of systematic performance assessment, accountability and a full assumption by civil servants of their responsibilities.

57. A number of representatives underscored the progress made in the area of government revenues. Tax receipts had increased, the tax system had been streamlined, management methods had been modernized, tax bureaus enjoyed greater autonomy with respect to technical matters, and various sources of revenue had been consolidated. Another major point of discussion was the relationship between direct and indirect taxes within the tax structure. Representatives mentioned various aspects of the issue which should be considered. In order to increase direct tax receipts, they agreed that emphasis should be placed on controlling tax evasion and avoidance. It was also suggested that consideration should be given to the option of distributionally neutral tax collection and a progressive form of allocation of tax revenues for social expenditure.

58. In the area of public expenditure, progress had been made towards restoring former levels of public investment and social spending. Advances were to be observed in terms of decentralization and targeting social expenditure on the neediest sectors; State enterprises' rate structures were being managed more efficiently; the management of public expenditure was being decentralized; and mechanisms were being devised to promote participation by private agents in areas which had traditionally been the preserve of the State.

59. A great deal of emphasis was placed on the urgent need to reinforce the commitment of fiscal policy-makers to the promotion of social equity. In that respect, it was noted that, when measured as a percentage of GDP, the level of tax receipts was still too low, particularly in the case of direct taxes. Mention was made in that connection of the personal income tax, which was the type of levy that had perhaps the greatest distributional impact. The countries of the region also needed to take active steps to promote equality of opportunity in the fields of education, health care and employment and to protect vulnerable segments of the population. A number of delegations urged the secretariat to take steps to disseminate best practices in the spheres of fiscal decentralization and social service delivery in view of the difficulties being experienced in those areas by countries that were just beginning to take steps to address those issues.

60. The plenary also underlined the importance of consensus-based fiscal commitments in strengthening the institutional framework for democracy in the countries of the region. The countries should see to it that the necessary consensus was reached by their legislative and executive branches with the involvement of the relevant authorities in decentralized, subnational agencies and civil society itself, through the appropriate channels. Those agreements should cover the level and composition of public expenditure, its financing and the question of public management oversight. Attention was drawn to the urgent need to improve technical support for budgetary debates within the legislature.

61. The secretariat was authorized by the plenary to present a document that had not been included on the provisional agenda. In providing a brief introduction to that study, entitled *Impact of the Asian crisis on Latin America*, the secretariat reviewed the origins of the crisis and the mechanisms through which it had been transmitted to the region, gave estimates of its effects on the Latin American economies and pointed out the main lessons to be drawn from that event in terms of macroeconomic management, competitiveness and modernization of the production

structure, the avoidance of financial risks and the reinforcement of the international financial system.

62. The representatives welcomed the secretariat's comments on the two studies and urged it to carry forward its work in both of those subject areas.

63. The plenary urged the secretariat to delve further into the subject as part of an integrated analysis of the economic, social and environmental aspects of development and of its study of the modernization of the public sector and the role of the State in a democratic process of changing production patterns with social equity. The secretariat was also asked, in particular, to distribute the document and promote its consideration in economic, academic, political, business and social spheres throughout the region and within international organizations concerned with economic development.

64. The wide array of considerations discussed during the debate on the document were taken into account in the formulation of the Aruba Resolution on the fiscal pact: strengths, weaknesses, challenges.

65. The sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development met during the technical stage of the session. The discussions held by that Committee focused on the follow-up and review of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development; the topic of population, reproductive health and poverty; and preparations for the regional appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. Following a productive exchange of views concerning the results of the countries' efforts to implement the Programme of Action and a special presentation by the representative of the United Nations Population Fund, the representatives adopted two draft resolutions without a vote for submission to the plenary. One of the resolutions dealt with poverty, population and fiscal expenditure while the other concerned the preparations for the regional appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

66. The Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions also met. The representatives stressed the important role played by technical cooperation among developing countries and regions in furthering the region's economic and social development and drew attention to the various activities that ECLAC was pursuing in that field. Upon concluding its deliberations, the Committee reviewed a draft resolution on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions and approved it for submission to the plenary.

Ministerial stage

67. The ministerial stage of the session was attended by high-ranking delegations, with 13 member States of ECLAC being represented by governmental ministers and deputy ministers.

The ministerial portion of the session was opened by the Prime Minister of Aruba, who joined the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica and the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in addressing the inaugural meeting. This stage of the session also included a commemoration of the Commission's fiftieth anniversary.

68. A broad-ranging exchange of views took place among the delegations during this stage. These discussions, in which the attending ministers and deputy ministers took an active part, served to enrich the analyses that had emerged from the technical stage of the session regarding both substantive topics, such as the fiscal covenant, and operational issues, particularly the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC.

69. The representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and of the United States Virgin Islands proposed a draft resolution on the participation of associate members of ECLAC in the follow-up to United Nations world conferences and in the work of the Economic and Social Council.

70. The representative of Mexico proposed that the twenty-eighth session of ECLAC should be held in his country. The offer was accepted with pleasure by the plenary, which adopted a resolution to that effect. The representative of Peru announced his Government's intention to serve as the venue for the next session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in the year 2000. That offer was welcomed by the participating delegations as well.

71. In his capacity as Chairman of the twenty-seventh session, the Prime Minister of Aruba proposed that Costa Rica be asked to continue to chair the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI) for the following two years. The representative of Costa Rica agreed to that request, which was welcomed by the attending delegations.

72. Representatives of countries and States that were not members of the Commission also spoke, as did representatives of United Nations bodies and programmes and of international organizations not belonging to the United Nations system. Statements were also made by representatives of China and the Holy See as well as by representatives of UNFPA, FAO, WHO/PAHO, the World Bank, IDB, OLADE and SELA.

73. The Minister of Agriculture of Chile, acting in his capacity as rapporteur, gave an oral report reviewing the main aspects of the various stages of the session and informed the delegations that the draft report would be forwarded to them from ECLAC headquarters. It was noted that established procedure was to allow a 45-day period for the submission by member countries of observations on the draft report.

74. The resolutions that had been submitted for approval were adopted during the ministerial stage of the session, with note being taken of the observations which a number of delegations wished to have placed on record. The corresponding information is presented under a separate heading.

E. CEREMONY COMMEMORATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ECLAC

75. The fiftieth anniversary of ECLAC was commemorated during the ministerial stage of the session in a ceremony organized by the Governments of a number of member States of the Commission. Letters were read out to the participants which had been sent to mark the occasion by President Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil, President Ernesto Samper of Colombia, President Julio María Sanguinetti of Uruguay and President Rafael Caldera of Venezuela. A message from Michel Camdessus, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, was also read.

76. Statements were made by Mr. Carlos Mladinic, Minister of Agriculture of Chile; Mr. José Angel Gurría, Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico; Mr. Antonio J. Urdinola, Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia; Mr. Patrick A. Lewis, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations; Mr. Derek F. Milton, Chief of the Research Department for the Americas of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who spoke on behalf of the European Union; and Messrs. Enrique V. Iglesias and Gert Rosenthal, both former executive secretaries of ECLAC. The speakers focused on the relevance, continuity and importance of ECLAC in the economic affairs of the region and on its role in setting an example for others within the United Nations system. They also drew attention to the integrality of the Commission's efforts in the realms of theory and praxis and highlighted its pioneering work in linking economic thought with social concerns.

F. APPROVAL OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

77. During the consideration of the draft resolutions submitted to the Commission, it was agreed that the following observations would be included in the report of the session.

78. In respect of the resolution on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC, the secretariat made an oral statement in which it reaffirmed its commitment to carrying forward the reform process in strict accordance with the decisions taken by the General Assembly concerning the delegation of authority.

79. With regard to the Aruba Resolution on the fiscal pact: strengths, weaknesses, challenges, the representatives of the United States and the United Kingdom wished to place on record their concern about the capacity of the secretariat to undertake, within existing resources, the many activities listed in operative paragraph 5 of the resolution.

**G. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY ECLAC AT
ITS TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

80. At its twenty-seventh session, the Commission adopted the resolutions which are reproduced on the following pages. Unless otherwise specified, the resolutions do not imply additional financial outlays in excess of the resources provided for in the regular ECLAC budget.

**564(XXVII) ARUBA RESOLUTION ON THE FISCAL COVENANT:
STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, CHALLENGES**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind resolution 552(XXVI) as adopted by the Commission at its twenty-sixth session, in which the secretariat is asked to deepen its analysis of fiscal reforms that will tend to strengthen the structural stability of public finances, increase incentives to saving and investment, and improve social equity,

Noting that the reorientation of regional development has led to a significant modification of the role assigned to the State and of institutional mechanisms for interaction among the State, social and economic actors, and society as a whole,

Recognizing that in order for economic reforms aimed at consolidating stability in a context of openness and growth to be successful, the public sector must be flexible and efficient, must complement the private sector, must be effective and competent in discharging the responsibilities assigned to it by society and, first and foremost, must have its finances in order,

Considering that the scale of the fiscal adjustment that has been accomplished in the region in such a brief period of time, which has included a major reduction in the deficit and a form of deficit and public debt management that is more in keeping with international standards of budgetary discipline, constitutes a pivotal factor in the current scenario of macroeconomic stability and renewed growth,

Appreciating that developments in connection with public revenues have included an increase, albeit a modest one, in tax receipts; the streamlining of the tax system and the modernization of its management; greater technical autonomy for tax bureaus and customs services; and the consolidation of various sources of revenue,

Recognizing also that, in terms of public expenditure, the most notable advances to be observed are in the recovery of public investment and social expenditure, particularly in Latin America, in conjunction with improvements in the targeting of social expenditure on the neediest sectors; more efficient management of public enterprises' rate structures; decentralized management of public expenditure, especially in the social arena; and the design of mechanisms to promote participation by private agents in areas which have traditionally been the preserve of the State,

Noting that, along with these promising achievements, the region's public finances still exhibit a significant degree of fragility which is periodically brought to light by external financial turbulence or domestic shocks,

Observing that, as a percentage of GDP, the level of tax receipts is too low, particularly in the case of direct taxes; that public revenues continue to be overly sensitive to the economic cycle; and that levels of tax evasion and avoidance remain high,

Noting also that efforts to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of public expenditure have proven to be insufficient, that the transparency of decision-making with respect to expenditures could be greatly increased, that quasi-fiscal practices could be limited considerably and that there is still room for substantial improvement in the targeting of social expenditure,

1. Welcomes the document prepared by the secretariat entitled *The Fiscal Covenant: Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges*, deeming it a significant contribution to the study of recent trends in public finance and public sector management in Latin America and the Caribbean, in view of the wealth of information it provides and the relevance, timeliness and scope of the analysis;

2. Emphasizes above all the unifying concept of the "fiscal covenant" in the consideration of those trends, concurring with the secretariat as to the relevance to such a covenant of the challenges of consolidating the fiscal adjustment now in progress, increasing the productivity of public management, enhancing the transparency of fiscal actions, promoting the goal of equity in public revenue and expenditure, and encouraging the development of democratic institutions;

3. Requests the secretariat to distribute this document widely and promote its consideration in:

- (a) Economic, academic, political, business and social spheres throughout the region, stimulating national dialogue regarding the main components of the fiscal covenant in the light of each country's specific circumstances;
- (b) International organizations dealing with economic development, in particular the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the Asian countries in order to stimulate further comparative analysis with countries outside the region;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to organize, before the ministerial stage of the next session, an international seminar of high-level experts and policy-makers, with participation by persons from outside the region, as well as from international financial institutions, with a view to giving further consideration to the issues analysed in the report and exchanging relevant experiences;

5. Urges the secretariat to develop the following topics in greater depth:

- (a) The evolution of fiscal adjustment processes, looking closely at their contribution to growth, stability, equity and competitiveness;
- (b) Comparative analysis and diffusion of experiences and best practices in fields of special interest to the Governments: public social expenditure, social security, decentralization, infrastructure, privatization, regulation, management of quasi-fiscal practices and mechanisms for improving public management, increasing its transparency and strengthening the link between fiscal policy and democratic institutions;
- (c) Ongoing review of the degree of consistency among fiscal, monetary and exchange-rate policies and between those policies and the prudential regulation and supervision of the financial system under different macroeconomic regimes in open economies taking part in a process of accelerated globalization with volatile financial flows;
- (d) The consolidation of the fiscal adjustment, giving priority to the study of how it may be affected by processes of fiscal decentralization, economic integration, quasi-fiscal operations associated with banking crises, social security reform and the link between public finances and the economic cycle, in each case examining institutional and economic policy proposals that might facilitate a sustainable fiscal adjustment;
- (e) Access to stable levels of public revenues sufficient to meet effectively the most pressing needs of the population, particularly with respect to education, health care, public safety and infrastructure;
- (f) Fiscal mechanisms that foster greater equity in the collection of revenue and the allocation and management of expenditure without endangering the sustainability of public finances;
- (g) The best institutional practices and policies for utilizing the advantages of the market and private management in the delivery of social services, with adequate regulatory mechanisms to ensure the quality and coverage of services and user protection, and with altruistic mechanisms built into the formation of these quasi-markets;
- (h) Combined use of both direct and indirect taxation with a view to improving distribution;

6. Also urges the secretariat, as part of an integrated analysis of the economic, social and environmental aspects of development, to persevere in its study of the modernization of the public sector and the role of the State in the democratic process of changing production patterns with social equity.

565(XXVII) REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS IMPACT ON ECLAC

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolutions 520(XXIV) and 541(XXV) on the role and functions of ECLAC and the consequences for it of the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields,

Conscious that the reform of ECLAC should continue to take place within the overall framework of reform of the United Nations, and in particular General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/212B and 52/220,

Bearing in mind its resolution 553(XXVI), in which the Commission decided to establish an ad hoc working group open to all member countries and to empower it to define, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, priorities for the work programme and to recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, taking into account the development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind also resolution 563(PLEN.21) of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC and resolution 1997/54 of the Economic and Social Council, both concerning the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of the reform of the United Nations, in which the respective bodies noted with satisfaction the progress made by the secretariat of the Commission in fulfilling resolution 553(XXVI) and expressed support for the general thrust of the pilot management scheme,¹ requesting that it be developed and described in detail in order to be submitted for consideration and approval by member countries of the Commission before its implementation,

Having reviewed the report by the Chairman on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI)² and the report on the meetings held to date by the Ad Hoc Working Group,³

Having before it the notes of the secretariat entitled “General review of the regional commissions by the Economic and Social Council: the case of ECLAC”⁴ and “Reform of the ECLAC management scheme: delegation of authority and accountability”,⁵

¹ See note by the secretariat regarding the pilot management scheme (LC/G.1964).

² LC/G.2008(SES.27/4).

³ Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI) (LC/G.2010(SES.27/6)).

⁴ LC/G.2009(SES.27/5).

⁵ LC/G.2011(SES.27/7).

1. Recommends that ECLAC continue to apply the reform measures along the lines indicated in the note by the secretariat entitled "Reform of the ECLAC management scheme: delegation of authority and accountability", bearing fully in mind the decisions of the relevant legislative organs, especially paragraphs 11 and 12 of part II of resolution 52/220 and paragraph 25 of resolution 52/212B of the General Assembly;

2. Decides to renew the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI), to be headed by the Chairman of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission, which group, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, shall continue to carry out its mandate of defining priorities for the programme of work and recommending to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, taking into account the development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. Reiterates the instructions given to the Executive Secretary in resolution 553(XXVI) to:

- (a) Pursue and strengthen the institutional development and management upgrading activities aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities which ECLAC carries out in fulfilment of the mandates conferred on it by member States;
- (b) Improve the indicators for evaluating the activities of the Commission in terms of performance, productivity and impact;
- (c) Intensify consultation and strengthen cooperation and coordination with other United Nations organs, agencies and programmes, particularly the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, taking special care to avoid duplication of activities;
- (d) Strengthen existing cooperation and coordination with other multilateral organizations, such as the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, the Latin American Economic System and other Latin American and Caribbean institutions pursuing similar objectives in the region, again taking care to avoid duplication of activities;

4. Requests the Ad Hoc Working Group to consider, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, the progress achieved in the implementation of current United Nations reform proposals pertinent to the Commission, including the implementation of the pilot management scheme;

5. Entrusts the Ad Hoc Working Group with the preparation of a progress report to be submitted, through the Executive Secretary, to the Economic and Social Council at its resumed substantive session, for subsequent consideration by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-second session, and with the transmittal of its proposals regarding the priorities and updating of

the programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001, through the appropriate channels, to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

6. Also entrusts the Ad Hoc Working Group with the submission of a report on its activities to the Commission at its twenty-eighth session;

7. Expresses its appreciation to the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group for his efforts, which have enabled the Working Group to accomplish the mandate entrusted to it in resolution 553(XXVI).

**566(XXVII) PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000-2001**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind rule 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, the mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the preparation and consideration of the programmes of work of all the bodies of the system, and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/32E and decision 1984/101 of the Economic and Social Council regarding recurrent publications of the United Nations,

Having been informed of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 prepared by the secretariat for consideration at United Nations Headquarters in New York, which include the creation of a subprogramme on mainstreaming the gender perspective into the main spheres of the regional development process,

Having considered all aspects of the draft programme of work for the ECLAC system for the biennium 2000-2001, which also covers the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning,

Considering in particular the needs of the Caribbean and Central American member States of ECLAC, and recognizing the importance of ensuring their fuller and more equitable participation in the work of the Commission, as expressed in the debate at the twenty-seventh session,

1. Takes full account of the views expressed and the adjustments to the programme proposed by representatives of the Governments of member States, in addition to the changes agreed upon in the debate, which shall be set out in the final report of the twenty-seventh session, and the changes deriving from the resolutions adopted at that session;

2. Approves the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system,¹ including ILPES, for the biennium 2000-2001, which, with the adjustments provided for in the resolutions adopted at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission, shall be the legislative basis for the Commission's execution of the programmes and projects and its issuance of the recurrent publications included therein;

3. Decides to entrust the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI) on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC with the task of setting priorities for the programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001 and updating the current programme of work;

¹ Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2000-2001 (LC/G.2006(SES.27/10)).

4. Takes note with satisfaction of the secretariat's proposal to create a subprogramme with the purpose of promoting the tasks related to mainstreaming the gender perspective into the main spheres of the regional development process;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to take appropriate measures, including the provision of adequate resources, to ensure that the Caribbean and Central American member States participate meaningfully in all elements of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001 and benefit fully from all the activities carried out by the Commission;

6. Takes note that the allocation of the resources necessary for carrying out the activities described in the programme of work will require the approval of the relevant bodies of the United Nations prior to the execution of those activities;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the relevant bodies such proposals as may be necessary for the execution of the programme of work as approved;

8. Asks the Executive Secretary to report to the twenty-eighth session of ECLAC on progress in implementing this resolution.

567(XXVII) ECLAC CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES FOR THE PERIOD 1998-2000

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling resolution 419(PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC on rationalization of the institutional structure and the pattern of meetings of the ECLAC system, in which it was decided that at each of the Commission's regular sessions the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the next regular session should be considered,

Taking into account resolution 489(PLEN.19) on the intergovernmental structure and functions of ECLAC, in which it was recommended that the current institutional structure should be maintained,

Taking into account also resolution 553(XXVI) on reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC, in which it was recommended that the current institutional pattern of conferences of the ECLAC system should continue to serve as the foundation in maintaining the simplicity, effectiveness and flexibility of the Commission,

Bearing in mind the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of ECLAC establishing and governing the periodicity of the meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission,

Having examined the proposed calendar of ECLAC intergovernmental conferences for the period 1998-2000 set forth in annex 5 to the relevant document,¹

Considering the objectives and priorities established in the subprogrammes of the work programme and the regional programmes of action approved by the member States at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission,

Recalling that the primary responsibility for implementing the declarations and programmes of action adopted at world conferences of the United Nations rests with the Governments of the countries,

1. Approves the ECLAC calendar of conferences as it appears in the annex to this resolution, with the observations and suggestions included in the report on the twenty-seventh session of the Commission;

¹ "Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 1998-2000. Note by the secretariat" (LC/G.1992(SES.27/11)).

2. Affirms that the current conference servicing system of ECLAC, under which the Executive Secretary is responsible for both substantive and organizational aspects, has been found to be efficient and cost-effective and recommends that these tasks should remain his responsibility;

3. Reaffirms the importance of continuing to entrust ECLAC with the task of organizing and holding regional meetings preparatory and in follow-up to world conferences of the United Nations in the economic and social fields;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the relevant United Nations bodies such proposals as may be necessary to enable the calendar of conferences as approved to be carried out;

5. Asks the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its twenty-eighth session on the implementation of this resolution.

Annex
CALENDAR OF ECLAC INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES FOR THE PERIOD 1998-2000

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
1998	Technical stage of the seventeenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	Port of Spain 23-24 March	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI), 419(PLEN.14), 489(PLEN.19) and 557(XXXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
1998	Twenty-seventh session of ECLAC	Oranjestad, Aruba 11-16 May	ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14), 489(PLEN.19), 553(XXXVI), 557(XXXVI) and 562(XXXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
1998	Ministerial stage of the seventeenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	Oranjestad, Aruba 15 May	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI), 419(PLEN.14), 489 (PLEN.19) and 557(XXXVI)	ECLAC regular budget
1998	Twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean *	a/ First half of the year	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
1998	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	a/ Second half of the year	ECLAC resolution 9(IV)	ECLAC regular budget
1998	Eleventh meeting of the Regional Council for Planning (ILPES)	Chile Second half of the year	ECLAC resolution 340(AC.66)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budgets
1998	Tenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile Second half of the year	ECLAC resolution 340(AC.66) and 371(XVII)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budgets
1998	Third Joint OAS/ECLAC Meeting on Statistical Matters	Santiago, Chile Second half of the year	Agreement on Cooperation in Statistical Matters signed by ECLAC and the Organization of America States (OAS)	Regular budgets of ECLAC and OAS
1998	Twenty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Santiago, Chile Second half of the year	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget

* In the resolution on activities in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, adopted by the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean at its seventh session, it was recommended that the name of the Conference should be changed to the above. This recommendation required ratification by the member States of the Commission at its twenty-seventh session.

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
1999	Twentieth session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	a/, b/	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX); and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1999	Twenty-second session of the ECLAC Committee of the Whole	a/, b/	ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1999	Twenty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	a/ First half of the year	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
1999	Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	a/, b/	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI), 419(PLEN.14) and 489 (PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1999	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	a/ Second half of the year	ECLAC resolution 9(IV)	ECLAC regular budget
1999	Twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning (ILPES)	a/ Second half of the year	ECLAC resolution 351(XVI)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budgets
1999	Second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development	a/, b/	ECLAC resolutions 535(XXV) and 557(XXVI), Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Consensus of Sao Paulo	ECLAC regular budget
1999	Twenty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	a/ Second half of the year	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2000	Twenty-first session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	a/ First half of the year	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX); and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
2000	Twenty-eighth session of ECLAC	Mexico First half of the year	ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14), 489(PLEN.19) and 553 (XXVI)	ECLAC regular budget

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of funding
2000	Thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	a/ First half of the year	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2000	Twenty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning (ILPES)	a/, b/	ECLAC resolution 351(XVI)	ECLAC and ILPES regular budgets
2000	Eighteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	a/, b/	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI), 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
2000	Central American Economic Cooperation Committee	a/, b/	ECLAC resolution 9(IV)	ECLAC regular budget
2000	Fourth Joint OAS/ECLAC Meeting on Statistical Matters	Santiago, Chile Second half of the year	Agreement on Cooperation in Statistical Matters signed by ECLAC and OAS	ECLAC and OAS regular budgets
2000	Thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	a/ Second half of the year	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, para. 88.2	ECLAC regular budget
2000	Eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Peru Second half of the year	The Conference was created as a permanent subsidiary body of ECLAC by decision of the eleventh special session of the Committee of the Whole (E/CEPAL/AC.71.4)	ECLAC regular budget

a/ Venue to be determined.

b/ Date to be determined.

**568(XXVII) FOLLOW-UP TO THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF
ACTION FOR THE WOMEN OF LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN, 1995-2001**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 558 (XXVI), in which it adopted the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001,

Noting General Assembly resolutions 50/203 of 22 December 1995, 51/69 of 12 December 1996 and 52/100 of 12 December 1997 on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in which the fundamental role played by the regional commissions in this work was emphasized,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/61 on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Taking into account the Santiago Consensus and the resolutions on national institutions for women and on activities in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean,¹

1. Adopts the Santiago Consensus contained in annex 3 to the report of the seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. Welcomes the request set out in paragraph 3 of the resolution on activities in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by the above-mentioned Conference, for the report of the Conference to be presented to the Commission at its current session by the Chairperson of the Conference;

3. Also welcomes the recommendation contained in paragraph 4 of the resolution on activities in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean that the Conference should be named the "Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean";

¹ See "Report of the seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean" (LC/G.2016(CRM.7/7)).

4. Endorses the resolutions adopted by the Regional Conference at its seventh session on national institutions for women and on activities in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean.

**569(XXVII) LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN DEMOGRAPHIC
CENTRE - POPULATION DIVISION OF ECLAC**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling that in 1957 the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) was established as a project funded by the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance,

Recalling also its resolution 304(XIV), in which it recognized CELADE as an autonomous agency under the aegis of the Commission, and its resolution 327(XV), in which it recognized the need for continuation of CELADE activities in demographic research and training as an essential complement to the secretariat's programme,

Taking into account resolution 346(AC.68) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the Committee's tenth special session, held in 1975 in Mexico City, in which it provided that CELADE, an autonomous organization under the auspices of the Commission, should be incorporated into the latter's system as a permanent institution with its own identity,

Bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations formulated at recent intergovernmental meetings, in particular the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, held in 1993 in Mexico City, and the International Conference on Population and Development, held in 1994 in Cairo, which underscored the need to address population issues as an integral part of economic and social development strategies and policies,

Considering that the studies conducted by CELADE emphasize the important role which population dynamics and their component elements play in any development strategy designed to help increase the well-being of the population as a whole and, at the same time, to preserve the sustainability of the environment and do away with the inequalities in living conditions affecting different social and ethnic groups, geographic areas, and men and women,

Recognizing the important role played by CELADE in the region's preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, in the formulation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and in the preparations for meetings of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development,

Recalling that at recent sessions ECLAC has been requested to include funding for priority activities of the Commission in the field of population in its regular budget,

Taking into account, within the framework of the reform of the United Nations, its resolution 553(XXVI), in which it instructs the Executive Secretary to pursue and strengthen institutional development and management upgrading activities aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities which ECLAC carries out in fulfilment of the mandates conferred upon it by member States,

1. Expresses its utmost appreciation to CELADE for its work in the field of population in Latin America and the Caribbean over the past 40 years, first as a project of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and later as a part of the ECLAC system;

2. Endorses the decision of the Executive Secretary to incorporate CELADE fully into the ECLAC secretariat as a division of the Commission, to be designated the “Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre - Population Division”;

3. Expresses its desire to see CELADE, as the Population Division of ECLAC, continue with its traditional activities as efficiently as before, particularly with regard to technical assistance, applied research and the training of human resources in the field of population;

4. Requests that the necessary financial and human resources be allocated from the regular budget to CELADE, as the Population Division of ECLAC, so that it may proceed with its valuable work, particularly in priority areas;

5. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Governments of Canada, France and the Netherlands for their contributions to the Latin American Regional Population Programme carried out by CELADE and to the international agencies that have supported the execution of other projects, particularly the United Nations Population Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank;

6. Also requests international agencies and the States members of ECLAC to reinforce their support for these activities.

**570(XXVII) SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE LATIN AMERICAN
AND CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL PLANNING**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 340(AC.66) of 25 January 1974, in which it directed that the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) should become a permanent institution of the Commission, with its own identity and responsible directly to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC,

Reiterating its appreciation to the Governments of the member States of the Regional Council for Planning and to its Presiding Officers for their valuable contribution to the substantive orientation and regular financing of ILPES,

Recalling that at the twenty-fourth session of ECLAC the Governments of the member States agreed that ILPES should concentrate its activities in the area of strategic State management,

Bearing in mind the major efforts the secretariat is making to introduce a new management approach with the aim of enhancing the efficiency and efficacy with which the ECLAC work programme is carried out, to the benefit of the Governments of the member States, the chief beneficiaries of the work of the Commission,

Considering the desire of the Governments of the member States to receive fuller information with respect to the impact that the ECLAC management reform process will have on ILPES,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the resolutions emanating from the nineteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning, held in Madrid in November 1997, which emphasize the following:

- (a) Approval of the report on the activities of the Institute covering the period from July 1996 to June 1997;
- (b) Endorsement of the proposed programme of work for 1998 and the request made by the Governments for ILPES to concentrate on the priority area of strategic State management, especially its medium- and long-term dimensions. In this area, support is also given to the request made by the Governments that special attention be devoted to forward-looking analysis and consensus-building for the achievement of greater social equity and sustainability in public policies, and to the process of territorial decentralization and the local aspects of development, particularly with regard to the expansion of production, job creation and public safety;

- (c) The request for ILPES to continue to examine the questions of strengthening political systems and strategic State management;
- (d) The request for the Institute to intensify its relations with institutions and professionals interested in the Institute's activities through REDILPES and the *ILPES Bulletin* and extend its radius of coverage using modern systems of training, communication and dissemination;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of the member States of the Regional Council for Planning for their contributions to the regular system of government financing which makes it possible to fund a large portion of the costs of the Institute's staff and activities;

3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Spain, which recently became a member of the Regional Council for Planning and hosted the nineteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Council, for the support extended to ILPES;

4. Also expresses its gratitude to the Governments of France and Italy for their contributions to the activities of the Institute;

5. Expresses its satisfaction at the support provided by the ECLAC secretariat for ILPES activities;

6. Endorses the proposal that the tenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the eleventh meeting of the Regional Council for Planning should be held in Chile towards the end of 1998;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its twenty-eighth session a report on the institutional, functional and financial implications for ILPES of the management reform process being carried forward by ECLAC.

571(XXVII) POVERTY, POPULATION AND FISCAL EXPENDITURE

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Considering that the promotion of social and gender equity is a priority objective of the Governments of the region in order to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights, strengthen the foundations of sustainable development and consolidate democracy,

Considering also that population programmes effectively help to foster social equity through the promotion and more appropriate social distribution of human capital in the region,

Considering further that problems in the area of reproductive health and gender equity most severely affect those living in poverty, especially women, youth and children, hindering their opportunities for upward social mobility and fostering the intergenerational transmission of poverty,

1. Supports the efforts of Governments and civil society organizations, in particular women's and youth organizations, to meet the specific needs and requirements of women, youth and children, who make up the great majority of the poorest segments of the population;
2. Requests the Governments:
 - (a) To consider population and development programmes, and especially programmes focusing on the promotion of reproductive health and gender equity, as a central component of their social development strategies and their plans for eradicating poverty;
 - (b) To promote the necessary political consensus-building, within the framework of the fiscal covenant proposed at this session, in order to strengthen the redistributive capacity of fiscal expenditure and to promote adequate and targeted allocation to programmes that have the greatest impact on the poorest sectors, particularly in the areas of primary health care and pre-school and basic education;
 - (c) To give priority to mobilizing and allocating the necessary financial resources, both internal funds and external resources obtained from multilateral banks and from international cooperation efforts, to achieve the countries' objectives in the area of population and development.

**572(XXVII) POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: PREPARATIONS FOR THE
REGIONAL APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Latin American and Caribbean Consensus on Population and Development adopted in Mexico City in 1993, the Cairo Programme of Action and the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development,

Recognizing the efforts made and the progress achieved by Governments and civil society organizations in the countries of the region in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Regional Plan of Action,

Noting the constraints and problems encountered, including the insufficiency of financial and human resources, in achieving the objectives and goals of population and poverty eradication programmes,

Bearing in mind that the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development held its second meeting on 13 and 14 May 1998 in Oranjestad, Aruba, and on that occasion considered the topics selected at its first meeting, held on 17 and 18 April 1996 in San José, Costa Rica, including reproductive health and poverty, follow-up and review of the activities of the Regional Plan of Action, and regional preparations for the special session of the General Assembly to be held from 30 June to 2 July 1999 to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Latin American Demographic Centre and to the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain for the activities undertaken in the past biennium with respect to the agreements contained in the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and for organizing the second meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, and to CELADE, in particular, for preparing the note by the secretariat entitled “Second report on the follow-up to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development”¹ and the document entitled “Population, reproductive health and poverty”;²

¹ LC/G.2005(SES.22/19).

² LC/G.2015(SES.22/20)

2. Thanks the United Nations Population Fund for the support provided to the countries of the region in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and in assessing the results of the related activities;

3. Concurs as to the importance of identifying and promoting a national mechanism in each country which would be responsible for follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and of identifying or maintaining a liaison agency to coordinate activities related to the Regional Plan of Action;

4. Decides that at its next meeting the Ad Hoc Committee should examine the question of population, youth and development, and instructs the ECLAC secretariat to prepare substantive documentation on the subject, to include quantitative and qualitative information drawn from a variety of sources;

5. Requests CELADE and the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain, in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund and other relevant national and international organizations, to promote during the forthcoming biennium activities in the countries that place priority on the following issues: human resources training in the field of population, the census round for the year 2000, international migration, population information and education directed towards vulnerable groups, ageing and the elderly, the family, social inequalities and vulnerable groups, including indigenous populations;

6. Asks the relevant bodies to train human resources and to propose and implement programmes in the following fields: population and development, equity and gender; the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents; education for family life; prevention of maternal mortality, including complications of abortions; prevention of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV-AIDS; health-care management; access to quality services in the area of reproductive health; sexuality, reproductive health and gender; prevention of sexual violence; and the status of children, adolescents and young people;

7. Requests the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee to maintain permanent contact with the secretariat in order to follow up the Regional Plan of Action between sessions and to cooperate in obtaining the necessary funds to implement it;

8. Decides to entrust CELADE, in coordination with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and in consultation with the United Nations Population Fund and with its support, with the task of drafting a report on the situation and the action taken in Latin America and the Caribbean with respect to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, to be submitted by 15 November 1998 to the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee for their consideration;

9. Agrees that the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee, together with any other countries that wish to participate, shall meet before 15 December 1998 in order to consider the draft report, which, before 15 January 1999, shall be submitted as the report of the region to the Hague Forum (February 1999) and to the Commission on Population and Development, in its capacity as preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly;

10. Reiterates the agreement to involve civil society organizations at the national, regional and international levels so that, in terms of both the formulation of proposals and participation, they may advocate, promote and participate in the implementation, monitoring and assessment of the activities referred to in the present resolution;

11. Urges the countries of the region, even in periods of financial restriction, to allocate sufficient resources to implement population and development programmes that include the reduction of poverty among their objectives, and to advocate the inclusion of the issues of population and reproductive health in reforms implemented in the sectors of education and health;

12. Urges the international community to increase its technical and financial assistance for this process, in fulfilment of the commitments established in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

573(XXVII) TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, held in Buenos Aires in September 1978 and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Taking into account the decisions adopted at the ninth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which met from 30 May to 2 June 1995 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, and in particular decision 9/2 on new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,

Taking into account also the decisions adopted at the tenth session of the High-level Committee, which met from 5 to 9 May 1997 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, and in particular decision 10/1, in section B of which the Committee examined the progress made in implementing the strategy of new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,

Taking into account further the statements made by representatives of the Governments of the member States at the meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions at the twenty-seventh session of ECLAC,

Recalling its resolution 560(XXVI) on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions,

1. Takes note of the report on the activities of the ECLAC system in support of such cooperation contained in the note by the secretariat entitled "Activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support technical cooperation among developing countries and regions during the biennium 1996-1997",¹ which has been considered by the Commission at its current session;

2. Reaffirms the importance of technical cooperation among the countries of the region in contributing to the achievement of their economic and social development objectives, especially in relation to exchanges of the experience gained by the countries of the region in the design and implementation of policies dealing with the principal areas of the strategy of new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries, such as the elimination of poverty, environmental sustainability, production and employment, trade, investment and macroeconomic management;

¹ LC/G.2000(SES.27/14).

3. Stresses the need to move towards fuller technical cooperation among developing countries and regions in implementing and consolidating the strategy for changing production patterns with social equity in the countries of the region and, in that regard, emphasizes the importance of closely linking technical cooperation with economic cooperation among developing countries and regions;

4. Emphasizes also the importance of the support which the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean provides for the activities of the Governments of the region aimed at increasing the use of the mechanisms and modalities of technical cooperation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels in priority areas of public economic and social development policy;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the relevant mandates, to:

- (a) Intensify activities aimed at incorporating modalities of technical cooperation among developing countries into the various areas included in the programme of work of the secretariat, especially while formulating and executing technical cooperation projects financed with extrabudgetary funds provided by bilateral or multilateral donors, and to broaden the dissemination of information on such projects and activities to national focal points for technical cooperation;
- (b) Continue to strengthen the links between the ECLAC system and national focal points for technical cooperation among developing countries and regions in order to improve and expand the utilization of information on the successes achieved in the course of project activities executed by ECLAC, thereby promoting cooperation among the countries of the region at the regional and subregional levels, and to support such focal points in taking advantage of the opportunities offered by connection to global information networks;
- (c) Continue to provide assistance to activities in support of existing cooperation networks and systems in the region at the regional and subregional levels, especially through the reinforcement of networks or systems for data collection and analysis, in those economic and social sectors which Governments consider to be of priority importance for their economic and social development objectives;
- (d) Collaborate with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme in its work of strengthening technical cooperation among developing countries, within the framework of the new directions adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and of the strategy for pursuing those directions;

- (e) Provide technical support for the activities sponsored by the Special Unit with a view to reinforcing technical cooperation among the countries of the region in subject areas addressed by the United Nations Development Programme in its efforts to promote technical cooperation among developing countries during the period from 1997 to 1999, especially with regard to the experience gained in the course of programmes aimed at eliminating poverty, achievements in the sphere of urban management, the identification of successful strategies for promoting small and medium-sized enterprise under the terms of economic cooperation agreements in the region, and policies concerning trade, investment and macroeconomic management;
- (f) Continue to provide support, wherever possible, to the mechanisms for coordination among bodies and organizations engaged in projects promoting technical cooperation among developing countries with a view to facilitating inter-agency coordination in the execution of such projects;
- (g) Continue to collaborate with the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System in organizing joint activities designed to provide support to national focal points for technical cooperation among developing countries, in accordance with their respective mandates, especially activities relating to the annual meetings of national directors of international technical cooperation;
- (h) Promote joint activities, within the framework of mechanisms for consultation with the secretariats of the other regional commissions, aimed at supporting technical and economic cooperation among countries in the various developing regions in coordination with the competent organizations of the United Nations system working in the fields in which such activities may have an impact;
- (i) Continue to incorporate the gender perspective in technical cooperation activities among developing countries.

**574(XXVII) PARTICIPATION OF ECLAC ASSOCIATE MEMBER COUNTRIES IN
THE FOLLOW-UP TO UNITED NATIONS WORLD CONFERENCES AND IN THE
WORK OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 543(XXV) of 27 April 1994 and relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council which granted official observer status to associate members of ECLAC in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Conference on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the International Conference on Population and Development, and the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, and which requested that observer status be granted to associate members of ECLAC at, *inter alia*, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Summit for Social Development and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Noting that the rules of procedure of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Summit for Social Development and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements were subsequently modified by the General Assembly to provide for official observer status for associate members of the regional commissions of the United Nations,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/61 of 25 July 1997 on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Noting General Assembly resolutions 52/188, 52/190 and 52/202 of 18 December 1997 in which, *inter alia*, it endorsed the convening of special sessions of the General Assembly “to review and appraise” the implementation of the programmes of action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, as well as General Assembly resolution 52/25 of 26 November 1997 and 52/100 of 12 December 1997 on the convening of special sessions on the programmes of action of the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 52/73 of 10 December 1997 in which, *inter alia*, it requested organizations of the United Nations system “to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance” for the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which would include associate member countries of ECLAC,

Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/66 of 25 July 1997 in which it requested, *inter alia*, that the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, which would include the associate member countries of ECLAC, "in the relevant meetings and conferences" of the United Nations to be facilitated, so that they might "benefit from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system",

1. Requests the member countries of ECLAC, through their representatives to the General Assembly, to devise the necessary mechanisms to permit the associate members to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly to review and appraise the implementation of the programmes of action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, and in their preparatory processes;

2. Also requests the member countries of ECLAC, through their representatives to the Economic and Social Council, to establish the necessary mechanisms to permit associate members of the regional economic commissions to participate in the work of the Council and of its subsidiary bodies.

575(XXVII) PLACE AND DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of its Terms of Reference and rules 1 and 2 of its Rules of Procedure,

Considering the invitation of the Government of Mexico to hold the twenty-eighth session of the Commission in that country,

1. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Mexico for its generous invitation;
2. Accepts this invitation with pleasure;
3. Recommends to the United Nations Economic and Social Council that it approve the holding of the twenty-eighth session in Mexico in the year 2000.

Annex 1

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES**

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

ANTIGUA Y BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Representante/Representative: Patrick Albert Lewis, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Lake Laughland, Senior Statistician, Census Survey

ARGENTINA

Representante/Representative: Juan Carlos Viglione, Embajador de la República Argentina en Venezuela

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Aldo Omar Carreras, Subsecretario de Población

BAHAMAS

Representante/Representative: Kelsie Dorsett, Assistant Director, Department of Statistics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

BARBADOS

Representante/Representative: Carlston Boucher, Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Heidi Jones, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

BELICE
BELIZE

Representante/Representative: Elizabeth Arnold, Population Policy Planner, Population Unit, Ministry of Human Resources

BOLIVIA

Representante/Representative: Julio Alfred, Director General de Salud, Ministerio de Salud

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Franklin García, Jefe, Unidad Política de Población, Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible

BRASIL
BRAZIL

Representante/Representative: Luiz Augusto Souto Maior, Embajador, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Tatiana Rosito, Tercera Secretaria, División de Política Financiera y de Desarrollo, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores; Arno Meyer, Secretario Adjunto de Asuntos Internacionales, Ministerio de Hacienda

CHILE

Representante/Representative: Carlos Mladinic, Ministro de Agricultura

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: María Josefina Bilbao, Ministra Directora, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer (SERNAM); Alvaro Díaz, Jefe, División de Desarrollo Productivo, Ministerio de Economía; Teresa Rodríguez, Jefa, Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales y Cooperación, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer; Jorge Andrés Iglesias, Diplomático, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores; Javier Rodríguez, Secretario Ejecutivo Pro-témpore para la Infancia

COLOMBIA

Representante/Representative: Antonio José Urdinola Uribe, Ministro de Hacienda y Crédito Público

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Gabriel Misas Arango, Asesor Económico del Presidente de la República; Rafael Villarreal, Director de Política Macroeconómica, Ministerio de Hacienda y Crédito Público; Jorge Toro, Asesor del Ministro de Hacienda

COSTA RICA

Representante/Representative: Roberto Rojas López, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: José Rafael Centeno Córdoba, Subdirector de Relaciones Económicas Internacionales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto; Noemy Baruch, Directora de Cooperación; Bruno Stagno, Asesor del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores; Adrián Rojas Herrera, Oficial de Asuntos Económicos Bilaterales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto

CUBA

Representante/Representative: Raquel Hernández, Viceministra Primera, Ministerio de Finanzas y Precios

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Juan Carlos Alfonso Fraga, Director, Centro de Estudios de Población y Desarrollo; Ana Silvia Rodríguez Abascal, Oficial a Cargo de Organismos Internacionales, Ministerio de Inversiones Extranjeras y Cooperación; Vilma Hidalgo, Profesora, Universidad de La Habana

ECUADOR

Representante/Representative: Víctor Hugo Calahorrano, Subsecretario de Planificación

EL SALVADOR

Representantes/Representatives: Aída Rodríguez Villaita, Directora, Secretaría Nacional de la Familia

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: José Aguilar Alvarez, Asesor Técnico, Secretaría Nacional de la Familia

ESPAÑA
SPAIN

Representante/Representative: Juan Carlos Sánchez Alonso, Consejero, Embajada de España en Venezuela

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Representante/Representative: E. Michael Southwick, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, Department of State

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Frank Kerber, Officer-in-Charge, Economic Affairs, Office of Economic and Social Affairs, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, Department of State

FRANCIA
FRANCE

Representante/Representative: Jean-Paul Barré, Ambassadeur, Observateur Permanent de la France auprès de l'OEA et de la CEPALC

GUATEMALA

Representante/Representative: Jorge Escoto, Subsecretario de Planificación e Inversión Pública

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Dra. Ana María Diéguez, Embajadora de Guatemala en Venezuela

GUYANA

Representante/Representative: Bayney Karran, Ambassador of Guyana to Venezuela

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Lennox Benjamin, Chief Statistician, Bureau of Statistics

HAITI

Representante/Representative: Guy Pierre André, Ambassadeur au Chili

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Jean Frantz Théodat, Directeur adjoint, Direction Générale des Impôts; Gabriel Thimoté, Président de l'Association haïtienne de la santé publique; Francoise Boucard, Consultante

ITALIA

ITALY

Representante/Representative: Franco Tempesta, Ministro Plenipotenciario, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Luigi Mercolini, Ministro Consejero, Embajada de Italia en Venezuela; Alessandro Modiano, Primer Secretario, de la Embajada de Italia en Chile, Oficial de Enlace con la CEPAL

JAMAICA

Representante/Representative: Evadne Coye, Ambassador, Principal Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Diane Quarless, Deputy Director, Caribbean and Americas Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; Gladstone Hutchinson, Macroeconomic Adviser, Fiscal Policy Management, Ministry of Finance and Planning; Easton Williams, Head of Population Secretariat, Planning Institute of Jamaica

MEXICO

Representante/Representative: José Angel Gurría, Secretario de Hacienda y Crédito Público

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Rafael Cervantes, Director General de Relaciones Económicas con América Latina y el Asia Pacífico, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores; Juan Amieva, Director General, Dirección General de Asuntos Hacendarios Internacionales, Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público; Rosa María Rubalcava, Directora General de Estudios de Población, Consejo Nacional de Población; Alejandro Villagómez, Asesor del Presidente de la Comisión Nacional del Sistema de Ahorro para el Retiro; José Luis Trejo, Director de Planeación Impositiva, Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público

NICARAGUA

Representante/Representative: Polidecto Correa, Viceministro de Acción Social

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Luis C. González, Presidente, Consejo de Administración del Fondo Nicaragüense de la Niñez y la Familia (FONIF)

PAISES BAJOS
NETHERLANDS

Representante/Representative: Toine F. van Dongen, Director, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Departamento de Naciones Unidas

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Klaas van der Tempel, First Secretary, Royal Netherlands Embassy in Santiago

PANAMA

Representante/Representative: Carlos González, Director de Presupuesto de la Nación (DIPRENA), Ministerio de Planificación y Política Económica

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Markela Castro, Coordinadora, Comité Técnico de Población del Gabinete Social; Diego García de Paredes, Cónsul de Panamá en Aruba

PARAGUAY

Representante/Representative: James Spalding, Viceministro de Integración, Ministerio de Integración

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Roberto Ramón Recalde, Director de Organismos Económicos Multilaterales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores; Martha Peña Kieninger, Directora de Estudios Económicos, Ministerio de Hacienda; Raúl Irrazábal, Analista, Departamento de Estudios Monetarios y Financieros, Banco Central del Paraguay

PERU

Representante/Representative: Hugo Palma, Viceministro de Relaciones Exteriores

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Marco Balarezzo, Consejero, Departamento de la Coordinación, Dirección General de Relaciones Económicas, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores;

Elena Conterno, Gerente de Desarrollo Humano, Ministerio de Promoción de la Mujer y Desarrollo Humano

PORTUGAL

Representante/Representative: Joao Carlos Ferreira da Silva, Secretario de Estado de Presupuesto

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Alvaro Gil Goncalves Pereira, Embajador de Portugal en México; Helena Maio, Asesor del Secretario de Estado de Presupuesto

REINO UNIDO
UNITED KINGDOM

Representante/Representative: Derek F. Milton, Chief, Research Department for the Americas, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

REPUBLICA DOMINICANA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Representante/Representative: Fernando Pellerrano, Asesor Económico, Secretaría de Finanzas

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Clarissa León, Coordinadora General, Oficina de las Cumbres

SURINAM

Representante/Representative: Monique Essed-Fernandes, Coordinating Director, Projekta/Women and Development

TRINIDAD Y TABAGO
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Representante/Representative: George McKenzie, Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Donna Henry, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

URUGUAY

Representante/Representative: Pelayo Díaz Muguerza, Subdirector General de Asuntos Económicos, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

VENEZUELA

Representante/Representative: Héctor Maldonado, Ministro de Industria y Comercio

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Fernando Hernández, Viceministro de Planificación; María Mota Guillott, Abogado, Agregado Internacional

B. Miembros asociados
Associate Members
Etats membres associés

ANTILLAS NEERLANDESAS
 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Representante/Representative: Daniel Hassell, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Lucita Moenir Alam, Deputy Director, Bureau of Foreign Relations; Giovanni Melfor, Director, Department of Economic Affairs; Aimée Kleinmoedig, Second Secretary for Netherlands Affairs, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Manolito Oomen, Department of International and Regional Organizations, Bureau of Foreign Affairs; Nelson Coffie, Chairman, Commission on Population and Development

ARUBA

Representante/Representative: The Hon. J.H.A. Eman, Prime Minister of Aruba

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Robertico Croes, Minister for Economic Affairs and Tourism; Armand Engelbrecht, Minister of Finance; Henry Baarh, Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Humphrey van Trikt, Permanent Secretary for Economic Affairs; Geraldine Blom—Ras, Department of Foreign Affairs; Fermin Coronel, Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba in the United States; Harry Bareño, Department of Economic Affairs, Commerce and Industry; Anthony Caram, Director, Central Bank; Merrill Robles, Department of Economic Affairs, Commerce and Industry; Maria Dijkhoff-Pita, Head Planning Officer, Department of Economic Affairs; Gregory Maduro, Department of Foreign Economic Affairs; Esthella Brown-Thode,

Planning Officer, Department of Economic Affairs; Mary Ann de Jong-Curet, Head Budget and Policy Officer, Department of Finance; Robert Kelly, Department of Finance; Ben Marapin, Social and Economic Council; Jane Semeleer, Central Bank of Aruba; Celia Thiel, Department of Social Affairs; W.G. Marchena, Planning Section, Department of Social Affairs; Alice de Cuba, Social Planning Officer, Department of Social Affairs; Leo Maduro, Deputy Director, Department of Labor; Elton Lioe-A-Tjam, Director, Directorate of Urban Planning and Environment; Armando Curet, Coordinator, Environmental Division, Directorate of Urban Planning and Environment; Gisbert Boekhoudt, Directorate of Urban Planning and Environment; R.A. Lee, Director, Central Bureau of Statistics; Marjolene van de Biezen, Central Bureau of Statistics; Karla Kock, Central Bureau of Statistics; Martijn Balkestijn, Central Bureau of Statistics; Monique Plaza, Central Bureau of Statistics; Glenda Hoek-Kock, Bureau of Economic Affairs; Brigitte Gómez, Coordinator, Bureau for Women's Affairs; Carlyle A. De Coteau, Director, Aruba Foreign Investment Agency; Manuel Vanegas, Chief Economic Adviser

ISLAS VIRGENES DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.
UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

Representante/Representative: Carlyle Corbin, Minister of State for External Affairs

**C. Estados miembros de las Naciones Unidas que no lo son de la Comisión
y participan con carácter consultivo**
**Member States of the United Nations not members of the Commission
and participating in a consultative capacity**
**Etats membres des Nations Unies qui ne sont pas membres de la Commission
et y participant a titre consultatif**

ALEMANIA
GERMANY

Representante/Representative: Peter Plischka, Ministro Consejero, Embajada de la República Federal de Alemania en Venezuela

CHINA

Representante/Representative: Liu Boming, Embajador de la República Popular de China en Venezuela

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Runguo Cai, Jefe, División del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de China; Run Zhang, Agregado

CROACIA
CROATIA

Representante/Representative: Franjo Antun Blazevic, Embajador de la República de Croacia en Chile

INDIA

Representante/Representative: Niranjan Desai, Ambassador of India in Venezuela

JAPON
JAPAN

Representante/Representative: Kensuke Sugiyama, Segundo Secretario, Embajada del Japón en Venezuela

RUMANIA
ROMANIA

Representante/Representative: Petre Gheorghe, Embajador de Rumania en México

**D. Estados que no son miembros de las Naciones Unidas
y otras entidades que participan con carácter consultivo
States not members of the United Nations and other entities participating
in a consultative capacity
Etats non membres des Nations Unies et autres entités y participant
à titre consultatif**

SANTA SEDE
HOLY SEE

Representante/Representative: Monseñor Leonardo Sandri, Nuncio Apostólico

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Guillermo León Escobar Herran; Boris Darío Hernández Salamé

ORDEN SOBERANA MILITAR DE MALTA
SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA

Representante/Representative: José Luis Rodríguez Villacañas, Embajador, S.M.O.M en República Dominicana

E. Expertos invitados
Invited Experts
Experts invités

René Wiener Aubourg, Assistant Directeur, Direction de la monnaie et analyse économique, Banque de la République, Haiti
Reynaldo Bringas Delgado, Director Nacional de Presupuesto, Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas, Perú
Roland Craigwell, Chief Economist, Research Department, Central Bank of Barbados
Alvaro Díaz, Ministerio de Economía, Fomento y Reconstrucción, Chile
Rolando Guzmán, Economista Principal, Unidad de Análisis Económico, Oficina Nacional de Planificación, República Dominicana
Vilma Hidalgo de los Santos, Profesora, Programa de Maestría en Economía, Facultad de Economía, Universidad de La Habana
Gillmore Hoefdraad, Coordinador, Programa del Caribe, Centro de Estudios Monetarios Latinoamericanos (CEMLA)
Alvaro Manoel, Asesor Económico Especial del Ministro de Planificación y Presupuesto, Brasilia, Brasil
Franklin Proaño, Profesor Principal, Departamento de Economía, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador
Juan Bernardo Requena, Subdirector, División de Política Macroeconómica, Unidad de Análisis de Política Económica (UDAPE), Bolivia
Ernesto Rezk, Profesor de Finanzas Públicas, Facultad de Ciencias Económicas, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba
Edgar Robles Cordero, Escuela de Economía, Universidad de Costa Rica
Jorge Hernán Toro, Asesor, Consejo Superior de Política Fiscal (CONFIS), Ministerio de Hacienda y Crédito Público, Colombia

F. Invitados especiales
Special guests
Invités spéciaux

Gert Rosenthal, ex Secretario Ejecutivo de la CEPAL

**G. Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations Secretariat
Secrétariat des Nations Unies**

Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales (DAES)/Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Germán Bravo-Casas, Especialista en Políticas de Población y Desarrollo
Alberto Padova, Oficial de Asuntos Económicos

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

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

Enrique Ganuza, Asesor Especial

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

Kerstin Trone, Deputy Executive Director (Programme)
Marisela Padrón, Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Division
Oyebade Ayaji
Rogelio Fernández Castillo
Jairo Palacio
Jyoti Singh, Special Adviser to the Executive Director
Michael Vlassoff, Senior Technical Officer

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

Carlos Mazuera, Oficial de Proyectos de la Oficina Regional

Universidad de las Naciones Unidas (UNU)/United Nations University (UNU)/Université des Nations Unies (UNU)

Valeria Merino-Dirani, Miembro del Directorio

I. Organismos especializados
Specialized agencies
Institutions spécialisés

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

Eduardo Valenzuela, Senior Agricultural Policy Officer, FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean

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

César Vieira, Coordinator of the Public Policy and Health Programme

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

Guillermo Perry, Chief Economist and Director for Latin America and the Caribbean

Unión Postal Universal (UPU)/Universal Postal Union (UPU)/Union postale universelle (UPU)

Herbert H. Niles, Regional Adviser for the Caribbean

Unión Internacional de Telecomunicaciones (UIT)/International Telecommunications Union (ITU)/Union internationale des télécommunications (UIT)

Juan Zavattiero, Jefe, Oficina Regional de la UIT para América Latina y el Caribe

J. Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales
Other intergovernmental organizations
Autres organisations intergouvernementales

Asociación de Estados del Caribe (AEC)/Association of Caribbean States (ACS)/Association d'États du Caraïbe (AEC)

Miguel Ceará Hatton, Director

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

Enrique V. Iglesias, Presidente

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

Jacquelyn Joseph, Director for Human Development
Osmond Gordon, Programme Manager (Statistics)

Consejo Monetario Centroamericano (CMCA)/Central American Monetary Council/Conseil monétaire d'Amérique centrale

Rafael Castillo, Economista Asesor

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

John C. Wood, Director, Secretaría Ejecutiva para el Desarrollo Integral

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

Robert Kozak, Regional Representative

Organización Latinoamericana de Energía (OLADE)/Latin American Energy Organization/Organisation latino-américaine de l'énergie

Luiz Da Fonseca, Secretario Ejecutivo
Ramiro León Torrás, Jefe del Despacho del Secretario Ejecutivo

Sistema Económico Latinoamericano (SELA)/Latin American Economic System/Système économique latino-américain

Carlos J. Moneta, Secretario Permanente
Juan Mario Vacchino
Rosario Díaz, Coordinadora Jefe de Cooperación Técnica

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

Con carácter consultivo especial/Special Consultative Status

Alianza Mundial de Asociaciones Cristianas de Jóvenes (ACJ)/World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCA)/Alliance universelle des unions chrétiennes de jeunes gens (UCJG)

Sandra Pyke-Anthony, YMCA Caribbean Coordinator for the Latin American and Caribbean Confederation of YMCAs

Comunidad Internacional Bahá'í/Bahá'í International Community/Communauté internationale Bahá'í

Ehsan Hemmat, Director, Instituto Nacional de Bahá'ís de Venezuela

Organización Internacional de Mujeres Sionistas/Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO)/Organisation internationale des femmes sionistes

Ana Marlene Starec, President, WIZO Brazil Federation

Visión Mundial Internacional/World Vision International/Vision mondiale internationale

Manfred Grellert, Regional Vice-President

Lista/Roster

Asociación para la Conservación del Caribe/Caribbean Conservation Association

Egbert Boerstra, Secretary, FANAPA
Edgar Werleman

Organización Internacional de las Entidades Fiscalizadores Superiores/International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)/Organisation internationale des institutions supérieures de contrôle des finances publiques

Michaela Ott-Spracklin

L. Otras organizaciones no gubernamentales
Other non-governmental organizations
Autres organisations non gouvernementales

Asociación del Caribe para la Investigación y la Acción Femeninas/Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action

Nelcia Robinson, Interim Coordinator

Central Latinoamericana de Trabajadores (CLAT)/Latin American Central of Workers

Anselmo Pontilius, Miembro del Comité Ejecutivo Latinoamericano de la CLAT

Centro de Estudios de Población y Paternidad Responsable (CEPAR)

Nelson Oviedo, Director Ejecutivo

Foro de Mujeres y Políticas de Población (México)

Mónica Jasis Silberg, Comité Ejecutivo

Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer (FEIM)

Mabel Bianco, Presidenta

Red del Caribe para el Desarrollo Rural Integrado/Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development

Nerle Robertson, Director

Red de Salud de las Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe/Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network

María Isabel Matamala, Coordinadora Adjunta

Servicios Integrales para la Mujer, Nicaragua

Ana María Pizarro

M. Otros invitados
Other guests
Autres invités

Lorenzo Agar, Director, Programa Global en Población y Desarrollo Sustentable, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Chile

N. Secretaría
Secretariat
Secrétariat

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

José Antonio Ocampo, Secretario Ejecutivo
 Reynaldo Bajraj, Secretario Ejecutivo Adjunto
 Ernesto Ottone, Secretario de la Comisión

Héctor Assael, Director, División de Comercio Internacional, Transporte y Financiamiento
 Daniel S. Blanchard, Director, Centro Latinoamericano de Demografía
 Rolando Franco, Director, División de Desarrollo Social
 Joseph Ramos, Director, División de Desarrollo Productivo y Empresarial
 Barbara Stallings, Directora, División de Desarrollo Económico
 Miriam Krawczyk, Secretaria Adjunta de la Comisión, Jefa, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo
 Adriana Valdés, Directora, División de Documentos y Publicaciones
 Axel Dourojeanni, Director Adjunto, División de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo
 Petrus Heins, Director Interino, División de Planificación de Programas y Operaciones
 Raúl Atria, Asesor Regional Principal, Unidad de Gestión de Recursos Extrapresupuestarios
 Katya Hanuch, Oficial a Cargo, División de Administración
 Juan Carlos Lerda, Asesor Regional, División de Desarrollo Económico
 Osvaldo Rosales, Asesor Regional, Secretaría Ejecutiva
 Juan Martín, Director, Dirección de Programación del Sector Público, ILPES
 Dirk Jaspers, Oficial de Asuntos de Población, CELADE
 Laura López, Jefa, Unidad de Servicios de Información

Klaus Heynig, Jefe, Unidad de Desarrollo Institucional, División de Planificación de Programas y Operaciones
 Raúl García Buchaca, División de Planificación de Programas y Operaciones
 Alfredo Calcagno, Oficial de Asuntos Económicos, División de Estadística y Proyecciones
 Luis Yáñez, Asistente Legal

Sede Subregional de la CEPAL para el Caribe/ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean/Bureau sous-régional de la CEPALC pour les Caraïbes

Len Ishmael, Directora

Sede Subregional de la CEPAL en México/ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico/Bureau sous-régional de la CEPALC à Mexico

Rómulo Caballeros, Director Interino

Annex 2

WORKING DOCUMENTS

- LC/G.2003(SES.27/1) - Provisional agenda
- LC/G.2004(SES.27/2) - Annotated provisional agenda and organization of the twenty-seventh session
- LC/G.1997(SES.27/3) - The Fiscal Covenant. Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges
- LC/G.2008(SES.27/4) - Report by the Chairman on the work of the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI)
- LC/G.2009(SES.27/5) - General review of the regional commissions by the Economic and Social Council: the case of ECLAC. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.2010(SES.27/6) - Report of the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI)
- LC/G.2011(SES.27/7) - Reform of the ECLAC management scheme: delegation of authority and accountability. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.1993(SES.27/8) - Report on the activities of the Commission since April 1996
- LC/G.2013(SES.27/9) - Programme performance report of ECLAC for the biennium 1996-1997. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.2006(SES.27/10) - Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2000-2001
- LC/G.1992(SES.27/11) - Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 1998-2000. Note by the secretariat

- LC/G.2014(SES.27/12) - Some recent resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations organs which should be brought to the attention of the Commission. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.2012(SES.27/13)/Rev.2 - Documents presented at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission
- LC/G.2000(SES.27/14) - Activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support technical cooperation among developing countries and regions during the biennium 1996-1997. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.1998(SES.27/15) - Provisional agenda, Committee on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions
- LC/G.1999(SES.27/16) - Annotated provisional agenda, Committee on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions
- LC/G.2001(SES.27/17) - Provisional agenda, ECLAC sessional ad-hoc Committee on Population and Development
- LC/G.2002(SES.27/18) - Annotated provisional agenda, ECLAC sessional ad-hoc Committee on Population and Development
- LC/G.2005(SES.27/19) - Second report on the follow-up to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. Note by the secretariat
- LC/G.2015(SES.27/20) - Population, reproductive health and poverty
- LC/G.2018(SES.27/21) - Provisional agenda, Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
- LC/G.2019(SES.27/22) - Annotated provisional agenda, Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
- LC/G.2026(SES.27/23) - Impact of the Asian crisis in Latin America

Annex 3

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS**

The Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions met on 15 May 1998, during the twenty-seventh session of ECLAC, as provided for in the programme. At the start of its meeting, the Committee elected the following officers:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Costa Rica
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Cuba
	Antigua and Barbuda
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Venezuela

After adopting the agenda for the meeting, the Committee reviewed the work carried out by ECLAC in the field of cooperation among developing countries and regions.

The secretariat submitted a working document entitled "Activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support technical cooperation among developing countries and regions during the biennium 1996-1997" (LC/G.2000(SES.27/14)). The delegations took note of the aforementioned activities report and asked for clarifications and additional information on some points, which were provided by the secretariat.

The representatives supported the guidelines set forth in chapter III of the report, particularly those referring to the strengthening of the State's management capacity, the enhancement of the role of local government, the importance of the private sector and the full incorporation of social programmes. They also requested that the gender perspective be included as one of the guidelines for the future work of ECLAC and stressed the need to coordinate the activities undertaken in certain fields with other cooperation agencies and bodies.

The delegations also expressed their solidarity with SELA, whose headquarters had been almost completely destroyed by a recent fire. The representative of SELA thanked all the delegations for their words of support and reported that SELA was rebuilding its documentary archives with the assistance of ECLAC.

The secretariat then reported to the Committee on the continuation of the following projects thanks to the recent conclusion of arrangements with donors: project FRG/95/S79 on the decentralization of fiscal policy and management in Latin America and the Caribbean, whose next phase would focus on the impact of decentralization on local economic development; project FRG/95/S80 on the reform of health system financing in Latin America and the Caribbean; and project FRG/96/S48 on energy and economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

With respect to the subject of inter-agency coordination, the secretariat said that during the project design phase, other organizations were consulted on technical matters and that it had therefore been the Commission's experience that much more of such coordination actually took place than was indicated by formal inter-agency agreements. It was also noted that there was a considerable degree of involvement of the Caribbean countries in a number of the technical cooperation projects that were under way.

At the conclusion of its deliberations, the Committee examined and approved the draft resolution sponsored by Chile and Cuba on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions.

Annex 4

**REPORT OF THE ECLAC SESSIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

The ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development met on 13 and 14 May 1998. The officers presiding over the meetings of the Committee were as follows:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Argentina Haiti Jamaica
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Peru

Delegations from nearly 30 member and non-member countries participated in the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee together with representatives of international bodies and non-governmental organizations and special guests.

After adopting the agenda as proposed, the Chairman spoke about how the Ad Hoc Committee had come to be established and reviewed the results of its first meeting, which had been held on 17 and 18 April 1996 in San José, Costa Rica, during the twenty-sixth session of ECLAC. As the outgoing Chairwoman, the representative of Mexico reported on the progress made in implementing the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development since its formulation and, in particular, since 1996.

The Director of CELADE reported on the activities carried out by the Centre during the past biennium within the framework of the Regional Plan of Action and spoke about some of the new high-priority activities to be conducted during the forthcoming biennium, which included initiatives relating to the census round for the year 2000, the ageing of the population and social security, and the preparation of a regional report on the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo. That appraisal would then be submitted to the General Assembly at the special session to be held in 1999 on the topic, which was often referred to as "five years after Cairo".

The Director of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean reported to the delegations on the activities already carried out and those planned for implementation in the Caribbean subregion within the frameworks of the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action adopted in Cairo.

The Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Division of the United Nations Population Fund spoke at length in the course of her presentation about the importance of

following up on and appraising the implementation of the recommendations issued by the International Conference on Population and Development with a view to the special session to be held by the General Assembly. In referring to the document on population, reproductive health and poverty which CELADE had submitted to the Committee, she emphasized the need to incorporate population programmes into social policies and, in particular, into programmes aimed at eradicating poverty and discussed how the topic of population and development tied in with the question of fiscal expenditure, which was the primary substantive focus of the session.

The Ad Hoc Committee's examination of the substantive topic of population, reproductive health and poverty began with a presentation in which CELADE explored various conceptual dimensions of the reproductive behaviour and health of poor segments of the population and analysed a number of subjects in greater depth, including: (i) socio-economic inequalities in relation to reproductive behaviour and health; (ii) the different sorts of difficulties associated with early fertility; and (iii) poor persons' lack of options in terms of the exercise of their reproductive rights.

The representative of the United Nations Population Fund commented upon the study prepared by the secretariat and raised a number of other points regarding poverty and the need for reproductive health issues to be taken into account in the formulation of integrated policies designed to combat poverty.

A number of delegations then expressed their appreciation for the presentations, emphasizing the relevance of the issue to their countries, the need to mount a frontal attack on poverty through integrated policies and programmes and the ways in which the issue was linked to the topics of fiscal expenditure.

The Ad Hoc Committee agreed to examine the subject of population, youth and development at its following meeting and entrusted CELADE with the task of preparing the relevant substantive documentation. A number of representatives raised issues of relevance to the twenty-first century that should be addressed by those documents, including: education, the reproductive health of adolescents, integration into the labour force, population dynamics, equity and changing production patterns and gender.

The discussion on the main subject to be considered by the Ad Hoc Committee at its second meeting, namely the Latin American and Caribbean region's preparations for the forthcoming worldwide appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), began with a presentation by the representative of the Population Division of the United Nations, who described the work being done to prepare a report for submission to the General Assembly at its special session and the role played in that process by the Population and Development Commission of the Economic and Social Council.

The Deputy Executive Director (Programmes) of the United Nations Population Fund described the activities being undertaken in preparation for the Hague Forum, to be held in February 1999, which would be one of the key events in the appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action five years after the International Conference on Population and Development. Participants in the Forum would include representatives of Governments, organizations of civil society and international organizations working to implement the Programme of Action adopted at the conference in Cairo. The conclusions reached at the Forum would serve as inputs for the special session to be held by the General Assembly from 30 June to 2 July 1999 to review the countries' progress in implementing the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development.

In response to a suggestion made by the secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund, the representatives submitted reports on the progress made by their countries in implementing the recommendations made in Cairo; in preparing those reports they had made use of guidelines formulated in advance by CELADE in consultation with the Fund.

Country reports or written statements were submitted by the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti, Guyana, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru. Other organizations gave verbal presentations on the results achieved and the problems encountered in implementing the recommendations issued at the conference in Cairo. Representatives of international bodies and non-governmental organizations provided information on the specific issues falling within their purview.

The Committee approved a draft resolution defining the procedure to be followed in preparing a report for the Latin America and Caribbean region to be submitted, as the region's input to the review and appraisal process, to the Hague Forum and to the Commission on Population and Development by 15 January 1999.

The secretariat was entrusted with the task, in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund, of drafting a report by 15 November 1998 for consideration by the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee, along with any other countries that might wish to participate. In view of the fact that the country reports would serve as one of the main inputs for the preparation of the regional report, the country reports should be submitted to the secretariat by 1 July 1998. The secretariat's draft report should be made available to the member countries in both English and Spanish versions.

The Ad Hoc Committee approved a second draft resolution on the subject of population, poverty and fiscal expenditure in which, *inter alia*, the Governments were asked to consider population programmes as a central component of their social development strategies and their poverty reduction plans and to allocate the necessary financial resources to achieve the countries' objectives in the area of population and development.

