

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



Distr.
GENERAL

LC/G.1619 (SES.23/2)/Rev.1
26 April 1990

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Twenty-third session
Caracas, Venezuela, 3-11 May 1990



ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE
TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

- I. Organization of the twenty-third session
- II. Provisional agenda
- III. Annotations on the provisional agenda



I. ORGANIZATION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

The twenty-third session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is being held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 3 to 11 May 1990. It is being held in accordance with the decision of the member States, adopted by acclamation at the twenty-second session in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in April 1988, to accept the offer of the Government of Venezuela to host the twenty-third session of the Commission; decision 1988/171 of the Economic and Social Council approving the above-mentioned decision; and resolution 500(XXII) on the calendar of conferences of ECLAC.

This meeting is the most important of the biennium for the Commission and is rendered even more significant by the fact that it is taking place at the beginning of a new decade which will have epoch-making projections for the countries of the region as the world economy moves towards a new millennium. It is therefore hoped that there will be an exchange of experiences and views among the governments of member States which will give rise to guidelines for action to promote their development.

The session will also permit the governments of member States to obtain first-hand information on the work undertaken by ECLAC over the last two years and to set forth mandates to guide the Commission's future activities.

The Secretariat has sought in this Note to put forward a number of suggestions to facilitate consideration of the various items on the provisional agenda and to organize the allocation of time in such a way that, should its suggestions be acceptable to the governments of member States, the conduct of the deliberations will be facilitated. As is customary at ECLAC meetings, these suggestions on the organization of work will be considered together with the provisional agenda, at a meeting of heads of delegations which has been scheduled for Thursday, 3 May: that is to say, at the commencement of the twenty-third session.

In order to facilitate the work of delegations, the Secretariat will make available working and reference documents on the items included in the agenda.*/

As on previous occasions, it is proposed to divide the meeting into two consecutive phases. During the first of these, which as a general rule is basically of a technical nature, work will be conducted in committees, which will meet from 3 to 7 May.

*/ See "Documents presented at the twenty-third session of the Commission" (LC/G.1618(SES.23/9)).

The second phase will take place in plenary session from 9 May onwards, and during that stage the reports adopted by the committees which met during the technical stage will be presented. It should be noted that Ministers of State or heads of delegation of equivalent rank usually participate in the second stage. Moreover, this stage is initiated with a solemn inaugural ceremony organized by the host country and usually presided over by the President of the Republic.

During the technical stage it is proposed to establish a Committee I which will examine the topics "Reactivation of the economic and social development of the region" (agenda item 3) and "Structure of the International Development Strategy for the 1990s: some considerations from the standpoint of Latin America and the Caribbean (agenda item 4).

It is also proposed to establish a Committee II to consider the following items: "Meetings of auxiliary bodies, and regional meetings sponsored by ECLAC in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations" (agenda item 6); "Other activities of the ECLAC system since the twenty-second session, and programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 1992-1993" (agenda item 7); "Calendar of conferences for the period 1990-1992" (agenda item 8), and "Some recent resolutions adopted by United Nations organs which require to be brought to the attention of the Commission" (agenda item 9).

It is proposed to consider the item "Co-operation among developing countries and regions" (agenda item 5) in a sessional committee.

A meeting will also be held during the twenty-third session to mark the culmination of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (agenda item 10).

It is proposed that the decisions and conclusions of the Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions should first be submitted for the consideration of Committee II and subsequently to the plenary, together with the reports of this Committee and of Committee II.

The annotations on the provisional agenda which are presented below contain additional background information on the various items, as well as suggestions for their analysis during the meeting. It might be useful to recall resolution 419(PLN.14) which states that, in order for the meeting to be a complete success "government delegations should include experts in the specific matters to be covered".

II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of Officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Reactivation of the economic and social development of the region:
 - a) Changing production patterns with social equity
 - b) The external debt and options for reducing its burden
4. Structure of the International Development Strategy for the 1990s: some considerations from the standpoint of Latin America and the Caribbean
5. Co-operation among developing countries and regions
6. Meetings of auxiliary bodies, and regional meetings sponsored by ECLAC in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations
7. Other activities of the ECLAC system since the twenty-second session, and programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 1992-1993:
 - a) ECLAC
 - b) Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)
 - c) Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)
8. Calendar of conferences for the period 1990-1992
9. Some recent resolutions adopted by United Nations organs which require to be brought to the attention of the Commission
10. Meeting to mark the culmination of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade
11. Other business
12. Adoption of the report.

III. ANNOTATIONS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of Officers

As provided for in rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of ECLAC, the Commission shall, at the commencement of each session, elect a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. In conformity with the practice established in previous sessions of ECLAC, the Chairman shall be the head of the delegation of the host country. It should also be noted that rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure provides that "the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited".

Generally speaking, the Officers elected to preside over the debates during the technical stage continue in their functions during the ministerial stage, except that this latter stage is attended by the respective heads of delegation.

Should the committees proposed by the Secretariat be established, they too will be presided over by their respective Officers, comprising a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

It is proposed to discuss the composition of these groups of Officers at the meeting of heads of delegations to be held on Thursday, 3 May 1990.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Delegates will have before them, for their consideration and approval, the provisional agenda (LC/G.1584(SES.23/1)), which has been prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the provisions of chapter II of the Rules of Procedure of ECLAC and bearing in mind the various mandates which have been entrusted to the Commission. Member countries may make such observations or suggest such modifications as they deem appropriate within the framework of the aforementioned Rules of Procedure.

The agenda of the session, the organization of work and the establishment of committees will be considered at the meeting of heads of delegations of the governments of member States.

3. Reactivation of the economic and social development of the region

a) Changing production patterns with social equity

Working documents

- Changing production patterns with social equity. The prime task of Latin American and Caribbean development in the 1990s (LC/G.1601(SES.23/4)).

- Report of the seventeenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1617(CEG.17/4)).

Reference documents

- Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1988 (LC/G.1577-P).
- Preliminary Overview of the Latin American Economy, 1989 (LC/G.1586).
- Latin American and Caribbean development: obstacles, requirements and options (LC/G.1440-P), Cuadernos de la CEPAL series, No. 55.
- Report of the Special Conference of ECLAC (LC/G.1464(CONF.79/5)).
- Towards sustained development in Latin America and the Caribbean: restrictions and requisites (LC/G.1540-P), Cuadernos de la CEPAL series, No. 61.
- Report of the fifteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1555(CEG.15/4)).
- Report of the sixteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1569(CEG.16/2)).
- Report of the twentieth session of the Committee of the Whole (LC/G.1556(PLEN.20/5)).

This item constitutes the central point of the agenda. It will begin with an analysis of the lessons provided by the economic crisis of the 1980s in Latin America and the Caribbean and an examination of the recent evolution of the countries of the region and their external environment: topics which will serve as a framework for the ensuing debate.

This debate should revolve around the set of proposals made in the main working document, in which it has been sought to find ways to allow the countries to recover their capacity to return to the path of development in the 1990s and thereafter. In order for this debate to follow a well-ordered plan, it is suggested that the various topics should be considered in the order in which they appear in that document, analysing, firstly, the main conditions for changing production patterns with equity; secondly, the bases for changing production patterns with equity; thirdly, the main proposals, and finally, the role of economic integration and intra-regional co-operation. A point of special interest is the idea of comparing various national experiences with the proposals set forth in the document.

Ultimately, the aim is to set afoot in Caracas a renewed debate on the most effective way to overcome the economic crisis of the 1980s through the transformation of the production patterns of the region in a context of progressive social equity to create new sources of dynamism which will make it possible to grow, improve income distribution, consolidate the processes of democratization, attain greater autonomy, and generate conditions which

halt the deterioration of the environment and improve the quality of life of the entire population.

b) The external debt and options for reducing its burden

Working document

- Latin America and the Caribbean: options to reduce the debt burden (LC/G.1605(SES.23/5)).

The secretariat has prepared a document analysing the scope of the external debt problem and putting forward a set of proposals for reducing its incidence. This document is presented to the twenty-third session not for discussion as an isolated issue, but as part of the broader debate on changing production patterns with equity which has already been referred to.

4. Structure of the International Development Strategy for the 1990s: some considerations from the standpoint of Latin America and the Caribbean

Working documents

- International Development Strategy: some considerations from the standpoint of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.1604(SES.23/3)).
- Report of the seventeenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1617(CEG.17/4)).

Reference document

- Some reflections on the Special Session of the General Assembly and the International Development Strategy (LC/L.518(SEM.51/2)).

At its next session, the United Nations General Assembly should approve this document: International Development Strategy: some considerations from the standpoint of Latin America and the Caribbean.

ECLAC has been participating actively in the preparatory work for the new Strategy, and at the present session of the Commission it will take stock of the work under way and the role the Commission will be called on to play during 1990.

Information will also be given on three topics which form part of the structure of the IDS approved by the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, namely, international economic relations, human resources and poverty, and the environment. With regard to these three topics, it is hoped to select a set of background data which may be of use to the delegations from the region participating in the work of the Ad hoc Committee of the

Whole to Prepare the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

5. Co-operation among developing countries and regions

Working document

- Activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support technical co-operation among developing countries and regions. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.1611(SES.23/12)).

Reference document

- Revised guide to facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) and directory of institutions (LC/G.1612).

The secretariat has prepared, for consideration by the delegations attending the twenty-third session of the Commission, a document giving details of the various activities carried out by the ECLAC system in the biennium 1988-1989 in order to promote and strengthen co-operation among developing countries and regions. The Note by the secretariat briefly reviews the main advances made by ECLAC in the field of TCDC and highlights the most significant aspects that might be taken into account in order to continue strengthening co-operation among developing countries and regions in the immediate future.

The report of activities contained in the Note by the secretariat is based on activities which are directly aimed at promoting and supporting TCDC and which form an integral part of some specific technical co-operation projects. To begin with, the report singles out the activities (listed by project) aimed at identifying opportunities for intensifying co-operation among developing countries and regions in particular areas of the programme of work of the Commission. A review is then given of the activities designed to support the exchange of experience among governmental and non-governmental bodies and institutions of the countries in some significant areas of the ECLAC programme of work.

The Note also covers activities of the ECLAC system designed to strengthen co-ordination with other regional agencies and bodies, both inside and outside the United Nations system, which work specifically in the field of TCDC. Finally, a description is given of various ECLAC initiatives—some of them involving the participation of other regional commissions—for strengthening interregional co-operation.

6. Meetings of auxiliary bodies, and regional meetings sponsored by ECLAC in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations

Working documents

- Report of the fifteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1555(CEG.15/4)).
- Report of the sixteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1569(CEG.16/2)).
- Report of the eleventh session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) (LC/G.1562(LC/CAR/G.263)).
- Report of the twelfth session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) (LC/G.1610(LC/CAR/G.292)).
- Report of the eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.483(MDM.8/2)).
- Report of the ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.521(MDM.9/4)).
- Report of the seventeenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1617(CEG.17/4)).

Reference documents

- Report of the fourteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (LC/G.1510(CEG.14/3)).
- Report of the tenth session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) (LC/G.1495(LC/CAR/G.243/Rev.1)).

Fifteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (New York, 27-29 March 1989)

This meeting centered its attention on the preparation of the new International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and on the performance and evolution of the economies of the region since the twenty-second session of the Commission.

The discussions represented the first opportunity to harmonize criteria at the Latin American and Caribbean level on the substantive topics before the Committee, although it was observed that there was a need for further debate in order to reach a common position. To this end, and on the proposal

of the Chairman, it was agreed to hold another meeting of CEGAN in the course of 1989 at United Nations Headquarters.

Sixteenth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) (New York, 22-24 May 1989)

In accordance with the above-mentioned agreement, endorsed by the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC, the purpose of the sixteenth session of CEGAN was to continue the discussion on the item "Preparation of the new International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

At the outset of the debates, the Committee decided to set up a working group to discuss the document "Basic guidelines of the Latin American and Caribbean countries for the process of formulation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade" (see Part Two of the report of the meeting (LC/G.1569(CEG.16/2)).

Eleventh session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) (St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, 18-22 November 1988)

The agenda for this session included the admission of Aruba; the implementation of the work programme of the CDCC, 1987-1988; the Programme of Action in support of small island developing countries; action taken on CDCC resolutions and those of ECLAC and other United Nations bodies with implications for CDCC; the role and functioning of the CDCC; and the work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the 1990-1991 biennium.

The session adopted resolutions on support for Haiti and the Dominican Republic (22(XI)); on policies on harmful wastes in the environment (23(XI)); on a programme of assistance to small island developing countries (24(XI)); and on the role and functioning of the CDCC (26(XI)). A resolution (25(XI)) was also adopted whereby it was decided to admit Aruba as an associate member of the CDCC and to welcome its participation in the work of the Committee.

Twelfth session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) (Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, 4-8 December 1989)

The CDCC took note of the report on the implementation of the work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean in the period 1988-1989 and on the role and functioning of the CDCC, and it discussed and approved the work programme of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the 1992-1993 biennium as well as the Medium-Term Plan for the period 1992-1997. Among other topics discussed was that of the establishment of a permanent secretariat for the Caribbean Council on Science and Technology.

The session approved resolutions on co-operation and co-ordination between the CDCC and international organizations and specialized agencies; on the working group on dependent Caribbean countries; on the elimination of language barriers; and on co-ordination between the secretariats of CDCC and of CARICOM with regard to countries which are not members of the Community.

Eighth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Guatemala City, 26 September 1988)

In accordance with paragraph 88(2) of the Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, adopted at the eleventh extraordinary meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women are to serve as a link between the governments of member States and the ECLAC secretariat in the field of the integration of women into development.

In compliance with this mandate, the Presiding Officers elected at the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean held their eighth meeting on 26 September 1988 in Guatemala City.

Ninth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Panajachel, Guatemala, 26-27 September 1989)

The main items on the agenda were the presentation of substantive documents prepared since the Fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, the regular regional conference, and the lines of work for the preparatory conference for the world conference to be held in 1995. With regard to item 4 of the agenda, the Presiding Officers agreed that the Fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean should be held between September and October 1991. The Netherlands Antilles has tentatively offered to host this conference, with Argentina as an alternative venue.

It was also agreed to hold a meeting in 1994 in order to link the Fifth Regional Conference with the preparatory conference for the forthcoming world conference to be held in 1995, and Argentina offered to be the host country for this meeting, with Guatemala as alternative venue.

Eighth Meeting of the ILPES Regional Council for Planning (Montevideo, 9 May 1989)

This meeting approved the report of activities of ILPES for 1988 and the draft programme of work for 1989, highlighted the activities carried out in the Caribbean and Central America, and fully supported the function of ILPES

as a necessary body for the planning and co-ordination of economic and social policies in the region.

Fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Guatemala City, 27-30 September 1988)

This Conference made an appraisal of the action taken to implement the Regional Plan of Action on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, in the light of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and taking into consideration the impact of the crisis on the situation of women.

In the light of the terms of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and with special attention to the crisis situation affecting Latin America and the Caribbean, the Conference made recommendations at the national, regional and international levels.

7. Other activities of the ECLAC system since the twenty-second session, and programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 1992-1993

Item 7 of the agenda comprises three parts, each corresponding to one of the institutions making up the ECLAC system, namely:

- a) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- b) Latin American Demographic Centre.
- c) Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning.

a) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Working documents

- Report of the work of the Commission since April 1988 (LC/G.1602(SES.23/7)).
- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1992-1993 (LC/G.1600(SES.23/8)).
- Programme performance report of ECLAC for the biennium 1988-1989. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.1603(SES.23/22)).

Reference documents

- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1990-1991 (LC/G.1506(SES.22/6)).
- Report of the twentieth session of the Committee of the Whole (LC/G.1556(PLEN.20/5)).

In order that the governments of member States may decide on the work to be done by ECLAC in the biennium 1992-1993, the secretariat has prepared a draft programme of work (LC/G.1600(SES.23/8)) which may be amended in the light of the priorities laid down at the present session.

b) Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)

Working documents

- Report on the activities of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), 1988-1989 (LC/G.1598(SES.23/10)).
- Report of the work of the Commission since April 1988 (LC/G.1602(SES.23/7)).
- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1992-1993 (LC/G.1600(SES.23/8)).

The work done by CELADE during 1988-1989, together with the tasks scheduled for the coming bienniums, comes under the regional population programme of ECLAC. This programme is designed to contribute to the economic and social development of the countries of the region in the area of population by providing assistance to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in order to heighten their self-sufficiency and promote exchanges and horizontal co-operation, while at the same time providing the services of a regional nature which the countries may not wish to develop alone. CELADE carries on its activities from its headquarters in Santiago, Chile, with support from the CELADE office in San José, Costa Rica, the Joint ECLAC/CELADE Demography Unit in Port of Spain, and the Joint ECLAC/CELADE Population Unit in Buenos Aires.

The first of the above-listed documents (LC/G.1598(SES.23/10)) reports on the activities carried out by CELADE in the countries of the region during the biennium 1988-1989 in the fields of technical co-operation, technical training, selected studies, information services and the transfer of technology in population matters. A summary of these same activities is given in the report of the activities of the Commission since April 1988 (LC/G.1602(SES.23/7)), while the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1992-1993 (LC/G.1600(SES.23/8)) also gives a succinct account of the tasks planned by CELADE for that biennium (in both cases, see the section entitled "Programme 18: Population").

c) Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)

Working documents

- ILPES: New guidelines for work, 1990-1991, and summary of activities in 1988-1989 (LC/G.1607(SES.23/11); LC/IP/G.54).
- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1990-1991 (LC/G.1506(SES.22/6)).

The activities of ILPES are carried out in accordance with the bases laid down by its main guiding bodies: the Regional Council for Planning, made up of representatives of the 38 member governments, and the Presiding Officers, made up of the representatives of five governments, plus representatives of the host country and of the countries where ILPES has offices.

At the same time, ILPES continues to strengthen its functions as Technical Secretariat of the System of Co-operation and Co-ordination Among Planning Bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean (SCCOPALC).

UNDP, which has supported ILPES since its creation, has continued to participate, together with the governments of member States, in the project on the development and dissemination of new public policy planning and programming techniques (RLA/86/029) for the period 1987-1990.

In accordance with the guidelines laid down by the governments, ILPES continues to concentrate its efforts on the following fields: planning and public policies; public sector programming; social programmes and policies; regional planning and policies; and investment projects and programming.

At the twenty-third session of ECLAC, ILPES will present a report of its activities and submit its programmes of future activities for consideration by the delegates. It will also present the results of the Seventh Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the recommendations emerging from the Eighth Meeting of the Regional Council for Planning and the Twelfth Meeting of the Presiding Officers. In these recommendations, the governments have reiterated their fullest support for the activities of ILPES and for the regular system of financing designed to ensure that the regular budget covers the minimum amount needed to guarantee institutional continuity.

During the period under review, it should be noted that the governments unanimously approved the offer of the Spanish Government to host the Eighth (Extraordinary) Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean in Madrid in 1992, as part of the programme of celebrations of the Quincentenary of the Discovery of America. They also approved the holding of the Ninth (Ordinary) Conference of SCCOPALC, which is to take place in Jamaica in 1993.

8. Calendar of conferences for the period 1990-1992Working document

- Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 1990-1992. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.1614(SES.23/6)).

As stated in the operative part of resolution 419(PLN.14), adopted by the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC at its fourteenth session in November 1980, the focal points around which the meetings of the Commission are organized are the biennial sessions and the meetings of the Committee of the Whole, which are held in years when the Commission does not meet. In the resolution in question, it was also decided that the sessions should be held in even-numbered years so as to coincide with the two-year budget programming cycle introduced by the United Nations General Assembly. It was also agreed that at each of the Commission's sessions, the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the next ordinary session should be considered, stipulating where possible the date, duration and location of each meeting.

In fulfilment of this resolution, the secretariat has prepared a table (annex 5 of document LC/G.1614(SES.23/6)) which lists the meetings programmed for the period 1990-1992, in accordance with the mandates adopted by the governments concerning meetings of ECLAC and of its auxiliary bodies.

9. Some recent resolutions adopted by United Nations organs which require to be brought to the attention of the CommissionWorking document

- Some recent resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations organs which require to be brought to the attention of the Commission (LC/G.1616(SES.23/19)).

The forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, which met from 15 September to 21 December 1989, adopted various resolutions and decisions which are of particular interest to the Commission. The secretariat has therefore considered it appropriate to bring them to the attention of member States at this twenty-third session of ECLAC.

10. Meeting to mark the culmination of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation DecadeWorking document

- Drinking water supply and sanitation in Latin America and the Caribbean since Punta del Este (LC/G.1591(SES.23/17)).

This meeting, to be held during the twenty-third session of the Commission in co-operation with the Pan-American Health Organization and the World Bank, will focus on the evaluation of the progress made in the region in the field of drinking water supply and sanitation during the International Decade devoted to that subject.

11. Admission of Italy as a member of ECLAC

Working document

- Admission of Italy as a member of ECLAC. Note by the Secretariat (LC/G.1626(SES.23/23)).

In a letter dated 10 April 1990, the Ambassador of Italy in Chile informed the Executive Secretary that, as provided for in resolution 106(VI) of the Economic and Social Council regarding the membership of countries with special historical, economic, cultural, technological and linguistic links with the countries of the region, the Government of Italy applied for the admission of Italy as a member of the Commission.

12. Admission of Puerto Rico as an associate member of ECLAC

Working document

- Admission of Puerto Rico as an associate member of ECLAC. Note by the Secretariat (LC/G.1627(SES.23/24)).

In a letter dated 19 April 1990, the Assistant Secretary of State, International Organization Affairs, State Department of the United States informed the Executive Secretary that the Government of the United States was presenting an application for the admission of Puerto Rico as an associate member of ECLAC and that it supported that application.

The conditions and procedures for admission as an associate member of the Commission are set forth in paragraphs 3.a and 4 of the Terms of Reference of the Commission.

The status of Puerto Rico with respect to the United Nations was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 748(VIII) of 27 November 1953.

The Office of the Legal Counsel, United Nations Headquarters, has informed the ECLAC Secretariat that neither the status of Puerto Rico nor the position adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 748(VIII) adversely affect Puerto Rico's eligibility for admission as an associate member of ECLAC.

13. Other business

This agenda item covers any other topics which the governments may deem it appropriate to discuss.

14. Adoption of the report

