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FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC**



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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Twenty-third session

New York, 16 February 2005

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will have before them the following provisional agenda for their consideration and adoption:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Economic and social overview of Latin America and the Caribbean
3. Inter-agency report on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean
4. Activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat in conjunction with United Nations Headquarters entities, General Assembly committees and Economic and Social Council commissions
5. Consideration of the request submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany for admission as a State member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
6. Other matters

2. Economic and social overview of Latin America and the Caribbean

The Executive Secretary will give a presentation on economic and social developments in the Latin American and Caribbean countries in 2004. Reference will be made to the recovery of economic growth, which reached 5.5% region-wide and made it possible to reduce poverty by 1% in relation to the preceding year's level, but did not lead to any improvement in the inequitable pattern of income distribution. In fact, Latin America and the Caribbean continues to display a higher level of inequality than any other region in the world.

Reference documents

- *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2004*
- *Panorama social de América Latina, 2004*

3. Inter-agency report on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Executive Secretary will introduce the document "Regional report on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean", which will serve as the region's contribution to the five-year review, in 2005, of the progress made in implementing the Millennium Declaration, the theme of which will be "Make poverty history".

The document was prepared in collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (Habitat), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

4. Activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat in conjunction with United Nations Headquarters entities, General Assembly committees and Economic and Social Council commissions

In recent years the ECLAC secretariat has strengthened its cooperation with United Nations Headquarters entities and its contacts with General Assembly committees and Economic and Social Council commissions.

The ECLAC secretariat will report to the Committee on its traditional cooperation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the activities it has begun to carry out in conjunction with the Department of Political Affairs and the Department for Disarmament Affairs under the project "Strengthening Democratic Governance of the Security Sector in Latin America", as well as its activities with the Department of Management and the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

The Committee will also be apprised of the ECLAC secretariat's participation in the activities of the General Assembly's Second Committee and in those of the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as in the work of the Economic and Social Council.

5. Consideration of the request submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany for admission as a State member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Under this item, the delegations will consider the request submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany for admission as a State member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Working document

- Request from the Federal Republic of Germany for admission as a State member of ECLAC.
Note by the secretariat

6. Other matters

Under this item, the delegations will consider any other issues they may wish to raise.