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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Twenty-fourth session

New York, 5 June 2007

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. Presentation on social cohesion in Latin America and the Caribbean
3. Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC and regional meetings in 2007 and 2008
4. Consideration of the request submitted by the Republic of Korea for admission as a member State of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

2. Presentation on social cohesion in Latin America and the Caribbean

Social cohesion becomes a priority in times, such as the present, when a paradigm shift leads to the erosion and questioning of the existing foundations of collective life in society. In Latin America, the concept of social cohesion also gains in importance because the region must grapple with such serious problems as high poverty and indigence rates, extreme inequality, various forms of discrimination and social exclusion. Some inroads have been made in dealing with these issues in recent years, but the problems remain. Under these circumstances, societal actors may be called upon to engage in constructive forms of interaction even though they do not share the same principles in terms of cooperation and communication. While there are generally a host of different reasons for disunity when it occurs, one of the most significant is surely the fact that the material underpinnings for social cohesion are frail, although, clearly, the problem goes far beyond the satisfaction of material needs. Hence the importance of policies that serve to bolster social cohesion based on democratic values. Above and beyond the ethical importance of this approach in terms of principles of equity, it also plays a decisive role in ensuring the solidity of the rule of law, democratic social order and governance.

The Executive Secretary will present the central points of the Commission's thinking on this issue as set forth in the ECLAC document entitled *Social Cohesion: Inclusion and a Sense of Belonging in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

Reference documents

- *Social Cohesion: Inclusion and a Sense of Belonging in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2335)
- *Social Cohesion: Inclusion and a Sense of Belonging in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary* (LC/G.2334)

3. Report on the activities of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC and regional meetings in 2007 and 2008

The secretariat will report to the Committee of the Whole on the activities of the Commission's subsidiary bodies and other intergovernmental meetings that will take place before its thirty-second session, which is to be held in the first half of 2008 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Reference documents

- Resolution 619(XXXI), ECLAC Calendar of conferences for the period 2006-2008

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

Under this agenda item, the Committee of the Whole will consider the Republic of Korea's application for membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Working document

- Consideration of the request submitted by the Republic of Korea for admission as a member State of ECLAC. Note by the secretariat (LC/L.2725(PLEN.24/3)).