

**644(XXXII) POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: PRIORITY ACTIVITIES FOR
THE PERIOD 2008-2010**

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 May 1993, the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in September 1994, the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development of 1994, the document entitled “Latin America and the Caribbean: review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development”,¹ the report of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly entitled “Overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development”; the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly entitled “Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development”, the United Nations Millennium Declaration of September 2000, the reports of the First Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Second Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing,² and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,³

Taking into account resolutions 615(XXXI) and 616(XXXI) as adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its thirty-first session, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in March 2006,

Considering the agreements reached at the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Bogotá, Colombia, in November 2007, as well as the conclusions reached at the Workshop on Preparatory Activities, Analysis and Exchange of Experiences for the Successful Implementation of the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses, held in Panama City in September 2007,

Welcoming with satisfaction the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (September 2006) held with a view to strengthening dialogue and cooperation among countries, the outcome of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development and its consideration of the issue of international migration and development, the explicit guidelines on international migration set forth in the Plan of Action signed by the Heads of State and Government participating in the Second Summit of the Americas and the measures adopted within the framework of the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, which reflected the desire of the Heads of State and Government of the Ibero-American countries to ensure that the rights of migrant workers and their families are upheld and protected,

Taking into account the Brasilia Declaration as adopted at the Second Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing: towards a society for all ages and rights-based social protection, held in Brasilia in December 2007,

¹ LC/DEM/G.184 (1999).

² LC/L.2079 and LC/L.2891(CRE.2/5).

³ General Assembly resolution 60/1.

Emphasizing that 2007 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre - Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, which was celebrated with various commemorative activities,

1. *Expresses appreciation to and commends* the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre for having organized the technical aspects of the meeting of the sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development and for having prepared the documentation for that meeting, in particular the document *Demographic transformations and their influence on development in Latin America and the Caribbean*,⁴ the United Nations Population Fund for its contribution to these activities and both organizations for the support provided to the countries of the region in implementing the Programme of Action adopted in Cairo at the International Conference on Population and Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing;

2. *Welcomes* the holding of a seminar marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre in October 2007, and expresses appreciation to the countries and the international community, in particular France and the Population Fund, for the support they provided to ensure the success of this activity;

3. *Underlines* the importance of the Brasilia Declaration adopted at the Second Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing, expresses appreciation to the secretariat for its technical contribution to the organization of that meeting, as well as for having prepared the corresponding substantive documentation, and thanks Brazil and the Population Fund for their support for the Conference;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of improving data sources, particularly population censuses, vital statistics and specialized surveys, for the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing and the Millennium Summit, as well as the importance of developing reliable, timely and high-quality national statistical information systems for decision-making and for the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and development programmes;

5. *Reaffirms* the agreements set forth in resolution 615(XXXI) adopted at the thirty-first session of the Commission, in which it calls upon the Governments that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the legal instruments of the United Nations designed to promote and protect migrants' human rights as a means of achieving full social integration, and invites the Governments that have signed these instruments to ensure their full implementation;

6. *Recommends* that the secretariat move forward with the creation of an inter-agency group, to be coordinated by the Commission, that will be responsible for follow-up of issues relating to international migration and development in the region;

⁴ LC/G.2378(SES.32/14).

7. *Requests* that the secretariat, in coordination with the organizations of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing, continue providing technical support to the countries for the application of the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and reinforce follow-up to the agreements set forth in the Brasilia Declaration, with special reference to public policy, information, research and human rights issues, and encourages the secretariat to make every effort to incorporate the regional perspective into the strategic framework for the application of the Madrid Plan of Action to be submitted to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session in February 2009;

8. *Requests* the secretariat to provide technical advice for the convening of meetings to follow up on the Brasilia Declaration, particularly with respect to the issue of international mechanisms to protect the rights of older persons;

9. *Encourages* the secretariat to continue coordinating efforts with other international and multilateral agencies to conduct activities that will benefit member countries and, in particular, notes with satisfaction the links established with the Ibero-American Secretariat;

10. *Urges* the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre, the Women and Development Unit of the Commission and the United Nations Population Fund to furnish support for the follow-up of the countries' plans of action for attaining the Millennium Development Goals, as agreed at the 2005 World Summit;

11. *Requests* that the secretariat, in coordination with the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee and with the support of the United Nations Population Fund, continue to give priority to the following issues as viewed from a gender perspective: the status, determinants and implications of demographic trends; population dynamics, equity and poverty; ageing; indigenous and Afrodescendent populations in Latin America; international and internal migration; human resources development in the fields of demographics and of population and development; the 2010 round of population and housing censuses; and vital statistics;

12. *Invites* the secretariat to organize in 2009, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund, a seminar to analyse the progress made in implementing the Programme of Action adopted in Cairo at the International Conference on Population and Development 15 years after its adoption and how it relates to the Millennium Development Goals, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health;

13. *Proposes* that the secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, study the possibility of implementing a strategy for providing training in the field of population and development and that it conduct a regional training course on demographic analysis for development beginning in 2009 which will focus on censuses in preparation for the 2010 round;

14. *Requests also* that the Ad Hoc Committee report on the activities carried out in the areas mentioned in the three preceding paragraphs at its next meeting;

15. *Recommends* that the Ad Hoc Committee analyse the subject of population, development and health, including sexual and reproductive health, at its next regular meeting in 2010, and asks the secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee to prepare the corresponding substantive documents in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund;

16. *Further requests* the secretariat to consider the possibility of extending the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee to at least two days at future sessions of the Commission;

17. *Calls upon* the countries of the region to continue making every effort to apply the key measures outlined in the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo, and in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the accompanying Regional Strategy for its implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly within the framework of policies for reducing social and ethnic inequalities, overcoming gender inequity and eradicating poverty, and urges the international community to increase technical and financial cooperation for the achievement of these objectives.