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Thirty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers
of the Regional Conference on Women in
Latin America and the Caribbean

Mar del Plata, Argentina, 7 and 8 September 2005

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean is a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) consisting of high-level authorities responsible for public policies designed to achieve gender equality. The Conference is a permanent body convened at regular intervals in fulfilment of the mandates contained in the 1977 Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development and the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, which, following its most recent review, gave rise to the Mexico City Consensus, adopted by the Regional Conference at its ninth session (Mexico City, June 2004) and presented as a regional contribution to the 10-year review of the Platform for Action.

The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference, meeting in Santiago, Chile, in November 2004, agreed to convene their thirty-eighth meeting in the second half of 2005 and to accept the Government of Argentina's offer to host that gathering.

This meeting of the Presiding Officers will focus on the analysis of social protection and the care economy. These two issues were highlighted as areas of major concern in the Mexico City Consensus adopted by the Regional Conference at its ninth session and by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session (New York, 28 February-11 March 2005). The thirty-first session of ECLAC, to be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in March 2006, will also address the issue of social protection, and the recommendations arising from this meeting of the Presiding Officers will therefore serve as an input for the document on that subject now being prepared by the Commission.

B. ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will have the following provisional agenda before them for adoption or amendment (LC/L.2342(MDM.38/1)):

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report on activities in the region and activities conducted by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers
3. Report and analysis of the ECLAC/GTZ Project on Gender-Oriented Labour Market Policy
4. Policies for social protection, the care economy and gender equity
5. Regional report on the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean
6. Adoption of agreements
7. Other matters

2. Report on activities in the region and activities conducted by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers

(a) The ECLAC secretariat will report on activities carried out within the region since the thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers (Santiago, Chile, 29 and 30 November 2004) and will present the relevant reference documentation. It will also report to the Presiding Officers on the agreements adopted on the previous day at the thirteenth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean concerning the follow-up to the Mexico City Consensus and the recommendations made by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session.

(b) The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference will refer to the participation of the countries of the region in the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 28 February-11 March 2005).

(c) Representatives of member countries who are serving as Presiding Officers will report on completed and planned activities at the national and regional level to ensure the implementation of the Mexico City Consensus.

Working documents

- Activities of the ECLAC secretariat to support the integration of a gender perspective into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean (1 January 2004 to 30 June 2005)
- Gender mainstreaming in ECLAC: lessons learned and challenges to be met
- Guidelines for the presentation of oral and written reports by member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers (agenda item 2)
- Written reports of the member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers

3. Report and analysis of the ECLAC/GTZ Project on Gender-Oriented Labour Market Policy

(a) The ECLAC secretariat will present an analysis of the political impact of the Project on Gender-Oriented Labour Market Policy currently being executed by the Women and Development Unit with financial support from the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

(b) General discussion and comments by countries.

Working document

- Technical and political linkages: the experience of the Project on Gender-Oriented Labour Market Policy

4. Policies for social protection, the care economy and gender equity

(a) A panel of specialists will address the theoretical aspects of social protection, including poverty alleviation programmes and unpaid work performed by women, from a gender perspective.

(b) Analysis of best practices in the area of social protection from a gender perspective in ECLAC member countries.

(c) Member organizations of the United Nations system will report on completed or planned activities which contribute to the valuation of unpaid work and caregiving carried out principally by women and activities that promote women's access to employment in a context where family responsibilities are shared.

Working documents

- Papers by specialists invited to participate in the panel
- Guidelines for the presentation of oral and written reports by member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers (agenda item 4)
- Written reports of member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers
- Written reports of member organizations of the United Nations system

5. Regional report on the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) The ECLAC secretariat will present the findings of the regional inter-agency study on the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals coordinated by ECLAC with support from member organizations of the United Nations system in Latin America and the Caribbean. This study has been prepared with a view to the General Assembly's review of the Millennium Declaration in 2005 and in keeping with the relevant guidelines contained in General Assembly resolution 55/162 concerning the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

(b) The ECLAC member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers will comment on the study's findings and will report on efforts at the national level in follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals.

(c) Member organizations of the United Nations system will report to the Presiding Officers on the agreements reached the previous day at their thirteenth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean with a view to strengthening the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in the region.

Working document

- The Millennium Development Goals: a Latin American and Caribbean Perspective
- Guidelines for the presentation of oral and written reports by member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers (agenda item 5)
- Written reports of member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers

6. Adoption of agreements

Member countries whose representatives are serving as Presiding Officers will consider and adopt agreements at the thirty-eighth meeting.

7. Other matters

Under this item, delegations may raise any other matters they deem to be relevant.

C. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**Agenda item 2**

- Report of the thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.2280(MDM.37/4))
- Resolutions adopted by the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

Agenda item 3

- Calidad del empleo y calidad de la atención en la salud en Córdoba, Argentina. Aportes para políticas laborales más equitativas, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 60 (LC/L.2250-P)
- Demandas de capacitación del sector financiero. Sesgos de género y evaluación por competencias, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 61 (LC/L.2267-P)
- El empleo en los servicios financieros. Costa Rica: buenas y no tan buenas noticias, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 62 (LC/L.2295-P)
- Sector financiero y empleo femenino. El caso uruguayo, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 64 (LC/L.2323-P)

Agenda item 4

- Os programas de combate à pobreza no Brasil e a perspectiva de género no periodo 2000-2003: avancos e possibilidades, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 63 (LC/L2309-P)
- A pobreza e as políticas de género no Brasil, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 66 (LC/L.2322-P)
- El tiempo, los tiempos, una vara de desigualdad, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 65 (LC/L.2324-P)

Agenda item 5

- Las metas del Milenio y la igualdad de género. El caso de México, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 67 (LC/L.2339-P)
- Las metas del Milenio y la igualdad de género: el caso de Nicaragua, *Mujer y desarrollo series*, No. 68 (LC/L2353-P)