



UNITED NATIONS



Distr.
LIMITED

LC/L.2761(CRM.10/2)
26 July 2007

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women
in Latin America and the Caribbean

Quito, Ecuador, 6-9 August 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Mandate and functions

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean is a subsidiary organ of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and is convened in compliance with the mandates contained in the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (1977). The Conference meets periodically at intervals of no more than three years. In accordance with the Plan of Action and the agreements adopted by Governments, it fulfils the following functions.

- To determine regional and subregional needs for technical assistance and give support to all United Nations bodies operating in the region to enable them to meet those needs;
- To put forward recommendations to Governments and to ECLAC itself based on studies carried out by the secretariat on the most feasible way of implementing the agreements adopted by United Nations regional conferences;
- To review and appraise periodically the activities of ECLAC and other United Nations bodies;
- To evaluate periodically the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action and the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean;
- To provide a forum for the exchange of information to facilitate mutual coordination and support for programmes designed to promote gender mainstreaming and the integration of women into the economic and social development process at various levels and permit the countries in the region to share relevant experience.

2. Purposes of the session

The tenth session of the Regional Conference also has the function of reviewing the implementation of the international commitments undertaken in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the sixth session of the Regional Conference in 1994 and reaffirmed in 2004 in the Mexico City Consensus. To that end, the Conference at its tenth session will undertake to examine political participation and gender parity in decision-making processes at all levels. It will also consider the subject of the contribution of women to the economy and social protection, especially in relation to unpaid work performed by women.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Election of officers

The delegations will elect the Presiding Officers of the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, who will serve as such until new Presiding Officers are chosen at the following session.

In accordance with the criteria established by the Presiding Officers, every effort will be made to ensure that the new Presiding Officers are chosen with due regard for the principles of adequate geographical distribution and rotation. The Presiding Officers consider it necessary to refer to the subject of regular attendance at meetings as “a commitment that countries must make” if they are to serve on that body.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will consider the provisional agenda and will organize the work of the Conference.

The Conference will have before it the following provisional agenda for its consideration:¹

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat and the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean since the ninth session of the Regional Conference
4. Presentation of the position paper “Women’s contribution to equality in Latin America and the Caribbean”
5. Analysis of the contribution of women to the economy and social protection, especially in relation to unpaid work performed by women
6. Political participation and gender parity in decision-making processes at all levels
7. Consideration and adoption of agreements by the Conference
8. Other matters

The Conference will organize its work in accordance with the formula successfully adopted at the ninth session of the Regional Conference (Mexico City, 10-12 June 2004), whereby its work should be divided into three forums: an ongoing plenary meeting and two parallel thematic meetings, one on each of the two thematic areas agreed at the thirty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: “Analysis of the contribution of women to

¹ LC/L.2760(CRM.10/1).

the economy and social protection, especially in relation to unpaid work performed by women,” and “Political participation and gender parity in decision-making processes at all levels.”² In compliance with this agreement, it is proposed that two panels open to all delegations should meet simultaneously on 7 and 8 August to facilitate discussions on the two issues selected for detailed consideration by the Conference in its plenary meetings, corresponding to agenda items 5 and 6.

The working paper prepared by ECLAC on these topics, entitled “Women’s contribution to equality in Latin America and the Caribbean,” (LC/L.2738(CRM.10/3)) will be introduced at the plenary meeting to be held on the afternoon of 6 August.

3. Activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat and the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean since the ninth session of the Regional Conference

The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers will report to the participants on the activities carried out by the Presiding Officers since the ninth session of the Regional Conference. To complement this information, the delegations will have before them the reports of the four meetings held by the outgoing Presiding Officers³ and of the three subregional preparatory meetings for the tenth session of the Regional Conference.⁴

Member States will present national reports on the implementation of the Mexico City Consensus adopted at the ninth session of the Regional Conference.

The ECLAC secretariat will report to delegations on its activities since the ninth session of the Regional Conference. Delegations will have before them the corresponding activities report.⁵

4. Presentation of the position paper “Women’s contribution to equality in Latin America and the Caribbean”

The secretariat will present the document “Women’s contribution to equality in Latin America and the Caribbean” prepared in accordance with the themes adopted at the thirty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference: “Political participation and gender parity in decision-making

² Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Report of the thirty-ninth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/L.2599), Santiago, Chile, 2006, agreement 5.

³ See the reports of the following meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: thirty-seventh (LC/L.2280(MDM.37/4)), thirty-eighth (LC/L.2430(MDM.38/4)), thirty-ninth (LC/L.2599) and fortieth (LC/L.2695).

⁴ Report of the subregional preparatory meeting for Central America and Mexico for the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Guatemala City, 16-17 May 2007 (LC/L.2774); Report of the subregional preparatory meeting for the Caribbean for the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, St. John’s, Antigua and Barbuda, 22-23 May 2007 (LC/L.2773); and Draft report of the subregional preparatory meeting for South America for the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, Chile, 28-29 May 2007.

⁵ Activities of the ECLAC secretariat to promote gender mainstreaming in the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean (1 January 2004 to 31 June 2007) (LC/L.2762(CRM.10/5)).

processes at all levels” and “Analysis of the contribution of women to the economy and social protection, especially in relation to unpaid work performed by women.” Particular attention will be paid to the key concepts which show the close complementarity between the two issues, together with the main elements of regional analysis, trends and challenges.

5. Analysis of the contribution of women to the economy and social protection, especially in relation to unpaid work performed by women

At one of the plenary meetings, government representatives will present their substantive comments on the working paper entitled “Women’s contribution to equality in Latin America and the Caribbean” (LC/L.2738(CRM.10/3)), in particular the section on analysis of the contribution of women to the economy and social protection, especially in relation to unpaid work performed by women.

In accordance with the organization of work, this issue will be analysed in greater depth in one of the panel discussions, in which the item will be considered on the basis of presentations made by guest speakers invited by ECLAC.

6. Political participation and gender parity in decision-making processes at all levels

At one of the plenary meetings, government representatives will present their substantive comments on the working paper entitled “Women’s contribution to equality in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.2738(CRM.10/3)), in particular the section on analysis of political participation and gender parity in decision-making processes at all levels.

In accordance with the organization of work, this issue will be analysed in greater depth in one of the panel discussions, in which the item will be considered on the basis of presentations made by guest speakers invited by ECLAC.

7. Consideration and adoption of agreements by the Conference

The proposed agreements that will be submitted to the Conference for consideration will be aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Beijing Platform for Action and the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean.

8. Other matters

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