

UNITED NATIONS

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC**



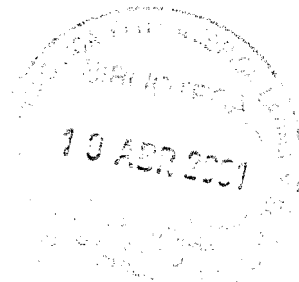
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Thirty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers
of the Regional Conference on Women in
Latin America and the Caribbean

San José, Costa Rica, 19-20 April 2001



ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The attending delegations will have before them the provisional agenda (LC/L.1494(MDM.32/1)) for their consideration and subsequent adoption following the incorporation of any modifications they may deem appropriate.

2. Review of activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers

(a) The States members of ECLAC represented by the Presiding Officers will report on the activities carried out at the national and regional levels since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers and will evaluate their achievements within the framework of the mandates contained in the Regional Programme of Action, the agreements reached at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially those set forth in the Lima Consensus, and the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (Beijing +5).

Reference document

- Guidelines for the presentation of oral and written reports of the member countries of ECLAC

(b) The secretariat will report on the activities carried out since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers (Santiago, Chile, 13-15 September 2000), particularly as they relate to the ECLAC/GTZ project on mainstreaming the gender perspective in ECLAC and sectoral ministries; inter-agency projects aimed at facilitating the use of gender indicators in public policy-making and at capacity-building for governance in national women's offices in Latin America and the Caribbean; and the project dealing with the impact of pension system reform on the gender gap in the region, which is being financed by the Government of the Netherlands.

Reference documents will be furnished in order to provide the Presiding Officers with more detailed information on other relevant activities carried out by ECLAC. These activities include a study on economic aspects of gender equity, a paper on women's employability within the context of Latin American structural reforms, the preparation of the final version of the document entitled *Nuevos enfoques para la evaluación del quehacer de los mecanismos de género en la región de América Latina y el Caribe*, the meetings of experts scheduled for the year, and technical advisory and training activities in member countries. The secretariat will also report on the progress of the ECLAC position paper to be presented at the forthcoming session in 2002 and relevant activities of the Commission's other substantive divisions.

Reference documents

- Amelia Valcárcel, *La memoria colectiva y los retos del feminismo*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 1 (LC/L.1507-P)
- Virginia Guzmán, *La institucionalidad de género en el Estado: nuevas perspectivas de análisis*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 32 (LC/L.1511-P)
- Haydeé Birgin and Laura Pautassi, "Género en la reforma o reforma sin género? Desprotección social de las leyes previsionales en América Latina" (document presented at the seminar "Women at Work: a Challenge for Development", co-sponsored by the Government of Chile, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Inter-American Development Bank and held in Santiago, Chile, on 17 March 2001)
- Elyzabeth Peredo, "Una aproximación a la problemática de género y etnicidad en América Latina" (preliminary version)
- Lieve Daeren, *Enfoque de género en la política económica-laboral. El estado del arte en América Latina y el Caribe*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 29 (LC/L.1500-P)
- Laura C. Pautassi, *Equidad de género y calidad en el empleo: Las trabajadoras y los trabajadores en salud en Argentina*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 30 (LC/L.1506-P)
- Martha Ordóñez, "Diagnóstico sobre la institucionalidad del enfoque de género en las políticas laboral y económica del sector turismo en Ecuador", Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 33

(c) ECLAC will present the Women and Development Unit's new Web site, which it launched on 8 March 2001, to the Presiding Officers.

3. **Evaluation and follow-up of provisions and resolutions adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) and at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (New York, 5-9 June 2000)**

(a) The representative of Costa Rica will report on studies and proposals submitted with a view to the promotion and signature of the optional protocol of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The States members of ECLAC represented by the Presiding Officers will report on the progress made by the countries of the region in signing and ratifying that protocol in accordance with agreement No. 7 as adopted at the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers, whereby it was suggested that the ideal date for this purpose would be 8 March.¹

(b) The representative of Mexico will report on the recommendations made by the General Assembly at its last session to the regional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and to the Commission on the Status of Women with regard to the follow-up of its special session entitled, "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

Reference document

- General Assembly resolution 55/71 on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

4. **Activities carried out by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session and by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality at its sixth session**

(a) The representative of Cuba will report on the activities and recommendations made by the Commission on the Status of Women at its last session, held in New York from 6 to 16 March 2001.

(b) The Chief of the Women and Development Unit will report on the activities carried out by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality since its last session, held in New York from 27 February to 2 March 2001.

Reference document

- Report of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equity on its sixth session

5. **Follow-up to major United Nations world conferences and summits and coordination of activities with those of other intergovernmental organizations**

Bearing in mind that at their twenty-sixth meeting the Presiding Officers decided "to identify important international forums appropriate for follow-up to the agreements adopted at conferences and summit meetings organized by the United Nations ..." ² and that at their twenty-seventh meeting they

¹ ECLAC, Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)), paragraph 54, agreement No. 7.

² ECLAC, Report of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1133(MDM.26/3)/Rev.1), Santiago, Chile, 22 September 1998, paragraph 29, agreement b.

agreed “to keep the ECLAC secretariat informed about meetings addressing women’s issues that are attended by representatives of member countries that serve as Presiding Officers”,³ reports will be submitted as follows:

- (i) The ECLAC secretariat will report on the Symposium on International Migration in the Americas (San José, Costa Rica, 4-6 September 2000);
- (ii) The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean will report on the meeting of experts on gender mainstreaming in macroeconomic policy (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 16-17 October 2000);
- (iii) The representative of Chile will report on the Latin American and Caribbean Preparatory Conference for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Santiago, Chile, 23-27 October 2000);
- (iv) The ECLAC secretariat will report on the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development (Bogota, Colombia, 9-10 November 2000);
- (v) The representative of Argentina will report on the Regional Conference of the Americas in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Forms of Intolerance (Santiago, Chile, 4-7 December 2000);
- (vi) The representative of Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States (IACW/OAS) will report on the first regular session of the 2000-2002 Executive Committee of IACW/OAS (Washington, D.C., 15-16 February 2001);
- (vii) The representative of Ecuador will report on the nineteenth session of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C., 12-14 March 2001);
- (viii) The representative of Chile will report on the annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank, with special reference to the Forum on Social Equity (Santiago, Chile, 17 and 19-21 March 2001);
- (ix) The representative of Chile will report on preparations for the third Summit of the Americas, to be held in Quebec, Canada, from 20 to 22 April 2001;
- (x) The ECLAC secretariat will report on preparations for the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 9 to 11 May 2001;
- (xi) The representative of Peru will report on an inter-ministerial conference on children to be held from 29 May to 1 June 2001;

³ ECLAC, Report of the twenty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1188(MDM.27/4)), Santiago, Chile, 31 March 1999, paragraph 37, agreement 5.

- (xii) The representative of Cuba will report on the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, to be held in September 2001;
- (xiii) Reports on other meetings held during the period under review will also be submitted.

Reference documents

- Santiago Declaration on Human Settlements
 - Towards the International Conference on Financing for Development: the Perspective of Latin America and the Caribbean
 - Report of the Regional Conference of the Americas in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Forms of Intolerance
- 6. Report on the activities of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations**

At their twenty-sixth meeting, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference and representatives of the specialized agencies, other organizations within the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies in attendance acknowledged the importance of broadening the scope of the latter organizations' participation in future meetings so that they might be more fully informed about activities conducted in follow-up to United Nations world conferences and summits. Their recognition of the need for this step was reaffirmed in an agreement adopted at the Sixth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on Future Activities to Promote the Integration of Women into Latin American and Caribbean Development.⁴ In accordance with the request made by the Governments represented at the twenty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers, these organizations will submit oral and written reports to the Presiding Officers.⁵

Representatives of specialized agencies, other organizations within the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies will also report on the activities they have conducted since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers, with special reference to activities in follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly and to their participation in the inter-agency project on gender indicators in policy-making which is being coordinated by ECLAC.

Reference documents

- Written reports submitted by organizations attending the meeting of the Presiding Officers

⁴ ECLAC, Report of the Sixth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and other Bodies of the United Nations System on Future Activities to Promote the Integration of Women into Latin American and Caribbean Development (LCL.1134), 24 July 1998.

⁵ ECLAC, Report of the twenty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1235(MDM.28/3)), 4 August 1999, paragraph 46, agreement 5.

7. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat

(a) Taking into consideration the agreement reached at the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers, whereby the member countries asked the Regional Conference to make one of the annual meetings of the Presiding Officers open to all member countries of the Conference and to hold that meeting at ECLAC headquarters,⁶ and in order to foster the participation of Caribbean countries, it is proposed that the next meeting of the Presiding Officers should be held at the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

(b) In view of the fact that at their thirty-first meeting the Presiding Officers agreed “to ask the Commission to ensure that the next open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers should be devoted to the analysis of issues of mainstreaming the gender approach and/or perspective in development policies in member countries”,⁷ the secretariat will submit a proposal concerning the work to be undertaken by the Presiding Officers at their thirty-third meeting. The proposal is aimed at offering the Governments an opportunity to exchange methodological and operational expertise on the issue of gender mainstreaming in the State and selected sectors. This would also constitute a first step towards enabling the Women and Development Unit to comply with the Presiding Officers’ request to “include panel discussions on integration of the gender perspective in sectoral ministries on the agenda of the next open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers.”⁸

Reference documents

- Proposal on methodologies for developing the agenda item on mainstreaming the gender perspective in development policies at the next open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers (Trinidad and Tobago, second half of 2001)
- Proposed guidelines for reports to be submitted by member countries to the Presiding Officers on gender mainstreaming in a selected sector in their countries

(c) The secretariat will report on preparations for the technical meeting to harmonize systems of indicators in the region, as requested by the countries represented at the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers.⁹

(d) The Presiding Officers will determine what activities they will undertake in the future.

8. Other matters

The representatives may raise other matters of interest to their countries.

⁶ ECLAC, Report of the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1335(MDM.30/3)), 23 May 2000, agreement 2.

⁷ ECLAC, Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)), paragraph 54, agreement No. 13.

⁸ *Ibid.*, agreement No. 8.

⁹ *Ibid.*, agreement No. 9.

