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**REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING
OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL
CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Santiago, Chile, 5 and 6 September 2002

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of meeting

1. The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held their thirty-fourth meeting on 5 and 6 September 2002 in Santiago, Chile.

Attendance

2. Representatives of the following States members of the Commission participated in the meeting: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

3. The following associate members of ECLAC were also represented: British Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

4. Representatives of the following States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Commission attended as observers in a consultative capacity: Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Morocco, Russian Federation, Sovereign Military Order of Malta and South Africa.

5. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the Holy See and Switzerland, who were granted the status of observers in a consultative capacity.

6. The United Nations Secretariat was represented by the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

7. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following United Nations bodies and funds: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

8. The following United Nations specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

9. In addition, the meeting was attended by representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA) and Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States (IACW/OAS).

Chairperson and rapporteur

10. The meeting was chaired by the representative of Peru. The duties of rapporteur were performed by the delegation of Mexico.

B. AGENDA

11. The Presiding Officers adopted the following agenda:
1. Adoption of the agenda
 2. Review of activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers
 3. Analysis of the linkages between democratic governance and gender equity
 4. Follow-up to the agreements reached by the Presiding Officers at their previous meetings
 5. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat with a view to preparations for the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
 6. Other matters

C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

12. At the opening session of the meeting, statements were made by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, Mr. José Antonio Ocampo; the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, Ms. Carolyn Hannan; and the Chairperson of the Presiding Officers, Ms. Ana María Romero Lozada, Minister for Women's Affairs and Social Development of Peru.

13. In his opening statement the Executive Secretary of ECLAC noted that the Regional Conference was the highest-level forum for governmental authorities responsible for gender issues in the region and the only such forum to have become an organ of the corresponding regional commission. As such, its resolutions were assumed as governmental commitments by the member countries of ECLAC. Since the last meeting of the Presiding Officers, the Commission had been working on many different fronts to promote gender equity. The Women and Development Unit was heading up an effort to draft a document that would convey the Commission's vision of development with gender equity as a means of building a bridge between its institutional capacities and the Governments' needs. As part of the Commission's own gender mainstreaming efforts, many of its divisions had undertaken joint activities. Examples included the progress being made by the Women and Development Unit, CELADE and the Statistics and Economic Projections Division on the calculation of gender indicators and the studies being done by CELADE on vulnerability, ageing and migration. This effort was also reflected in the work of the Social Development Division, which would be including a special chapter on poverty from a gender perspective

in the 2003 edition of the *Social Panorama*, in the Special Studies Unit's collaboration on a study concerning pension systems, in the studies being prepared by the Division of International Trade and Integration on the gender dimension of globalization, in the study conducted by the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division on women in the Bolivian mining industry and in the course on the links between the economy and gender in which ILPES had collaborated.

14. ECLAC had also intensified its efforts to provide technical assistance to Governments to support awareness-building and gender-mainstreaming projects. The subregional and national offices of ECLAC were also devoting greater attention to gender issues and had collaborated in the organization of seminars and workshops. This interdivisional effort reflected an institutional undertaking that had greatly benefited from the assistance provided by UNFPA, UNIFEM and UNDP and by the Governments of Germany, the Netherlands and Italy. Pursuant to Agreement No. 12, reached by the Presiding Officers at their thirty-third meeting, ECLAC had secured funding from the United Nations Development Account to carry out a project entitled "Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean". The project would seek to forge a link between the demands of the women's movement and State reforms by strengthening national women's offices and, with the active participation of the countries selected for that project, to promote a greater role for women in addressing governance issues of concern to the countries of the region.

15. The Director of the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women said that the regions, spearheaded by the respective regional commissions, were laboratories for innovative ideas on how best to promote gender equality. National machineries for the advancement of women had an important role as catalysts in ensuring that sustainable change would take place at all levels. Governance concerned the manner in which power was exercised and distributed in society. It could not be narrowly defined in terms of political or economic decision-making, as it often implied the exercise of power in the management of resources that were critical for human security and sustainable development. It was important to consider whether governance structures and processes facilitated or hindered women's empowerment and whether they effectively addressed the significant gender inequalities or whether they actually perpetuated or even exacerbated them. Decentralization processes sought to ensure greater transparency, consultation and participation in decision making and resource allocation at local levels, but their success was contingent upon the sound management of competing needs and the claims of different groups of society. Decentralization was generally assumed to have a positive influence in all cases, but, in fact, under certain conditions it could simply involve the transfer of power and resources from a male-dominated elite at the national or regional level to a similar elite at the local level. Budget literacy could contribute to the empowerment of women by enabling them to demand that local officials live up to electoral commitments with respect to resource allocations to the priority needs of women.

16. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) had great potential for development, but their benefits were unevenly distributed. Indeed, the gender divide within the digital divide could lead not only to the perpetuation of existing gender-based inequalities but also to the creation of new forms of inequality between women and men. Within the United Nations, the gender perspective was not systematically taken into account in research, data analysis or policy and programme development, even in some areas where information about existing imbalances had been available for decades. Another issue of concern was the risk of settling for lip-service. It was much easier to develop policies and strategies than to translate them into action on the ground. Gender mainstreaming implied both a technical process and a political process involving an explicit expression of political will at top organizational levels as well as the allocation of the necessary resources.

17. The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers said that significant progress had been made in Peru in the design of public policies and regulations to promote gender equity, but that their results and impact were still very limited, owing in particular to the effects of the adjustment policy and the climate of violence that had prevailed in the country. Women's organizations had played a leading role in restoring democracy and combating corruption. Nonetheless, the presence of women at the forefront of those efforts had not yet been reflected in commensurate representation in the country's power structures. The Government faced the tremendous challenge of forging a new relationship between the State and society, despite severe budgetary constraints, and to do this, must take advantage of the global environment and demonstrate imagination and a willingness to effect change.

18. In that complex situation, the international community's contributions were of particular importance in enabling the country to move towards the achievement of gender equity. The institutions and actors that had been mobilized at the local and regional levels should come to an agreement for the medium and long terms and should persevere in their efforts to achieve gender equity and equality of opportunity. Peru, for its part, would continue to seek a shared vision, long-term commitments and public policies that would consolidate governance and development with equity. Decentralization was an essential component of that process.

Review of activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers (agenda item 2)

19. The representative of the secretariat summarized the main activities carried out since October 2001. In general, the work of the Commission's various divisions reflected the progress made in mainstreaming the gender approach, as the gender perspective was being incorporated into ECLAC studies on a wider array of topics. In addition, the Women and Development Unit had increased its cooperation with other substantive divisions of ECLAC and other United Nations entities, as, for example, in its project on the development of an integrated system of gender indicators. That project had three components: (i) evaluation of existing and potential information sources for the calculation of gender indicators; (ii) enhancement of the technical capacities and methodologies of institutions that produced gender statistics, improvement of the analytical capacities of users of those statistics and strengthening of the linkages between producers and users; and (iii) strengthening of linkages between information sources and civil society so that gender indicators would be not just a technical tool, but also a common language for assessing compliance with national commitments. The information gathered would also be useful for monitoring the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the goals established in the United Nations Millennium Declaration. In addition, the synergies generated by the project had made it possible to link it with other ECLAC projects, such as the one on pension reforms.

20. The first phase of the project "Gender mainstreaming in ECLAC and sectoral ministries", carried out in Argentina, Ecuador and El Salvador in cooperation with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), had been completed. National counterparts had been active protagonists rather than passive beneficiaries and had taken ownership of the project, thus adapting its objectives to suit the needs of each country. In addition, the methodology developed in the course of its implementation would be useful in the future and would be applied, in particular, to the second phase of the project and to the Development Account-funded project on democratic governance and gender equity, to be carried out in cooperation with the United Nations Secretariat's Division for the Advancement of Women. In addition, in response to a concern expressed by many countries, efforts were being made to move beyond the social area and give priority to gender equity in economic and financial matters; those activities had

included a course on the links between gender and the economy, carried out with support from UNIFEM and ILPES, and a seminar on budgeting from a gender perspective, conducted in cooperation with Chile's National Women's Service. Another new development was that not only the Commission's two subregional headquarters, but also its national offices, had become involved in ECLAC projects on gender issues. However, the Commission's resources had been stretched to the limit by a mounting number of requests for technical assistance. More emphasis must therefore be placed on horizontal cooperation between countries and on coordination of technical assistance among United Nations agencies in the region.

21. The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean was developing a social statistics database to collect empirical evidence of the persistence of inequality in the subregion for use in formulating gender-sensitive social policies. It was also working with national women's offices to build their capacity to collect statistics on domestic violence. Its mandate, derived from the 1999 Port of Spain Consensus, was to focus on three areas: gender mainstreaming, violence against women, and poverty and the economy.

22. The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, continuing the process of gender mainstreaming in the subregion, had elaborated basic social indicators for the subregion to complement the information in the Commission's annual *Social Panorama* and had contributed to the handbook on natural disasters by including a description of the economic situation of women affected by those phenomena, which had a considerable impact on the subregion. It also disseminated the projects carried out by ECLAC headquarters, monitored the process of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and had conducted a seminar on gender and macroeconomics and a project on responsible parenthood.

23. The representatives of the countries expressed satisfaction with the work of the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC in the areas of conceptual analysis, technical assistance in gender mainstreaming and coordination with other international organizations seeking support in dealing with cross-cutting issues, all of which facilitated the process in each country.

24. One of the priority issues on the international agenda should be to make progress in developing a methodology for the valuation of the domestic work performed by women in the countries' economies. It would also be necessary to formulate a regulatory framework for responsible parenthood and child care which would take into account the duties of the State and of the parties concerned, as well as possible financing mechanisms. Another important recommendation was for the Governments to make use of statistics that had been disaggregated by sex for public policy-making purposes. In the field of migration, the cooperation of all relevant actors was required in order to analyse migratory flows as a basis for determining what impact they had on the status of women. A particular focus of that effort was the Regional Conference on Migration and Development: Human Rights and Trafficking in Migrants, which was to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 20 to 22 November 2002. In all these areas the countries attributed special importance to the continued promotion of horizontal cooperation and the reinforcement of synergies in sharing experiences and outcomes as a way of making the fullest possible use of the scarce human and financial resources available to international organizations and national women's offices.

Analysis of the linkages between democratic governance and gender equity (agenda item 3)

25. The secretariat provided an overview of the project entitled “Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean”. Referred to as “Democratic governance and gender equality in Latin America”, the project had been approved by the General Assembly and had received funding from the United Nations Development Account. The aim of the project was to strengthen mechanisms’ for mainstreaming the gender perspective within the framework of the governance agenda. The attention was therefore not to institute any given management model, but rather to open the way for a dialogue in the countries that would lead to the establishment of social and institutional networks and for a debate on strategies and modalities for building governance with gender equity. To accomplish this, the project would require the active participation and leadership of national women’s offices and international organizations. For their part, the Presiding Officers had a vital role to play in monitoring the project’s design, implementation and outputs.

26. The presentation on the project continued with a description of the structure and content of a Spanish-language document on governance and gender entitled “Gobernabilidad democrática e igualdad de género: una articulación posible” (DDR/2). It was noted that, even though national mechanisms for the advancement of women had succeeded in introducing important gender issues in some areas of the relevant reform processes, there was still a need to coordinate efforts to ensure that the principle of gender equity was also upheld in core government units whose decision-making functions had a fundamental impact on the structure of the State.

27. Many of the national representatives who then made statements voiced support for the project. A number of delegates asked for additional time to complete the multidisciplinary information form which ECLAC had forwarded to their countries prior to the meeting. Concern was expressed regarding the mechanism to be used for selecting countries for the project, and the possibility was raised of increasing the number of participants, which had thus far been limited to 12 countries. Many delegations expressed agreement with the proposal that the Presiding Officers should bear the primary responsibility for monitoring and overseeing the project. Numerous representatives also observed that their countries, given the restructuring efforts in which they were currently engaged, had a particularly keen interest in taking part in the project and possibly in assuming financial responsibility for it.

28. With respect to the issues and contents of the project, such as the definition of the concepts of governability and good governance, the delegations of Cuba and Venezuela underscored the importance of taking into account respect for political regimes, economic systems, independence and the self-determination of peoples.

29. Representatives of the participating countries then submitted written reports and reviewed orally the progress they had made in promoting gender equity and the advancement of women. In their statements they focused on achievements and challenges relating to education, their electoral systems, the participation of women in the economy and in institutional spheres, and gender mainstreaming in State reform processes.

30. In regard to the project “Gender mainstreaming in ECLAC and sectoral ministries”, the secretariat outlined the lessons learned from the methodology applied during the first phase of the project, which had been executed in Argentina, Ecuador and El Salvador in cooperation with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). There was no set formula for initiatives of this type since they needed to be adapted to conditions in each country and to be led, in particular, by national machineries.

The project was being pursued within the framework of national processes, and the idea was to produce an exogenous influence that would generate an endogenous force. In order to ensure success, there had to be a convergence of effort by government and civil society institutions, and the relevant national machineries had to have the necessary stature and support. One of the chief objectives was to generate synergies and build consensus among the various actors; among its most significant successes, the project had managed to establish its own sustainability in individual countries and to pursue its activities independently of ECLAC. National machineries should also play a central role in bringing these activities to the attention of the media.

31. A summary was then given of a document on decentralization and local development in Latin America, entitled “Descentralización y desarrollo local en América Latina: ¿Nuevas alternativas para la equidad de género?” Decentralization was one of the components of the democratization process in Latin America during recent decades, and it opened up new opportunities for women’s empowerment and for increasing their well-being. It was not an end in and of itself, but rather a means of promoting economic development. In order to incorporate the gender perspective into the decentralization process, institutional and legal structures would have to be created. The use of direct elections for most elected positions had helped to increase gender equity in this area. In many cases, women acted as spokespersons for groups of actors who had previously been excluded from the process and had begun to take on leadership roles in the sphere of social policy. Decentralization also served to heighten transparency, which, in turn, increased the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending and optimized the redistribution of income. A number of problems had yet to be resolved, however. In practice, participation was initiated by units near the centre of government, and the autonomy of social organizations was not always recognized. Such participation was limited to these organizations, providing that they were legitimately constituted. Persons were not evaluated as subjects of law, but rather as beneficiaries of social programmes, and they remained isolated from decision-making centres. In the ensuing debate, attention was drawn to the importance of the perspective of rural women, since local development in Latin America included development of extensive rural regions inhabited by rural and indigenous peoples, whose status called for a specific approach.

Follow-up to the agreements reached by the Presiding Officers at their previous meetings (agenda item 4)

32. Specialized agencies, other bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations represented at the meeting presented the agreements they had reached at their eleventh meeting on the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. In their statements, the representatives described how their organizations’ activities furthered democratic governance with gender equity and agreed that democratic governance, which should be based on justice and respect for human rights, could not be firmly established unless women participated fully in the process and their concerns were addressed in public policies. Some of the agencies’ mandates in that regard were set forth in international conventions and in declarations and programmes of action adopted at major United Nations conferences. All the organizations employed a comprehensive approach and collaborated with one another as well as with government agencies and civil society institutions in the various sectors concerned. The reforms being implemented by many of the countries offered an opportunity for incorporating the gender perspective into new laws and systems. Specific examples of the work being done included technical assistance and training, especially in relation to the compilation of statistical data disaggregated by sex, the analysis of such data from a gender perspective and the use of the results as social and economic policy-making inputs. Studies had also been conducted on such subjects as discrimination on the job and in the criminal justice system and measures for combating violence against women and trafficking in women and children. Information activities, many of which made use of the

Internet, were another way in which the organizations were helping to create synergies among the different programmes and projects, to broaden women's participation and to raise awareness of gender equity issues. The organizations had, however, encountered a number of obstacles, such as resource constraints, cultural barriers, a lack of accountability and insufficient enforcement of existing laws. Questions to be addressed in the future included the feminization of rural-urban migration, the ageing of the population, social security systems, the role of women in conserving biodiversity, the protection of women's health and reproductive rights and the importance of providing quality education to girls, young women and adult women in the region. Several organizations concluded by offering their support in providing technical assistance to countries in the region.

33. The representative of Cuba underscored the importance of the poverty analysis carried out within the framework of the thirty-third meeting of Presiding Officers, which, she said, had provided input for the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women. Unfortunately, attendance by national machineries for the advancement of women at the meetings of that Commission continued to be very poor. Efforts must be made to increase their attendance, as representatives of those machineries could have a positive influence in negotiating outcomes, whereas those representatives that did attend, for the most part officials from the missions of States Members to the United Nations in New York, did not always have the necessary background on the relevant issues and were sometimes unfamiliar with regional agreements on women's issues, such as the Santiago Consensus and the Lima Consensus.

34. The representative of Mexico said that at the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC, three official delegations (those of Chile, Guatemala and Mexico) had included representatives of national women's offices. During the debate on the document "Globalization and development" those representatives had drawn attention to the need to include data that were disaggregated by sex in statistical analyses, particularly those dealing with employment and education. They had also pointed out that the document did not incorporate the gender perspective. At the meeting of the ECLAC Sessional Committee on Population and Development, a presentation had been given on the project being undertaken to establish a regional system of indicators for use in following up on the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, which was linked to the indicators being used for follow-up to the Platform of Action adopted at Beijing by the Fourth World Conference on Women. In paragraph 5 of ECLAC resolution 595(XXIX), the secretariat was called upon to incorporate gender analysis into its examination of the development strategies of the countries of region. Such advances attested to the work of the Women and Development Unit and to the organizational and articulative capacity possessed by the national machineries for the advancement of women, in addition to the potential and synergies that could be developed at the regional level. Thought should also be given to the absence of representatives from national women's offices in delegations sent by countries in which those mechanisms could, by virtue of their organizational rank, play a more visible role.

35. The secretariat then presented the future calendar of regional, subregional and international meetings dealing with women and gender issues. The purpose of the presentation was to help avoid any duplication of effort and to facilitate planning. A list was then given of the member countries whose representatives had been appointed to serve as Presiding Officers and their status with respect to their Governments' signature and/or ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. One representative asked to make a statement in order to clarify some of the details regarding the status of the protocol in her country. The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights then explained that protocols of that type were usual instruments in conventions on human rights and underscored its importance for ensuring respect for the human rights of women.

Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat with a view to preparations for the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (agenda item 5)

36. The secretariat suggested that the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean should be held in the second quarter of 2004 and thanked the representative of Mexico for her Government's generous offer to host the session. The participating delegations were asked to propose substantive issues that might be addressed by the Conference. It was to be understood, of course, that although the debates would focus on specific subjects, that did not mean that the attending delegations would neglect or ignore the mandate which was the Conference's *raison d'être*.

37. A number of delegations emphasized their concern with the issues of poverty and violence, in particular at the workplace; the participation of women in hard-core policy-making processes, particularly with respect to budget design; the increasing social exclusion caused by the consolidation of an income-based socioeconomic model; women's economic rights and, specifically, their participation in social security systems; health and the sexual and reproductive rights and education of women; globalization as viewed from a gender perspective; migratory processes and the traffic in women; finding a suitable line of approach to the issue of girl children; developments relating to racial and gender discrimination in the light of the plan of action formulated at the twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998. The secretariat took note of their recommendations and undertook to put them in writing and distribute them to the Governments of all ECLAC member countries.

38. The representative of Cuba conveyed her country's offer to host the next meeting of the Presiding Officers, at which they would devote their attention to the preparations for the ninth session of the Regional Conference. The first half of 2003 was proposed as a provisional timeframe.

39. With regard to future activities of the Presiding Officers, the representatives called for an analysis of women's participation at the local and community levels; follow-up action in respect of the conclusions of the seminar on budgets and gender equity which had been held in Santiago, Chile, on 3 and 4 September; an increase in the visibility of the spirit of solidarity existing among women through an enhanced awareness of Latin American women who had played an important part in history and the use of this unifying idea as a basis for the celebration of International Women's Day on 8 March 2003; and follow-up to the decisions set forth in the Managua Declaration regarding poverty and democratic governance.

40. A draft version of the agreements reached by the Presiding Officers was then submitted for their consideration. Following a debate on the wording of those agreements, they were approved and adopted.

41. During the closing session, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to respond to the increasing gender-based concerns that were being raised in such fields as macroeconomics, administrative modernization and the labour market. He thanked Cuba and Mexico for their offers to host the forthcoming meeting of the Presiding Officers and session of the Regional Conference, respectively, and stressed the importance of the agreements that had just been adopted, especially in view of the level of representation afforded by the national delegations, representatives of specialized agencies and the presence of the representative of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat.

D. AGREEMENTS ADOPTED

42. At their thirty-fourth meeting the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the following agreements:

1. To continue to strengthen horizontal cooperation among countries and exchanges among national women's machineries.
2. Taking into consideration the agreements reached at the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,¹ held in Santiago, Chile, from 9 to 11 May 2001, to request ECLAC to work to develop a methodology for the valuation of domestic work and to present a proposal to the countries in this regard.
3. Bearing in mind agreement 10 as adopted by the Presiding Officers at their thirty-third meeting,² to request the relevant authorities of national government agencies to ensure that all the information they produce, process and disseminate is disaggregated by sex and that they include gender indicators in their evaluation of international commitments.
4. To coordinate the efforts made by the United Nations system within the countries in relation to gender indicators and the activities conducted to appraise the Millennium Declaration Goals.
5. To welcome the project on democratic governance and gender equity, which is being executed by ECLAC with funding from the United Nations Development Account, to participate actively in monitoring the project and to collaborate to ensure its full success.
6. To ratify the role of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in bearing primary responsibility for monitoring the project on democratic governance and gender equity.
7. To request the secretariat to set in motion, on a gradual basis and in consultation with the countries, the project on democratic governance and gender equity, using for that purpose the country selection criteria presented at this meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. To request the secretariat to evaluate the possibility of broadening the project on democratic governance and gender equity to include countries which, although they have not been selected on the basis of the approved criteria, have the necessary financing for its execution.

¹ Report of the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1545(CEA.2001/7)), 2001.

² Report of the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers for the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1654(MDM.33/4)), 2002.

9. To welcome the methodology and modality of technical assistance currently being employed in the region by the ECLAC Women and Development Unit.
10. To support the Presiding Officers' continuing efforts to incorporate the issues addressed by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women into their substantive agenda in order to coordinate their work and to align regional processes with world processes.
11. To request the national mechanisms for the advancement of women of the countries represented by the Presiding Officers to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that they form part of the governmental delegations sent by their countries to the Hemispheric Conference on International Migration: Human Rights and the Traffic in Persons in the Americas, to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 20 to 22 November 2002.
12. To convene the thirty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers during the first half of 2003 and to accept the offer extended by Cuba to host that meeting.
13. To consider at the next meeting of the Presiding Officers the organization of work and the issues to be analysed at the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is to be held in 2004.
14. To urge ECLAC to continue its analysis of poverty from a gender perspective, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 5 of ECLAC resolution 595(XXIX) on globalization and development, which calls upon the secretariat to pursue its examination of the development strategies of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean within the context of the globalization process, based on an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental issues which also incorporates gender analysis, and to identify measures for adoption at the national, regional and international levels.
15. To strengthen linkages between national offices for the advancement of women and the ministries of foreign affairs and representatives of States Members to the United Nations in order to ensure that the positions adopted by those mechanisms are represented at the proceedings of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.
16. To request the secretariat to make the necessary facilities for direct meetings, consultations and discussions available to the representatives of the Governments of member States during the meetings of the Presiding Officers.
17. To endorse the declaration issued in Santiago, Chile, at the Seminar on the Gender Perspective in Budgetary Matters, organized by the National Women's Service and the Ministry of Finance of Chile with the sponsorship of UNDP, ECLAC, UNIFEM and GTZ at ECLAC headquarters on 3 and 4 September 2002.
18. To request the secretariat to prepare a document setting forth the proposals made regarding possible issues to be addressed at the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and to submit that document to all the member countries of ECLAC for their consideration and for discussion at the next meeting of the Presiding Officers.

19. To recognize and express gratitude to Mary Robinson for her work on behalf of human rights, especially those of women, during her tenure as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
20. To undertake to formulate gender-based goals within the framework of the bicentennial celebrations of the independence of the countries of the region.
21. On the occasion of International Women's Day on 8 March 2003, to undertake an effort to create greater awareness of women's contributions to the history and development of their countries, and to request that the secretariat provide a proposal reflecting a consensus among the countries as soon as possible.
22. To reject the sentencing of persons to death by stoning by States Members of the United Nations, such as Nigeria, thereby contravening international agreements on human rights, and to urge the Ministries for Foreign Affairs of their countries to make known their views in this regard.³

E. STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CUBA

43. The Secretariat for Foreign Affairs of the Federation of Cuban Women submitted to the ECLAC secretariat the following declaration relating to paragraph 22 of the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean:

“The Government of Cuba, of which I am the representative in this domain, expresses its rejection and condemnation of death by stoning, wherever it may take place, as an unacceptable, violent practice against women. However, the Government of my country does not subscribe to the condemnation of the Government of Nigeria contained in the agreement, since, under the well-known separation of powers that exists in that country, the decision in question comes under the judiciary and, as such, falls outside of the competence of the executive power”.

³ See Section E. Statement by the Delegation of Cuba.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. Member States of the Commission Estados miembros de la Comisión

ARGENTINA

Representante/Representative:

- Laura Isabel Velásquez, Embajadora, Representante Especial para Temas de la Mujer, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Mercedes Arbasetti, Encargada Tema Mujer, Embajada de Argentina en Chile

BOLIVIA

Representante/Representative:

- Javier Jiménez Pinaya, Cónsul Adjunto, Consulado General de Bolivia en Chile

BRASIL/BRAZIL

Representante/Representative:

- Solange Jurema, Secretaria de Estado, Secretaria de Estado dos Direitos da Mulher

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Ceres Prates, Secretaria Adjunta, Secretaría de Estado dos Direitos da Mulher
- Ana Cristina Asfora, Primera Secretaria, Embajada del Brasil en Chile

CHILE

Representante/Representative:

- Adriana Delpiano Puelma, Ministra Directora, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Anita de Aguirre, Jefa, Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer

COLOMBIA

Representante/Representative:

- Solangel Ortiz Mejía, Segunda Secretaria de la Embajada de Colombia en Chile

COSTA RICA

Representante/Representative:

- Esmeralda Britton, Ministra de la Condición de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Irene Brenes Solórzano, Directora Técnica, Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres

CUBA

Representante/Representative:

- Magalys Arocha, Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores, Federación de Mujeres Cubanas

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Ana Milagros Martínez Rielo, Funcionaria de Relaciones Exteriores, Federación de Mujeres Cubanas, Departamento de Relaciones Exteriores

ECUADOR

Representante/Representative:

- Myriam Alcivar, Directora Ejecutiva del Consejo Nacional de las Mujeres

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Rosario Erlinda Valladares, Directora Ejecutiva de la Oficina de Planificación de la Presidencia de la República

EL SALVADOR

Representante/Representative:

- Zoila de Innocenti, Directora Ejecutiva del Instituto Salvadoreño para el Desarrollo de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Claudia Quiñónez, Asesora, Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Mujer Salvadoreña
- Rodrigo Bolaños, Ministro Consejero, Embajada de El Salvador en Chile

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA/UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Representante/Representative:

- Karin Sullivan, Segunda Secretaria, Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América en Chile

GUATEMALA

Representante/Representative:

- Lily Caravantes, Presidenta de la Secretaría Presidencial de la Mujer

HONDURAS

Representante/Representative:

- Marcela del Mar Suazo, Ministra, Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Dalila Pineda, Coordinadora Política Nacional de la Mujer
- María Teresa Blandón, Asesora, Instituto Nacional de la Mujer
- Soledad de Ramírez Soto, Delegada Titular ante la CIM, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

MÉXICO/MEXICO

Representante/Representative:

- Patricia Espinosa Torres, Presidenta del Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Leticia Gutiérrez Corona, Directora General de Asuntos Internacionales de la Mujer de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
- Patricia Wohlers, Directora General Adjunta de Asuntos Internacionales del Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres
- Celita Alamiya, Diputada Federal
- Hortensia Aragón, Diputada Federal
- Juan de Obeso, Director General de Planeación del Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres
- Elda Paz García, Primera Secretaria de la Embajada de México en Chile

NICARAGUA

Representante/Representative:

- Ivania Toruño Padilla, Directora Ejecutiva, Instituto Nicaragüense de la Mujer
-

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Miriam Sandoval Sandoval, Consejera, Embajada de Nicaragua en Chile

PANAMÁ/PANAMA

Representante/Representative:

- Maricarmen Harris, Agregada de Comunicaciones, Embajada de Panamá en Chile

PARAGUAY

Representante/Representative:

- Cristina Muñoz, Ministra de la Mujer, Secretaría de la Mujer de la Presidencia de la República

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Ana Medina Zorrilla, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales, Secretaría de la Mujer de la Presidencia de la República
- Haydée Dienstmaier, Primera Secretaria, Embajada del Paraguay en Chile

PERÚ/PERU

Representante/Representative:

- Ana María Romero Lozada, Ministra de la Mujer y Desarrollo Social

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Virginia Cachay, Vice Ministra de la Mujer, Ministerio de la Mujer
- César de las Casas, Consejero, Embajada del Perú en Chile

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Representante/Representative:

- Sergia Galván, Directora de Políticas Públicas y Asuntos Internacionales, Secretaría de la Mujer

URUGUAY

Representante/Representative:

- Ana María Balparda, Directora, Dirección Nacional de la Mujer

VENEZUELA

Representante/Representative:

- María León, Presidenta, Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Doris Acevedo, Secretaria General del Directorio Ejecutivo
- Reina Margarita Arratia, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

**B. Associate members
Miembros asociados**

ISLAS VÍRGENES BRITÁNICAS/BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Representante/Representative:

- Andrea Hamm, Senior Administrative Officer, Office of Gender Affairs, Chief Minister's Office

PUERTO RICO

Representante/Representative:

- María Dolores Fernós López-Cepero, Procuradora de las Mujeres, Oficina de la Procuraduría de las Mujeres

**C. Member States of the United Nations not members of the Commission
and participating in a consultative capacity
Estados miembros de las Naciones Unidas que no lo son de la Comisión
y participan con carácter consultivo**

ALEMANIA/GERMANY

Representante/Representative:

- Dieter Haller, Ministro Consejero, Embajada de Alemania en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Isabel Olma, Embajada de Alemania en Chile
- Jana Kern, Embajada de Alemania en Chile

BÉLGICA/BELGIUM

Representante/Representative:

- Sadi Paul Brancart, Encargado de Negocios, Embajada de Bélgica en Chile

FEDERACIÓN DE RUSIA/RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Representante/Representative:

- Vladimir Chkhikvadze, Embajador de la Federación Rusa en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Víctor Koronelli, Primer Secretario, Embajada de la Federación Rusa en Chile
- Ilya Subbotin, Agregado de Prensa, Embajada de la Federación Rusa en Chile

FINLANDIA/FINLAND

Representante/Representative:

- Simon Ehnholm, Embajada de Finlandia en Chile

GRECIA/GREECE

Representante/Representative:

- Constantinos Toutountzis, Administrative Attaché of the Embassy of Greece in Chile

INDONESIA

Representante/Representative:

- Dewanto Prasetyo, Encargado de Negocios a.i., Embajada de Indonesia en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members

- Roos Diana Iskandar, Encargado de Cultura, Embajada de la República de Indonesia en Chile

MARRUECOS/MOROCCO

Representante/Representative:

- Abdelhadi Boucetta, Embajador del Reino de Marruecos en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Mbarek Haddaoui, Consejero de la Embajada del Reino de Marruecos en Chile

REPÚBLICA CHECA/CZECH REPUBLIC

Representante/Representative:

- Stepan Zajac, Consejero, Cultural, Prensa y Cónsul, Embajada de la República Checa en Chile

**SOBERANA ORDEN MILITAR DE MALTA/
SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA**

Representante/Representative:

- Mariano Vidal, Embajador de la Soberana Orden Militar de Malta en Chile

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Alexandra de Habsburgo, Presidenta de la Institución “Auxilio Maltés”

SUDÁFRICA/SOUTH AFRICA

Representante/Representative:

- Timothy K. Maseko, Embajador de Sudáfrica en Chile

**D. States not members of the United Nations participating in a consultative capacity
Estados que no son miembros de las Naciones Unidas que participan con carácter consultivo**

SANTA SEDE/HOLY SEE

Representante/Representative:

- Aldo Cavalli, Nuncio Apostólico

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- María Ester Goldsack
- Pilar Escudero

SUIZA/SWITZERLAND

Representante/Representative:

- Martin Pathan, Asistente Comercial, Embajada de Suiza en Chile

**E. United Nations Secretariat
Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas**

Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales/Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

- Carolyn Hannan, Director, Division for the Advancement of Women

**F. United Nations bodies
Organismos de las Naciones Unidas**

Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos (ACNUDH)/ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

- Roberto Garretón, Regional Adviser to the High Commissioner

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- Valeria Ambrosio, Officer responsible for Gender, Population and HIV/AIDS

Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (FNUAP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

- Luis Mora, Gender Adviser
- Jaime Nadal, Programme Officer, Latin America and the Caribbean Division

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

- Soraya Hoyos, UNICEF Assistant Programme Officer for Gender and Adolescents for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Raquel Perczek, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit

**G. Specialized agencies
Organismos especializados**

Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/International Labour Organization (ILO)

- Lais Abramo, Senior Gender Specialist

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO)/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- Marcela Ballara, Senior Officer (Women in Development) Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO)/United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

- María Luisa Jáuregui, Focal Point for Gender

Organización Mundial de la Salud/Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OMS/OPS)/World Health Organization/Pan-American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO)

- Marijke Velzeboer-Salcedo, Coordinator, Women, Health and Development Program

Fondo Internacional de Desarrollo Agrícola (FIDA)/International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

- Rosario Bello, General Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean

Unión Internacional de Telecomunicaciones (UIT)/International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

- Gabriel Bernal, Area Representative

H. Other intergovernmental organizations Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales

Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

- Gabriela Vega, Chief, Women in Development Unit

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)/Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences

- Teresa Valdés, Coordinator of Gender Studies

Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA)/Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA)

- Leonor Calderón, Consultant, IICA Panama

Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)

- Mercedes Kremenetzky, Senior Specialist of the Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW)

I. Special guests Invitados especiales

- Daniela Carla Nazal, Director, Revista Al Damir, Fundación Palestina Belén 2000 - Chile

**J. Secretariat
Secretaría**

Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

- José Antonio Ocampo, Executive Secretary
- Sonia Montaña, Chief, Women and Development Unit
- Miguel Villa, Officer-in-charge, Population Division (CELADE)
- Dietrich, von Graevenitz, Chief, Project Management Unit
- María Elisa Bernal, Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary
- Nieves Rico, Social Affairs Officer, Women and Development Unit
- Diane Alméras, Associate Social Affairs Officer, Women and Development Unit
- Olga Patricia Cortés, Expert, Women and Development Unit
- Virginia Guzmán, Consultant, Women and Development Unit
- Vivian Milosavljevic, Consultant, Women and Development Unit
- Flavia Marco, Consultant, Women and Development Unit
- Luis Fidel Yáñez, Legal Advisor, Office of the Executive Secretary

Sede Subregional de la CEPAL para el Caribe/ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

- Roberta Clarke, Social Affairs Officer

Sede Subregional de la CEPAL en México/ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico

- Pilar Vidal, Research Assistant, Social Development Unit