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Economic Commission for Latin America

REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE COUNTRIES
OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR THE
UNITED NATIONS WATER CONFERENCE

Lima, Peru, 30 August - 3 September 1976

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of Officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the meeting
4. The main problems in the development of the water resources of Latin America and the policy options available
5. Action proposals
6. Other matters
7. Adoption of the report of the meeting



Annotations on the provisional agenda

1. Opening addresses

Details of the programme of the opening ceremony will be given in the order of business for the opening meeting, which will be held on the morning of Monday, 30 August.

2. Election of Officers

It is suggested that in the conduct of its activities the Meeting should be guided by the general principle that the Rules of Procedure of the Economic Commission for Latin America should be considered as applicable wherever they are appropriate to the situation. Consequently, in accordance with Rule 16 of those Rules, it is proposed that the Meeting should elect from among its participants a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Representatives may either adopt the provisional agenda as submitted or make such comments on it as they deem appropriate. At the same time, or after prior consultation among heads of delegations, the organization of work during the five days that the Meeting is scheduled to last may also be agreed upon. It might be worth considering the possibility of holding plenary meetings on the first day, so that delegates can make general statements of their Government's views, and also on the afternoon of the last day, so that the conclusions and action proposals of the Meeting can be discussed. On the other days, delegates could work in committee on the detailed discussion of the agenda items and the preparation of the report of the Meeting.

The following paragraphs contain some comments on the various agenda items.

4. The main problems in the development of Latin America's water resources and the policy options available

The Regional Preparatory Meeting is seen as a forum at which the countries of Latin America can identify their needs as regards water, the obstacles to the development of this resource, and possible solutions to these problems, and at which action proposals can be prepared for submission at the United Nations Water Conference (Mar del Plata, 7-18 March 1977). The agenda of this latter Conference has four main items. 1/ The first two of these, I. "Resources

1/ See document 75-7-1390

and needs" and II. "The promise of technology", provide background material which will not be the subject of discussion. This will centre on items III. "Policy options", and IV. "Action proposals". Consequently, the Regional Preparatory Meeting to be held in Lima will likewise concentrate on the discussion of items III and IV in the light of Latin American conditions. In order for the discussions on the policy options and action proposals to have a suitable basis, however, it is desirable that there should be an exchange of views on the general nature of the main problems regarding water in the region, the critical areas as regards shortage or excess of water, questions related with the environmental deterioration of this resource, and the technologies involved. In order to select these aspects of interest, the Meeting will have before it the country reports, the report by the secretariat entitled "Los recursos hidráulicos de América Latina - Informe regional" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.57/L.2), which has been prepared on the basis of the country reports, and other reference documents whose titles will be given in due course.

The discussions on this agenda item could be organized in the following order:

- (a) critical areas as regards the ratio between water supply and demand;
- (b) environmental and technological considerations;
- (c) policy options (legislation, institutions, planning, sectoral strategies, financial aspects, environmental aspects, international basins, etc.).

5. Action proposals

Bearing in mind the need for the full utilization of water resources and the obstacles and institutional requirements considered in the previous item, action proposals should be prepared for submission as such for subsequent consideration and final discussion at the Conference. These proposals would in reality form the revolutionary part of the Meeting and would constitute, along with the considerations and conclusions on the foregoing item, the main part of the report of the Meeting.

It is envisaged that the action proposals will have national and international components. The first of these will concern the measures which the individual countries may wish to take in order to promote the development and efficient utilization of their national water resources, while the international component will include an indication of the future contribution expected from the international community.

/ 6. Other

6. Other matters

This item covers any other matters which delegates may consider of interest within the general scope and spirit of the Meeting.

7. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

The report, which will be adopted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and, if possible, by consensus, will contain the considerations, conclusions, action proposals, and any other information of interest.

It is suggested that the report should be brief and to the point, action-oriented, and should contain only such background material and annexes as are absolutely essential.

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

In the second section, the author outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze the data. This includes both primary and secondary data collection techniques. The primary data was gathered through direct observation and interviews, while secondary data was obtained from existing reports and databases.

The third section details the statistical analysis performed on the collected data. It describes the use of descriptive statistics to summarize the data and inferential statistics to test hypotheses. The results of these analyses are presented in a clear and concise manner, highlighting the key findings of the study.

Finally, the document concludes with a summary of the findings and their implications. It discusses the limitations of the study and suggests areas for future research. The overall goal is to provide a comprehensive overview of the research process and its outcomes.