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**REPORT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL
MEETING PREPARATORY TO THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF THE FAMILY**

(Cartagena, Colombia, 9-14 August 1993)

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A. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of Meeting

1. The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the International Year of the Family was held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 9 to 13 August 1993 and was organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The Meeting was held in two stages: a Meeting of Government Experts from Developing Countries Members of ECLAC¹ (9 and 10 August) and a Regional Meeting of all countries members of ECLAC (12 and 13 August).

Attendance²

2. The Regional Meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

3. The Holy See, in its capacity as an observer to the United Nations, also participated.

4. The following United Nations bodies were represented: International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations University (UNU) and World Food Programme (WFP).

5. The following United Nations specialized agencies were also represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Bank-International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (WHO-PAHO).

6. The Meeting was also attended by representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI), Inter-American

¹ See ECLAC, Report of the Meeting of Government Experts from Developing Countries Members of ECLAC (LC/L.780), Santiago, Chile, 1993.

² See annex 1.

Development Bank (IDB), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) and Organization of American States (OAS).

7. The following non-governmental organizations were also represented: Category I: Baha'i International, Centre for Family Guidance (COF), World Confederation of Labour (WCL), International Council of Women (ICW), International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW), International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, League of Red Cross Societies (LORCS), International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) and International Union of Family Organisations (IUFO). Category II: World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCA), World Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), Caritas Internationalis, International Confederation of Christian Family Movements, International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE), Christian Children's Fund, Foundation for the Rights of the Family, Disabled People's International, Socialist International Women (SIW), World Movement of Mothers, International Catholic Child Bureau and Rehabilitation International. Roster: Latin American Council for Adult Education and SOS Children's Villages.

8. In the category "Other non-governmental organizations", the following organizations attended: Colombian Confederation of NGOs, International Council of Nurses, Florida International University, International Society on Family Law (ISFL), Specialized Programmes (Colombia), Junior Chamber International, Committee of NGOs of Venezuela, Colombian Episcopal Conference and National Council of Women (Colombia).

Documentation

9. The Meeting considered the list of documents contained in annex 2.

Election of officers

10. At the first meeting, the participants elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Colombia
Vice-Chairmen:	Barbados
	Cuba
	El Salvador
Rapporteur:	Uruguay

Agenda

11. The Meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and the programme of work

3. The situation of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean and its place in national development programmes
4. Urban families and poverty
5. Rural families and ethnicity
6. Intra-family relations
7. The family in the English-speaking Caribbean
8. National and regional preparations for the International Year of the Family and adoption of a Latin American and Caribbean regional action agenda for the family
9. Adoption of the final report.

Opening ceremony

12. At the opening ceremony for the ministerial stage of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the International Year of the Family, a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, was read out and the following individuals took the floor: Dr. Juan Luis Londoño, Minister of Health of Colombia; Mr. Henryk J. Sokalski, Coordinator for the International Year of the Family; and Mr. Daniel Blanchard, Secretary of ECLAC.

13. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, in a message read out at the meeting, said that on the eve of its fiftieth anniversary, the United Nations would be observing a major global event, the International Year of the Family. Families, in different forms, had everywhere and throughout history been essential to the fabric of society. The diversity of family forms was enriching and a basis for dialogue in meeting common challenges. As the basic social unit, families were major agents of development, offering a uniquely comprehensive, all-embracing approach to social issues. In families must also be found the first and fullest expression of equality between men and women and the full security and recognition of the human rights of children. Focus on the family also brought to the forefront basic issues of individual rights and freedoms and the reciprocal obligations of the State and society. Support for families should empower families to perform their functions, promote their inherent strengths, including their great capacity for self-reliance, and stimulate self-sustaining activities on their behalf.

14. The deterioration of family structures in inner cities under the weight of poverty, crime and drug abuse was as relevant to the concerns of the International Year of the Family as were the ravages of war, famine and natural disasters. The Year's success hinged on concerted individual and collective action by Member States, the intergovernmental and non-governmental communities, research institutions and the private sector. The regional meetings preparatory to the Year would form the basis for concrete action at the regional, national and local levels.

15. The Minister of Health of Colombia discussed three major questions: why the Meeting was being held in Colombia, why the topic of social policy must be addressed and why attention should be focused on the issue of the family.

16. With regard to the first question, he recalled that it was a source of surprise, at the international level, that changes in Colombia were taking place twice as fast as changes in other countries. As an example, he mentioned Colombia's demographic transition—the fastest in Latin America—marked by lower fertility rates and smaller family size. He referred in particular to the situation of women, whose incorporation into the job market had been very rapid. The consequent changes in families had contributed to social progress, since a lower dependency rate had helped reduce absolute poverty and social inequality. Especially noteworthy had been the growth in women's participation in the job market between 1975 and 1990 and the improvement in the conditions of that participation, for discrimination in the workplace had subsided considerably. Change was also reflected in the significant increase in the percentage of women reporting their marital status as "separated".

17. Colombia was also an example of rapid change in social policy. Social inequalities were diminishing more quickly than anywhere else in Latin America and the country ranked second in the region in reducing absolute poverty, a process in which changes in the structure of the family, especially the decline in the birth rate, had been determining factors. In a context of renewed optimism, social policy had become a pillar of development and had changed conceptually, shifting its focus from assistance to integral participation, which involved having confidence and investing in people, and less bureaucracy.

18. As an example of that new focus, he referred to the new system of social security, centred on the family and on a system of community organizations capable of taking decisions on health care, with the assistance of the State. That model resolved the contradiction between an exaggerated individualism and a bloated State bureaucracy by organizing efforts around the family. The key role played by social policies in Colombia and the important place that the family occupied in those policies were, for the Regional Meeting, an invitation to optimism and reflection.

19. The Coordinator for the International Year of the Family said that the two main issues underlying Latin American and Caribbean concern for the world and for human relations were peace and the family. On the eve of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, the world had finally realized that the noble aspirations of peace, security and disarmament enshrined in the United Nations Charter could not be seen in terms of political and military considerations alone. Peace also meant social peace; security also meant the elimination of social deprivation and exclusion; and disarmament must include the disarming of hearts and minds. Social problems and social policy demanded international solutions, consensus and cooperation; such solutions must include the well-being, protection and integration of families as basic units of society.

20. In the face of new problems and challenges, the concepts of the welfare State and of development had been reformulated. Under the new approach, which was becoming intrinsic in the design and conduct of social policy, the State's role was subsidiary to community initiatives. Success in that regard depended on the combined efforts of groups at all levels acting in solidarity, and the process started with families, which were both its grass-roots agents and its ultimate beneficiaries. The Year must reflect that approach, inspiring measures to bring policies from many fields together in more harmonized, comprehensive approaches to societal issues, in order to have a real and identifiable impact on peoples' well-being.

21. The International Year of the Family was unique in that all sectors and levels of society would be actively involved in its preparation, observance and follow-up. Of all the actors in the sustainable development process, the family offered the most comprehensive grass-roots approach to social issues. The Year would thus be instrumental in democratizing social development, under an agenda

for the people and towards a society for all, and would empower families and their members in the process.

22. Because families operated in all spheres of social, economic, political, environmental and cultural activity, they were affected by the problems observed and the policies and services implemented in all areas. Action must therefore be coordinated and harmonized among different branches of government, non-governmental organizations, international agencies and intergovernmental bodies. Solutions must span generations and take an all-encompassing view of the issues and the future, while also having concrete, measurable and sustainable effects on people's lives and fully respecting each individual's human rights. Most of that task would ultimately be accomplished by families themselves; what the International Year of the Family must do was show them the way.

23. The Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, speaking on behalf of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, recalled that the General Assembly of the United Nations, in proclaiming 1994 as the International Year of the Family, had designated the Economic and Social Council as the preparatory body for the Year and ECLAC as the focal point for Latin America and the Caribbean. Since the family was the nucleus of social organization, knowledge about the changes that had taken place in the structure, functions and responsibilities of the family would be a significant contribution to the understanding of other areas of interest, such as population dynamics, women's issues, human rights and sustainable development.

24. With respect to the development of Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC had presented a proposal contained in a series of documents calling for changing production patterns in a context of growth with social equity and democracy. The issue of changing production patterns with social equity converged at several points with that of the family. First, the fact that it was impossible for some families to perform their tasks had a high social and financial cost that private or public institutions had to assume. Second, since the cornerstone of changing production patterns with social equity was human resources training, the family should be recognized as the key unit for the educational success of children. Lastly, the values of social democracy, such as responsibility, tolerance, moral obligation towards others and respect for their rights, were created and consolidated within the family.

25. He recalled that the family was a central concern of the United Nations and mentioned, in this connection, the International Conference on Population and Development. The difference in population growth rates between people who were poor and those who were not was important for explaining poverty trends in some countries of the region and highlighted the need to improve conditions for families to exercise their reproductive rights. The concept of family also provided a frame of reference for understanding the situation of women at different stages of their life cycle, and the principles of the International Year of the Family promoted, in particular, equitable participation by men and women in the home and the work place. The ECLAC document considered that a family agenda should aim at overcoming the traditional gender-based division of labour. The emphasis on the democratization of intra-family relations was a recognition of the human rights of family members and a rejection of all forms of discrimination against women and domestic violence.

26. Lastly, he noted that the United Nations General Assembly had convened a World Summit for Social Development in 1995, focusing on three topics: social integration, alleviation and reduction of poverty and expansion of productive employment, topics that the Secretary-General of the United Nations had mentioned as crucial to the phenomenon of deprivation and exclusion. Family breakdown among low-income groups was one of the keys to the reproduction of poverty, and the success of any

social integration strategy would depend on how the family developed in the different sectors of modern society. He trusted that the Meeting's debates would be fruitful and productive for incorporating the issue of the family into the development agenda of Latin America and the Caribbean and linking the conclusions reached to other events on the priority agenda of the United Nations and of ECLAC member countries.

Adoption of the final report

27. The Rapporteur presented the draft final report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the International Year of the Family, which was adopted without comments.

Closing meeting

28. At the closing meeting, statements were made by Mr. Henryk Sokalski, Coordinator for the International Year of the Family; Mr. Rolando Franco, Officer-in-Charge of the Social Development Division of ECLAC; Mrs. Teresa Albáñez Barnola, Minister for the Family of Venezuela; and Mrs. Ginger Marino de Nule, Counsellor of the Presidential Programme for Youth, Women and the Family of Colombia.

29. The Coordinator for the International Year of the Family gave the representatives of Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay diplomas in recognition of work done on behalf of the family and in support of the International Year of the Family, for transmittal to institutions in their respective countries which had made an outstanding contribution in that regard.

30. Mr. Rolando Franco, Officer-in-Charge of the ECLAC Social Development Division, said that one significant aspect of the Meeting had been the new working methodology, which had enabled results to be achieved in a more participatory and informal manner.

31. With regard to the future tasks proposed at the Meeting, he made special reference to the need to overcome, with the support of specialized international bodies, the statistical invisibility of the issue of the family; the urgent need to find out more about the specific characteristics of the different family structures existing in the region and the extent to which they were performing the functions which society expected of them; and the need to evaluate the impact of action by government agencies and non-governmental organizations on the situation of the family. Those were essential prerequisites for designing appropriate public policies for the family, since the different kinds of family organization influenced countries' ability to take up the challenge of development.

32. Lastly, he thanked the host country and participants in the Meeting, whose efforts had helped the region become much more knowledgeable about the issue of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean.

33. The Minister for the Family of Venezuela, speaking on behalf of the participants in the Meeting, thanked the Government of Colombia, delegations and ECLAC for their contribution to the successful outcome of the debates. She said that poverty was the greatest threat to families in the region and that the spread of poverty in recent years had had an impact on the daily lives of a large proportion of households. In that connection, she emphasized the need for Governments, multilateral bodies and

banks to take a new approach to development issues that integrated the economic and social aspects, so as to avoid a situation where economic progress was accompanied by worsening social development indicators.

34. She also expressed the hope that the Meeting's contribution and the willingness shown by Governments, non-governmental organizations and international bodies would translate not only into diagnoses but also into effective action for the benefit of families. The fact that many countries of the region would be electing new Governments in the coming year could, she said, encourage Governments and peoples to make the necessary commitment to achieving equitable development.

35. The Chairman of the Meeting said that its results would clearly be a very valuable contribution to the activities of the Year. In addition to sharing information, the Meeting had contributed two documents which would become major guidelines for action to achieve the shared objective of promoting the overall development of the family. In the Cartagena Declaration, signatory Governments undertook to, *inter alia*, review their legislation, strengthen the government bodies responsible for promoting the family-oriented approach and create the conditions for families to become the agents of their own well-being. The Regional Proposal for the Elaboration of Action Guidelines for the Benefit of Latin American and Caribbean Families was, as a guide for Governments in various areas, an instrument conducive to integrated regional action on the issue.

36. She expressed warm thanks for the dedication and commitment shown by delegations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, observer countries and international cooperation agencies. She congratulated ECLAC on the work done and expressed appreciation to the Coordinator for the International Year of the Family. After noting that the Meeting was a milestone in progress on the issue and calling on everyone to work together to build the smallest democracy at the heart of society, she expressed the hope that Latin American and Caribbean families would not be condemned—in the words of the Colombian Nobel Prize winner—to another one hundred years of solitude. With these words, she declared the Meeting closed.

B. SUMMARY OF THE DEBATES

The situation of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean and its place in national development programmes (agenda item 3)

37. Mr. Rubén Kaztman of the ECLAC secretariat began the work of the Regional Meeting by presenting the document entitled "Situation and prospects of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean".³ The document compared trends in family constitution, structure and functioning in the countries that had long been industrialized with those in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, in the light of five characteristics specific to the region: the demographic transition currently occurring in many countries of the region; the influence of poverty and unequal income distribution; rapid sociocultural change; the changing role of the State; and the importance of national characteristics, which were largely determined by the mixture of indigenous, European and African cultures and by institutions such as slavery.

³ LC/L.758(Conf.84/3).

38. The document also analysed the relationship between some family structures and their socialization capacity, as reflected in children's school performance, and stressed the need for specific studies in that area that took into account the diversity of family structures that had emerged in the region and their relationship to the performance of various functions. He mentioned that ECLAC and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) were discussing the preparation of a project to fill in existing information gaps concerning the family.

39. Lastly, the document offered some general guidelines for strengthening the family's capacity to articulate and implement life plans or agendas, which were considered indispensable if families were to act as effective agents of development.

40. The representative of Argentina said that the consensus achieved at the recent Meeting of Government Experts was attributable to the fact that it reflected faithfully the reality of the people and families of Latin America and the Caribbean. The agreements reached at that meeting demonstrated that regional concerns coincided and that the problems were similar, making it advisable for the countries of the region to share their experiences instead of importing foreign models designed for countries in very different situations.

41. He reaffirmed the importance of the issue of the family at the international level and said that families needed support in performing their functions, since the family was an integrating unit and the natural unit of relationship concepts that synthesized individual and community rights and values. That was the spirit in which Argentina approached the issue. He mentioned some milestones in his country with respect to the family and its relationship to the State that were more than just statistics, *inter alia*, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with reservations entered by Congress, which gave a family dimension to policies dealing with minors; the creation in 1990 of the National Juvenile and Family Council, whose goal was to incorporate the family as a cornerstone of all programmes, eliminating individualistic and paternalistic elements and making all action preventive and self-managed; the creation of a specialized court, the family court, an interdisciplinary body that enabled the State to respond appropriately; and the convening in 1993 of the Federal Council for the Protection of Minors and the Family, which covered every province of Argentina and had agreed on 20 targets which coincided with the principles adopted in that area at the international level and with those expressed by the Meeting of Government Experts.

42. The State's respect for the family precluded interventionism, and was expressed in the formulation of support policies meant to strengthen the active role of the family and as the source and the driving force of all profound social change.

43. The representative of Brazil said that support for the family was manifested in his country in the Government's commitment to modernizing the economy, fighting inflation and restoring economic activity and employment levels. In speaking of the family, it was important to emphasize the phenomenon of poverty, which affected all social relations, given the number of individuals and families in Brazil who lacked the means to meet their basic needs. Despite the fact that Brazil was a major grain producer, a large part of the population was still undernourished. He described briefly how the shrinkage of the labour market had had an impact on the crisis of the family. Consequently, protection of the family must consider the issues of job protection, economic growth and job creation.

44. He evaluated the demographic changes of recent years, which had occurred surprisingly fast, and referred especially to the reduction in mortality and fertility rates, the slowing down of the growth rate

of family households and the increase in households that included extended families, and the increase in the number of children working outside the home as part of family survival strategies.

45. The 1988 Constitution had made great strides in the areas of State protection for the family, recognition of consensual unions and elimination of distinctions between the rights of legitimate and illegitimate children. He spoke of the emergency anti-poverty plan adopted in response to the crisis, which included support for small- and medium-scale industry and family businesses, food programmes for workers and the creation of new sources of employment in large urban centres. Major efforts were also being made to implement a national policy for the family, with resources set aside especially for children and teenagers, assistance to poor families in gaining access to productive resources and community mobilization.

46. The fight against poverty in the context of the International Year of the Family was a task in which both the Government, and important sectors of civilian society had become involved. The Brazilian Government was not trying to dictate laws in that area, but rather to follow the guidelines discussed by society as a whole.

47. The representative of the Dominican Republic summarized the situation of families in her country. She stressed the young age of the population, 40% of whom were children under the age of 15; the high level of unemployment and the fact that 47% of the unemployed were women; maternal mortality; decreased fertility; and the specific problems of women, especially those concerning access to land ownership, credit, participation in the work force by women from low-income sectors and wage discrimination. Although half the population comprised in nuclear families, the other half tended to consist of single-parent extended, composite families, the increase in whose members could be part of a survival strategy to cope with the crisis of the 1980s. Most couples lived in consensual unions that lacked legal and social protection, and unions were usually formalized before the age of 20. She emphasized the high rates of divorce or separation, which were similar in both legal and de facto unions.

48. One phenomenon which had had a strong impact on the Dominican family was migration, both internal and external; research showed that one out of every three Dominicans had been born in a place other than their current place of residence. The number of families separated as a result of economic migration was very large, although absent family members generally continued to send remittances to their families.

49. She referred to the problems of young people in her country and said that it was essential to combat poverty, which was a basic factor in explaining the situation of households. Given the central role of women in family life, it was important to approach the issue from a gender perspective and to formulate policies based on social realities.

50. The representative of Honduras gave a brief outline of the situation of the Honduran family, noting the considerable number of de facto unions and the problems stemming from drug trafficking and poverty. He also mentioned the high rate of economic migration and its impact on families.

51. He drew attention to activities in Honduras in preparation for the Year, which had been taken at the initiative of the Church and were currently being carried out through thematic liaison committees (culture, education, legislation, etc.) which had the support of the First Lady of Honduras and whose members included ministerial officials.

52. The representative of the United States of America said that her country supported the International Year of the Family and saw it as an opportunity for the Governments and non-governmental organizations of each nation to promote an environment conducive to the strengthening of families and their members through national and local policies and programmes. It was within families that most individuals were given food, shelter, education and resources, yet millions of families were in crisis. As they tried to cope, some families might need the information, encouragement and material support that could be provided by Governments, non-governmental organizations, communities and other social institutions. Most countries faced the same problems: separated and displaced families, street children, violence, teenage pregnancy, youth unemployment and large numbers of low income households.

53. Improving the lot of families must begin with strengthening them and their members and helping them to mobilize themselves and seize opportunities. Families must be seen as active partners in processes of change, not as passive recipients of assistance. The United States Government was seeking to strengthen families in a number of ways, including health care reform; a pre-school programme involving parental participation; educational programmes on the importance of the family unit; and foreign assistance programmes that emphasized families and households, responding to people's own needs and priorities rather than the needs and "solutions" postulated by development specialists. To the United States, strengthening families meant putting people first.

54. The Deputy Minister for Social Development of Peru, after conveying President Fujimori's best wishes for the success of the Meeting, described his country's strategy for alleviating extreme poverty, which involved scaling down and redefining the State's role and combating terrorism and was intended to reintegrate Peru into the international financial system. The strategy had made unprecedented progress in the past two years, despite the fact that the adjustment had been made without international support and in the face of the problems of drug trafficking and terrorism. The successes to date gave reason to hope that poverty, which affected some 70% of the population and was the result of the failure of the traditional growth model and the explosion of violence in the country, would be eradicated.

55. While Peru was aware that the family must be able to meet the basic needs of its members, few Peruvian families were actually able to do so. In the future, thanks to the efforts made, under especially difficult conditions, to conduct the census for the 1990s, the Government would be better able to target support programmes to the most vulnerable groups. In describing the situation of Peruvian families, he stressed that nearly a third of them were incomplete and that nearly one fifth were headed by women.

56. Although attention had been focused on the issue of the family in recent years, no baseline study had as yet been made of the situation of the current family in Peru so that the necessary action could be taken. The Peruvian authorities has launched a family policy, through the National Family Welfare Institute (INABIF), which gave priority to children in especially difficult circumstances.

57. In the legal sphere, the Government was trying to systematize and propose new regulations. Accordingly, decrees had been issued on the Council for Peace and the Children and Juveniles Code (Decree-Law 26102). Moreover, a short- and medium-term National Plan of Action for Children had been prepared. By taking those steps, Peru had been the first country to comply with the agreements contained in the Convention on the rights of the Child.

58. A committee had been established to prepare for the International Year of the Family, chaired by the First Lady and composed of representatives of various sectors (Ministries of the Presidency, Education, Health, Employment, Justice, etc.); INABIF, universities and the Church; community

organizations (mothers' clubs, human settlements, municipalities); and non-governmental organizations in the social sphere. One of its objectives was to organize a National Convention for the launching of the Year, at which a National Programme to strengthen the Peruvian family would be adopted. It was also trying to channel public and private resources into action to address family problems and introduce family welfare programmes.

59. The Minister in charge of the National Women's Service (SERNAM) of Chile first drew attention to the family's fundamental role in the development of just, democratic societies. In her country, a body—SERNAM—, with ministerial status had been established to coordinate public policies for incorporating women into economic, social, political and cultural development while, at the same time, strengthening and protecting families, enabling each member to fulfil his or her potential.

60. To accomplish those objectives, steps had been taken in various fields. In the legal area, reforms such as the following were being undertaken parental leave, standards for ensuring the care of children of working fathers and mothers, an initiative to give married women full legal capacity, a draft law on filiation to eliminate the differences in the legal treatment of legitimate and illegitimate children, and norms to reduce or eliminate domestic violence. Efforts were also being made to deal with the problem of teenage pregnancy and to find ways of assisting female-headed households, which constituted over one fifth of all households. Job training programmes for working women were also available, and special attention was being devoted to the situation of women working part-time.

61. At the request of the President of the Republic, SERNAM had taken charge of preparatory activities for the Year. It had promoted public debate on the issue in every region of the country, seeking to help families propose viable solutions to their own problems. A National Commission on the Family, an advisory body to the President of the Republic, had also been formed with pluralistic representation. Over the course of a year, that Commission was to carry out a thorough, consensus-based study on the situation of the family and recommend public policies to strengthen it.

62. The current characteristics and needs of the Chilean family varied, depending on its economic, social, ethnic and cultural context. She noted the challenges deriving from de facto unions and female-headed households, where the greatest poverty was found. In particular, one out of every seven children was born of a teenage mother and domestic violence existed in one out of four households. None the less, opinion polls showed that people in various social strata continued to regard having a family as one of their life's aspirations. Considerable consensus still existed as to the family's role as a primary unit, in which basic feelings of belonging and individuality were developed and values, traditions and cultural identity were transmitted. All that constituted a moral legacy.

63. However, the rapid changes in Chilean society (democratization, accelerated economic growth, urbanization, entry of women into the workforce and public life and greater coverage by the mass media, which emphasized consumerism and violence) had placed new demands on the family and created a situation in which frustrations, outbreaks of violence, individualism, loneliness and family breakdown were emerging. For all those reasons, urgent action was needed to ensure greater equality of opportunity by designing proposals for the various kinds of families and specific, efficient strategies for intersectoral coordination. In particular, it was necessary to view the family as a target population within the context of the country's development.

64. Lastly, she expressed her Government's support for the ECLAC/FLACSO project for studying the Latin American family and said that the Year was an appropriate occasion for preparing an action plan

that would incorporate integrated family policies with a view to enabling families to discharge their functions in a democratic society moving towards development with social equity.

65. The representative of Paraguay, after referring to some of her country's socio-economic and demographic characteristics, emphasized the young age of the population, certain demographic imbalances between rural and urban areas, and the challenge of creating 100,000 jobs in five years which would be tackled by the country's new Government.

66. In relation to the Year, she mentioned the Episcopal Conference's interest in the subject and the observance of a national Family Week. She also reported on the establishment of a Centre for Family Protection and Services, a non-profit foundation created to support governmental entities and non-governmental organizations in carrying out projects to benefit the family.

67. Although Paraguay had no ministerial-level entity in charge of family issues, it had established a Family Department in the capital city's police department in 1990 to deal with reports of domestic violence. It had sought to provide the police stations with staff trained in the areas of domestic conflict prevention and resolution. There were also women's, children's and family police stations with specialized staff. In case of need, assistance was also provided free of charge. In the legal sphere, she emphasized the existence of parental contracts, which laid down visiting rights and alimony and child support requirements and were subsequently made legally binding. In general, the goal was to teach families to solve their own problems.

68. Lastly, she said that a national campaign to prevent physical and sexual abuse was being conducted and that a national plan to prevent the break-up of families was being prepared.

69. The representative of Mexico said that his country considered the family to be the basic unit of society and therefore addressed its needs under the national development plan. Of Mexico's 17 million families, 40% lived in poverty. The social policy instrument for combating poverty was the National Solidarity Programme, which coordinated governmental and community action.

70. The country also had an institution devoted especially to family development: the National System for Integral Family Development (DIF), which headed the social assistance subsector of the health sector. Its actions gave priority to the neediest groups and sought to raise their standard of living, strengthen the structure and dynamics of functional families and give special attention to families at risk of disintegration.

71. One DIF programme supported the formation of families and included measures such as a campaign to strengthen family values, and parenting schools. Other programmes were geared towards the elderly, teenagers, women and children, the provision of sex education and the promotion of community and family development. Yet another set of programmes reinforced family functions by providing food assistance, promoting family vegetable gardens and conducting mass vaccination and other programmes.

72. As a coordinating centre for activities in observance of the Year, DIF was implementing inter-agency activities and ensuring coordination between the public and private sectors. Various actions had been carried out in the field of communication with a view to the mass dissemination of information on the family's role in society and on family planning, as well as a programme called "*Viva la Familia*". DIF had also promoted the making of television series that analysed family relationships, and magazines on the family had been published. Those were only a few of the many activities implemented.

73. A comprehensive research programme on topics relating to the situation of Mexican families and to the design of policies to strengthen them had been proposed; it would involve public bodies, international organizations such as UNICEF and research centres such as the Mexican Institute of Social Studies.
74. Lastly, he mentioned the special importance attached to indigenous families, since Mexico was home to the largest indigenous community in the Americas. In that connection, he stressed the constitutional amendment recognizing the multi-ethnic character of the Mexican nation and the benefits which that would bring for indigenous families.
75. The representative of Ecuador said that the "lost decade" had caused serious socio-economic problems in her country, especially for low-income families. She noted the tremendous changes that had occurred in the Ecuadorian family as a result of the increase in poverty, underemployment and unemployment. That was partially due to the fact that the country had one of the highest birth and fertility rates, especially among the illiterate population of certain regions. She also drew attention to the growth of consensual unions in urban areas (in rural areas, they were a traditional cultural characteristic).
76. The present Government of Ecuador saw the family as a fundamental institution which, in addition to its private functions, had to discharge a function as a public agent. It would be possible to carry out that function only if there was a change in the common understanding of adjustment processes, whose implementation currently tended to affect social spending, and instead a development strategy was adopted which could reconcile economic policy with social policy through an integrated approach.
77. Among the social problems to which the Government of Ecuador wished to give special attention were unemployment, underemployment, insufficient attention to the basic needs of children, deterioration of the quality of education, marginalization and the low living standards of indigenous groups. Action had been planned to deal with the causes of those problems, following certain programme areas: wages, employment, family rights, family health, environmental legislation, housing credit, regulation of the juvenile code, etc. She made special mention of nutrition programmes carried out in day-care centres.
78. Meetings had been held in preparation for the Year between the Government, the Episcopal Conference of Ecuador and the National Institute for Children and the Family, with a view to exchanging opinions and arriving at a consensus-based strategy linking civil society with government authorities, on the understanding that building a society characterized by solidarity was a task that went beyond the State.
79. The representative of Colombia emphasized the processes of change and renewal that her country had undergone in different fields and the influence that those processes had had on interpersonal, intra-family and intergenerational relations. She drew attention to the diversity of family structures in Colombia, which varied from region to region and resulted in different forms of family constitution, different codes regulating relations between family members and variations in the number of family members.
80. Among the more widespread trends, she mentioned the increase in the number of free unions and unmarried mothers, the decline in the age difference between spouses and the successive constitution of families. She also mentioned the decrease in the size of households, although it was less than might have been expected from the decline in the fertility rate. That fact might be attributable to family survival strategies, whereby non-relatives lived in the same household, to the rise in the number of household members as a consequence of displacement from areas affected by violence, and to other similar

phenomena. The increase in the number of people over 60 years of age also had an impact. She emphasized changes in the role of women, which had made women see the world differently and therefore change their way of participating in the life of society. As a result, without abandoning control of the home environment, they had become economic providers for the household. Those changes had led to a loss of some of men's roles, creating problems within the family. Although all those circumstances were leading to a decline in the patriarchal family, the latter had not been replaced by more balanced and egalitarian family relations.

81. It was the State's responsibility to ensure that family rights were protected and the family supported and that understanding between the sexes and the generations was fostered and, at the same time to create mechanisms for tackling the economic and cultural problems arising especially from the concentration of income and the limitations of social security. The family was a basic mechanism of social reproduction in which the contradictions of more general processes were expressed; as a result, family policies necessarily had to be part of other policies.

82. She described the institutional structure for family care in Colombia, on the National Family Welfare System and on the Presidential Programme for Youth, Women and the Family. Government authorities had attempted to replace the sectoral perspective of social policy with an integrated approach that included the perspectives of gender, age and ethnic group. However, it was a slow process demanding coordination and constant consensus-building. The first results had been seen in programmes such as the community welfare homes, in which a family-based approach had been successfully introduced.

83. Other key actions in that field had led to the formulation of the National Children's Programme and the establishment of police departments dealing with family issues and the creation of regional committees to enable the community to discuss the situation of the family. The issue was seen as a meeting point between the Government and civil society and the authorities therefore made an effort to coordinate their actions with non-governmental organizations acting for the benefit of families.

84. Lastly, she expressed her Government's interest in the ECLAC proposal to prepare a document containing statistical data and a diagnosis of the situation of the family.

85. The representative of Guatemala transmitted to the Meeting fraternal greetings and best wishes from the President of his country, Mr. Ramiro de León Carpio. He referred to the diversity of ethnic groups and cultures that characterized Guatemalan society, which also translated into a wide variety of family structures; for that reason, there was no such thing as a typical Guatemalan family.

86. He made special reference to the characteristics of indigenous families, which formed household production units in which all family members participated, with roles assigned according to a sexual division of labour. Marriage took place at an early age (14 for women and 16 for men). According to established socialization patterns, male children followed the father and female children stayed with the mother; that pattern conditioned women's futures by training them to fulfil traditional roles and neglecting their education.

87. He felt that family law in Guatemala discriminated against women and that the absence of a family code tended to aggravate that situation. The authorities were therefore trying to systematize information on the family, analyse legislation and propose changes in the laws on protection of the family, women and children.

88. Under its Action Plan for Social Development 1992-1996 and 1997-2000, the Government had set out to strengthen the family, as the unit directly responsible for the well-being of children. To that end, it had set the goals of organizing social services and establishing networks to address the population's needs, and promoting the family as the primary transmitter of the ethical values of the community.

89. Together with those efforts, the Government was implementing policies to strengthen vulnerable groups. Special attention was being given to families living in extreme poverty, basically through day-care centres, organizing the community to ensure the continuity of those programmes and training women as community care givers.

90. With respect to preparations for the International Year of the Family, a national commission had been set up, chaired by the First Lady and comprising representatives of public bodies and citizens' organizations. Its task would be to establish the conceptual framework for action to be carried out in observance of the Year.

91. The representative of Uruguay said that throughout its history her country had adopted the criterion of universal coverage for social policies, which had been regarded as a basic factor of integration. That had led to pervasive State intervention and a virtual State monopoly in that field. Although the present authorities had thought it necessary to continue and expand the country's traditional social concern, they were promoting greater cooperation between the State and civil society. That in no way meant that the State was abdicating its responsibilities. She emphasized the efforts being made to decentralize the State and also a programme of comprehensive, integrated social policies.

92. A National Institute for Family and Women's Affairs had been created to oversee family policies and had also been designated as the focal point for the International Year of the Family, in coordination with the Support Unit of the Office of the President.

93. The Institute had a Plan of Action structured around basic issues (education, health, human rights, environment and legislation) and cross-sectoral programmes targeting women and families living in poverty, rural women, girls in especially difficult circumstances, teenage mothers, women heads of household, the disabled and the elderly.

94. Other specialized mechanisms in the area of social policy, such as the Social Infrastructure Programme, were under the Office of Planning and the Budget of the Presidency. That programme strengthened the impact of social policies at the national level (nutrition, education and health). The present Government had also established a Social Cabinet, expressing a commitment at the highest level to social policies.

95. Agencies dedicated to specific population groups (National Institute for Minors, National Institute for Youth and National Institute for Family and Women's Affairs) functioned under the Ministry of Education and Culture. The National Programme for the Elderly was under the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, but was coordinated by the Social Security Bank.

96. Together with the Ministry of the Interior, the National Institute for Family and Women's Affairs worked basically on programmes dealing with domestic violence, one of the areas of greatest concern to society and the Government. That problem had become more socially visible and the community had become better able to recognize and denounce the problem and help the victims. That had led to the establishment of specialized police departments trained in family and women's issues, and of information

centres on the rights of families and women. The purpose of those efforts was to achieve the full exercise of those rights and at the same time to provide an effective mechanism for channelling families' and women's demands to the State.

97. She reiterated her Government's commitment to combating poverty and helping the family, its support for the International Year of the Family and its thanks to ECLAC for its efforts in preparing for the Meeting and for the high level of its technical support.

98. The representative of France to ECLAC first drew attention to the fact that French was a working language of the United Nations. He then commended the Government of Colombia and ECLAC on their excellent efforts and praised the quality of the ground work for the Meeting. He also congratulated the participants in the Meeting of Government Experts from Developing Countries Members of ECLAC which had taken place prior to the ministerial meeting.

99. He recalled that France had supported the proclamation of the Year and emphasized that his Government regarded the various United Nations activities in the social sphere as being complementary, especially the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the International Year of the Family. France was the only European country present at the Regional Meeting, a fact which, in his view, was further evidence of his country's support for ECLAC activities, especially in the field of social policy.

100. He briefly described the situation of the family in France, noting that fewer marriages were taking place, women were becoming mothers at a steadily later age, households were smaller and fewer and fewer children were being born. Systems of family allowances and benefits were the cornerstone of family protection mechanisms in France. A minimum entry-level wage had been established as a means of supporting the most disadvantaged family groups and the Labour Code had been amended to protect family interests, especially women's interests.

101. With regard to preparations for the Year, his country had been especially assiduous. The State had established coordination mechanisms with local, departmental and regional authorities and with non-governmental organizations. A national committee (comprising representatives of public agencies, local and departmental bodies and research institutes) had been established and a group had been formed to establish guidelines and monitor the implementation of programmes. Scheduled activities included a national symposium on the family and research, organized by the Institute for Children and the Family; a celebration to mark the launching of the Year; and consciousness-raising activities geared to the private sector, especially firms.

102. The representative of Cuba thanked the Colombian Government and ECLAC and said that her Government had welcomed the proclamation of the International Year of the Family. The Year addressed a topic whose consideration was long overdue because it has been assumed —erroneously— that the family operated only in the private sphere. The fact that the issue was now being considered meant that its impact on society has been recognized.

103. She referred to the problems brought about by the crisis and unipolarity in the current world situation and their effect on the countries of the third world. She stressed the need to link economic development with social development and drew attention to the consequences of applying the neo-liberal model, as well as the costs for the region of indebtedness, unequal trade relations, increasing poverty and

environmental deterioration. Family-oriented measures that integrated economic growth and social development would promote development.

104. She summarized the activities carried out in her country to improve the population's quality of life, emphasizing institutions that addressed the needs of children, national health coverage, the extension of maternal and child health programmes and other programmes aimed at women as individuals. She also emphasized the impact of the process of change on the family, in that it generated changes in individuals and sometimes contradictions. Although men were becoming more involved in family life, traditional roles were also being maintained.

105. She discussed the serious problems caused by the blockade against Cuba, which placed it virtually under siege, and the economic problems resulting from changes in the socialist world.

106. She reported that a committee for the International Year of the Family had been set up and that its membership sought to strike a balance between the Government and non-governmental organizations.

107. She ended by noting that the common aspirations of Latin America and the Caribbean would be achieved only through regional integration, which was urgently and absolutely necessary.

108. The Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reaffirmed the Fund's commitment to the family, which it considered the optimum environment for the all-round development of individuals, especially children. Social and economic processes had in many cases affected the structure of families and their ability to function as nurturers of children and agents of social change, often reducing them to vehicles for the reproduction of poverty and social inequity. The rights of children could be safeguarded only if families were healthy and empowered as social actors responsible for their own development and that of their members.

109. There was a consensus in the region as to the priority that must be given to addressing children's needs, as manifested in the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by all the countries of the region and by the preparation of national action plans for children, in accordance with regional goals. The International Year of the Family offered an opportunity to complement and combine action for children with action targeting the family, thereby ensuring that such action was multi-sectoral and genuinely integrated.

110. With respect to family policies, she mentioned the need to go beyond poverty-alleviation measures and take action to radically improve the quality of life; produce citizens who functioned successfully both in human terms and economically; help individuals experience stable, enriching relationships within the family so that they were better equipped to deal with internal and external conflicts; design family policies as a substantive component of social policy; and promote effective cooperation between the State and society.

111. She ended by referring to the Fund's support activities, which encouraged horizontal cooperation. UNICEF fully supported the convening of the United Nations World Summit for Social Development, which would have to take into account family policies; the strengthening and reorientation of institutions to adapt them to the integrated policy and programme approach; support for the satisfaction of family members basic needs; and promotion of a climate conducive to genuine social commitments to strengthening the family. The complexity of programmes in support of the family demanded that action

by Governments and civil society be complementary; that social institutions be restructured so that they could take an integrated approach to human development; and that public opinion be mobilized on a large scale.

112. The representative of Venezuela thanked the Colombian Government and ECLAC for organizing the Meeting and went on to discuss two topics: the family's place in current public policy in Venezuela and Venezuela's activities in connection with the International Year of the Family.

113. With respect to public policy, she referred to policy in the legal and institutional spheres and existing plans and programmes. She highlighted various aspects of legal policy, including the fact that Venezuela had been a pioneer on issues such as divorce and the all-round protection of minors. She also referred to the 1982 reform of the Civil Code, which had established equality of spouses as individuals and as regards property recognized common law unions and conferred equal status on children born out of wedlock. She mentioned the Fundamental Labour Act of 1990 and other laws benefiting the family, and bills to amend the Penal Code by decriminalizing certain kinds of abortion. However, she said that rights and duties could not be exercised effectively unless sweeping sociocultural changes were made.

114. With regard to the institutional framework, she mentioned the Ministry of Family Affairs, whose transformation into a Ministry of Social Development was being promoted by the current Government. Rather than have a Ministry of Family Affairs, it was necessary to take a family-oriented approach to strong social policies carried out by entities with highly developed technical and political capacities.

115. On the subject of plans and programmes, she said that the fight against poverty was the primary objective of all the countries of the region, and referred to the social programmes carried out in her country to alleviate it. Some of those programmes taking a family-oriented approach, addressed structural problems such as those related to the grass-roots economy, maternal and child health care, day-care centres, prevention of teenage pregnancy and provision of nutritional supplements.

116. Venezuela had supported the International Year of the Family from the outset and had implemented activities to publicize the issue from a very early stage. It had participated in the technical meetings preparatory to the Regional Meeting and had sought, as its first task, to learn more about families through various initiatives, which she listed in detail. Currently, Venezuela was preparing to establish a national commission for the Year and elaborate a national programme. Her Government had emphasized action to make families visible in the national statistical system and the issue of the family a useful instrument for development planning and government action. Another important aspect of the Year would be information, education and communication about family rights and duties.

117. The Eighth World Congress on Family Law, to be held in Caracas during the first week of November 1994, was an important international activity in that regard.

118. The Deputy Minister for Labour and Social Welfare of Panama said that protection of the family was enshrined in her country's constitution. The situation of the family was being affected by the growing poverty in which a large number of families in Panama were living, largely as a result of unequal income distribution. The present Government was targeting its policies, plans, programmes and action towards promoting the development of the poorest and most marginalized sectors, with the active participation of families themselves.

119. She described some aspects of policies in that area, especially the national development and economic modernization strategy and the national poverty-reduction strategy, which sought to support the most vulnerable population groups. In order to meet the needs of children and young people and on the occasion of the Eleventh Summit Conference of the Presidents of the Central American Isthmus, a Plan of Action for Human Development, Children and Youth had been prepared. In 1993, it had been agreed to allocate 36.6% of the total public investment budget to strengthening support activities for poor families, especially in the areas of housing, health, education and social security. The areas to which priority had been given were food, nutrition, education, health, housing, job creation and multisectoral rural development.

120. The Commission for the International Year of the Family had been created by executive decree; its members included representatives of the Government, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and enterprises. The Commission had already drawn up a programme of work and submitted its budget to the executive branch.

121. Many family-welfare programmes were being carried out among every sector of the population especially in the areas of health (breast-feeding, vaccination, sanitation, hospital infrastructure and health centres, nutrition), education (literacy, building and equipping rural schools, pre-school education), housing, job creation and social welfare (care and guidance of the family group).

122. She also described other activities such as the observance of a family week in June of each year, the establishment of family courts in 1992 and the creation of a Women's Department which formed part of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Governmental Offices for Women.

123. The representative of Nicaragua said that her country, with a population of 4 million, had one of the highest population growth rates in the world and was the second poorest country in the region. Its problems had been exacerbated by the civil war and by the application of a populist economic model, and the Government that had taken office in 1990 had inherited a country with devastated social and economic structures. In that situation, many Nicaraguan families had been divided: family groups suffered the constant anguish of a country in turmoil and women had often had to take on men's responsibilities. That situation, combined with poverty, had placed many children in especially difficult circumstances and caused them problems of drug addiction, delinquency and abandonment. It had also led to a mass migration from rural areas to the cities and had been aggravated by recent natural disasters, such as the Cerro Negro eruption and the 1992 earthquake and tidal wave.

124. The new Government had focused its efforts on consolidating peace, achieving economic equilibrium and addressing the needs of victims of the war. In that context, basic action had been taken for the benefit of the family, such as the strengthening of the Nicaraguan Women's Institute and the establishment of the Nicaraguan Child Protection Commission, both of which defended the rights of the most vulnerable members of the family group. Welfare policy had been reformulated, child feeding centres and day-care centres had been established and laws had been adjusted to enact a Family Code. In January 1993, a Ministry of Social Welfare had been created to coordinate, target and prioritize the social action of the country's institutions.

125. The social agenda for the family was being designed in a context of social consensus and reconciliation, which characterized the Government's efforts to create a democratic society in which the family could reassume its rightful role. That democratization process was being carried out in coordination with other Central American countries and with the cooperation of the international

community. She commended the initiative of observing an International Year of the Family and thanked ECLAC and the host country for their efforts in preparing for the Meeting.

126. The Deputy Minister of Education of El Salvador described the tremendous impact which armed violence had had on the composition and situation of Salvadorian families in the past decade, a problem compounded by the consequences of a deteriorating economic situation and one of the highest population growth rates in the region.

127. Those problems were being addressed under the Economic and Social Development Plan 1989-1994, whose ultimate goal was to provide comprehensive family services through the efficient and effective use of the resources available for the social strategy. To that end, a National Secretariat of Family Affairs had been set up, headed by the First Lady of the Republic and reporting directly to the Office of the President. Its programmes were being carried out in close cooperation with civil society.

128. As a specific contribution to preparations for the International Year of the Family, he mentioned the draft Family Code submitted to the Legislative Assembly. Other contributions to family well-being included a new national population policy, a national child protection policy, a draft national plan for women and a draft national policy for the elderly.

129. The future of El Salvador's transition from a culture of war to one of peace depended on the success of the various actions being implemented to benefit the family.

130. Lastly, he said that El Salvador's National Coordinating Committee for the Year was promoting activities in four main areas: research, policy formulation, revision and drafting of appropriate legislation and activities in observance of the Year.

131. The representative of Costa Rica said that her country could consider itself privileged in the region, for it had had a Family Code since 1949 that had been gradually adopted as family realities changed. The army had been abolished that same year and the Government allocated considerable resources to the Plan for Human Development, Children and Youth. Although the country had problems similar to those of other countries in the region, they were less serious in Costa Rica.

132. Within the area of the family, it was necessary to consider not only juridical and economic variables, but also the fostering of fundamental values. The authorities were trying to make the theme "Building the smallest democracy at the heart of society" a reality, since the quality of family relations was the basis of other social programmes.

133. Activities for the International Year of the Family were based on interdisciplinary alternatives and projects. To meet the goals of the Year, Costa Rica had established a national commission, coordinated by the First Lady and consisting of representatives of the Ministries of Labour, Education and Health, the National Children's Foundation, the Costa Rican Social Security Fund, the Centre for Family Guidance (representing non-governmental organizations) and universities. There were also plans to convene a national congress to exchange experiences gained from over 1,500 family assistance projects, look for alternatives and ensure that activities as a whole were mutually reinforcing. The aim was to highlight the importance of the family as the basic unit of society, focus attention on the rights and responsibilities of the members of the family group, support the efforts of family-oriented governmental and non-governmental institutions, strengthen the family and develop strategies for implementing decentralized social policies with the participation of all the country's political sectors. The forthcoming

change of Government in 1994 was not an obstacle to efforts to ensure the continuity of preparatory activities for the International Year of the Family.

134. Evaluation and monitoring strategies needed to be developed and shared with other Latin American and Caribbean countries and ideas exchanged on possible ways of promoting the Year, such as issuing commemorative postage stamps and holding a meeting of First Ladies, with a view to strengthening the family as a decision-making unit of society.

135. The representative of the Holy See described the many initiatives through which the Holy See's interest in the International Year of the Family had been channelled and expressed, and recalled that the family occupied a central place in the teachings and pastoral activity of the Catholic Church.

136. The Church felt that since the family was a decisive element in ensuring the good of society, no Government could remain indifferent to that natural and irreplaceable institution. The family was based on a conjugal bond with mutual devotion at its core and commitment to the life that could be engendered. Solidarity, fidelity and intensity of communication within that relationship determined the practical good that each of those units could contribute to society. When family relations deteriorated, society began to manifest symptoms of that deterioration, such as terrorism and contempt for human life, abandonment of the weak and other signs of social corruption.

137. The efforts of Governments and the Church to uphold the family complemented each other and benefited society as a whole.

138. Lastly, he mentioned a series of events on the issue of the family which had been organized by different sectors of the Church or by the Church in cooperation with other international bodies working to promote the family.

139. The Director of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Organization of American States (OAS) described the different activities of that body in the social field and, especially, its contribution to measures to combat poverty, one of the great threats to the consolidation of democracy. He also referred to the formation of a network for information and exchanges of experience between institutions dedicated to social investment and compensation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

140. He also mentioned a series of resolutions adopted by the OAS General Assembly designed to consolidate the concept of integrated development and make it operational, and the creation of the Inter-American Council for Integrated Development to replace the existing Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Council for Education, Science and Culture.

141. Lastly, he described the main features of the OAS/ECLAC/ILPES Joint Programme on Social Policies for Latin America (PROPOSAL), which provided training and technical cooperation services with respect to the formulation, execution and evaluation of social policies.

142. The representative of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI), a specialized agency of the Organization of American States (OAS), said that the Institute had been designated by the Secretary-General of OAS as regional focal point in the Americas for the International Year of the Family. The Institute had a long tradition of technical cooperation in the region, particularly in legal matters, the dissemination of documentation, the organization of meetings of young people and parents, the prevention of drug dependency and the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics, among other

activities. The Institute's fundamental concern for the situation of children had given rise to a strong interest in families in the broadest sense of the word and to the conviction that future actions should not only seek to remedy situations of deterioration, but also provide preventive education to help families stay together.

143. The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) drew attention to the existence of approximately 900,000 refugees in Latin America and the Caribbean. Special reference had been made to the importance of the concept of the family in several instruments relating to refugees, such as the conclusions of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner, which mentioned family reunification and refugee women and children, and —of particular importance to the region— the 1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, Article 13 of which noted the importance of family reunification. In addition, the High Commissioner had developed guidelines on the protection of refugee women and children. Those principles guided UNHCR in its cooperation with the Governments and NGOs of the region in providing protection and assistance to refugee families. UNHCR had made intensive efforts to involve all its offices in the preparation and observance of the International Year of the Family and had focused its activities on emphasizing the role and functions of the family in refugee situations. The Year offered an opportunity for the Governments of the region that had generously taken in large numbers of refugees to advance even further in that field. By incorporating refugee issues into their national policies on the family, Governments would be able to protect refugee families and attend to meeting their special needs.

144. The representative of Suriname referred first to the situation in his country, where the current economic crisis was seriously affecting families. There were many kinds of families because of the population's diverse cultural origins. One significant characteristic was the large proportion of female-headed households, which tended to be the poorest, and the various survival strategies that urban families were forced to adopt. In rural areas, which were becoming rapidly poorer, more than half of all families were headed by women, whose contribution to production had traditionally not been taken into account in calculating national output or family income.

145. Although the country did not have an institution responsible for coordinating action and programmes related to the family, there were non-governmental organizations such as the Family Planning Association which, in coordination with the Government, carried out effective programmes that reached a large proportion of the population. Great importance was attached to men's participation in such programmes. Family planning was practiced without major opposition, despite legal restrictions and religious and cultural constraints.

146. He described some government programmes designed to minimize the impact of the crisis on lower-income groups, family allowances designed to enhance household incomes, school meals programmes, subsidies for the elderly and children, the national child-care centre programme, vaccination campaigns and tax reforms in favour of the family.

147. With regard to preparations for the International Year of the Family, he reported that the Ministry of Social Welfare had recently established a national committee for the Year, and listed the activities that it would be carrying out.

148. The representative of Barbados began by describing the situation in that country, whose main source of foreign exchange was tourism because of the decline in the sugar industry. In the past two years, the stabilization and structural adjustment programme had caused an increase in unemployment and

underemployment. Nevertheless, there was a well-established system of social services designed to strengthen and protect the family.

149. Two entities, a children's agency and a social welfare agency, had been established by law and attended to the needs of children and the elderly respectively. The Social Welfare Department provided financial and material assistance to poor families and helped those in especially difficult circumstances. Other, non-governmental, organizations such as religious organizations and women's organizations also provided various kinds of assistance to families.

150. The country's legislation had been amended to recognize consensual unions and eliminate distinctions between children born in and out of wedlock. New legal provisions had also been adopted to deal with violence against women and sexual offences.

151. Lastly, Barbados fully supported the observance of the International Year of the Family and had set up a national commission with responsibility for preparing a programme in which all members of the family unit would be able to participate.

Urban families and poverty (agenda item 4)

152. Consultant Mrs. Mercedes González de la Rocha presented the document entitled "The urban family and poverty in Latin America" (DDR/3). She said that the document dealt with family and domestic responses to the increase in poverty in Latin American cities. Social responses to the economic crisis had been largely private. The document argued that the impact of the crisis varied, which meant that not all households were affected equally. Young households, those at very advanced stages of the domestic cycle and female-headed households were at a greater disadvantage. Within the same household, some members were more vulnerable than others. Inequalities in gender and generational relations also resulted in unequal access to resources and benefits, and girls and women were the most vulnerable family members in that situation.

153. Representatives of a number of countries and international organizations made statements in response to the presentation of the document, agreeing that it was valuable for establishing guidelines for action to benefit poor families in the region's cities.

154. The representative of Brazil welcomed the recognition of the historically proven fact of violence in the family.

155. The representative of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) welcomed the speaker's emphasis on the different degrees of vulnerability of members of poor households and families and mentioned the findings of INSTRAW research on the disadvantaged position of women. INSTRAW was offering its technical cooperation resources to the countries of the region to help improve statistics, produce indicators on the situation of poor women and formulate policies that took a gender-related approach.

156. The representative of Colombia referred to the situation of poor urban families in her country and the action taken by the Colombian Family Welfare Institute to assist that population group, emphasizing the institutional strategy of promoting mutual assistance networks among family members, in the community and in voluntary associations.

157. The representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) suggested that the author should incorporate consideration of the growing phenomenon of child labour into the documents analysis of the increase in the number of households taking on work at home as a strategy. There were 5 million child workers in the region. The personal and sexual exploitation to which girl workers were exposed were a special source of concern. Schools had an active role to play in breaking the cycle of the inter-generational reproduction of poverty.

158. The representative of Uruguay said there was a need to reduce the differences between men's and women's access to resources; it was important in that regard to take an approach that was sensitive to gender and not just to women. The latter approach had not only proved largely ineffective in improving women's situation, but had also led to conflicts within families and between partners.

159. The representative of Cuba said that while paying attention to inequalities within the family one should not overlook the root causes of poverty, which were to be found in the structural conditions of society and its inequitable mechanisms for the distribution of resources.

160. The representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) referred to teenage pregnancy and emphasized the need to formulate special public policies to address and prevent that problem. In that connection, she mentioned programmes to promote the creative use of free time.

161. The representative of Paraguay expressed her Government's concern about the problem of street children, noting parents' abdication of their responsibilities and the many risk factors generated by abandonment, including children's exposure to crime. She emphasized the need to strengthen the child protection capacities of families in all social classes and said she was concerned that, in some cases, public intervention strategies aimed at children in irregular situations tended to take over the family's role of rehabilitating its members.

162. The representative of Venezuela highlighted the lessons to be learnt from the document. First, the family approach in policy interventions did not mean that considering the family as a unit was tantamount to ignoring its internal conflicts. The family was not a unit of consumption or a monolithic entity, and the identification of inequality, discrimination and violence within it should be part of the action taken for families.

163. Secondly, it had been clear throughout the Meeting that there was a need to revamp national statistical systems and their means of identifying situations where there was more than one head of household, many contributors to household income, child labour and other factors. She also suggested promoting and using in the region qualitative research on social mobility and family agendas over three generations, which would serve as inputs for the definition of strategies to help break the vicious circle of the inter-generational reproduction of poverty.

164. The consultant thanked participants for the rich and varied debate, and acknowledged the need for further research on such issues as the overall social environment that generated inequalities; qualitative studies that would make it possible to compare different patterns in households' daily lives in the region; and a review of the methods and techniques used in quantitative studies.

Rural families and ethnicity (agenda item 5)

165. Consultant Mr. Manuel Chiriboga presented the document entitled "The rural family and ethnicity in Latin America" (DDR/4). He said that rural and indigenous families were a numerically large and qualitatively differentiated segment of the region's total family population that could not and should not be overlooked by economic and social policies. They were not, however, a homogeneous group: they exhibited differences as regards the importance of the nuclear, single parent or extended family; their stability; the role and importance of each family member; and the sources and origins of their incomes. There were families that belonged to family networks, as in indigenous populations; relatively autonomous mestizo nuclear families; and a variety of unstable family arrangements.

166. Rural families were undergoing a sweeping transformation, owing to changes in cultural models promoted by the educational system, political parties, churches and non-governmental organizations. They were also suffering from the effects of macroeconomic policies of adjustment, trade liberalization and changes in the role of the State. As a result, rural families were experiencing the conflicts of the traditional rural family in transition and, at the same time, those of the modern family.

167. Policies should be aimed at expanding the opportunities and capacities of rural families; developing local institutions to mobilize the capacities of families in the micro-regional development process; and developing institutions for resolving the conflicts of families themselves.

168. The representative of Mexico welcomed the inclusion of the issue of the rural family, particularly indigenous families. He agreed in general with the document, but had some criticisms to make. First, he requested that references to the Mayan and Aztec peoples use the terms "Nahuatl" and "Mayan" to more accurately reflect meso-American ethnic groups. He observed that the document's bibliographical references were heavily weighted towards the Andean region and made relatively little mention of the meso-American region.

169. Secondly, he said that the document showed that throughout Latin America and the Caribbean showed that the rural and indigenous groups were the most marginalized. It was important to increase research and activities geared towards indigenous peoples, and to refine the typology of indigenous families in relation to the changes that had occurred. That would require reviewing some government policies.

170. The programmes currently being carried out for indigenous peoples suffered from a lack of self-criticism, and in proposing mechanisms for using alternative technologies, failed to take proper account of the creative potential of those peoples. Such programmes should seek to ensure greater community participation and an effective transfer of functions to communities.

171. He emphasized the point made in the document that the changes made by families demonstrated great social energy. Lastly, he said that the indigenous issue was sufficiently specific to be important in and of itself, even outside the framework of the debate on the family.

172. The representative of the World Food Programme (WFP) said that the analysis should also reflect the rural population's important contribution to output and that the recommendations should propose options for giving families access to resources. Overcoming poverty was the responsibility not only of families but also of Governments and the private sector. He also requested the inclusion or strengthening of concepts such as participation and community organization in a context of decentralization.

173. The representative of Cuba endorsed what had been said about the importance of allocating more resources for social spending and explained some of the programmes being carried out in her country.

174. The representative of Colombia said that she could not agree with a comment made by the WFP representative concerning the length of time it might take indigenous people to overcome their marginalization and poverty. She emphasized the important role played by participatory democracy in that regard.

175. In conclusion, the consultant, referring to the comments made by representatives, expanded on three issues: the resources inherent in rural families as a response to the challenges they faced; the importance of considering the different micro-regions in tackling rural development; and, lastly, the importance of social investment, not only in its traditional forms but also in the form of the development of production and communications infrastructure, and of new capacities and skills for confronting the changes in rural families.

Intra-family relations (agenda item 6)

176. Consultant Mrs. Elizabeth Jelín presented the document entitled "Intra-family relations in Latin America" (DDR/1). She said that the family in Latin America had undergone changes associated with the processes of urbanization and development. From that perspective, the paper analysed the role of kinship networks in migratory processes in the region, and the relationship between household/family organization, the labour market and social networks.

177. As regards its internal dynamics, the family was seen as a social organization with a hierarchy of power based on criteria of age, sex and kinship. That hierarchy had been radically altered as women and young people came to assert their individuality and autonomy. She focused on the tensions resulting from those processes, which arose between generations within the family and also between the privacy and intimacy of the family and the public responsibilities of the State in defending civil rights. Both domestic violence and sexual and reproductive practices were analysed from that perspective.

178. Concerning the relationship between the family and State policies, she said that the family should be seen as a mediating institution in measures to promote social equity while ensuring basic human rights and the integration of the individual into social and community networks that promoted mutual recognition and democratic participation.

179. In the subsequent debate, there was complete agreement that the document was of a high technical quality. Attention was drawn to the lack of statistics on the various manifestations of domestic violence and the need to design new indicators and conduct research to identify the everyday conditions that led to violence, in order to obtain better inputs for defining policies to strengthen the family and prevent violence.

180. A number of delegations said that the education system was an agent that contributed directly to the socialization process and that properly trained teachers and existing educational infrastructures were excellent resources for using the classroom situation to offer alternative models of communication that would enrich families and help transform family relations, making them more just, equitable and democratic and creating and strengthening respect and the freedom to take decisions.

181. Two delegations felt that public policies in the area of education did not promote effective communication skills because they failed to take popular knowledge into account. Such knowledge, which offered solutions to real problems, should be tapped and combined with scientific knowledge in defining policies for providing comprehensive assistance to families.

182. The importance of reproductive rights in the context of the debate on human rights and the importance of the rights of the elderly were recognized repeatedly.

183. It was considered appropriate to single out or reveal not only the weaknesses of families in the region but also their strengths and the mechanisms that would help strengthen them in order to overcome their limitations. The various subsystems existing within the family such as couples and siblings, were mentioned in that regard.

184. It was felt that there was a need to review all the different policies geared towards the family or its individual members in order to avoid contradictions that might generate conflict and family breakdown.

185. It was emphasized that the family was not a closed system, static in time and space. It showed considerable diversity and changed according to the life cycle and situation of its various members.

186. In the case of Mexico, attention was drawn to the positive results of "parenting schools". In the case of Uruguay, mention was made of the establishment of a centre for training the elderly and promoting their rights. In Paraguay, types of violence had been classified according to whether their motive was aggression or punishment; each category was the object of different kinds of intervention and attention.

187. Governments were urged to invest in training professionals with an interdisciplinary approach, so that, in performing their functions, they would become promoters of positive intra-family relations.

The family in the English-speaking Caribbean (agenda item 7)

188. Consultant Mr. Barry Chavannes presented the document entitled "Stresses and strains: situation of the Caribbean family" (DDR/2). He said that Africo-Caribbean family patterns and conjugal relationships were governed neither by the historical fact of slavery nor by poverty, but by cultural factors such as early sexual activity and child-bearing, late marriage, kinship identity and the gender-based division of roles between parents.

189. The family's sexual and socializing functions were not without serious problems, such as the large number of households headed by women without a partner and the fragility of ties between fathers and children not living with them. Those problems were related to haphazard urbanization, migration, declining living standards and other economic factors.

190. Measures to address those problems must respect Africo-Caribbean cultural realities and place special emphasis on males as a policy target group.

191. During the debate on the document, it was noted that the paper highlighted the challenge of dealing with changes in the Africo-Caribbean family and the need to respect the different kinds of unions that currently existed. It also identified the need to learn much more about the issue through further research.

192. It was suggested at the meeting that, given the strong African influence on the Caribbean family, it would have been very useful to include in the document some historical background on the family in Africa and the various kinds of unions existing there. The consultant replied that the paper was not intended to deal with those aspects, which had been omitted deliberately because the sociological literature on African marriage patterns and their manifestations in the Caribbean often presented conflicting views.

193. Concern was expressed about men's place in the family. Issues relating to men's role in the family should be considered not only in analysing the situation but also in designing programmes.

194. The discussion turned to the issue of visiting unions, focusing on the case of teenagers who had children while remaining in their parents' home. It was felt that in such circumstances, a "marriage" could not be said to have been established, since young people in that situation usually did not leave their parents' home and form a new family unit. The consultant said that it was not necessary to determine the precise moment at which a "family" could be said to exist. The family was a reality subject to gradual changes in its structure. The most important consideration was how to ensure that measures to maintain and protect the family were tailored to reality. In response to a question on the statement that teenage pregnancy had declined in the Caribbean, it was explained that the very nature of a visiting union imposed limits on the frequency of sexual relations, thereby reducing fertility. It was noted, however, that the union was real and publicly recognized. Christian marriage was also acknowledged and apparently supported, despite the multiplicity of cultural elements present in the Africo-Caribbean family.

195. All the statements emphasized the importance of the quality of the relationships that existed between people, regardless of the form they took in different societies.

National and regional preparations for the International Year of the Family and adoption of a Latin American and Caribbean regional action agenda for the family (agenda item 8)

196. The Chairman of the Meeting reported that, as delegations were aware, during the first stage of the Meeting, held on 9 and 10 August, representatives of developing countries members of ECLAC had, after arduous work, discussed and adopted the Cartagena Declaration and Regional Proposal for the Elaboration of Action Guidelines for the Benefit of Latin American and Caribbean Families. The documents had been adopted by consensus by the Latin American and Caribbean countries and were one of the region's main contributions to the International Year of the Family to be observed in 1994. As such, they would be included in the final report of the Meeting.

197. At the same time, the Chairman offered the developed countries that had not been present at the meeting held the preceding Monday and Tuesday but were full members of ECLAC the opportunity to comment on or react to the documents.

198. The United States representative, referring to the fifth preambular paragraph of the Declaration which said that the well-being of family members was the joint responsibility of families, society and the State, said that her country believed that parents had primary responsibility and that the State could not and should replace them in that regard. She also had reservations regarding operative paragraph 11, since

it was not clear to her what "signed agreements" were involved. She also did not want the impression created that multilateral and bilateral financial organizations and cooperation agencies might provide additional financing.

199. The representative of Argentina, replying to the United States representative, explained that the fifth preambular paragraph was based on article 17(1) and article 19 of the American Convention on Human Rights, or Pact of San José, and on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which had been signed by almost every country in the world. The words "signed agreements" had been taken from a similar expression in a document emanating from the Third Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government, held at Salvador da Bahia in July 1993.

C. CARTAGENA DECLARATION AND REGIONAL PROPOSAL FOR THE ELABORATION OF ACTION GUIDELINES FOR THE BENEFIT OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FAMILIES

200. The Cartagena Declaration and the Regional Proposal for the Elaboration of Action Guidelines for the Benefit of Latin American and Caribbean Families were adopted at the plenary meeting of the ministerial stage of the Meeting. The two documents are reproduced below.

CARTAGENA DECLARATION

The representatives of the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, meeting at Cartagena, Colombia, on 12 and 13 August 1993 on the occasion of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the International Year of the Family,

Considering:

That the General Assembly of the United Nations, by its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, proclaimed 1994 as International Year of the Family, with the theme "Family: resources and responsibilities in a changing world";

The international declarations and treaties on human rights and the rights of children, women and the family, in particular the Declaration of the International Year of the Family in 1983, proclaimed by the Organization of American States;

That, for several decades, the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean have, in different forums, recognized the family as the basic unit of society and as the core of social organization;

That Governments have recognized the importance of providing the highest degree of protection and respect to the different forms assumed by the family;

That the well-being of family members is the joint responsibility of families, society and the State;

That in the context of the preparation and holding of the forthcoming world meetings on population in 1994, social development in 1995 and women in 1995, and of the agreements signed by Heads of State and Government at the Ibero-American Summit held in Salvador da Bahia, the family has taken on special importance;

Recognizing:

1. That the Latin American and Caribbean family, as an institution, is undergoing a rapid process of transformation that shows similar tendencies throughout the region, including smaller family size, fewer and later marriages, and increases in teenage pregnancy, consensual unions, broken marriages, single-parent and one-person households and reconstituted families, among others.
2. That the region is characterized by great ethnic diversity and cultural heterogeneity, as well as a wide range of family structures and dynamics.
3. That in most Latin American and Caribbean countries, population dynamics have generated a high proportion of families in the expansive stage of the life cycle, creating a greater demand for services to support them in their socialization and child-rearing functions.
4. That the region is advancing in democratic and peace processes, providing new opportunities for social participation in which the family is recognized as an important social actor.
5. That in some countries, economic adjustment processes have failed to take social processes into account, affecting certain sectors of the population and influencing in various ways the ability of families to carry out their functions.
6. That women's mass incorporation into the labour market and changes in gender relations are a central factor in the transformation of family life.
7. That in many countries of the region, violence has placed many families in situations of crisis and extreme vulnerability including, inter alia, forced fragmentation, displacement and disintegration.
8. That various factors such as an increase in poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, disorders such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), domestic violence and violence in the mass media, inter alia, are affecting the family's constitution, structure and ability to perform its functions.
9. That most economic and social policies and programmes do not address family issues comprehensively or consider the impact of their actions on the family's structure, functioning and quality of life.
10. That in many countries of the region, the development of public and private institutions for the family is characterized by poor coordination and insufficient installed financial and technical capacity to address family problems adequately.

11. That there is a significant lack of qualitative and statistical information on the situation of families and of valid, relevant indicators for its measurement.
12. That cooperation among the countries of the region and support from international agencies and non-governmental organizations are of particular importance for the advancement of policies, plans and programmes benefiting the family.
13. That sharing a framework of action helps to consolidate the regional integration processes under way in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Agree to:

1. Promote the formulation and consolidation of integrated family-oriented public policies, taking into account the diversity and cultural identity of families.
2. Review, update, promote and implement a legal framework which will contribute to the overall protection of the family, eliminating all forms of discrimination and violation of its rights.
3. Maintain a suitable balance between the fulfilment of the State's functions and the limitations deriving from families' privacy rights.
4. Encourage the development of decentralized institutional structures, of a high technical and political level, with the participation of civil society, in order to integrate actions in the areas of prevention, protection and family development within a framework of proper coordination and linkages.
5. Support policies, plans, actions and services designed to create the necessary conditions for strengthening the family's ability to provide for its own welfare and integrate itself into a network of relationships based on equity, solidarity, affection and respect.
6. Design strategies which will transform the family into a prime agent of programmes aimed at specific population groups, incorporating the dimensions of gender, age, status, ethnic origin and level of vulnerability.
7. Reinforce programmes designed to satisfy the basic needs of families and, in particular, facilitate their access to health services, education, nutrition, environmental sanitation, housing, recreation, employment and income generation.
8. Promote research in the area of the family to support the formulation of policies and assess their impact on the overall development of the family.
9. Improve the production of indicators on the family in national statistical systems and ensure that they are widely disseminated.
10. Promote broader opportunities for participation and coordination among non-governmental organizations working for the family and encourage their participation in the Global Forum to Launch the International Year of the Family, to be held from 28 November to 2 December 1993 at Valletta, Malta.

11. Call on financial organizations and multilateral and bilateral cooperation agencies to provide technical and financial support to government efforts to comply with signed agreements.
12. Place due emphasis on the observance of the International Day of the Family.
13. Pledge our efforts, in the context of regional integration processes and with a view to consolidating a Latin American and Caribbean position on the International Year of the Family, to furthering actions under the Regional Proposal attached to this Declaration.

REGIONAL PROPOSAL FOR THE ELABORATION OF ACTION GUIDELINES FOR THE BENEFIT OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FAMILIES

1. BACKGROUND

The General Assembly of the United Nations, by its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, proclaimed 1994 as International Year of the Family, with the theme "Family: resources and responsibilities in a changing world".

In the region, the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, adopted by the Ninth International Conference of American States in 1948 at Bogotá, and the American Convention on Human Rights of 1969, also called the Pact of San José, stress the importance of the family as a natural and basic element of society and the duty of society and the State to protect it.

The Organization of American States, at its eleventh regular session, proclaimed 1983 as Inter-American Year of the Family, at the initiative of the Inter-American Commission of Women. That same body adopted the Inter-American Declaration on the Rights of the Family. The Inter-American Children's Institute called on Governments to implement those rights at its Sixteenth Congress, held in 1984.

In proclaiming the International Year of the Family, the United Nations General Assembly decided that the major activities for the observance of the Year should be concentrated at the local, regional and national levels and assisted by the United Nations system. To that end, it designated the United Nations Commission for Social Development as the preparatory body and the Economic and Social Council as the coordinating body for the Year. ECLAC, the economic commission for the region, was designated as the focal point for promoting the Year in the region.

As part of regional activities, ECLAC held two technical meetings in 1991 and 1992: the first, held in Chile, analysed the situation of the family, and the second, held in Mexico, discussed methodologies for its analysis.

The third regional activity was the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the International Year of the Family, held from 9 to 13 August 1993 at Cartagena, Colombia.

Bearing in mind this background information and the analytical study of the family in the region prepared by ECLAC,* the following objectives and action guidelines are presented.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 General objectives

- 2.1.1 To promote the overall development of the family at the regional level, strengthening its ties of solidarity and ensuring the means for its welfare through a comprehensive, responsible pooling of efforts between government and society.
- 2.1.2 To consolidate the necessary political sociocultural and economic conditions for improving the situation of families in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to encouraging, sustaining and developing its strength as a basic network of social relations and ensuring respect for the human rights of all its members.

2.2 Specific objectives

- 2.2.1 To make operational the principles enshrined in the Cartagena Declaration.
- 2.2.2 To propose action guidelines for the development of national policies, plans and programmes to benefit families.
- 2.2.3 To promote joint working mechanisms to support regional integration processes in this regard.

3. AREAS OF ACTION

3.1 Family and public policies

- 3.1.1 To analyse the place of the family in the formulation of public policies.
- 3.1.2 To evaluate and promote the inclusion of the family as a policy target.
- 3.1.3 To evaluate the impact of public policies on the family.
- 3.1.4 To promote the development of policies that consider the family as a unit of action.
- 3.1.5 To stimulate the inclusion of the family approach in different population and sectoral plans and programmes.

* ECLAC, Situation and prospects of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.758(CONF.84/3)), Santiago, Chile, 1993.

- 3.1.6 To harmonize economic adjustment processes with social processes that promote stability of the family and the performance of its functions.
- 3.1.7 To promote mechanisms that ensure the preservation of the origins and roots of each family, consistent with its ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic characteristics.
- 3.1.8 To incorporate the principles of sustainable development into family-oriented programmes for promoting production and social development, in order to ensure that society as a whole reaps the benefits of development and that these benefits will be shared by future generations.

3.2 Legislation and family rights

- 3.2.1 To review legislation that has an impact on the family and amend it as necessary, in order to ensure a coherent, flexible legal framework consistent with the relevant international instruments.
- 3.2.2 To ensure that family legislation incorporates conciliation mechanisms and norms designed to prevent and combat violence and discrimination and the exploitation of members of the family group.
- 3.2.3 To promote the specialization of judicial bodies in family matters and the specific training of their human resources.
- 3.2.4 To broaden the coverage and the possibility of access to them by families and their members, of legal and registry services, and to promote a decentralized, interdisciplinary structure adapted to the condition, of the population.
- 3.2.5 To ensure and promote the proper dissemination and understanding of the rights and duties of individuals, society and the State in relation to family functions.

3.3 Institution-building

- 3.3.1 To promote the strengthening of governmental and non-governmental institutions that support the family, improving the quality of their services, expanding their coverage and increasing coordination between the two sectors.
- 3.3.2 To strengthen and promote the capacity of families to organize and form associations to promote their own interests and meet their own needs as self-managing units.
- 3.3.3 To evaluate the relationship between the supply of services and the satisfaction of family needs.

3.4 Socialization and cultural identity

- 3.4.1 To foster conditions that strengthen the family's socializing function, especially in transmitting values and cultural identity emphasizing the importance of affection and promoting a sense of belonging and respect among family members.

3.4.2 To promote policies that emphasize:

- a) Recognition of and respect for cultural diversity, and support for and protection of the various forms of family organization;
- b) Reconciliation of the family's collective development with the individual development of its members and with social demands;
- c) The basing of family relationships on affection, cooperation and respect rather than on relations of production and consumption;
- d) Greater flexibility in gender-based roles in the family, in a context of relations of equity, shared responsibility and affection.

3.4.3 To emphasize the responsibility of the mass media in family dynamics and make them aware of the need to encourage, sensitize and mobilize the community to achieve the above-mentioned objectives.

3.5 Family resources and services

- 3.5.1 To ensure a fair distribution of the benefits of economic growth, reflected in a better quality of life for families, and to promote equitable access to and control over such resources by all members of the family group.
- 3.5.2 To promote employment and income-generation policies that allow families to meet their basic needs in a dignified and equitable fashion.
- 3.5.3 To extend the coverage of urban development and housing programmes, incorporating environmental aspects and the aspects relating to the quality of life of families.
- 3.5.4 To promote and reinforce health and nutrition programmes and services, incorporating the family approach and giving priority to preventive aspects.
- 3.5.5 To consolidate educational programmes that have an impact on the growth and development of children, giving priority to children during the first year of life, pre-school children, school-age children and adolescents, while reinforcing the transmission of collective values and emphasizing the importance of affection in family relations.
- 3.5.6 To promote and consolidate programmes of formal and non-formal education, information and services for responsible parenting, family life and sexuality.
- 3.5.7 To promote and consolidate educational programmes that respect the diversity of cultures and beliefs and promote democratization in family relations.
- 3.5.8 To promote mechanisms that make it possible to implement social security and social welfare systems targeting the family.

- 3.5.9 To promote programmes that focus on families in special situations of high-risk and extreme vulnerability.
- 3.5.10 To ensure that programmes directed at specific target groups are preventive in nature and complement, rather than replace, family functions.
- 3.5.11 To promote, in coordination with civil society, a system of family support services which makes it possible to reconcile employment obligations with the performance of family functions.
- 3.5.12 To help families enjoy leisure time and opportunities for sharing activities and interests.

3.6 Research and human resources training

- 3.6.1 To design and implement a policy of supporting research and human resources training intended to learn more about the situation of the family, its dynamics and the impact of various policies on it.
- 3.6.2 To include families in national statistical systems as a unit of observation, and to incorporate series of specific, relevant family indicators into statistical bulletins in order to support the formulation of policies and programmes.
- 3.6.3 To promote specific, interdisciplinary training of professional and technical staff, officials and community workers employed in family-related fields.
- 3.6.4 To define a set of baseline indicators on the basis of existing national information sources and to ensure the necessary conditions for their processing and dissemination.
- 3.6.5 To foster the widespread, mass dissemination of information on the family in order to make it accessible to the entire population.

3.7 International cooperation and regional integration

- 3.7.1 To call on regional and subregional bodies to strengthen their capacity for technical and financial cooperation in areas relating to the protection and development of Latin American and Caribbean families, and to invite the regional offices of international agencies to do likewise.
- 3.7.2 To promote the creation and development of a Latin American and Caribbean cooperation network among institutions providing services to the family.
- 3.7.3 To evaluate the impact of regional integration processes on the situation of families.
- 3.7.4 To identify areas for possible cooperation among the countries of the region and to formulate programmes to promote the sharing of experiences and methodologies, calling on international agencies to support them in these efforts.

Annex 1

**LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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

ARGENTINA

Representantes/Representatives: Zelmira Regazzoli, Embajadora para Derechos Humanos y la Mujer; José Atilio Alvarez, Presidente del Consejo Nacional del Menor y la Familia.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Noemí Nilda Haristegui, Directora de la Mujer, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto; Marta Lucía Nesta de Taccetti, Asesora de la Dirección de la Mujer del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto; Enrique Casanueva, Jefe del Departamento de Salud del Consejo Nacional del Menor; María Cristina Conticello, Licenciada en Servicio Social de la Dirección Nacional de Promoción de las Personas con Discapacidad; Alicia Corti, Departamento de Recreación; Gloria García, Departamento de Pequeños Hogares; Beatriz Lavaque, Jefe del Departamento de Tratamiento Familiar; Olga Lopo, Directora Nacional del Menor y la Familia; Juan Arnoldo Marini; Dr. Rafael Sajón, Asesor Consultor del Consejo Nacional del Menor y Familia; María Estela Spano, Departamento de Prevención del Abandono, Consejo Nacional del Menor y la Familia; Raúl Núñez, Consejero.

BARBADOS

Representante/Representative: Maizie Barker-Welch, Parliamentary Secretary (Senator).

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Leonel Clarke, Permanent Secretary, Community Development and Culture Division; Marva Springer, Director of PAREDOS, Chairperson of IYF.

BRASIL
BRAZIL

Representante/Representative: Alberto da Costa e Silva, Embajador del Brasil en Colombia.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: María Amelia Sasaki, Secretaria Nacional de Promoção Humana; Rubem Antonio Correa Barbosa, Consejero.

CANADA

Representante/Representative: George Jacoby, Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Bogotá.

COLOMBIA

Representante/Representative: Ginger Marino de Nule, Consejera Programa Presidencial para la Juventud, la Mujer y la Familia.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Marta Ripoll de Urrutia, Directora del Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar; Ingrid Schuler, Coordinadora Técnica Nacional del Año Internacional de la Familia, Despacho de la Primera Dama; Pilar Arango, Coordinadora Presidencial del Programa JMF/PNUD; Elsa Galán, Subdirectora Asistencia Técnica para la Atención Integral de la Familia; Judith Araujo de Panizo, Directora Regional ICBF de Bolívar; María Cecilia Cuartas, Subdirectora Operativa de Prevención ICBF; Marietta Jaramillo de María, Subdirectora Operativa de Protección del ICBF; Patricia Prieto, Coordinadora de Cooperación Internacional; Adriana de la Espriella, Coordinadora de Protección y Asistencia Legal, Consejera para la Juventud, la Mujer y la Familia.

COSTA RICA

Representante/Representative: Ana Mercedes Brealey, Asesora Social del Ministerio de Planificación Nacional.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Leda Beirute, Vicerrectoría Acción Social de la Universidad de Costa Rica; Marina Salas Dobles.

CUBA

Representante/Representative: Yolanda Ferrer Gómez, Presidenta de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores de la Asamblea Nacional del Poder Popular y Diputada a la Asamblea Nacional del Poder Popular.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Mayda Alvarez, Jefa del Departamento de Estudios sobre Familia de la Academia de Ciencias de Cuba y Miembro del Secretariado Nacional de la FMC; Rita María Pereira de la Esfera, Funcionaria de Relaciones Exteriores, Federación de Mujeres Cubanas (FMC).

CHILE

Representante/Representative: Marfa Soledad Alvear Valenzuela, Ministra Directora del Servicio Nacional de la Mujer (SERNAM).

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Verónica Gubbins Foxley, Coordinadora del Año Internacional de la Familia, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer (SERNAM).

ECUADOR

Representante/Representative: Winni Wright de Peñaherrera, Directora Ejecutiva de INFA.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Tamara Merizalde, Coordinadora General del Año Internacional de la Familia; Teresa Marroquín, Directora de Planificación del Ministerio de Bienestar Social.

EL SALVADOR

Representante/Representative: Carlos Adrián Rodríguez, Ministro de Educación en funciones.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Víctor Manuel Lagos, Coordinador para el Año Internacional de la Familia; Abigail Castro de Pérez, Directora Nacional de Planificación Educativa y Asesora del Despacho Ministerial, Ministerio de Educación; Alexander Kellman, Asistente Dirección Organismos Económicos Internacionales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Representante/Representative: Katherine Blakeslee, Senior Policy Advisor, Department of State.

FRANCIA
FRANCE

Representante/Representative: Antoine Blanca, Ambassadeur Observateur Permanent de la France auprès de l'OEA et Représentant auprès de la CEPALC.

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Serge Carraro, Director Alianza Colombo-Francesa.

GUATEMALA

Representante/Representative: Alfonso Matta Fahsen, Embajador de Guatemala ante la República de Colombia.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Rosa Julia Elías, Asesora de la Primera Dama; Aida de Omeany, Representante de la Primera Dama en la Comisión del Año Internacional de la Familia.

HONDURAS

Representante/Representative: Rev. Sacerdote Jaime Cadabón, Presidente del Comité Nacional del Año Internacional de la Familia.

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Ana Cecilia Membreño, Miembro del Comité Nacional del Año Internacional de la Familia.

MEXICO

Representante/Representative: Víctor Manuel Guisa Cruz, Director de Salud Mental (DIF).

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Jaime Cervantes Rangel, Asesor Director General (DIF); Carlos Zolla, Subdirector, Salud y Bienestar del Instituto Nacional Indigenista.

NICARAGUA

Representante/Representative: Simeón Rizo Castellón, Presidente del Instituto de Seguridad y Bienestar.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Ernesto Salmerón Bermúdez, Embajador de Nicaragua en Colombia; Edgar Robleto, Secretario del Gabinete Social de Gobierno; María Auxiliadora de Matus, Directora Ejecutiva del Instituto Nicaragüense de la Mujer.

PANAMA

Representante/Representative: Sheyla Castillo de Arias, Vice-Ministra de Trabajo y Bienestar Social.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Mirla Guerra Londoño, Asistente del Departamento de Derechos Humanos, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores; Dora Díaz de Forch, Despacho Primer Vicepresidente, Presidenta Fundación Profamilia; Nora Arosemena de Batinovich, Directora General de Bienestar Social, Ministerio de Trabajo y Bienestar Social.

PARAGUAY

Representante/Representative: Jazmín Gustale, Delegada del Gobierno del Paraguay.

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Eduardo Gustale.

PERU

Representante/Representative: Mario Velásquez Milla, Viceministro de Desarrollo Social, Ministerio de la Presidencia.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Amanda de Schenone Dulanto, Funcionaria, Dirección General de Asuntos Políticos, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.

REPUBLICA DOMINICANA DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Representante/Representative: Magaly Caram, Directora Ejecutiva PROFAMILIA.

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Josefina Coen, Vice-Ministra de Salud.

SURINAME

Representante/Representative: Kenneth Moerli, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee for the Year of the Family.

URUGUAY

Representante/Representative: Celina Burmester de Maynard, Directora del Instituto Nacional de la Familia y de la Mujer, Ministerio de Educación y Cultura.

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Margarita Reyes, Secretaria Letrada Corte Electoral.

VENEZUELA

Representante/Representative: Teresa Albáñez Barnola, Ministra de Familia.

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members: Lourdes Wills Rivera, Secretaria Ejecutiva Comisión Año Internacional de la Familia; María Magdalena Colmenares, Directora General Sectorial de Desarrollo Social Ministerio de Familia; Evangelina García Prince, Consejo Nacional de la Mujer; Yasmín Turuphial, Cónsul Adjunto de Venezuela en Cartagena.

**B. Estados no miembros de las Naciones Unidas
representados por observadores
States not members of the United Nations and participating
in a consultative capacity**

SANTA SEDE
HOLY SEE

Representante/Representative: Monsignor Francisco Gil, Under-Secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Family, Head of the Delegation.

Miembro de la delegación/Delegation member: Rev. Sergio Pulido de la Nunciatura Apostólica de Colombia.

**C. Secretaría de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations Secretariat**

Mr. Henryk Sokalski
Coordinator for the International Year of the Family
Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development
United Nations
Vienna

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

Centro de las Naciones Unidas para los Asentamientos Humanos (Hábitat)/United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (CNUAH/UNCHS)

Irene Vance, Principal Technical Adviser

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

Technical meeting

Crisóstomo Pizarro, Officer-in-charge of the Division of Social Policy
Lola Rocha, Regional Coordinator for Women's Programme
Judith de Giordanelli, Assistant Planning Officer
Jorge Mejía, Project Officer
Charles Tardieu, Consultant

Ministerial meeting

Marta Maurás, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean
Marjorie Newman-Black, UNICEF Representative in Barbados, Central America Office
Juan Fernando Aguirre, UNICEF Representative in Colombia
Lola Rocha, Regional Coordinator
Judith de Giordanelli, Assistant Planning Officer

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

Mercedes Borrero, Programme Officer

Instituto Internacional de Investigaciones y Capacitación para la Promoción de la Mujer/International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)

Pari Soltan-Mohammadi, Chief, Research and Training, INSTRAW

Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados/Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (OACNUR/UNHCR)

Grete Sillasen, Oficial de Protección Adjunto de la Oficina Regional para el Norte de América Latina y del Caribe

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

Arturo Hein-Cáceres, Resident Representative in Colombia
Emilia Gómez-Fernandini, Deputy Resident Representative
Diana Muñoz, Programme Officer, Colombia

Programa Mundial de Alimentos/World Food Programme (PMA/WFP)

Germán Valdivia, Director of Operations in Colombia

Universidad de las Naciones Unidas/United Nations University (UNU)

Alfonso Borrero Cabal S.J., Asociación Colombiana de Universidades

**E. Organismos especializados de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations specialized agencies**

Banco Mundial-Banco Internacional de Reconstrucción y Fomento/World Bank-International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (BIRF/IBRD)

Martha Laverde, Consultor Misión Residente Colombia

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

Manuel Chiriboga, Director del Programa de Desarrollo Rural

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

Luis Jorge Pulido Yazo, Oficial de Programas

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

Gonzalo Abad, Director UNESCO Caracas

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

José Antonio Solís, Coordinador Crecimiento, Desarrollo y Reproducción Humana

**F. Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales
Other intergovernmental organizations**

Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo/Interamerican Development Bank (BID/IDB)

Vicente Orellana, Subrepresentante en Colombia

Comunidad del Caribe/Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Hazel Brown

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

Enrique Gomáriz, Oficial Principal

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

Patricio Chellew, Director del Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales

- Instituto Interamericano del Niño/Inter-American Children's Institute

Carlos H. Amado, Especialista Principal

**G. Organizaciones no gubernamentales
Non-governmental organizations**

CATEGORIA I/CATEGORY I

Bahá'i International

Aibab Haleah Correa, Representante de la Comunidad Internacional Bahá'i
Leslie Garrett

Confederación Mundial del Trabajo/World Confederation of Labour (CMT/WCL)

Alejandro Bernal, Asesor Técnico de la Confederación General de Trabajadores Democráticos de Colombia

Consejo Internacional de Mujeres/International Council of Women (CIDEM/ICW)

Graciela Pulgar Vidal de Huamán, Representante Permanente del ICW ante CEPAL

Federación Internacional de Mujeres Profesionales y de Negocios/International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW)

Elena Torres Seguel, Presidenta (Chile)
Jessie Stegmann de Bustos, Tesorera (Chile)
Silvia Salazar

Federación Internacional de Planificación de la Familia/International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Miguel Trias, Executive Director of IPPF affiliate, Asociación Pro-Bienestar de la Familia Colombiana

María Isabel Plata, Assistant Executive Director (representante alterno)

Athala Peña, Servicio Jurídico de PROFAMILIA

Elida Salcedo, Centro para Jóvenes de PROFAMILIA

Liga de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja/League of Red Cross Societies (LORCS)

Guillermo Rueda

Unión Internacional de Autoridades Locales/International Union of Local Authorities (IULA)

Jaime Torres Lara

María Arboleda, Directora Proyecto Mujer y Desarrollo Local

Unión Internacional de Organismos Familiares/International Union of Family Organizations (UIOF/IUFO)

María Teresa da Costa Macedo, President

Deisi Noelli Weber Kusztra, IUFO Representative for Latin America

Yves Lajoie

CATEGORIA II/CATEGORY II

Alianza Mundial de Asociaciones Cristianas de Jóvenes/World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (ACJ/YMCA)

Anibal Gregorio Isturdes Rodríguez, Director YMCA San José de Caracas

Asociación Cristiana Femenina Mundial/World Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)

Aurora de Cuecha (Colombia)

Alicia de Mariño (Colombia)

Luty Montoya Negrete, Miembro de la Junta Directiva

Asociación Mundial de las Guías Scouts/World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (AMGS/WAGGGS)

Ana Soffa Villegas Angel, Presidenta, Asociación de Guías de Colombia

Caritas Internationalis

Rev. Jorge Techera Villamonte, Secretario Latinoamericano

Confederación Internacional de Movimientos Familiares Cristianos/International Confederation of Christian Family Movements

**Alvaro Rivera Chacón, Presidente Latinoamericano del Movimiento Familiar Cristiano
Luis Antonio Vázquez Vargas, Asesor Latinoamericano del Movimiento Familiar Cristiano**

Federación Internacional para la Economía Familiar/International Federation for Home Economics (FIEF/IFHE)

Nancy L. Granovsky

Fondo Cristiano para la Infancia/Christian Children's Fund

**Paul F. McCleary, President NGO Committee to UNICED
Juan Manuel Luna García
Luis Eduardo Ochoa Daza
Eugenia Franco Ospina**

Fundación pro Derechos de la Familia/Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA)

**Rosina Santa Olalla, Secretaria General
José María Bernad Andreu**

Internacional de los Impedidos/Disabled People's International

Liliana Jaramillo

Internacional Socialista Femenina/Socialist International Women (SIW)

**María Isabel Mejía Marulanda
María Helena Jiménez de Crovo**

Movimiento Mundial de las Madres/World Movement of Mothers

Elba de Alosilla

Oficina Internacional Católica de la Infancia/International Catholic Child Bureau

Antonio López

Rehabilitación Internacional/Rehabilitation International (RI)

Dr. José Borgoño

LISTA/ROSTER

Aldeas Infantiles SOS/SOS Children's Villages

Margarita Rosa Usuela López, Jefe Depto. Promoción Institucional y Recaudación de Fondos

Consejo de Educación de Adultos de América Latina/Latin American Council for Adult Education

**Amparo Parra, Coordinadora de la Red de Educación Popular entre Mujeres
Leonor Afda Concha, "Mujeres para el Diálogo" (México)**

H. Otras organizaciones no gubernamentales Other non-governmental organizations

Confederación Colombiana de ONGs

**Inés Brill, Directora Ejecutiva
Adriana Mejía Cuartas, Asistente de Dirección**

Consejo Internacional de Enfermeras/International Council of Nurses

**Grace Morgan de Morillo, Presidenta, Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de Colombia
Ignacia Espinoza de Meza, Presidenta ANEC Seccional Bolívar**

Florida International University

**Madeleine Dale, Director of International Projects
Katherine Briar, Director of the Institute on Children and Families at Risk, Department of Social Work
Hal Lawson, Professor, School of Education and Allied Professions
Catalina Serna, Student Assistant
Myriam Serna**

International Society on Family Law (ISFL)

Michael Freeman

Programas Especializados

Alfonso Rodríguez, Director Científico

Cámara Junior

Patricia Romero, Directora de Programas

Comité de Organizaciones no Gubernamentales de Venezuela

Elizabeth Reyna, Directora, Asociación Venezolana de Economía Social Familiar

Conferencia Episcopal Colombiana

Gilberto Hoyos Hoyos, Delegado

Consejo Nacional de Mujeres

Marina Azuero de Ordóñez, Junta Directiva

**I. Invitados especiales
Special guests**

Elisa David

Evelia Rosa Aguayo de Mendivil

**J. Secretaría
Secretariat**

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

Daniel S. Blanchard, Secretario de la Comisión

Rolando Franco, Oficial a cargo, División de Desarrollo Social

Rubén Kaztman, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, División de Desarrollo Social

Miriam Krawczyk, Jefa, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo, División de Desarrollo Social

Vivian Mota, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, División de Desarrollo Social

Adriana Valdés, Directora, División de Documentos y Publicaciones.

Annex 2

**LISTA DE DOCUMENTOS
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

LC/L.751(CONF.84/1)/Rev.1	Temario provisional Provisional agenda
LC/L.761(CONF.84/2)	Anotaciones al temario provisional Annotated provisional agenda
LC/L.758(CONF.84/3)	Situación y perspectivas de la familia en América Latina y el Caribe Situation and prospects of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean
LC/L.756(CONF.84/4)	Compendio de las respuestas de los gobiernos al cuestionario sobre asuntos relativos a la familia Compendium of replies to the survey of governments on matters related to the family
DDR/1	Las relaciones intrafamiliares en América Latina Intra-family relations in Latin America
DDR/2	Stresses and strains: situation analysis of the Caribbean family Presiones y tensiones: análisis de la situación de la familia en el Caribe
DDR/3	Familia urbana y pobreza en América Latina The urban family and poverty in Latin America
DDR/4	Familia rural y etnia en América Latina The rural family and ethnicity in Latin America
LC/R.1135/Rev.1* LC/DEM/R.169/Rev.1	Informe del taller de trabajo familia, desarrollo y dinámica de población en América Latina y el Caribe Report of the workshop on family, development and population dynamics in Latin America and the Caribbean
LC/R.1264/Rev.1*	Informe del taller metodológico sobre análisis de la familia en América Latina Report of methodological workshop on analysis of the family in Latin America and the Caribbean

* Revision 1 in Spanish only.

LC/G.1761-P

Cambios en el perfil de la familia: la experiencia regional

LC/L.737(MDM.16/4)

Preparación de un nuevo programa de acción regional para las mujeres de América Latina y el Caribe: actividades y temas prioritarios
Preparation of a new regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean: priority activities and issues.