IV CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AND HEADS OF PLANNING

V MEETING OF ILPES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Bases of organization and proposal of agenda
Organizational Proposal

I. INTRODUCTION

At the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean (Guatemala City, November 1980), the Government of Argentina offered the city of Buenos Aires as the site of the next Conference. This proposal was unanimously accepted by the Plenary.

The Conference will be organized by the Planning Secretariat of the Presidency of the Nation and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). In accordance with the mandates of the governments, during the Conference there will also be a meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES, composed exclusively of Ministers or Heads of Planning of all the participating member countries.

The next Conference will therefore be held in Buenos Aires on 9-10 May 1983, and the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES will be held at the same time. This document contains proposals related to the two events.

II. DURATION

This proposal implies an important change in the traditional format of the meetings. Previously the Conference lasted five days, with the first three being dedicated to the technical evaluation of the basic documents and the last two to the official statements of the member countries, with the direct participation of the Ministers and Heads of Planning. On this occasion, however, as the technical discussion already took place at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee held in San José,
Costa Rica, on 29-30 November 1982, and as the basic documents will already be familiar to the member countries, the Conference will be shortened to two working days, concentrating on the official representation of the member countries, with the direct presence of the Ministers and Heads of Planning. Note that this shortening of the meeting is in accordance with the wishes of the governments represented at the previous Conference.

III. The Fourth Conference will once again be the principal forum for the encounter and exchange of views of those responsible for the planning and economic policy of each of the member countries. On the technical side, recognition will be given to the studies for which ILPES was given the responsibility by the previous Conference, focussed on an assessment of the state of planning and economic policy in the region.

Around this theme the other topics decided on by the previous Conference will be discussed, some of the more important of which are participative planning, compatibilization of medium-term planning and short-term policies, planning in the Caribbean and environmental policies.

IV. As regards the participation of the member countries, the plan is to increase the national delegations, especially from Central America and the Caribbean. Also being considered is the presence of observers from various international organizations, co-operation bodies and non-governmental agencies involved in planning. There will also be participation by observers from European Institutions which have been involved with ILPES activities in the recent past and with which the region is interested in expanding
an exchange of ideas and experiences with respect to planning and development.

V.

INSTALLATION

The Fourth Conference will open on the morning of Monday, 9 May, and will close on the afternoon of the following Tuesday. However, on the afternoon of Sunday, 8 May, participants will register and documents will be distributed. This schedule is also a result of suggestions made by the representatives of the previous Conference, since it allows the Delegations to use the previous week-end for travelling to Buenos Aires.

VI.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF ILPES

During the Fourth Conference, the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES will be held, exclusively for heads of the delegations of each ministry or planning body of the region. This meeting is extremely important in that it offers the opportunity for an overall assessment of the 20 years of the Institute as a permanent inter-governmental body of Latin America and the Caribbean, and it provides for a regional dialogue on its re-organization and re-orientation towards the new needs being expressed by the member governments.

With respect to the basic institutional theme --its redefinition in views of the future-- the new project of the Institute for the trienium 1984-1986 will be proposed. This is the same project which underwent preliminary discussion and adoption by the Subcommittee in November 1982 in Costa Rica.
FOURTH CONFERENCE AND FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING: PROPOSED AGENDA

First day: Monday 9

MORNING

Plenary Session I
Election of officers and adoption of the Agenda */

Opening Statements
- Argentina: Government
- Guatemala: Chairman
- Argentina: Chairman
- Third Conference
- Executive Secretary of ECLA
- UNDP Regional Director
- Director of ILPES

RECESS

- Planning and Economic Policy in Latin America and the Caribbean, its present state and its prospects.
- Future role of ILPES

AFTERNOON

Plenary Session II
- Statements by Ministers and Heads of Planning of member countries

Second day: Tuesday 10

MORNING

Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES (Heads of National Delegations)

RECESS

Plenary Session III
- Continuation of statements by Ministers and Heads of Planning.

AFTERNOON

Plenary Session IV
- Report on the Rapporteur of the IV Conference: discussion and proposals
- Election of new Technical Committee and Sub-Committee
- Closing statements
- Representative of the Delegations (to be determined)
- Government of Argentina

*/ Also including completion of registration begun on Sunday, 8 May, in the afternoon. The delegations present, depending on the number of their representatives, will be able to participate simultaneously in discussions of the technical documents in parallel sessions which will be set up on an ad-hoc basis (see list of official documents). The details of this programme will also be determined at the beginning of Plenary Session I.