SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AND HEADS OF PLANNING OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Organized jointly by ILPES and the Department of Planning and the Budget of the Republic of Uruguay.

Montevideo, Uruguay, 8 to 10 May 1989

ORGANIZATION AND PROPOSED AGENDA
SCCOPALC

SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AND HEADS OF PLANNING
OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Doc.NTI/G.VII.2/Rev.2
Organization of work and proposed agenda

A. BACKGROUND

1. In the VI Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of
Latin America and the Caribbean (March 1987), the Government of
Uruguay offered to host the next conference in the city of
Montevideo. This proposal received the unanimous approval of the
Plenary.

2. The Seventh Conference, as is usual with SCCOPALC, will also
have ILPES as its technical secretariat. On this occasion the
Institute is organizing it jointly with the Planning and
Budgeting Office of Uruguay. The organization has the United
Nations support of the local ECLAC office and the UNDP office,
also in Montevideo.

3. By mandate of the governments, the Eighth Regional Council
for Planning, made up exclusively of delegation heads of the
ministries and national planning organizations of the 38
participating member governments should meet simultaneously with
the Seventh Conference (see documents NTI/F.VIII.1 and 2, both
Rev. 1).

B. DATE AND DURATION

4. The Seventh Conference will take place over three days:
Monday 8, Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 of May 1989. The Eighth
Regional Council for Planning will take place in the morning of
Tuesday 9. In conformity with ILPES practice, the distribution
of the relevant documents will be in advance, allowing the member
countries sufficient time for their examination.

5. It is anticipated that one morning will be sufficient to
cover the specific agenda of the Eighth Regional Council for
Planning with the presence of the Ministers and Heads of the
National Delegations. (See document NTI/F.VIII.3 and
NTI/F.VIII.3/Add.1).
C. AGENDA AND IMPORTANCE

6. The Seventh Conference will be, once again, the main forum in Latin America and the Caribbean for those responsible for planning and co-ordination of economic and social policies to meet and interchange points of view. On this occasion, in accordance with the previous intergovernmental decision, the central theme will be the role of national planning organizations in the strategies for assuring Latin America and the Caribbean greater participation in the future international economy.

7. Both forums (the Seventh Conference and Eighth Regional Council for Planning) will be especially important on this occasion, beyond the intrinsic importance of their respective agendas; they will be the last in a long cycle of two-year meetings and the beginning of a new four-year cycle. The directives resulting from the discussions and agreements of the Seventh Conference will be able to direct technical interchange between planning ministries and national planning organizations until 1992 and, in the case of the Eighth Regional Council for Planning, the actual work of the Institute. In the intervals, special forums may be called by intergovernmental decision (see Res.493(XXII), paragraph 7, April 1988).

D. PLENARY AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

8. Four Plenary Meetings are planned (as well as the Eighth Regional Council for Planning), as will be seen in the attached table. The plenary meetings will concentrate on examining the speeches of the national delegations on the central theme of the Seventh Conference. A Special Session will consider the experiences of other governments and multi or bilateral organizations, especially invited to the meeting.

1/ Note that until 1980 both forums lasted two weeks, within the biennial cycle; as from 1983 they were reduced to three days' duration, and now, as from 1989 the regular cycle will be four-yearly. The Board of Officers of the Regional Council for Planning will continue its custom of meeting one or two times the year, without prejudice to the direct supervision by the governments of the technical activities of the Institute. The new timetable, which reflects greater efficiency in both forums, naturally implies greater strictness in the terms established in their respective Agendas.
E. ATTENDANCE

9. Information already compiled in the preparatory stage for this forum carried out in recent months, leads to the expectation of wide representation from the 38 member governments. According to a tradition established in 1982, a formal invitation is also extended to the Ministries of External Relations of all the member countries.

10. The attendance is also expected of observers from specific international organizations, technical co-operation units and other organizations related to planning and development policies in the region. Special guests have been invited from organizations of countries outside the region with whom there is interest in broadening an interchange of experience on planning and development or with whom co-operation relationships in Latin America and the Caribbean already exist.

F. REGISTRATION

11. The Seventh Conference will be inaugurated by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uruguay, Dr. Julio Maria Sanguinetti, in the morning of Monday 8 May and closed in the afternoon of Wednesday 10. However, late in the afternoon of Sunday 7, participants will be registered, documents for ad hoc distribution will be provided and the general organization of the opening session will begin. This timetable, based on suggestions from the member governments, will permit the delegations to use the previous weekend for arriving at Montevideo.

12. During the course of the Seventh Conference, as has been indicated, the meeting of the Eighth Regional Council for Planning will be held with the heads of the delegations of each Ministry and National Planning Organization. Given that there will be a parallel Special Session, the countries are advised that, where possible, they send at least one alternate delegate to second the Minister or Head of the national delegation.

2/ It should be noted that the meetings of both ministerial forums were announced by ILPES by cable, 28 November and 30 December, 1988.
C. CONTACTS

13. Mr. Rolando Franco, Chief of ILPES Office for Central America and Panama, will act as liaison officer between ILPES and the Government of Uruguay. Mr. Carlos de Mattos, Chief of ILPES Training Programmes, has been appointed Technical Secretary of the VII Conference. The organization of both events will also be supported by Mr. Alberto Sojitz, UNDP Resident Representative in Montevideo.

14. Until 30 April any additional information can be requested from Miss Jacqueline Bullemore, Assistant to the ILPES General Director (DGE) and responsible for the Distribution and Support to SCCOPALC Unit (ILPES/UDS).

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15. In the host country, all coordination with the Government has been assigned to Mr. Aldo Beri, National Coordinator for the Conference, appointed by the Budgeting and Planning Office of Uruguay.

Address: Edificio Libertad, Av. Dr. Luis Alberto de Herrera esq. Av. J.Pedro Varela
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16. Also in the host country, ILPES will be represented by Mr. German Rama, Chief of ECLAC Office in Montevideo.

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17. As from Sunday 7 May, participants may directly contact the Technical Secretariat at the meeting place of the Seventh Conference and the Eighth Regional Council for Planning:

INTENDENCIA MUNICIPAL DE MONTEVIDEO
Complejo de Congresos del Palacio Municipal

Address: Avenida 18 de Julio 1360
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