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

Santo Domingo, 30-31 July 2015

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of the meeting

1. The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held their fifty-second meeting from 30 to 31 July 2015 in Santo Domingo.

Attendance¹

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member countries in their capacity as Presiding Officers: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico and Uruguay.

3. Also attending were representatives of the following member countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC): Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras and Spain.

4. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following associate members: Curaçao and Turks and Caicos Islands.

5. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following United Nations agencies, funds and programmes: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

6. Also attending were representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

7. Also present at the meeting were representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), EU-LAC Foundation, European Union and Organization of American States (OAS).

8. Representatives of non-governmental organizations and special guests also attended.

¹ See annex 1.

Chair and Vice-Chairs

9. The composition of the Presiding Officers elected at the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women was as follows:

<u>Chair:</u>	Dominican Republic
<u>Vice-Chairs:</u>	Antigua and Barbuda
	Argentina
	Brazil
	Chile
	Costa Rica
	Cuba
	El Salvador
	Jamaica
	Mexico
	Panama
	Paraguay
	Peru
	Puerto Rico
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
	Suriname
	Uruguay

B. AGENDA

10. The Presiding Officers adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Report by the secretariat on the activities conducted since the fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, 17-19 November 2014).
3. Regional discussion on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals.
4. Report on the outcomes of the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (3-6 March 2015), the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (9-20 March 2015), the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development (12-13 March 2015), the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (26-28 May 2015), the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (24-26 June 2015) and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (13-16 July 2015).

5. Preparations for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
6. Presentation of the draft annotated index of the position paper for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
7. Other matters.
8. Adoption of agreements.

C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

11. The Chair submitted the provisional agenda (LC/L.4038(MDM.52/1)) for consideration by the participants, who adopted it without amendment.

Opening session

12. At the opening session, statements were made by Alejandrina Germán, Minister for Women's Affairs of the Dominican Republic, in her capacity as Chair of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, María Nieves Rico, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Andrés Navarro, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic and Margarita Cedeño, Vice-President of the Dominican Republic.

13. The Minister for Women's Affairs of the Dominican Republic welcomed the participants and said that the aim of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, as a subsidiary body of ECLAC, was to serve as a link in mainstreaming a gender perspective in national agendas. She outlined some of the activities carried out by the Office of the President of the Dominican Republic and expressed the wish that the Presiding Officers would reach significant agreements on the post-2015 development agenda, the sustainable development goals and activities for implementing the Santo Domingo Consensus, with a view to furthering joint efforts in pursuit of women's empowerment in the region and making progress towards achieving equality.

14. The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC drew attention to the agreements adopted at the twelfth session of the Regional Conference held in Santo Domingo in 2013, especially those on creating a technology culture that promotes women's use of information and communications technologies (ICTs), with cybersafety and a gender focus built into their design. She spoke on the need to continue monitoring inequalities and developing indicators, including on unpaid work. She expressed the hope that the agreements of the fifty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers would help to strengthen dialogue and feed into discussions in the lead-up to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women, to be held in Montevideo in October 2016. She acknowledged the efforts made by countries to attend the fifty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers and the broad participation of the representatives of several ministries of the Dominican Republic. Lastly, she expressed the hope that the conclusions of the meeting would also feed into forthcoming discussions at the global level within the framework of the post-2015 development agenda, the sustainable development goals and the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

15. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic said that his country had made great strides on gender equality, in particular the constitutional reform in 2010, when three articles were added on gender equality, gender mainstreaming and all forms of domestic and gender-based violence. However, despite the improved legal framework on those issues, the hoped-for changes had not been observed and violence remained the country's greatest challenge. He gave assurances that the Ministry was committed to the cause of equality and that its work would continue to strive to achieve that goal.

16. The Vice-President of the Dominican Republic said that women in the region faced stark inequalities and discrimination —problems that were aggravated by poverty. Social inequality was the greatest challenge for humanity in the twenty-first century and one of its most deplorable manifestations was discrimination against women. Women remained relegated to a secondary role of reproduction and care, which, despite being important, restricted their development. She emphasized the social benefits of empowering women, such as better education, improved health and lower crime rates. Finally, she said that the time for equality and an end to violence had arrived, and that women's development could be postponed no longer.

Report by the secretariat on the activities conducted since the fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, 17-19 November 2014)
(agenda item 2)

17. The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC reported on the activities carried out in the region since the fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers in Santiago in November 2014. She also reported on the twenty-second meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held in Santo Domingo on 29 July 2015. She said that the Presiding Officers could count on the support of ECLAC and the United Nations agencies and other multilateral organizations with regard to data generation and the formulation of public gender equality policies. She also announced the renewal of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, which would take into consideration governments' comments regarding changes to the functionality of the Observatory and expansion of the indicators.

Regional discussion on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals
(agenda item 3)

18. The Minister of Economic Affairs, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic gave a keynote speech on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals. He described how the concept of sustainable development had evolved since it had first been discussed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. Climate change warning signs and human development gaps could no longer be ignored and the business-as-usual approach to development was no longer an option. He emphasized the significance of defining a comprehensive approach to tackling inequality at the global level, in the form of the post-2015 development agenda, which involved governments, the private sector and civil society. Having recognized the progress made and targets pending in respect of the Millennium Development Goals in the Dominican Republic, he spoke on the need to appropriate the post-2015 development vision and adapt it to the national context, as his country had done in its national development strategy to 2030. Securing financing was a key component of the post-2015 development agenda, as reflected in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, adopted at the third International Conference on Financing for Development in July 2015. In conclusion, he emphasized the importance of adopting a medium- and long-term vision for development policies.

19. The Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico identified six lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals that were being applied in the process of defining the post-2015 development agenda. They included: (i) the need for each country to appropriate the agenda and adapt it to its national reality; (ii) the recognition that many development challenges were global, systemic and could be met only using a universal approach; (iii) the importance of official development assistance as a key source of financing in developing and middle-income countries; (iv) the need to continue building statistical capacity in order to measure progress; (v) the study of inequalities, beyond national averages; and (vi) the recognition of the close linkages between the goals. The proposed standalone sustainable development goal on gender equality was evidence of the priority being given to the issue, but achieving a truly transformative agenda called for the cross-cutting nature of gender equality to be recognized. He concluded by identifying some of the key gender inequalities in the labour market in Latin America and the Caribbean, highlighting the issue of women's unpaid work and the lack of attention it received, as well as the potential for generating jobs and well-being by developing care services.

20. In the discussion that followed, the representatives of Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica and Argentina said that the strategic nature of the Millennium Development Goals had had a mobilizing effect at the international level, but that there had been a lack of political will in developed countries to undertake their implementation. They described their countries' experiences of preparing national planning strategies to achieve the sustainable development goals. Having mentioned the progress made by their countries in respect of the Millennium Development Goals, the speakers emphasized the key role to be played by women in the process of defining the sustainable development goals and the importance of having a standalone goal and mainstreaming a gender perspective in all of the goals. They called on ECLAC to provide support for building on existing partnerships and for seeking a common regional position through the meetings of the Presiding Officers and the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to avoid potential obstacles to implementation of the post-2015 development agenda of the type seen in the implementation process of the Beijing Platform for Action.

Report on the outcomes of the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (3-6 March 2015), the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (9-20 March 2015), the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development (12-13 March 2015), the fourteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (26-28 May 2015), the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (24-26 June 2015) and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (13-16 July 2015) (agenda item 4)

21. The representative of Mexico referred to the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission and described the activities carried out in 2014 by the United Nations Statistics Division and by the Inter-Agency Group on Gender Statistics, which included a pilot project to develop international definitions and methods for measuring business activity and asset ownership from a gender perspective. The Statistics Division was preparing the sixth edition of the publication *The World's Women*, which detailed women's progress since 1995 in eight areas of politics, and the International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics (ICATUS), to be submitted to the Statistical Commission for adoption at its forty-seventh session in 2016. The report of the forty-sixth session called for the promotion of greater interaction between the producers and users of statistical information for public policies, since such interaction would play an important role in the mechanisms that would accompany implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. Coordinated action by national statistical offices and machineries for the advancement of women would be fundamental to following up on and monitoring the agenda, as would sex-disaggregated indicators.

22. The representative of Cuba reported on the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which had taken a critical look at the progress and challenges in respect of fulfilment of the Beijing Platform of Action (1995) and the challenges posed by the post-2015 development agenda. All the national studies undertaken had demonstrated that much remained to be done on gender equality, and the Secretary-General's report said that the incorporation of civil society was a good practice that had enriched the process. The world had not improved appreciably for women and girls and had in fact deteriorated for some; the Commission needed to assume responsibility for following up on the Beijing Platform of Action and each country would need to consider the gaps between international agreements and national plans. For policies to have a positive impact on women, it was vital to turn words into action and promote civil society participation. Meeting the challenge laid down at the fifth-ninth session of the Commission would mean in-depth collaboration on the sustainable development goals.

23. The representative of Chile spoke on the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. She summarized the discussion on financing for development in connection with the post-2015 development agenda and highlighted the region's vision on the matter, which was based on striking a balance between the three pillars of sustainable development: the economy, society and the environment. The main themes that had been discussed by the country representatives were the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities with regard to the environment, society and trade; recognition of the specificities of middle-income countries and their participation as relevant economic actors; the need to create institutional capacities to reduce inequality and vulnerability gaps; and mainstreaming a gender perspective in the discussion. One of the points made at the Regional Consultation was that the developed countries should meet their commitments and establish a roadmap to follow up on them. The importance of triangular cooperation was highlighted as an aspect of fulfilment of the sustainable development goals in the developed countries.

24. One of the delegates of Uruguay, in his capacity as Chair of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, said that the Montevideo Consensus was the world's most advanced political and conceptual framework on the subject of population and development. He reviewed the agreements adopted at the second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and outlined some of the challenges, which primarily concerned the creation of mechanisms and tools to facilitate implementation of the Montevideo Consensus, such as policy formulation, evaluation of their impact, monitoring, follow-up and accountability. The strategy adopted by the Presiding Officers had been to develop an Operational guide for the implementation and follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus, which constituted a tool for ensuring implementation of the Consensus at the national level. It would be submitted for adoption at the second session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in October 2015. The Montevideo Consensus contained a specific chapter on gender issues and mainstreamed a gender perspective, and called for synergies with other subsidiary bodies of ECLAC and collaboration with the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Lastly, he stressed the importance of civil society participation and input, which was a good practice for the definition of policy agreements.

Preparations for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (agenda item 5)

25. The representative of Uruguay spoke on the work that was under way to organize the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Montevideo from 25 to 28 October 2016. The Regional Conference would represent a landmark for

governments and civil society in terms of tackling one of the key dimensions of inequality in the region. The twelfth session of the Regional Conference had fostered the creation of mechanisms through which the region could have an impact on the evaluation and post-2015 planning processes for the main international equality agendas: the Cairo Programme of Action, the Beijing Platform for Action, and the sustainable development goals. She referred to the *Regional review and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2000) in Latin American and Caribbean countries*,² which highlighted the regional challenges to be addressed in the pursuit of women's decision-making autonomy, physical autonomy, and economic autonomy.

26. She said that ensuring that the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and its subsequent sessions constituted a platform for accelerating progress towards full gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls by 2030 remained a challenge. For the discussions to have a successful outcome, ministries of foreign affairs and all institutions and entities responsible for public development and gender policies must be involved and must accept responsibility for seeking solutions to the problems that would be discussed. The situation of women in all their diversity would be analysed, as would public gender equality policies and their transformational impact on public and private life, and the relationship between gender, poverty and exclusion. Lastly, it would be necessary to analyse the machineries for the advancement of women and ensure civil society participation.

27. The countries welcomed the report by the representative of Uruguay and said that the Regional Conference on Women should coordinate closely with the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially within the framework of the post-2015 development agenda.

28. The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC presented an analysis of the regional consensus, reporting on the systematization of the agreements reached at the 12 Regional Conferences on Women held so far, and stressing the political value of the conferences as forums for negotiation in which governments reviewed and agreed upon the public policy agenda and the regulatory frameworks for gender equality. She outlined the themes debated at each Conference, the number of agreements adopted, their thematic density and their analytical depth. Future challenges included determining the types of consensus and agreements that would be adopted at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women and the way in which all agreements would be followed up.

29. Several representatives commended ECLAC on its work in systematizing the consensus reached at the various Regional Conferences on Women, considering it to be a substantive input to the discussions on the thirteenth session. The representative of Puerto Rico welcomed the analysis presented and said that efforts should focus on implementation of the consensus. The representative of Colombia added that the implementation strategy should be flexible and applicable to both existing consensus and new themes.

30. The representatives of Peru and Argentina said that consensus needed to be linked to the sustainable development goals, since the region could commit to stricter indicators and include aspects that were not reflected in the goals, such as migration.

² LC/L.3951, Santiago, 2015.

31. The representative of El Salvador said that it was necessary to forge partnerships between and within countries, strengthen the machineries for the advancement of women, and obtain information for formulating equality policies. In that regard, the representative of Costa Rica highlighted the partnerships between women, with men, within governments and between the public and private sectors aimed at tackling new forms of discrimination and violence and resistance to the advancement of women. Given those new challenges, action must be taken in key structural areas so as to increase the impact of activities.

32. The representative of Brazil said that inequalities were intensified by other factors, such as race, disability and social status. Specific information was therefore needed on women's realities, including sexual diversity.

33. The representative of UNICEF expressed concern that the age of pregnancy was falling and stressed the need to gather more information on the situation of girls.

34. The representative of the Dominican Republic agreed with previous speakers on the need for a system to follow up on and evaluate implementation of the agreements.

Presentation of the draft annotated index of the position paper for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (agenda item 6)

35. The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC said that the first Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean had been held 40 years earlier, and reviewed the region's progress since then. She went on to present the proposed conceptual framework of the position paper for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Montevideo in 2016, highlighting its main themes: (i) the heterogeneity of women's situations and conditions; (ii) the discussions over gender equality and women's autonomy in the context of the post-2015 development agenda; (iii) the gap between laws and reality (the de jure and de facto situations); (iv) a retrospective look at the policies implemented, those involved and the results (progress and challenges); and (v) the outlook, with particular emphasis on technological development, demographic changes and the sustainable development proposal.

36. The representative of Panama requested that the Council of Central American Ministers for Women's Affairs (COMMCA) should be included in the analysis of the strengthening of national and subregional machineries for the advancement of women, which would demonstrate the cohesiveness and coordination of the work carried out by Central American countries, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

37. The representative of Mexico said that the outstanding challenges included strengthening the machineries for the advancement of women, financing for equality, and its redistribution to gender programmes through affirmative action. She requested that the document should include the activities of the government entities and cooperation agencies in attendance so as to raise the profile of good practices with regard to equality policies in the region.

38. The representatives of Peru and Colombia said that the themes should include older women and associated issues, which would mean identifying the problems that demographic change posed for each age group and would compel governments to formulate demographic policies that took account of gender inequalities. The representative of Colombia also stressed the importance of establishing a road map for the Regional Conference at the following meeting of the Presiding Officers.

39. The representative of Uruguay said that, to expedite the translation of consensus into effective policies, it would be necessary to analyse cultural and institutional barriers, consider the educational factors affecting labour market entry, and shed light on the obstacles presented by gender socialization mechanisms, which limited women's autonomy and freedom. Agreements could take a consensus format, that is, they could have a platform of action, but it was vital to specify how it would be implemented.

40. The representative of Chile said that the position document represented a qualitative leap in the context of the current challenges, given that, in addition to targeting the hard cores of discrimination, it made way for the concept of freedom that had formed part of feminist thinking and been rejected by the neoliberal model. She stressed the importance of fresh public policies, which would make it possible to mainstream a gender perspective in the framework of more complex policies, which were not exclusively the responsibility of the machineries for the advancement of women. The Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean was a useful tool for demonstrating progress in that area and the femicide indicator would generate data that would compel the region's policymakers to change the way they thought. The weakening of civil society should also be included in the debate, especially considering its impact on middle-income countries.

41. The representative of Brazil said that the ECLAC proposal was closely linked to the agenda of the Fourth National Conference on Women's Policies, to be held in Brazil in 2016. She highlighted the link by referring to the heterogeneity of public policies and to the risk that it would set women's progress back. The document should recognize sexual and reproductive rights, the different types of family structures, and labour market themes, such as formalization, entrepreneurship and the regulation of paid domestic work. Social and economic policy had to be incorporated and information systems needed to be improved. In short, in order to achieve universal rights and access to public goods and services, the role of the State as a driver of policies needed to be strengthened.

42. The representative of Paraguay suggested including the subject of migration in the debate and its links to individual care costs.

43. The representative of El Salvador stressed the need to draw attention to the patriarchal structure of the institutional architecture constructed over the past few years and to recognize that political violence and discrimination were barriers to the implementation of policies. Drafting a regional agenda and establishing a critical path would help governments to establish partnerships and compacts and achieve change.

44. The representative of Puerto Rico added that sexual violence and trafficking should be taken into consideration and stressed the role of the Presiding Officers and that of ECLAC in supporting the institutions that constituted the machineries for the advancement of women in the region. She recalled the solid support received during the fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women, when the future of the Office of the Women's Advocate was in jeopardy, saying that forums created for women should not be relinquished in a crisis.

45. Statements were then made by representatives of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations, in the following order: UN-Women, UNESCO, FAO, IDB and ILO. The representatives welcomed the proposal presented by ECLAC and praised the broad participation of the countries, the richness of the discussion and the attention devoted by the Chair of the Presiding Officers to leading it. They welcomed the organization of the twenty-second meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and confirmed their intention to support national processes, optimize and generate synergies for future work, and encourage young women and civil society to participate in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women.

Other matters (agenda item 7)

46. The representative of Costa Rica said that the number of women participating in decision-making forums was low, including within the United Nations system, and asked that agreements should include the need to promote women's participation in decision-making at all levels of the State and international organizations.

Closing session

47. The Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Secretary of the Commission stressed the importance of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the strides it had enabled the region to make. He reaffirmed the commitment of the Office of the Secretary of the Commission to perform its current tasks and offered the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and ECLAC headquarters in Santiago as venues for countries to meet and discuss the draft position paper. He also thanked all the participants for their example of collaborative work.

48. The Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean of UN-Women highlighted the leadership of the Chair of the Presiding Officers and expressed her satisfaction at the intention to work together, given that gender discrimination issues called for collective efforts.

49. The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC thanked the Government of the Dominican Republic for organizing the meeting and said that she was sure that the Presiding Officers would make further progress in the dialogue and establish a common agenda for the region at their fifty-third meeting.

50. Lastly, the Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women underscored the work of ECLAC and the quality of the contributions from the delegations. She was confident that the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean would mark the beginning of an even more vigorous fight for women's rights in the region.

D. AGREEMENTS

51. At their fifty-second meeting, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed to:

1. *Reaffirm* the commitment to mainstream a transformative gender perspective in all of the sustainable development goals and their corresponding targets, indicators and implementation mechanisms, and to take action to fulfil the goal on the empowerment of women, as well as the other 16 goals, in order to achieve robust sustainable development;
2. *Consolidate* a common regional position on the protection of women's rights through the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and commit to uphold that position in other regional and international forums, preventing setbacks in respect of progress already made;

3. *Redouble* efforts to ensure that the indicators for monitoring the sustainable development goals reflect the inequalities between men and women and can be used to design effective public policies for overcoming such inequalities;
4. *Conduct* research at the national level that contributes to the debate on gender equality, the post-2015 development agenda and the preparatory process of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean;
5. *Strengthen* partnerships and agreements between machineries for the advancement of women, government institutions, civil society and international organizations in order to make progress towards the implementation of the regional agenda on gender equality;
6. *Welcome* the report by the secretariat on the activities conducted since the fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean;
7. *Support* the steps being taken for the renewal of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and strengthen its indicators for public policy formulation, applauding its achievements and encouraging government, academic and civil society stakeholders to make greater use of it;
8. *Thank* the Chair of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for the report presented to the Presiding Officers at their present meeting and reaffirm the commitment to pursue coordination between that Regional Conference and the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts, especially within the framework of the post-2015 development agenda;
9. *Welcome* the report by the representative of Uruguay on the preparations for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Uruguay from 25 to 28 October 2016;
10. *Commend* the secretariat and recognize its work on the analysis of the agreements and consensuses adopted at previous sessions of the Regional Conference with a view to raising the profile of the existing regional agenda on gender equality;
11. *Adopt* a flexible, comprehensive and intersectoral approach in future discussions, strategies and agreements on the gender equality agenda with a view to incorporating emerging issues in the lead-up to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference;
12. *Follow up* on the region-specific issues relating to women's autonomy that are not reflected in the global debate on the post-2015 development agenda and which should be addressed in the light of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference;
13. *Identify* the qualitative structural elements required to broaden the impact of public policies that aim to improve the lives of women and macroeconomic policies that promote effective equality;
14. *Involve* ministries of foreign affairs and other government institutions of the region in the discussions and in the implementation of the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean;

15. *Undertake* every effort to ensure the involvement of civil society in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference, on the understanding that the quality of democracy is contingent on citizen participation;
16. *Endorse* the proposal by the secretariat on the topic, focus and content of the position paper for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, including the conceptual framework outlined and the road map for the coming months, and request the secretariat to incorporate the comments made by the country representatives at the present meeting;
17. *Welcome* the initiative by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women to co-organize the regional consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean in preparation for the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women within the framework of the fifty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Brazil in November 2015;
18. *Renew* the commitment to promote the political participation of women in decision-making forums, including those within the United Nations system;
19. *Thank* the agencies of the United Nations system and the international organizations in attendance for their contributions and support in the lead-up to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference;
20. *Thank also* the Government of the Dominican Republic for its hospitality in the organization of the meeting and the Minister for Women's Affairs for her work and leadership in fostering high-level discussions on gender equality and development.

Annex

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

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CHILE

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COLOMBIA

Representante/Representative:

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COSTA RICARepresentante/Representative:

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- Rodrigo Campos, Ministro Consejero, Embajada de España en la República Dominicana, email: cog.santodomingo@maec.es

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HONDURAS

Representante/Representative:

- Ana Aminta Madrid Paz, Presidenta Ejecutiva del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer, email: secretarianame@cablecolor.hn

MÉXICO/MEXICO

Representante/Representative:

- Lorena Cruz Sánchez, Presidenta, Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres (INMUJERES), email: lcruz@inmujeres.gob.mx

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- Carlos Tirado Zabala, Embajador de México en la República Dominicana, email: embrdominicana@sre.gob.mx

PANAMÁ/PANAMA

Representante/Representative:

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PARAGUAY

Representante/Representative:

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PERÚ/PERU

Representante/Representative:

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Representante/Representative:

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- Alexandra Maldonado, Directora de Comunicación, Ministerio de la Mujer, email: alexandramaldonado@hotmail.com
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URUGUAYRepresentante/Representative:

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Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

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- Juan José Calvo, Secretario Técnico, Comisión Sectorial de Población, email: calvo.juanjo@gmail.com

VENEZUELA (REPÚBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE/VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF))Representante/Representative:

- Carmen Salazar, Primer Secretario de la Embajada de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela en la República Dominicana, email: consulvenezuela.rd@hotmail.com

**B. Miembros asociados
Associate members**

CURAÇAORepresentante/Representative:

- Ruthmilda Larmonie-Cecilia, Minister of Social Development, Labor and Welfare, email: ruthmilda.larmonie@gobiernu.cw

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Jeannette Juliet-Pablo, Senior Policy Officer, Ministry of Social Development, Labor and Welfare, email: Jeannette.juliet@gobiernu.cw
- Zandra Vos, Policy Officer, Ministry of Social Development, Labor and Welfare, email: zandra.vos@gobiernu.cw

ISLAS TURCAS Y CAICOS/TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Representante/Representative:

- George Lightbourne, Minister of Home Affairs, email: glightbourne@gov.tc

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Carolyn Dickenson, Gender Affairs Coordinator, email: cdickenson@gov.tc, destiny_122@hotmail.com

PUERTO RICO

Representante/Representative:

- Wanda Vázquez Garced, Procuradora de las Mujeres, Oficina de la Procuradora de las Mujeres, email: wvazquez@mujer.gobierno.pr

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Marisol Blasco Montaña, Ayudante Especial, Oficina de la Procuradora de las Mujeres, email: mblasco@mujer.pr.gov

C. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas United Nations bodies

Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres (ONU-Mujeres)/United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

- Luiza Carvalho, Directora Regional para las Américas y el Caribe, email: regionaldirectoroffice.ac@unwomen.org
- Ana Gúezmes García, Representante en México, email: ana.guezmes@unwomen.org
- Miosotis Riva Peña, Oficial Nacional de Programa, República Dominicana, email: mrvapena@yahoo.com
- Clemencia Muñoz-Tamayo, Representante, República Dominicana, email: clemencia.munoz-tamayo@unwomen.org

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

- Sayo Aoki, Representante Adjunta en la República Dominicana, email: saoki@unicef.org
- Luz Angela Melo, Asesora Regional de Género, Panamá, email: lmelo@unicef.org

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

- Sheila Roseau, Directora, Suboficina Regional para el Caribe, email: roseau@unfpa.org
- Leonor Calderón, Representante de UNFPA en México y Directora de País para la República Dominicana, email: calderon@unfpa.org
- Sonia Vásquez, Representante Auxiliar en la República Dominicana, email: unfpa@onu.org.do

Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito/United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

- Begoña Gómez del Campo, Jefa, Oficina Regional de Programas en Panamá, email: begona.gomez@unodc.org

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

- Lorenzo Jiménez de Luis, Coordinador Residente de las Naciones Unidas, email: Lorenzo.jimenez@undp.org
- Eugenia Piza López, Responsable del Área de Género, email: Eugenia.piza-lopez@undp.org
- Raissa Crespo, Oficial de Género en la República Dominicana, email: raissa.crespo@undp.org

**D. Organismos especializados
Specialized agencies**

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

- María José Chamorro, Especialista en temas de Género, Costa Rica, email: chamorro@ilo.org

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

- Lidia María Arthur Brito, Directora Regional, email: l.brito@unesco.org
- Yulissa Ureña, Oficial en la República Dominicana, email: j.urena@unesco.org

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

- Claudia Brito, Oficial de Género, email: Claudia.Brito@fao.org

**E. Organizaciones intergubernamentales
Intergovernmental organizations**

Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina-CAF/Development Bank of Latin America-CAF

- Violeta Domínguez, Coordinadora de Asuntos de Género, email: mdominguez@caf.com

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

- Andrew Morrison, Jefe, División de Género y Diversidad, email: amorrison@iadb.org

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

- Paula Herranz, Investigadora Social, República Dominicana, email: paula_herranz@hotmail.com
- Lourdes Meyreles, Investigadora Asociada a Programa Gestión de Riesgos, email: lourdemerpeles@gmail.com

Fundación Unión Europea, Latinoamérica y el Caribe (EU-LAC)/EU-LAC Foundation

- Jorge Valdéz, Director Ejecutivo, email: jvaldez@eulacfoundation.org
- Erika Guzmán, Coordinadora Programa “Conecta”, email: eguzman@eulacfoundation.org

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

- Carmen Moreno, Secretaria Ejecutiva, Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres, email: cmoreno@oas.org
- Araceli Azuara, Representante de la OEA en la República Dominicana, email: yazuara@oas.org

Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)/ International Organization for Migration

- Alicia Sangro, Oficial de Cooperación Técnica, email: asangro@iom.int

Unión Europea/European Union

- Marta Ramírez, Oficial de Programas de la Delegación de la Unión Europea en la República Dominicana, email: marta.ramirez@eeas.europa.eu

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

Asociación Nacional de Mujeres Empresarias Profesionales (ANMEPRO)

- Fior Rodríguez de Ranucoli, Presidenta, email: anmepro87@hotmail.com

Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina (CIPAF)

- Magaly Pineda, Directora Ejecutiva, email: magalypt@gmail.com
- Laura Breton, Coordinadora de Proyectos, email: lauracbd@gmail.com

Círculo de Mujeres con Discapacidad de República Dominicana

- Cristina Francisco, Presidenta, email: cimudis@yahoo.com

Colectiva de Mujer y Salud de la República Dominicana

- Rosalyn Luz Cruz Tavarez, Coordinadora de Programas, email: roslmgcaprd@gmail.com
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- Cinthya Velasco Botello, Coordinadora de Investigación y Capacitación, email: conthya.celectivamujerysalud@gmail.com

Confederación Nacional de Unidad Sindical (CNUS)

- Argentina Abreu, Secretaria General Adjunta de la Confederación Nacional de Unidad Sindical (CNUS), email: argentinabreu@gmail.com

Federación de Mujeres Empresarias Dominico-Internacional (FEM)

- Cesarina Morel de Graf, Asesora Legal, email: cmorelgraf@gmail.com
- Loly Alonso Arribalza, Presidenta, email: lolyalonso123@yahoo.com

Fundación La Trinitaria de República Dominicana

- Ysidro Alejandro Santana, Asuntos Sociales, email: ysidro6318@yahoo.es

Patronato de Ayuda a la Mujer Maltratada (PACAM)

- Wilmara Vásquez Peláez, Coordinadora de Proyectos y Capacitación, email: wilmara-08@hotmail.com

G. Invitados especiales **Special guests**

- Margarita Cedeño, Vicepresidenta de la República Dominicana
- Andrés Navarro, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de la República Dominicana
- Temístocles Montás, Ministro de Economía, Planificación y Desarrollo de la República Dominicana

H. Otros participantess **Other participants**

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- Elga Salvador, Consultora, Agencia de Cooperación Internacional de Desarrollo (AECID), email: elga.salvador@gmail.com
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- Glenny Castro, Gerente de Relaciones Internacionales de la Oficina Presidencial de Tecnología de la Información y Comunicación (OPTIC) de la República Dominicana, email: glennycastro12@hotmail.com
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**I. Secretaría
Secretariat****Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)**

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