

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN - ECLAC**



Distr.
LIMITED
LC/L.842(CRM.6/2)
17 June 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

**Sixth session of the Regional Conference
on the Integration of Women into the
Economic and Social Development of
Latin America and the Caribbean**

Mar del Plata, Argentina, 26-30 September 1994

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF
THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE	1
1. Mandate and functions of the Conference	1
2. Purposes of the sixth session	1
B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA	2
1. Election of officers	2
2. Adoption of the agenda	3
3. Report of the Chairman of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean on the work accomplished since the fifth session of the Regional Conference	4
4. Presentation, by the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women, of the Platform for Action to be discussed at Beijing	4
5. Report of the ECLAC secretariat on the activities carried out in 1991-1994 and the documentation prepared for consideration at the Conference	4
6. Analysis and evaluation of the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s	4
7. Elaboration and adoption of the regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001	5
8. Regional preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women	5
9. Seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean	5
10. Other matters	5
11. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting	5

A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Mandate and functions of the Conference

The Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean is convened in compliance with the mandates of the Regional Plan of Action (1977),¹ and meets periodically at intervals of no more than three years. Pursuant to the Plan of Action, the Conference basically fulfils the following functions:

- a) To determine regional and subregional needs for technical assistance and give support to all the United Nations bodies operating in the region in order that they can meet such needs;
- b) To put forward recommendations to Governments and to ECLAC itself based on studies carried out by the secretariat on the most feasible way of implementing the agreements adopted by the United Nations regional conferences;
- c) To review and appraise periodically the activities of ECLAC and other United Nations agencies;
- d) To periodically evaluate the accomplishment of the Regional Plan of Action;
- e) To provide a forum for the exchange of information which will facilitate the mutual coordination and support of the programmes for the integration of women into economic and social development at various levels and permit the countries in the region to share experiences in this field.

2. Purposes of the sixth session

The fifth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held at Curaçao from 16 to 19 September 1991, in addition to its normal tasks, began regional preparations for the World Conference scheduled for 1995 by adopting resolution No. 1, entitled "New regional plan of action on the integration of women into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean".

¹ See ECLAC, Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (E/CEPAL/1042/Rev.1), Santiago, Chile, November 1977, paragraphs 87 and 88.

Accordingly, the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, will be adopted at the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, which will also serve as the regional preparatory meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held at Beijing in 1995.

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

The Regional Conference will elect the Presiding Officers, who, in accordance with the mandates of the Plan of Action, will serve as the link between the Governments and the secretariat of ECLAC in the field of women's integration in development.

The Presiding Officers of the fifth session of the Regional Conference were chosen immediately before the opening of that session in Curaçao on 16 September 1991, and will continue in their functions as mandated in the Plan of Action until new Presiding Officers are chosen at the sixth session. The current officers are: Chairman, Netherlands Antilles; Vice-Chairmen, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Guatemala, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Venezuela; Rapporteur, Argentina.²

The criteria for the election of Presiding Officers, established at the Fifth Meeting of the Presiding Officers elected at the second session of the Regional Conference (Mexico City, 5 August 1983), are as follows:

- "a) To put into practice the principle of rotation of duties of the Presiding Officers among the member countries of ECLAC;
- b) In order to provide greater facility and effectiveness to their functioning, to reduce the number of members of the Presiding Officers to the offices of a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur;
- c) To seek adequate geographical distribution, including as Presiding Officers representatives of Central America, the Caribbean, the Andean Group and the Southern Cone".³

² See ECLAC, Report of the Fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.1684(CRM.5/6)), Santiago, Chile, 1991.

³ See ECLAC, Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (E/CEPAL/CRM.3/L.2), Santiago, Chile, 1983.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The following provisional agenda, proposed by the Presiding Officers of the fifth session of the Regional Conference at their seventeenth meeting, held at Santiago, Chile, on 9 and 10 December 1993,⁴ will be submitted to the sixth session of the Regional Conference for adoption or modification.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report of the Chairman of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean on the work accomplished since the fifth session of the Regional Conference
4. Presentation, by the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women, of the Platform for Action to be discussed at Beijing
5. Report of the ECLAC secretariat on the activities carried out in 1991-1994 and the documentation prepared for consideration at the Conference
6. Analysis and evaluation of the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s
7. Elaboration and adoption of the regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001
8. Regional preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women
9. Seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean
10. Other matters
11. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting.

⁴ See ECLAC, Report of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.806(MDM.17/3)/Rev.1), Santiago, Chile, 1994.

3. Report of the Chairman of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean on the work accomplished since the fifth session of the Regional Conference

During the interval between the fifth and sixth sessions of the Regional Conference, the Presiding Officers met for six working meetings. The Chairman of the Presiding Officers will report to the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the main activities carried out during this period, which are contained in the reports of the meetings of the Presiding Officers since September 1991.⁵

4. Presentation, by the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women, of the Platform for Action to be discussed at Beijing

The Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995) will report on the preparatory activities being carried out at the national, regional and international levels and on the progress of the preparation of the Platform for Action.

5. Report of the ECLAC secretariat on the activities carried out in 1991-1994 and the documentation prepared for consideration at the Conference

The ECLAC secretariat will report to the member countries on the activities carried out between 1 June 1991 and 31 May 1994, which are contained in the document "Activities of the ECLAC secretariat from 1 June 1991 to 31 May 1994 relating to the integration of women into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean" (LC/L.829(CRM.6/3)).

6. Analysis and evaluation of the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s

For the analysis of this agenda item, the secretariat will submit to the Conference for its consideration a working document entitled "Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: a progress report for the 1990s and prospects for the year 2000" (LC/L.836(CRM.6/4)), which contains analyses of education, employment, health, political participation, violence against women and other relevant topics.

⁵ See ECLAC reports of the following meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean: fourteenth (LC/L.699(MDM.14/4)), fifteenth (LC/L.735(MDM.15/2)), sixteenth (LC/L.776(MDM.16/7)) and seventeenth (LC/L.806(MDM.17/3)/Rev.1).

Also in relation to this agenda item, the secretariat will submit to the Conference reference documents on the training of female human resources, uprooted women and poverty in Central America, women and urban labour in Latin America, women and violence, women and human resources training in Central America, and an education strategy for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean.⁶

7. Elaboration and adoption of the regional programme of action for the women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001

In relation to this agenda item, the ECLAC secretariat will submit a working document entitled "Draft Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Note by the secretariat" (LC/L.837(CRM.6/5)), which was sent to the countries in late May 1994 for their information and will be submitted to the subregional preparatory meetings for the sixth session of the Regional Conference (Santa Cruz, Bolivia, June 1994; Curaçao, June 1994; Mexico City, July 1994). The document will be analysed by a drafting group for subsequent adoption.

8. Regional preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women

On the basis of their debate on agenda items 4 and 5, the participants will analyse activities that could be carried out in 1995.

9. Seventh session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean

The Regional Conference will provide guidelines to the secretariat on the venue and agenda of the seventh session of the Regional Conference, bearing in mind the possibility that changes may be introduced as a result of the World Conference.

10. Other matters

Under this item, the participants will discuss other issues which the delegations consider relevant to the concerns of the current meeting.

11. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting

At its plenary meeting, the Regional Conference will adopt the Regional Programme of Action prepared by the drafting group, as well as relevant resolutions on the subject.

⁶ See ECLAC, Documents presented at the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.844(CRM.6/6)), Santiago, Chile, 1994.