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DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECLAC SYSTEM, 1998-1999

* This document is a revised version of the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 1998-1999 as approved during the twenty-sixth session of the Commission by resolution 559(XXVI) and reflects the recommendations made on that occasion.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADC	Andean Development Corporation
ALIDE	Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions
CABEI	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CDCC	Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
CLADES	Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLACSO	Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
ILO	International Labour Organization
ILPES	Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning
IMF	International Monetary Fund
JUNAC	Board of the Cartagena Agreement
LAIA	Latin American Integration Association
OAS	Organization of American States
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OLADE	Latin American Energy Organization
OLAMI	American Mining Organization
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
SIECA	Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration
SELA	Latin American Economic System
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNSO	United Nations Statistical Office
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

INTRODUCTION

The ECLAC Secretariat submitted a draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 1998-1999 to the States members of the Commission for their consideration at its twenty-sixth session, held in San José, Costa Rica, from 15 to 22 April 1996.

Three fundamental factors were borne in mind in the preparation of the draft programme: first, the situation and trends of the economies of the region in the period of this decade up to the present, and the regional development priorities deriving therefrom; second, the upcoming issues at the international level which affect the region and call for efforts of adaptation on the part of the Latin American and Caribbean countries; and third, the manifold demands of the process of reform of the United Nations which are reflected, inter alia, in the need for greater selectivity in the preparation of the programme of work.

With regard to the first of these factors, in its recent reports the Secretariat has reported on the strengths and weaknesses of the economic performance of most of the countries of the region.¹ Substantial progress has undoubtedly been made in terms of macroeconomic management, institutional development, and the development of production enterprises. Generally speaking, this progress has been reflected in moderate growth, with growing financial stability and timely access to external finance. However, this growth has not been sufficient to absorb the natural increase in the economically active population, and this is one of the reasons why the backlog of social needs is diminishing so slowly.

Consequently, in order to speed up growth and improve social equity, the agenda of priority items for Latin American development continues to include such issues as: i) incorporation of technical progress in production enterprises, especially small and medium-sized firms; ii) development of environmentally suitable technologies for making use of the region's natural resources; iii) generation of increasing levels of domestic savings and their guidance towards productive investments; iv) establishment of an institutional context favouring investment, growth and governance; v) investment in human resources, with improvements in the systems of educational and health services; vi) support for the lowest-income strata through public spending and a more participative approach to the decision-making process; and vii) consolidation of the institutions that serve as the foundations for pluralistic and participative political systems. Questions of a conceptual and practical nature arise from these issues, and should be reflected in the ECLAC programme of work.

¹ See ECLAC, Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995 (LC/G.1892-P), Santiago, Chile, 1995; Social Panorama of Latin America, 1995 edition (LC/G.1886-P), Santiago, Chile, 1995; Strengthening development: the interplay of macro- and microeconomics (LC/G.1898(SES.26/3)), Santiago, Chile, 1996; and The economic experience of the last fifteen years: Latin America and the Caribbean, 1980-1995 (LC/G.1925(SES.26/17)), Santiago, Chile, 1996.

As regards the second factor, it is already a commonplace to talk about the surprising changes that form part of the process of globalization of the economy. Much of the United Nations' programme of activities consists of helping Governments to adapt to the changing international context, in all its forms. In the case of Latin America and the Caribbean, there are clear priority issues which are often just as important for relations within Latin America as they are for relations with countries of other regions. One of these is the implementation of the rules and regulations laid down in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round and the policy options for gaining access to international financial flows. ECLAC can make important contributions to this process of adaptation, and this is discussed in this programme of work.

Lastly, the new resource constraints that affect the United Nations in its work, and the demand for greater accountability, oblige ECLAC to be even more careful in selecting the activities to be carried out and concentrating on matters where its comparative advantages allow it to make greater contributions to the Governments of its member countries. In this respect, this programme of work attempts to define more closely the institutional identity of ECLAC: this is the only regional institution which systematically devotes itself to analysis of relevant issues related to the development of Latin American and Caribbean countries from a regional perspective, combining the work of analysis with operational services to provide specialist information, advisory assistance, training and support for regional and international cooperation. This mission is consistent with that of the United Nations in the economic and social sectors, as recently redefined by the Organization.²

Some of the activities included in the programme of work are to be carried out in cooperation with other bodies, with the aim of joining forces. The majority of them are also to be carried out in close consultation with national bodies of the Governments of the member countries.

The programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999 also forms part of the new medium-term plan that the United Nations is about to adopt. Its layout is substantially different from those presented at previous sessions of the Commission. On this occasion, instead of following the usual list of programmes and subprogrammes of the Organization, the material was divided on a thematic basis; the topics were selected in the light of the three factors mentioned at the beginning of this introduction.

Initially, the contents of this programme of work were defined by the Secretariat after a strategic planning exercise in which the issues likely to be of greatest importance for the region in the rest of the decade were identified after informal consultations during numerous technical cooperation missions to the countries.

Subsequently, at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission, the delegates adopted resolution 559(XXVI) approving the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 1998-1999. Among other recommendations made on that occasion, the motion was accepted that the activities carried out by ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and for Mexico and Central America should be presented under separate subprogrammes. In addition, on the recommendation of the United Nations Programme Planning and Budget Division, it was decided that the subprogrammes on population and development and on statistics and economic projections should also be presented in separate sections. The remaining subprogrammes were duly revised to reflect the foregoing changes. Therefore, the seven subprogrammes as originally presented were rearranged to total the eleven now presented in this document.

² Boutros Boutros-Ghali, An Agenda for Development, 1995, New York, Department of Public Information, United Nations, 1995. United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.I.16.

The document includes a description of the subprogrammes to be carried out during the biennium. Each subprogramme is headed by a brief introduction, followed by a description of the subject areas making up the subprogramme and details of the activities to be carried out and the outputs expected to result from their execution. In some cases, following the description of the subject area, activities whose execution is subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources are identified.

In the formulation of this draft programme of work, the Secretariat followed the instructions given by United Nations Headquarters with regard to resources. The programme was drafted on the assumption that the volume of human resources approved in the budget for 1996-1997, before temporary austerity and efficiency measures were adopted by the General Assembly at the end of 1995, would be available to carry it out.

By virtue of resolution 553(XXVI) on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC, the Commission decided to establish an ad hoc working group open to all member countries and empowered, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, to define priorities within the work programme and to recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities. The first meeting of this working group will be held in July 1996 and will take the present version of the work programme as the basis for its deliberations.

Lastly, as in previous years, the classification and description of activities used in this draft programme is that designed by Headquarters to cover the various classes of activities, such as recurrent and non-recurrent publications, technical material, information material and services, intergovernmental and expert meetings, operational activities (including advisory services and group training) and intermediate activities.³

³ A description of the different kinds of activities is presented in the annex.

SUBPROGRAMME 1: LINKAGES WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTION SPECIALIZATION

Presentation

In order for the economic development of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to be sustainable, they must improve their linkages with the global economy (that is to say, their quantitative and qualitative shares in trade, foreign direct investment and technology flows) and also increase their capacity both to take advantage of growth cycles in international trade and to withstand adverse phases, through diversification of products and markets, a search for investments and alliances abroad, and better linkages between exports and the other production activities.

Although during the last two decades a number of countries of the region have managed to improve their international linkages through changes in the structure and destination of their exports, a major challenge for them continues to be the need to build up new patterns of specialization based on profound changes in their structure of production and increased international competitiveness.

The general aims of this subprogramme are to provide member States with analytical data and empirical studies on the main trends in the world economy and the challenges and opportunities that these present with regard to their linkages with the global economy; to appraise the nature and recent evolution of those linkages and define policy recommendations for them to expand and diversify their trade in goods and services and favour the competitiveness and growth of their economies; to make comparative analyses of relevant examples of export development both inside and outside the region, in order to examine the variables that affect the capacity of exports to mobilize the other sectors of the economy; and to contribute to the analysis of trade policies and of developments in the regulatory framework of international trade, in order to make the fullest possible use of the available room for action and strengthen the region's bargaining power.

The programme of work for 1998-1999 comprises three sets of subject areas. The first of these—consisting of subject areas 1.1 through 1.5—covers activities connected with globalization and changes in the international setting, national trade policies and market integration, changes in the structure of international competition and their consequences for the region, linkages between the export sector and the rest of the economy, and patterns of trade specialization.

Lastly, the second set of activities—subject areas 1.6 through 1.8—covers specific interdisciplinary issues connected with the development of international trade in the region. These subject areas deal successively with international transport and competitiveness, the competitiveness of the mining sector of the countries of the region, and the links between international trade and the environment.

1. Activities

Subject area 1.1: Globalization and changes in the international setting

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Two expert meetings to consider the matters dealt with in the annual reports listed below (one in each year of the biennium).

b) Non-recurrent publications

Two annual reports on: i) the recent evolution of the structure and main flows of international trade, external finance and foreign direct investment; ii) growth trends of the region's main export markets; iii) the process of development of dynamic linkages of the various Latin American and Caribbean countries and of the region as a whole with the global economy.

c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the evolution of the world economy and its impact on the region.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 1.2: National trade policies and market integration

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to consider the room for action open to the Governments of the region as regards their policies for improving linkages with the global economy.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the impact of multilateral, regional and hemispheric commitments on trade policies in the region.

ii) A study on ways to match trade policies with conditions of competitiveness in the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

iii) An annual study on the barriers raised by the United States against Latin American and Caribbean exports.

c) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with trade policies and their links with policies to further changing production patterns.

Subject area 1.3: Specific matters relating to changes in the structure of international competitiona) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the impact of international competition on the design of trade policies in the region.

ii) A study on new markets for the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Subject area 1.4: Linkages with the global economy, sustainable growth and social equitya) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to examine the systemic nature of production changes taking place in the trade specialization of Latin America and the Caribbean and their effects on strategies for changing production patterns with social equity in the region.

b) Non-recurrent publications

A comparative study of experiences inside and outside the region with regard to the links between the export sector and the rest of the economy in the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Subject area 1.5: Patterns of trade specializationa) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two studies on the dynamism and structure of the region's international trade, by homogeneous groups, products and main agents.

ii) A study on the promotion of non-traditional exports and exports of manufactures, services and products of technology-intensive sectors.

iii) A study on technological development and exports, based on a comparative analysis of various Asian and Latin American experiences.

Subject area 1.6: International transport and competitiveness

a) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

A regional expert meeting to consider the sea transport situation of the region in relation to the globalization and vertical integration of services.

b) **Recurrent publications**

FAL Bulletin, a bimonthly publication on the facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America and the Caribbean.

c) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) A study on the adaptation of the region's sea transport services to its foreign trade needs.

ii) A study on the impact of the world economy on the system of sea transport conferences.

d) **Intermediate activities**

Support for the Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC), the Central American Maritime Transport Commission (COCATRAM), the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works, the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), and the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) on matters of international sea and multimodal transport.

Subject area 1.7: Competitiveness of the mining sector of the countries of the region

a) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Expert meeting to analyse changes in the competitiveness of the Latin American and Caribbean mining sector.

b) **Non-recurrent publications**

A study on the competitiveness of the Latin American and Caribbean mining sector in the latter part of the 1990s. Special attention will be given to consideration of the changes which have taken place in the location of world mining production, and an effort will be made to identify new forms of contracts and association in mining investment and the quantitative and qualitative changes that will take place in the region's share in the world market.

c) **Operational activities**

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with mining investments and the competitiveness of the mining sector.

d) Intermediate activities

Support for the Latin American Mining Organization (OLAMI) with regard to the development of the mining sector.

Subject area 1.8: International trade and the environment

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to examine the links between international trade and the environment, especially the applicability and scope of considerations of environmental quality and competitiveness in the region's trade relations with the rest of the world and the implementation of appropriate policies.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on considerations of environmental quality and competitiveness and their repercussions on the region's external trade. Special attention will be given to identification of the positive effects that an appropriate environmental policy can have on foreign trade, and the ecological barriers established by developed countries.

ii) A study on new business attitudes to reduce or eliminate the environmental impact of products or production processes, and their incidence on export promotion.

c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the incorporation of environmental aspects in subregional and regional trade agreements and the coordination of environmental policies designed to comply with international agreements on trade.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out mainly through the exchange of information and technical consultations with UNCTAD, WTO, SELA, the IDB and the OAS.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the activities involved, periodic consultations will also be effected with other international, regional and subregional bodies. Thus, for the execution of the activities connected with globalization and changes in the international setting, periodic consultations will be effected with the staff responsible for the corresponding activities at United Nations Headquarters, New York, UNCTAD and SELA, as well as with the Latin American and Caribbean groups (GRULAC) in New York, Geneva and Brussels.

For the studies connected with trade policies and export promotion, periodic consultations will be held with LAIA, the Latin American Bank for Exports (BLADEX), the Andean Development Corporation (CAF), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

For the comparative studies between Latin America and the Asian economies, periodic consultations will be held with the corresponding United Nations regional economic commission: ESCAP.

In the area of international transport and competitiveness, close cooperation will be maintained with the Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC), the Central American Maritime Transport Commission (COCATRAM), the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works, the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Latin American Railways Association (ALAF), the Meeting of National Customs Directors of Latin America, Spain and Portugal, and the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), as well as with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank.

Lastly, the studies on the competitiveness of the mining sector will be carried out in periodic consultation with the Latin American Mining Organization (OLAMI), JUNAC, LAIA and SELA, while the activities on international trade and the environment will be effected in collaboration with programmes and units of the United Nations System, especially the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the formulation, execution and management of strategies and policies in the areas of foreign trade and international trade negotiations. In the case of some outputs, users will also include government authorities and officials concerned with international transport, mining and the environment.

Major users of the outputs in question will also comprise various private sector institutions such as producers' and exporters' associations, Chambers of Trade, labour and professional organizations, and other promotion and development bodies concerned with the subject areas in question.

The outputs of the subprogramme will also be used by regional and subregional bodies, academic institutions, research centres, and other bodies concerned with technical cooperation.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the supply of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

1. Activities

Subject area 2.1: Convergence of the integration process: economic, regulatory and institutional aspects

a) Non-recurrent publications

Two annual reports on the past evolution and future prospects of the integration process in Latin America and the Caribbean, each dealing with the following matters: i) evolution of intraregional trade and investment; ii) nature of trade: intra-industry trade; iii) the internationalization of Latin American and Caribbean companies; iv) convergence of the regional regulatory framework; and v) convergence of social regulation policies.

b) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the evolution and future prospects of the regional integration process.

c) Intermediate activities

Support for the hemispheric integration process. At the Summit of the Americas, held in Miami, U.S.A., in December 1994, the Heads of State and Government agreed, inter alia, to set up the "Free Trade Area of the Americas" by the year 2005, and the OAS, the IDB and ECLAC were requested to support Governments in their efforts to attain that objective. These three institutions have been working together to fulfil that mandate and will assuredly continue to do so during the two years covered by this Programme of Work.

Subject area 2.2: Intraregional investments: the internationalization of Latin American companies

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

An expert meeting to compare open regionalism in Latin America and in Asia, especially as regards the behaviour of small and medium-sized firms.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on Asian experiences of open regionalism: intraregional investment, associations between firms, and technological innovation.

ii) A study on the role of smaller firms in the regional and subregional integration schemes of Latin America and the Caribbean.

c) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the experiences of small and medium-sized firms in regional and subregional integration schemes.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 2.3: The social dimension of regional integrationa) Non-recurrent publications

A study on social aspects, benefits and costs of the integration process, with particular reference to employment and social security.

b) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the social dimension of regional integration.

Subject area 2.4: Regional transport infrastructure and servicesa) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Regional expert meeting to consider options as regards institutional frameworks and market mechanisms which will make it possible to achieve and maintain a competitive balance between rail and road transport modes.

ii) An expert meeting on international transport intermediation in Latin America and the Caribbean and its linkages with global support services.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the consequences of the various forms of railway privatization and granting of track maintenance concessions in terms of inter-modal splits and the efficiency of the land transport sector in Latin America.

ii) An analysis of the possible effects of competition in expanded markets on the evolution of land transport services in terms of technology and business organization.

iii) A study on factors favouring competition in transport intermediation services markets.

c) Intermediate activities

Support for the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Latin American Railways Association (ALAF) and the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works with regard to regional transport infrastructure and services.

The execution of the activities referred to in a) ii) and b) iii) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close contact with SELA, the IDB and the OAS, the secretariats of the various integration bodies of the region, and government and private bodies responsible for integration matters.

For the execution of the activities connected with the regional transport infrastructure and services, close cooperation will be maintained with LAIA, ALAF and the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with regional integration and cooperation, as well as—in the case of some outputs—those concerned with regional transport.

Other main users of the outputs will be regional and subregional integration and cooperation bodies, academic institutions, research centres, and various private-sector organizations such as producers' associations, Chambers of Trade, and labour, professional and technical bodies concerned with the subjects in question.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of technical cooperation, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: PRODUCTIVE, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT

Presentation

By the end of the present decade, most of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will have completed and consolidated the stabilization process and will have made progress in restructuring their economies. The main challenge will then be to speed up the rate of growth: a situation where their status as late-developing countries enables them to leapfrog some stages of technology and thus move more rapidly towards the frontier of international production possibilities. Such a strategy involves identifying the most suitable of the best practices and technologies available internationally, adapting them to local conditions, and rapidly spreading them among the economies of the region. In order to carry out this process, an adequate and growing infrastructure in the fields of science, technology and extension facilities will also be required.

At the same time, the systemic nature of the efforts needed in order to increase productivity makes it necessary for the countries of the region to implement micro- and mesoeconomic policies designed to support the modernization of their enterprises, including microenterprises and peasant production units, and to heighten the efficiency of the entrepreneurial environment in such areas as, for example, physical infrastructure, training systems, and the capital market.

Furthermore, since the Latin American and Caribbean region has an abundant endowment of natural resources, its development path will necessarily include a form of industrialization based on use of its available natural resources, together with expansion of the activities which tend to grow up around this production base. Areas of special interest in this respect include production complexes structured around fisheries, forestry, mining, energy resources and agriculture.

Lastly, designing a production development policy calls for in-depth analysis of the behaviour of various types of enterprises, ranging from small and medium-sized enterprises to large transnational corporations. The latter are the main factor in the current globalization and reordering of international markets and are also decisive agents in the process of technological innovation which is under way.

The general objectives of this subprogramme are to collaborate with the countries of the region in the analysis and implementation of policies and actions designed to strengthen the technological dimension of production activities, to increase competitiveness, to overcome bottlenecks in key production factor markets, and to stimulate entrepreneurial development; to contribute to a better knowledge of production complexes structured around natural resources, with a view to identifying suitable policies for strengthening and developing them; and to analyse in greater depth the behaviour of the various types of enterprises, ranging from small and medium-sized enterprises to large transnational corporations, with special attention to the potential contribution of the latter to the economic development of the countries of the region. A further objective is to support the countries of the region in their efforts to increase the overall efficiency of the urban and interurban transport infrastructure.

The activities planned for the 1998-1999 biennium fall under eight subject areas. The first five subject areas cover activities relating to production dynamics and the design of competitiveness policies in the countries of the region; the potential of production complexes structured around natural resources; the analysis of changes in the markets for factors of production and their interrelations with

macro-, meso- and microeconomic aspects, population dynamics, and technological development; the development of technological innovation systems and their adaptation to the requirements of competitiveness and international linkages; and the factors determining the behaviour of key agents such as transnational corporations, national groups, and small and medium-sized enterprises.

The sixth and last subject area covers activities relating to urban and interurban transport, a sector in which major problems are foreseen because of the greater demands that will be placed on a physical infrastructure that cannot be greatly expanded in the short term.

1. Activities

Subject area 3.1: Analysis of production dynamics and design of competitiveness policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Expert meeting to analyse changes in the industrial structure and international competitiveness of the region.

ii) Expert meeting to consider proposed industrial competitiveness policies.

iii) Expert meeting to analyse the results of the study on the competitive status of the countries of the region in the area of agricultural and agroindustrial products.

iv) Expert meeting to analyse the conclusions of the studies on the role of transnational corporations in the promotion of exports.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Four analytical studies on changes in the industrial structure and international competitiveness of the region, with emphasis on proposals for competitiveness policies.

ii) A study on the competitive status of the countries of the region in the area of agricultural and agroindustrial products.

iii) Two case studies on transnational corporations, foreign investment and foreign trade, in countries or sectors yet to be determined.

iv) A document containing a summary analysis and conclusions on transnational corporations, foreign investment and foreign trade.

v) A comparative study of national strategies and policies with regard to foreign direct investment and its impact on the international competitiveness of the recipient economies.

c) Technical material

Annual updating of two computer programs: CAN (Analysis of the competitiveness of countries) and PADI (Programme for the analysis of industrial dynamics).

d) Operational activitiesi) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with industrial restructuring and competitiveness policies.

ii) Group training

- Cooperation with government bodies and academic institutions of countries of the region which so request for the organization of training courses or workshops on the use of the CAN and PADI computer programs.

- Cooperation with government bodies and academic institutions of countries of the region which so request in the holding of post-graduate courses on subjects related with industrial restructuring and international competitiveness.

e) Intermediate activities

i) Formulation of a regional-scope project on the performance and incidence of small and medium-sized firms in industry and agriculture, and their effects on environmental sustainability.

ii) Formulation of a regional-scope project to analyse changes in industrial competitiveness policies and make alternative proposals in this respect.

The execution of operational activities and of those referred to in a) iv), b) iii), b) iv) and b) v) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.2: Potential of natural resource-based production complexes

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Expert meeting to analyse the impact of the expansion of natural resource-based production complexes on the development process and competitiveness of the region.

ii) Expert meeting to consider the design of policies to promote the development of rural production with linkages to medium-sized cities.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two studies on the potential of natural resource-based production complexes —such as supply and processing industries and services, or industries and services with linkages based on similar

technological or management structures— with a view to identifying suitable policies for strengthening the production complexes being developed in the region.

ii) A study on the development of rural production with linkages to medium-sized cities.

c) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with industrial development based on the processing of natural resources.

ii) Group training

Cooperation with government bodies and academic institutions of countries of the region that so request, for the holding of post-graduate courses on subjects related to the above.

d) Intermediate activities

i) Five case studies on the development of rural production with linkages to medium-sized cities, in spatial areas yet to be determined.

ii) Formulation of a regional-scope project on development based on the industrial processing of natural resources.

A project on the development of rural production with linkages to medium-sized cities is scheduled to be put into effect during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities and of those referred to in a) ii) and d) i) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.3: Analysis of changes in factor markets in the region and their relation with macro-, meso- and microeconomic aspects, population dynamics, and technological development

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to consider the reasons for changes in factor markets in the region and to make suggestions for the formulation of policies in this respect.

b) Recurrent publications

Inversión extranjera en América Latina y el Caribe: annual publication (one issue in each year of the biennium).

c) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the factor markets of the region, with emphasis on the identification and analysis of the reasons for the changes observed in these markets. Special attention will be devoted to the relations with macro-, meso- and microeconomic aspects, population dynamics, and technological development.

ii) Two documents updating information on the legal framework for foreign investment in Latin America and the Caribbean and statistical data on such investment (one document in each year of the biennium).

iii) Two reports on transnational corporations and foreign investment, in areas yet to be determined.

d) Technical material

Development and updating of the data base on foreign investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, which covers both the legal framework and statistical data.

Subject area 3.4: Technological innovation systems in the region and their adaptation to the requirements of competitiveness and international linkages

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse the studies on technological innovation systems to meet the requirements of the competitiveness and international linkages of the region.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two case studies on transnational corporations and their impact on technological modernization and improvement of the international competitiveness of the economies of the region.

ii) Two studies on technological innovation and technology transfer systems, one dealing with the industrial sector and the other with agriculture.

c) Intermediate activities

Five case studies on technological innovation systems to meet the requirements of selected countries of the region in terms of competitiveness and international linkages.

A project on systems of technological innovation and technology transfer is scheduled to be put into effect during the biennium.

Subject area 3.5: Factors determining the behaviour of key agents such as transnational corporations, national groups and small and medium-sized companies

a) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the impact of changes in the strategies of transnational corporations on the economies of the region.

ii) A study on the internationalization of Latin American companies through investment abroad, both inside and outside the region.

iii) A study on the dynamics of small and medium-sized companies in the region.

iv) A study on new conditioning factors (both external and internal) and policy criteria for maximizing the contribution of transnational corporations to the development of their host economies.

b) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with policy options for maximizing the contribution of transnational corporations to development.

Subject area 3.6: Urban and interurban transport

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

An expert meeting to analyse the transport policies applied and the solutions found for urban congestion in the major urban areas of the region.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study evaluating the impact of the growth of cargo and passenger flows on the development of the urban centres in question.

ii) A comparative evaluation of the options for improving urban transport in the region by investments in extra physical capacity or measures to change the spatial, modal or temporal breakdown of demand.

c) Intermediate activities

Support for the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works and the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) on matters connected with urban and interurban transport.

The execution of the activity referred to in b) ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to in d) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with government, academic and private sector bodies concerned with the subjects in question, as well as with FAO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNDP and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). Mutual collaboration relations will also be maintained with various international and regional bodies such as the World Bank, IDB and SELA.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the activities in question, periodic consultations will also be effected with other international, regional and subregional bodies.

Lastly, in the execution of activities in the area of urban and interurban transport, close cooperation will be maintained with the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works and with SIECA.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials, especially those concerned with the analysis, design and implementation of policies concerning the production, technological and entrepreneurial development of industry and agriculture, foreign investment and transnational corporations, and technological innovation systems. In the case of some outputs, users will also include government authorities and officials concerned with urban and interurban transport.

Major users of the outputs will also include various private sector institutions such as business, labour and professional organizations, universities and other academic and research institutions, and centres for the development and dissemination of technology.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 4: ECONOMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND POLICIES

Presentation

The Governments of the region are carrying out important reforms and implementing macroeconomic and institutional policies which aim to introduce new ways of operating into their economies. The ECLAC secretariat collaborates with them in their analysis, in monitoring the results and in the expansion of their information systems, in order to improve public and private decision-making and the evaluation of results. In the macroeconomic sphere, it monitors policy in order to produce the Economic Survey, the Economic Panorama and the Preliminary Overview, which, as they are based on comparable information, are the most up-to-date sources of macroeconomic assessment available in the region.

Examination of fiscal, monetary and exchange rate reforms and of the corresponding policies is carried out in close collaboration with Governments, and allows conclusions to be drawn on successes, difficulties and challenges. In this respect, it is expected that over the coming years increasing attention will need to be paid to policies which strengthen domestic capacity to generate financial resources intended for investment, and also allow the institutions and instruments which channel those resources into the accumulation of capital to function smoothly.

The main objectives of the programme are: i) drawing up a systematic account of the application of economic policies and reforms and evaluating their impact on the performance of the region's economies; ii) participating actively with Governments in the formulation of those policies and reforms; and iii) improving the collection, processing and dissemination of the economic statistics needed to take decisions in the public and private sectors.

The programme of work for the 1998-1999 biennium consists of five subject areas. The first two areas cover activities relating to analysis of economic trends in Latin America and the Caribbean and of development strategies and economic and social policies in the region. The third covers activities relating to saving, investment and finance, while the fourth concerns the management of information for development.

The fifth and last subject area comprises activities related to analysis of the developed economies of the hemisphere and their incidence on the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

1. Activities

Subject area 4.1: Overall and sectoral analysis of the performance of the Latin American and Caribbean economies

Recurrent publications

- a) Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1997-1998
- b) Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1998-1999

This publication is prepared annually and basically comprises two parts. Part One is devoted to a global overview of the recent evolution of Latin America and the Caribbean and analyses the changes that have taken place in the region in the context of the international economy, as well as economic policy, structural problems affecting the various types of economies, evolution of the level of activity, total supply and demand, performance in terms of investment, saving and consumption, inflation, employment and wages, and the external sector. Part Two contains reports on individual countries of the region, for each of which a systematic analysis of its economic evolution is presented. The publication is accompanied by a set of statistical tables, distributed in the form of diskettes, providing information on growth, employment, foreign trade, the balance of payments, external indebtedness, prices, wages, and monetary and fiscal accounts. Each April, a brief preliminary report is prepared on the economic evolution of the region during the previous year (primarily for submission to the Economic and Social Council), which serves as a preview of the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean.

- c) Economic Panorama of Latin America, 1998
- d) Economic Panorama of Latin America, 1999

This report, which is published in September of each year, contains a brief but systematic analysis of the region's economic performance and current policies, as well as a set of key statistical tables on trends during the first half of the year in economic growth, unemployment, the external sector, inflation, wages and salaries, and other significant economic variables in the nine or ten largest economies of the region.

- e) Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1998
- f) Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1999

The Preliminary Overview, which is published at the end of each year, describes and assesses the region's economic performance during the year. It presents the latest detailed information on the comparative evolution of the macroeconomic variables of the region as a whole and of most of the countries in it. This publication is presented at an annual press conference held by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC at the end of December.

Subject area 4.2: Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Expert meeting to analyse the conclusions of the document on economic reforms and their incidence on strategies for changing production patterns with social equity.

ii) Expert meeting to analyse the conclusions of the document on productivity trends in the economies of the region and their effects on the macroeconomic variables.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on economic reforms and their incidence on strategies for changing production patterns with social equity. Special attention will be given to analysis of privatization processes and their effects on global and sectoral investment, as well as the nature and functioning of new institutions set up to regulate privatized enterprises in sectors which are natural monopolies.

ii) A study on economic policies designed to help withstand external shocks, with emphasis on the analysis of fluctuations in capital flows in highly volatile situations and their impact on the domestic economy in such aspects as the exchange rate, saving, and stability of the banking sector.

iii) A study on productivity trends in the economies of the region and their effects on the macroeconomic variables, especially economic growth, employment and the balance of payments. Special attention will be given to policies designed to raise productivity through the creation of highly skilled, high-income jobs.

iv) A study on social expenditure and its capacity to increase equity in Latin American societies without upsetting macroeconomic stability. Special emphasis will be placed on the analysis of expenditure on education and health and its impact on the fiscal accounts, income distribution and the reduction of poverty.

c) Technical material

Organization, development and maintenance of a data bank on various aspects connected with economic development.

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

i) Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the identification of policies to promote investment and productivity, deal with problems of financial flows, increase equity through social policies, and design suitable institutions for facilitating these aims.

ii) It is expected that in the course of the biennium two lines of work will continue to be developed in critical areas of economic policy: the first, on improved implementation of fiscal policies

(revenues, expenditure, tax administration and institutional aspects); the second, on decentralization of public finances. Both lines of work are consistent with support for a second phase of economic reforms.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 4.3: Saving, investment and financing

a) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) A document analysing and evaluating economic policies designed to promote national saving.

ii) A study on national experiences in attracting funds and their intermediation in financing investment, with special reference to banks and investment funds.

iii) A study on innovative national experiences in financing policies to deal with basic social needs in a specific area yet to be determined: either health financing systems or systems for financing low-cost housing.

b) **Operational activities**

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with policies designed to increase national saving and promote the development of banks and investment funds, and in aspects connected with financing health and housing policies.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to in a) iii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 4.4: Information management for development

a) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) A document on trends in information and communications technologies and industries and their impact on development (this document is planned to be made available in electronic format also).

ii) A document on the situation and trends in the formulation and application of public policies connected with development of the information sector.

iii) A study on the interrelations between information management, public management and reform of the State.

b) Operational activitiesi) Advisory activities

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region or regional cooperation and integration bodies that request them, in connection with information management and modernization of the organization of public management in the sphere of information.

ii) Group training

- Three national seminars on information management.

- Two intensive training workshops on specialized aspects and techniques of information management.

c) Intermediate activities

i) Support for the inter-divisional preparation of information/technological outputs of high added value disseminated through the latest information media (CD-ROM disks, data bases and INTERNET pages) under the auspices of the Information Management Committee.

ii) Monitoring of the regional and international situation as regards information management; provision of guidance and information services on current policies, upcoming issues and innovative experiences in the area of information systems (including intensive use of INTERNET).

A project on new trends in information management, including appropriate training, is scheduled to be put into effect during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 4.5: Analysis of the developed economies of the hemisphere and their incidence on the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two annual information notes on the United States economy (English only).

ii) Two annual information notes on the Canadian economy (English only).

iii) Two annual information notes on the Puerto Rican economy.

b) Information material and services

CEPAL News (24 issues): monthly publication in English by the ECLAC Office in Washington, D.C.

c) Intermediate activities

i) Distribution of ECLAC documents through the ECLAC Office in Washington, D.C.

ii) Collection, analysis and transmission of information from the ECLAC Washington Office to ECLAC headquarters, subregional headquarters and local offices.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in consultation with various programmes and units of the United Nations system, as well as with other international, regional and subregional bodies, depending on the subject areas involved.

For the execution of the activities relating to analysis of the economies and economic policies of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, especially the activities for preparing the Economic Survey, the Economic Panorama, and the Preliminary Overview, regular contacts will be maintained with government institutions of the countries of the region. These three publications will serve, in turn, as inputs for the work of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA), especially for the preparation of that Department's World Economic Survey.

Activities in the area of saving, investment and finance will mainly be carried out under the ECLAC/UNDP Joint Regional Project.

Activities in the area of information management for development will be carried out through consultations with regional integration bodies such as the Central American Integration System (SICA), SIECA and the Institute for Latin American Integration (INTAL), as well as with the Latin American Centre for Development Administration (CLAD) and the Central American Institute of Public Administration (ICAP).

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be Ministries of Economic Affairs and Finance, economic and social planning offices, universities and other academic institutions, libraries, researchers and academics concerned with economic and social development issues, international economic and financial bodies, and other interested parties.

The Economic Panorama and Preliminary Overview are publications that receive intensive utilization both inside and outside the region. Among their main users are government authorities and officials, international bodies, banks and other private sector bodies, economic research institutes and centres and, in general, all those institutions, executives and researchers who need timely access to information and indicators and analyses of them in order to keep abreast of economic trends in the countries of the region.

The Economic Survey will also be used by universities and academic institutions, which routinely include it in the bibliographies of their study programmes.

These three studies will be given very broad distribution through an updated mailing list of institutions and individuals. The national and international communications media are important recipients of these publications, since they help to expand their dissemination and impact. They will also be on sale to the general public.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of technical cooperation, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in governmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 5: SOCIAL UNDERPINNING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**Presentation**

The main challenges on Governments' new social agenda include confronting the social consequences of the recession of the 1980s, reforming social security, education and health institutions and policies, and strengthening human capital in order to underpin economic development.

The ECLAC secretariat, through various activities, has helped the countries of the region to meet these challenges better. In collaboration with their Governments, the secretariat analyses health, education and social security reforms and discusses new policy proposals. Particular attention has been given to the subject of education and to policies geared to strengthening human capital in the region in the medium and long term. The secretariat has exerted itself to assist in developing national capabilities for producing timely and reliable information on poverty, children, youth, the family and gender. It has also established a data bank which can provide up-to-the-minute information on a wide variety of topics. The Social Panorama produced by ECLAC is also a pioneering publication in policy evaluation and analysis of Governments' social agendas.

The general objectives of this subprogramme are to support the Governments of the region in the design and monitoring of social policies and of social policy reform and adjustment. There is a permanent need for evaluation and adjustment, given the innovative social reform efforts being made in the region. Other objectives pursued by this subprogramme are to provide analyses of the social, economic and institutional effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs and to propose integrated intersectoral strategies for tackling them.

The work programme for the biennium 1998-1999 consists of five subject areas. The first four areas deal with the execution of activities connected with the formulation, management and assessment of social policies, programmes and projects; diagnostic studies of the social situation of the population as a whole and of specific groups, with special attention to poverty; the impact of economic and social development policies on well-being and equity; analysis of the effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs, and integrated strategies to tackle them; and social statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean. The fifth and final subject area deals with the activities to be carried out in connection with the integration of women into Latin American and Caribbean development.

1. Activities

Subject area 5.1: Formulation, management and evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects

a) **Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings**

Meeting of government authorities to analyse the successes and limitations of social policy reforms.

b) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Expert meeting to analyse the successes and limitations of social policy reforms.

c) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) Four comparative studies of policy reforms, especially in the education and health sectors, with emphasis on analysis of aspects relating to increases in coverage and equity, improvements in quality, and decentralization. These studies will be published in the Políticas sociales series.

ii) Two studies on changes in the public-private mix and the generation of quasi-market mechanisms in the provision of social services.

iii) Two studies on the effects of sectoral reforms on the productivity of national human capital in selected countries of the region.

iv) Two comparative studies of management reforms in the provision of social services.

d) **Operational activities**

i) **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services, to member countries that request them, in connection with the evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects.

ii) **Group training**

- Organization of two regional courses on the evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects, for a selected group of government technicians and university professors working in the area of social projects.

- Organization of national training courses on methods for the formulation and evaluation of social programmes and projects, for government technical staff (it is planned to hold four courses during the biennium).

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 5.2: Diagnostic studies of the social situation of the population as a whole and of specific groups, with emphasis on poverty

- a) **Recurrent publications**
 - i) **Social Panorama of Latin America, 1998**
 - ii) **Social Panorama of Latin America, 1999**

This publication is prepared annually as a joint project of the Social Development Division and the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. Its emphasis is on current aspects, but it also takes a medium-term view, its main subject areas being employment, income distribution, poverty and social expenditure, together with measurements of inequality between economic and social strata, between the sexes, and between rural and urban areas of residence, both in terms of living conditions and opportunities of social mobility. It also includes a social agenda in which the issues of a social nature of greatest importance in the public and political debates of the various countries of the region are analysed in order to identify the different priority issues and the attitudes taken to them. Each issue of the **Social Panorama** also deals in greater depth with a selected central topic.

During the biennium, an effort will be made to gradually increase the number of countries dealt with, to update the information with the most recent available figures, and to cover the most outstanding aspects of social development, especially those relating to social policies (education, health, social security and housing) and trends in social stratification. Increasing efforts will be made to expand the range of basic information sources.

With regard to the sources of statistical information, the processing of household surveys will be updated and given greater continuity, and efforts will be made to incorporate other types of information available in the region, mainly through the reprocessing of administrative records.

- a) **Operational activities**

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to member countries that request them, in connection with methods for the collection and analysis of statistical information for the preparation or updating of social diagnostic studies.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 5.3: Effects of economic and social development policies on well-being and equity

- a) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Expert meeting on economic and social changes, critical obstacles in the human capital and labour markets, and their effects on well-being and equity.

b) Non-recurrent publications

Two studies on the effects of economic and social development policies on well-being and equity, with emphasis on proposals for active instruments to make it possible to overcome critical obstacles in the main human capital and labour markets.

Subject area 5.4: Analysis of the effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs, and integrated strategies for combatting them

a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Meeting of government authorities to decide on integrated and intersectoral strategies to deal with the drug problem.

b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse and typify the social, economic and institutional contexts and impacts of the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs.

c) Non-recurrent publications

Three studies on the social, economic and institutional effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs. Special attention will be paid to the characterization of these effects in the light of such dimensions as violence, disintegration of the family, erosion of governance and macroeconomic incidence, and various programmes which are being applied in the countries of the region will be evaluated in order to put forward proposals for integrated and intersectoral strategies for dealing with these problems.

Subject area 5.5: Integration of women into Latin American and Caribbean development

a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

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 (two meetings are scheduled during the biennium).

b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meetings to consider priority issues arising from the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean (two meetings are scheduled during the biennium).

c) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings

Inter-agency meetings with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies (two meetings are scheduled during the biennium).

d) Non-recurrent publications

i) Reports of activities by the Secretariat and substantive documentation for the meetings of the Presiding Officers.

ii) Four issues in the series Mujer y desarrollo, dealing with issues arising from the expert meetings.

e) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the design of policies and the creation and strengthening of institutions relating to the integration of women in development.

ii) Group training

Provision of support, at the request of the countries concerned, for training activities on gender-related issues and development carried out by government bodies, non-governmental organizations, universities and academic centres.

f) Intermediate activities

i) Documentation and reports of the meetings of the Presiding Officers.

ii) Reports for presentation at inter-agency meetings of the United Nations system.

iii) Studies on specific matters which serve to strengthen the links between women's issues and the work of the ECLAC system.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will mainly be carried out in close collaboration with government institutions concerned with the social area and with the OAS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA and PAHO. There will also be increasingly close collaboration with the World Bank and the IDB.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the activities involved, specific relations will also be maintained with other international, regional and subregional bodies. Thus, for example, activities in respect of analysis of the effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs and integrated strategies to tackle them will be carried out within the framework of the Global Programme of Action on International Cooperation Against the Illicit Production, Supply, Demand, Trafficking and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and in close collaboration with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and government bodies with responsibilities in this area.

Lastly, In the area of the integration of women into development, collaboration will continue with various bodies of the United Nations system, especially the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). Close collaboration will also be maintained with specialized bodies of the United Nations at the regional level, especially for the coordination of activities relating to women.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the formulation, execution and management of policies, programmes and projects in the social area and those related to the integration of women into development.

Other major users of the outputs will include regional and subregional bodies, universities and other academic institutions, research centres, and other non-governmental bodies and organizations concerned with the subject areas in question.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of informational material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 6: STRATEGIC ADMINISTRATION AND STATE REFORM**Presentation**

Increasing the positive impact of public action on the efficiency and effectiveness of the economic system as a whole requires, among other things, an improvement in the quality of public administration and, accordingly, adaptation of State institutions. It also demands a stable and predictable context which favours the development of private activity. Thus, strengthening the institutions which encourage development, and improving the State's administrative capacity and modernizing the State are matters of priority for the programme of work.

The general objectives of this subprogramme are, first, to highlight the need for Governments and societies, working in tandem, to develop sustained support by society for economic and social change; and, secondly, to promote a medium-term strategic view which combines the technical and political dimensions and promotes the implementation of policies based on consensus-building and civic participation in relation to such change.

The subprogramme focuses on three main areas. One, more global in nature, covers the interaction of economic reforms and strategic public administration, with an emphasis on the development of new institutional capacities to match emergent public functions. The second relates to public policy design and optimization, and to the development of methodologies and procedures of evaluation at the various levels of government. The third concentrates on the analysis of organizational innovation and the experiences of institutional development which accompany, on the one hand, regional and local decentralization processes and, on the other, deregulation of economic activity and establishment of regulatory frameworks for sectors which are not naturally competitive.

The activities programmed for 1998-1999 include the tasks entrusted to the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning. These tasks are grouped in five subject areas which cover the execution of activities —mainly in the fields of training, applied research and advisory services— relating to public sector programming, decentralization and development, regional policies and planning, investment projects and programming, and cooperation among the planning bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Two other subject areas have been added. The first covers activities relating to changes in the management of mining resources in the countries of the region and reform of the energy sector in Latin America and the Caribbean. The second deals with institutional aspects of development.

1. Activities

Subject area 6.1: Public sector programming

a) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the follow-up and organization of the economic reforms under way in the countries of the region.

ii) A review of methods for evaluating budget policy.

iii) A study on the institutional framework and organizational arrangements for the regulation of public services.

b) Information material and services

Brochures on the International Course on Economic Reforms and Strategic Public Management (one issue in each year of the biennium).

c) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, on matters connected with public sector programming.

ii) Group training

International Courses on Economic Reforms and Strategic Public Management, each for approximately 35 middle- and upper-level government officials of the economic area and participants from universities of the countries of the region (one course in each year of the biennium).

d) Intermediate activities

Promotion of courses, selection of participants, design of curricula, organization and preparation of teaching material, design of workshops and seminars, and direction and coordination of the courses.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.2: Decentralization and development**a) Technical meetings**

Two technical seminars in preparation for training activities on decentralization and development (one in each year of the biennium).

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two studies on local economic development.

ii) Two documents on development, strategic consensus-building and generation of employment.

iii) Two studies on decentralization and citizen participation.

c) Operational activities**i) Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with decentralization, promotion of local production and economic development, and strategic consensus-building for the generation of productive employment.

ii) Group training

- Two international courses on decentralization, economic development and strategic consensus-building (one in each year of the biennium).

- A seminar on decentralization and citizen participation in Chile.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.3: Regional policies and planning**a) Technical meetings**

i) A technical meeting on local development experiences in Latin America and Spain.

ii) A technical meeting on culture, social actors and regional development.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the engineering of territorial planning.

ii) A comparative study on the results of regional development strategies in a country of the region.

iii) A study on the present state of decentralization processes in Latin America and the Caribbean.

c) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with regional development management.

ii) Group training

Two five-week international courses, entitled Integrated Laboratory on the Design of Regional Strategies (LIDER), for approximately 30 participants per course (one course to be given in each year of the biennium).

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.4: Investment projects and programming

a) Technical meetings

i) A technical meeting on information systems for local management.

ii) A technical meeting on harmonizing public and private investments.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the identification, preparation and evaluation of social programmes at the local level.

ii) A document on new approaches in investment programming.

iii) A study on the identification, preparation and evaluation of tourism projects.

iv) A study on household solid waste projects which incorporate evaluation of the environmental impact.

c) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with investment programming and methods for the preparation and evaluation of projects and programmes.

ii) Group training

Two international courses on the identification, preparation and evaluation of investment projects at the local level.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.5: Cooperation among planning bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Intergovernmental meetings

Organization and substantive and technical servicing of meetings of national planning bodies: i) tenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean; ii) eleventh meeting of the Regional Council for Planning, and iii) twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning.

b) Non-recurrent publications

Four issues of the Boletín del Instituto (two in each year of the biennium).

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.6: Changes in the management of mining resources and reform of the energy sector in Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse changes in the management of mining resources in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on changes in the management of mining resources in the region, with emphasis on analysis of the new role of the State and of national and foreign private investment.

ii) A study on the regulation of the energy markets of the region in the later 1990s, centred on analysis of the changes in the organizations and institutional structure of those markets. Special attention will be paid to the new regulatory frameworks for electricity and hydrocarbons, the role assumed by government bodies dealing with the energy sector, and changes in the entrepreneurial structure of the sector.

iii) A study on the markets and regulations in the energy sector in Mexico and Central America.

iv) A study on public management in the energy sector in small Central American countries.

c) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the management of mining resources.

d) Intermediate activities

Support for the Latin American Mining Organization (OLAMI) regarding the management of mining resources, and to the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), regarding the management and regulation of the energy sector.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity outlined in a) iv) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 6.7: Institutional aspects of development in Latin America and the Caribbeana) Technical meetings

A technical meeting on experiences relating to institutional aspects of development policies.

b) Non-recurrent publications

A study on the analysis of institutional aspects of development and the consolidation of institutional influences on changing production patterns with social equity in the region.

c) Technical material

Technical documents on national and sectoral experiences as input for the analysis of institutional aspects of development and the institutional influences on changing production patterns with social equity in the region.

d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, on institutional aspects of development in the region.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The activities of this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with the national planning bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as with universities and research centres,

private sector bodies, and non-governmental organizations concerned with public policy planning and coordination.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the activities concerned, specific relations will also be maintained with other bodies. In this respect, activities in the area of public sector programming will be carried out in close collaboration with the International Institute for Public Administration (IIAP) of the French Government, the General Secretariat for Planning and the Budget of the Spanish Government, and the Inter-American Public Budget Association (ASIP).

In the area of social policies and programmes, the activities will be carried out in collaboration with ILO and FLACSO.

Activities in respect of changes in the management of mining resources in the countries of the region will be carried out in collaboration with Ministries of Mining and national bodies representing the private sector, in coordination with OLAMI, and in close collaboration with OLADE. The studies which refer to the subregion of Mexico and Central America will be carried out in collaboration with the Central American Electrification Council, the Central Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and IDB.

Lastly, in the area of institutional aspects of development, relations will be maintained with intergovernmental and regional organizations which are working on the subject, particularly the OECD public administration programme.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the planning and coordination of economic and social policies at the national, regional, state and local levels, as well as those carrying out planning, programming and management activities in other public bodies and enterprises. In the case of some outputs, users will also include government authorities and officials concerned with the mining and energy sectors.

Major users of the outputs in question will also include various non-government institutions such as political groups and parties, business, labour and professional organizations, and universities and other academic and research institutions.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, provision of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 7: ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY**Presentation**

Concern for the environmental dimension of development has assumed growing importance on the international and regional agenda of leading issues, especially through recognition of the close mutual links that exist between development and the environment.

The strategic role that natural resources and energy will be called upon to play in the new phase of the region's development and industrialization will make it necessary to redouble efforts to ensure that the growing incorporation of natural resources into production, the management of such resources, and especially the technologies used are environmentally sustainable.

In this context, particular attention must be paid to such issues as the countries' capacity to manage their water, agricultural, mining and marine resources; the effects of changes in the regulatory framework governing the use of natural resources and the production and utilization of energy; control of wastes and pollution in environmentally vulnerable sectors; and the application of environmentally rational production technologies.

At the same time, since Latin America and the Caribbean are a predominantly urban region, the cities of the region present the challenge of promoting changing production patterns with equity and sustainability with a synergic potential that is indispensable for the implementation of that process, in spite of the long-standing or newly arising problems presented by urban concentration.

Likewise, proper management of the urban process calls for the strengthening of democratic local government at the various levels, so as to be able to mobilize a broad range of societal resources in favour of the replacement, expansion and modernization of urban infrastructures which are mostly inadequate and obsolete. Similarly, it will be necessary to increase the efficiency and efficacy of housing management in order to avoid further deterioration of the present housing deficit.

The main objectives of this subprogramme are to give support to the countries of the region in policy analysis and formulation and in the application of instruments designed to promote the environmentally sustainable development of natural resources and energy and to establish or strengthen the national and regional institutional machinery for protection of the environment, especially in priority areas such as environmental impact assessment and renovated territorial planning; to contribute to a better knowledge of the conditions and trends in respect of human settlements in the region and to help the countries to strengthen balanced and integrated systems of human settlements, to improve housing, infrastructure and services, and to achieve proper management of the urban process; and to promote the exchange of experience among the countries of the region in these subject areas.

The programme of work for the 1998-1999 biennium comprises seven subject areas. The first six subject areas deal with the execution of activities relating to evaluation of the implementation of Agenda 21; policies for conserving the biodiversity of the countries of the region; instruments for environmental management, sustainable development, and environmentally-oriented systems of territorial planning; energy and sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean; environmentally sustainable development of water resources; and technical support for the negotiation and application of international and regional legal instruments regarding the environment and natural resources.

Lastly, the seventh subject area covers planned activities in the field of the structure, dynamics and sustainability of human settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean.

1. Activities

Subject area 7.1: Evaluation of the implementation of Agenda 21

a) Non-recurrent publications

A study on policies for environmental sustainability in production sectors and evaluation of the implementation of Agenda 21.

b) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with technologies relating to sustainable development, especially environmentally appropriate waste handling, and the dissemination of advances made in this field.

ii) Group training

Organization of two regional courses, for public officials and persons responsible for environmental aspects in the production sector, on the application of principles and strategies for environmentally appropriate waste handling, including the treatment of dangerous wastes.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.2: Policies for conservation of the biodiversity of the Latin American and Caribbean countries

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to examine the economic effects on the countries of the region of the negotiations on the regulation, management and conservation of biodiversity.

b) Non-recurrent publications

Two studies on policies for conservation of the biodiversity of the region, with special emphasis on environmental management instruments.

Subject area 7.3: Instruments for environmental management and sustainable development and systems of environment-oriented spatial planning

a) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) An analytical study, with proposals, on the development of systems for assessment of the environmental impact of projects, plans and programmes.

ii) A study on environment-oriented spatial planning in the context of the process of regionalization and transfer of responsibilities to local authorities. Special attention will be given to the incorporation of environmental concepts such as hydrographic basin management and environmental impact assessment in territorial planning.

b) **Operational activities**

i) **Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with systems of environmental impact assessment and environment-oriented territorial planning policies.

ii) **Group training**

Two courses for officials of public bodies and private business organizations on systems, regulations and efficient use of environmental impact assessment.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.4: Energy and sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean

a) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Expert meeting to analyse the challenges posed by sustainability of the energy sector in the region.

b) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) A study on the efficient use of energy in the Latin American and Caribbean countries. Special attention will be given to policies designed to rationalize energy use, in order to stimulate energy saving and increase the competitiveness of energy-intensive activities, and to the contents and instruments of international agreements relating to the sustainable development of this sector.

ii) A study on the formulation of energy policies for development which pursue the aims of social equity and environmental sustainability in the countries of the region, with emphasis on the development of new and renewable energy sources.

iii) A document on energy integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, related to a case study on a geographical area yet to be determined.

c) Intermediate activities

Support to the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) in the field of energy integration.

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the efficient use and environmentally sustainable development of energy.

The execution of operational activities and of those referred to in a) and b) ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.5: Environmentally sustainable development of water resources

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse and evaluate the processes of change in water legislation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the evolution of water legislation and experience in that respect in the region. Special attention will be given to systems and markets of water rights, financial costs and charges, user participation and organization of water rights administration at different levels, and environmental and water quality aspects.

ii) A study on policies for the management of water resources in hydrographic basins which include large urban concentrations, with emphasis on analysis of the way bodies responsible for multiple water use management operate and proposed guidelines for public policies to ensure sustainable development.

iii) A study on the application of economic instruments in water quality management.

iv) A study on the progress made in implementation of the agreements contained in Chapter 18 of Agenda 21.

c) Information material and services

i) Newsletter of the Network for Cooperation in Integrated Water Resources Management for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (four issues are scheduled during the biennium).

c) Intermediate activities

Technical support for meetings of government experts to analyse the draft regional agreement on the Basel Convention.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.7: Structure, dynamics and sustainability of human settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (held every two years).

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the situation, characteristics and functions of the urban and rural human settlements of the region and their future trends and prospects.

ii) A study on the structure of the system of human settlements in the region, with emphasis on analysis of housing stocks and the quantitative and qualitative deficit in urban and housing infrastructure.

iii) A comparative study of the institutional and operational systems for the formulation and implementation of human settlements policies in the countries of the region.

c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with human settlements management, with particular attention to the design, application and follow-up of the relevant policies.

d) Intermediate activities

Support activities and preparation of documents for the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The execution of operational activities and of that referred to in b) ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

ii) Newsletter on watercourses and lakes shared between countries (one issue in each year of the biennium).

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with legislation, organization of relevant bodies and regulation of public services relating to water resources.

The execution of operational activities and of the activities referred to in b) i) and c) ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.6: Technical support for the negotiation and application of international and regional legal instruments concerning the environment and natural resources

a) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the application of Agenda 21 and international environmental agreements to representative coastal and marine ecosystems of Latin America and the Caribbean. An analysis will be made of the suitability of various chapters of Agenda 21 and of instruments such as the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other international agreements for supporting the efforts of the countries of the region to apply sustainable development strategies for coastal and marine areas.

ii) A study on the role of regional cooperation in minimizing the generation of dangerous wastes. An analysis will be made of the potential of the Latin American network of regional and subregional training and technology transfer centres provided for in the Basel Convention for supporting the adoption by the countries of the region of forms of sustainable production and consumption which will make it possible to reduce the generation of dangerous wastes.

iii) A study on the effectiveness of the Deep Sea Fisheries Agreement for protecting the fishery interests of Latin America and the Caribbean. An assessment will be made of the effectiveness of the Convention on the implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, signed in 1995, in the light of the economic and environmental components of the fishery assessment models developed during the previous biennium.

b) Operational activities

Advisory activities

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the application of chapters 9, 15, 16, 17, 20 and 39 of Agenda 21 and the related legal instruments and with regard to technical aspects of the establishment of the mining regime for the international seabed area.

SUBPROGRAMME 8: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**Presentation**

Population-related variables have become an object of renewed concern in the region at this stage in its history, which is marked by a progressive globalization of trade as part of a process that began when the countries moved to open up their own economies and forge new linkages with the world economy.

This interest in demographic factors is directly related to the obstacles which, within this new context, hinder efforts to attain greater social equity. The most formidable of these obstacles is the persistence of vast and expanding groups within the population that are at extreme risk. These groups, which include women, the elderly, children, youth, aboriginal peoples and small-scale agricultural producers, are all highly vulnerable to the hazards inherent in poverty and social neglect.

In addition, since poor people tend to have higher fertility rates, more unwanted children and much shorter life expectancies than other groups, they bring considerable pressure to bear on available resources in terms of the social services—in the areas of health, reproductive health and family planning, and education—required in order to break the vicious circle by which poverty is perpetuated.

Accordingly, the four objectives of this subprogramme are all directed towards promoting the use of population-related inputs in government actions aimed at enhancing environmental, spatial and social equity. This goal will be pursued through regional activities undertaken in conjunction with the Governments, measures designed to make the management of central social services and programmes more effective, and the provision of advisory services in the area of public administration to regional and local authorities.

The first objective of this subprogramme is to assist the countries of the region in their implementation and follow-up of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. This plan gives expression to the Governments' interest in carrying out regional activities in the areas of training, information exchange, research and the actual integration of population-related factors as another dimension of public policies designed to promote development.

As part of the effort to eliminate poverty among target groups, another major objective is to manage and pool socio-demographic information from a range of sources in order to enable the countries to administer central social services and programmes more effectively. The transfer of successful experiences among the countries of the region will serve as a basis for the orientation of this effort.

A third objective is to help respond to regional and local authorities' increasing need for autonomous capabilities in the area of public administration by strengthening the use of databases containing census information in combination with regional data and land-use referents.

The fourth objective is related to the increasingly important place which environmental variables will occupy on the regional agenda in the future, especially with regard to the use of population-related inputs in the implementation of environmental and land-use policy actions.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with programmes and units of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT).

Depending on the subject areas in question, links will also be maintained with other institutions.

Activities relating to water resources will be carried out in consultation with the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Water Resources Development Subcommittee of the United Nations Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), and other international bodies and agencies such as FAO, OAS, UNESCO, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), IDB and the World Bank. In the field of energy integration, cooperation with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) will continue.

Lastly, in aspects relating to marine resources, there will be a permanent system of consultations with the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, of the United Nations Secretariat; the Activity Centre of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme; the UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNESCO/ORCYT); the Caribbean and Adjoining Regions Association (IOCARIBE) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (COI); the FAO; the Chairman of the Latin American Group in the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-bed Authority and the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea; the various institutionalized fishery forums and intergovernmental bodies such as the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, and other bodies belonging to various subregions.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the authorities and government officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the areas of environmental management and sustainable development and the programming, coordination and management of natural resources and energy, as well as—in the case of some outputs—those concerned with human settlements.

Major users of the outputs will also include regional and subregional bodies, universities, academic and applied research centres, and other non-governmental bodies and organizations, especially those of a technical/professional, labour or business nature concerned with the subjects in question.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

The programme of work for the 1998-1999 biennium encompasses four subject areas. The first refers to collaboration with the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean in the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. The second deals with the incorporation of population variables into social policies, programmes and projects, especially those targeting priority groups. The third subject area relates to the use of multisectoral information for purposes of public administration at the regional level. The fourth and final area concerns the selection and use of population-related inputs in environmental and land-use policy actions.

Subject area 8.1: Collaboration with countries of the region in the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development

a) **Servicing of intergovernmental meetings**

i) Substantive servicing of the ECLAC Sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, including the preparation of technical documents for the annual follow-up of the Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development.

ii) Participation in, and execution of relevant preparations for, ad hoc working groups on matters connected with the follow-up of the Regional Plan of Action.

b) **Recurrent publications**

Annual publication of bibliographic databases on population, Latin American Population Documentation System (DOCPAL), on CD-ROM disks in place of the printed publication DOCPAL: Latin American Population Abstracts.

c) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) A study on experiences of the countries of the region in their preparations for the census round of the year 2000.

ii) Four issues of the publication Notas de Población.

iii) A study on the specific implications of integration in terms of migratory movements.

d) **Technical material**

i) Ongoing updating of the CELADE/DOCPAL bibliographic database on population.

ii) Development of the Latin American and Caribbean Population Information Network (IPALCA) by promoting the interconnection of national, regional and global networks in this field.

iii) Ongoing updating of the data bank of the Programme for the Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA).

iv) Ongoing maintenance of an up-to-date demographic database on the INTERNET.

e) Information materials and services

Action. Publication of a newsletter concerning activities in connection with the Regional Plan of

f) Operational activitiesi) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services upon request to countries of the region in regard to demographic analysis and preparations for the census round of the year 2000 and for applied research on international migration using updated information.

ii) Group training

- National, subregional or regional courses on demographic analysis for sectoral or regional development; these courses will be from two to four months in duration and will have a capacity of 25 professionals per course (it is anticipated that two courses will be conducted during the biennium).

- Cooperation with universities and non-governmental organizations of countries of the region upon request in the planning and incorporation of courses on population studies, including the preparation of teaching materials; in particular, assistance will be provided for the postgraduate course on population and development offered by the University of Chile with financial support from the United Nations Population Fund.

- In-service training for government officials in the use of methodologies that permit a better utilization of sources of data on international migration.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity identified in c) ii) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.2: Incorporation of population variables in social policies, programmes and projects aimed at priority groups

a) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on population, urban poverty and vulnerability in countries of the region.

ii) A study on selected aspects of reproductive health and their implications in terms of the status of women in Latin American and Caribbean countries (countries yet to be determined).

iii) A study on the status and needs of the elderly in selected countries of the region.

b) Operational activitiesi) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region upon request in connection with the incorporation of population variables into sectoral policies and programmes aimed at vulnerable groups such as adolescents, the elderly, and indigenous peoples.

ii) Group training

- Two workshops or seminars on population dynamics, development and poverty.

- In-service training for government officials in the use of methodologies that permit a better utilization of sources of demographic data for facilitating the design and implementation of sectoral policies.

c) Intermediate activities

Preparation of teaching materials regarding the operational incorporation of population variables into sectoral policies and programmes in the fields of education, health and housing for use in CELADE training activities and in support activities for programmes conducted by Governments, universities and non-governmental organizations.

The execution of operational activities and of the activities identified in a) ii) and a) iii) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.3: Use of multisectoral population data and associated technologies for purposes of public administration

a) Recurrent publications

Four issues of Demographic Bulletin.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two studies on computer software applications in the field of population which are of interest for purposes of public administration.

ii) A study on experiences with the incorporation of population variables into economic and social investment projects.

iii) Two reports on population estimates and projections, in coordination with institutions of countries of the region (institutions yet to be determined).

c) Technical material

i) Development of computer software applications to facilitate the use of multisectoral population data, with special reference to public administration at the local level, through the combined use of the system for the retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer and geographic information systems (WIN-REDATAM/GIS).

ii) Maintenance of a database on population trends at the country level.

iii) Maintenance of an up-to-date regional census and population survey data bank.

d) Information materials and services

REDATAM informa newsletter (two issues, in Spanish and English).

e) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services upon request to countries and national or regional bodies and institutions in connection with the preparation of population estimates and projections and the use of WIN-REDATAM/GIS computer applications for incorporating demographic information in the area of public administration at the national, regional and local levels or for supporting the intensive use of census and other population data for small areas. These services may also be provided at CELADE headquarters.

f) Intermediate activities

Support for networks of information system users working with multisectoral databases.

The execution of operational activities and of the activities identified in b) ii), b) iii) (in part), c) ii) and c) iii) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.4: Demographic analysis for the design, follow-up and assessment of environmental and land-use projects, programmes and policies

a) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on trends in the spatial distribution of the population and internal migration in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ii) A study on experiences with the incorporation of population variables into environmental sustainability programmes.

b) Technical material

Maintenance of an up-to-date database on region-wide population dynamics.

c) Operational activitiesi) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services upon request to countries of the region in connection with the incorporation of population variables in public land-use and environmental sustainability policies and programmes.

ii) Group training

In-service training for government officials in the use of methodologies that permit a better utilization of sources of demographic data for facilitating the design and implementation of environmental and land-use policies.

d) Intermediate activities

Preparation of a technical study for the biennial follow-up of the demographic aspects of Agenda 21.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity identified in a) ii) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close cooperation with programmes and units of the United Nations system, especially UNFPA, IDB, the United Nations Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, UNDP, the United Nations Population Division, the United Nations Statistical Division and the United Nations Population Information Network (POPIN), as well as with such specialized bodies as FAO, ILO, PAHO, UNESCO, UNICEF and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the authorities and government officials of the countries of the region, particularly those working on population-related questions in ministries of health, education and housing, and national statistical offices; other public and private agencies and bodies responsible for the design, execution and administration of programmes, policies and projects dealing with population-related issues; and national, regional and local bureaus concerned with economic and social development.

The outputs of this subprogramme will also be disseminated in universities and in academic and research centres as well as in other institutions concerned with subjects covered by this subprogramme.

Users will be reached through the distribution of publications and reports, contacts with relevant institutions established by means of technical assistance missions, the organization of courses, workshops and meetings, and in-service training of national officials; information will also be disseminated via electronic mail.

SUBPROGRAMME 9: STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS**Presentation**

In the near future the national statistical systems of a majority of the Latin American and Caribbean countries can be expected to continue undergoing sweeping changes and incorporating technological advances as they become available, particularly in the field of information sciences. In the course of its work to support this process, ECLAC has amassed a vast range of experience in these areas and has developed new operational modalities based on the organization of large-scale data banks and their integration into a standardized-access system.

For the 1998-1999 biennium, this subprogramme, which will be administered by the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, provides for the execution of activities whose primary objectives are, first, to proceed with the preparation of forward-looking studies on the new development modalities taking hold in the countries of the region with a view to examining the approaches they take to the formation of external linkages, the need to change production and institutional patterns and the dissemination of economic growth throughout society. The second objective is to promote the modernization of the statistical systems of the countries of the region and the data banks maintained by ECLAC so as to improve the coverage, quality, currency and comparability of the information they contain and to provide public and private users with greater access to them.

Activities relating to information systems within a regional framework will focus on maintaining, updating and expanding existing data banks as well as creating new data banks and providing users with greater access to them. The aim of the work to be done in this connection is to upgrade the computer systems serving as gateways to these data banks and their interfaces with internal computer networks and with the remote-access economic and social information system of the United Nations, as well as with the region's national statistical offices. A further aim is to promote the utilization of the INTERNET and other international networks for the collection and dissemination of statistical data.

In connection with the development of statistics and quantitative analysis, work will continue on the definition and improvement of methodologies for the establishment of new statistical systems and for the estimation and measurement of concepts relating to various aspects of social and human development with a view to facilitating the formulation and implementation of development strategies and policies in the region. Support will be provided to member States in the application of the new international statistical classifications whose use is recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission and of the new System of National Accounts. Assistance will also be provided to them in connection with the improvement of methods for arriving at estimates of income distribution, the quantification of poverty, the development of indicators for different dimensions of human activity and the creation of a system of standardized social indicators.

The work to be done on the preparation of forward-looking studies will be directed towards evaluating the economic and social development process in the countries of the region from a medium- and long-term standpoint as a means of furthering the analysis and definition of policies to aid the Governments in their adoption of new development modalities. Owing to the fact that, in order to prepare these projections, the basic data must be reviewed and updated on a continuing basis and research on specific subjects must be conducted using projection methodologies and models, the ongoing refinement of the models now in use through the incorporation of new methodological instruments and subject areas

and the reformulation of the analytical schemes on which these models are based have become an increasingly important area of endeavour.

In view of the progressive globalization of the world economy and the influence exerted by external factors on developing countries, particular attention will continue to be devoted to the conditions, trends and prospects of the international economy and industrialized countries as well as to the international trade matrix and the growth of its various components. The work being done on the systematization and analysis of information drawn from the forward-looking studies conducted by international bodies and public and private institutions will be intensified so as to provide the foundations for an exploration of the prospects for the countries of the region in terms of their linkages with the international economy.

An effort will also be made to forge closer links among technical institutions in the region that prepare forward-looking studies. To this end, steps will be taken to promote information exchange and assistance will be provided to government agencies in order to improve their capabilities for gathering and analysing prospective information.

1. Activities

Subject area 9.1: Statistical data banks on the economy of Latin America and the Caribbean and dissemination of regional statistics and indicators

a) Recurrent publications

i) Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean (two issues during the biennium, or publication of editions via electronic media which will take their place through this new form of dissemination).

ii) Statistical summary and estimates for the annual preliminary overview of the economy of Latin America and the Caribbean (two publications during the biennium, to be included in the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean).

iii) Principal current indicators (eight quarterly issues during the biennium).

b) Technical material

Maintenance and updating of existing databases and creation of databases concerning new spheres of information. Organization and development of systems for accessing such databases which will permit an easier and more flexible use of the information they contain. Improvement of interconnections with the internal computer networks of ECLAC and with the economic and social information system of the United Nations. Establishment of regional networks with national statistical offices in order to expedite data compilation and exchange.

c) Intermediate activities

i) Preparation of statistical information for the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean.

ii) Statistical support for inter-divisional and other ECLAC projects.

Subject area 9.2: National accounts and economic development indicators

a) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Meeting of experts to analyse the progress made in the introduction of the new System of National Accounts (SNA).

b) **Recurrent publications**

Cuadernos Estadísticos de la CEPAL: two issues during the biennium (one of external-sector statistics and the other of regional national-accounts series).

c) **Non-recurrent publications**

i) Two reports on national experiences with the implementation of the new United Nations System of National Accounts.

ii) Two studies on indexes for sectoral production and domestic prices.

iii) A report on external-sector statistics.

Subject area 9.3: Technical cooperation with member States and with regional statistical bodies

a) **Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

i) Meeting of Directors of Statistics of the Americas in 1998.

ii) Meeting of experts to analyse the development of the current regional data system.

b) **Operational activities**

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to member States or statistical bodies upon request in connection with the organization of statistics, economic statistics and national accounts, technologies for the electronic dissemination of statistical data, and the design of projection methodologies and models for use in the formulation and application of development policies and strategies.

Subject area 9.4: Evaluation and analysis of the development process of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine methodological and substantive aspects of forward-looking studies and economic projections.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Two reports on the medium- and long-term outlook for the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean.

ii) Two studies concerning the outlook for the international economy and world trade, with emphasis on the performance of those developed countries having the greatest potential as trading partners for the region and on the region's linkages with the external economy.

iii) Two studies on medium- and long-term global and sectoral macroeconomic projections.

Subject area 9.5: Social statistics of Latin America and the Caribbean

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts on statistics and social indicators to consider: (i) the improvement of household surveys; and (ii) the retooling of administrative records in the region (a joint activity of the Social Development Division and the Statistics and Economic Projections Division).

b) Non-recurrent publications

Five reports on estimates of income distribution, poverty, employment, the labour force, and other social indicators.

c) Technical material

Maintenance and updating of existing databases and creation of databases concerning new spheres of information.

d) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to member States and regional bodies upon request in connection with:

- Household surveys, social statistics and indicators, and the quantification, description and analysis of the phenomenon of poverty.

- Organization of workshops and seminars on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission in such areas as the generation of

information on social variables, methods for the analysis of poverty situations, and specialized statistical techniques, including computational aspects.

ii) Group training

Training in the estimation and use of social indicators relating to income distribution, poverty and features of employment for various social groups.

e) Intermediate activities

Statistical support for ECLAC studies and projects.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in coordination and in close collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Division, the regional economic commissions of the United Nations, and the secretariats of regional integration agencies. Cooperative links and liaison will also be maintained with the statistical offices of member States. Activities relating to economic statistics, national accounts and economic development indicators will be coordinated with those carried out by the World Bank, IDB, FAO, WTO, the Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT) and UNCTAD.

Technical cooperation and training activities in the field of statistics will be carried out in close coordination with UNDP, the United Nations Statistical Division (especially the National Accounts Section and the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP)), regional offices of specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and the European Training Centre for Economic Statisticians of Developing Countries (CESD-Madrid). Portions of these activities will be carried out with the collaboration of the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA), OAS and UNCTAD.

Activities in the field of economic projections will be conducted in close cooperation with the Development Policy and Analysis Division of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA) and the Project LINK Research Centre. Regular contact will also be maintained with other specialized centres and bodies of the United Nations system and with government institutions of the countries of the region.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government agencies of member States, particularly national statistical offices, central banks and ministries concerned with economic affairs. Other important users will include business associations, labour organizations, and technical and professional institutions connected with production sectors, universities, research centres, regional and subregional integration agencies, and other public and private users who have need of comparable information on the countries of the region, including experts working with UNDP and other United Nations bodies responsible for preparing reports and technical cooperation projects.

The principal users of the economic projections to be prepared under this subprogramme will be public and private agents responsible for designing policies in which the outlook for the countries of the region is a relevant consideration.

It is anticipated that users will enjoy direct access via computer to on-line data banks and to studies or to abstracts thereof prepared as part of this subprogramme. Users will also be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, technical cooperation services, consultations and periodic contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

**SUBPROGRAMME 10: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AND
CENTRAL AMERICA**

Presentation

In the 1990s, the countries of the subregion of Mexico and Central America undertook structural reforms aimed at improving their linkages with the global economy, achieving greater efficiency in their public sectors, deregulating their financial systems and strengthening market mechanisms in general. They devoted particular attention to hemispheric and subregional integration and succeeded in consolidating and expanding free trade zones; at the same time, they intensified efforts to open the subregion further to external trade. The countries of the subregion also pursued adjustment programmes and made progress in stabilizing their economies.

Nevertheless, serious problems remained, some longstanding. Rates of saving and investment stayed relatively low while external capital flows became unreliable, poverty and unemployment indicators continued high and patterns of inequity persisted. While some advances were made in modernizing production sectors and making them more competitive, progress was uneven and insufficient to prevent considerable technological lags from accumulating, particularly in rural areas and among small urban firms. Environmental deterioration continued, both in the cities and in the country. The crisis that affected the largest country in the subregion in mid-decade was a sharp reminder of the need to redouble efforts to change production patterns and consolidate structural reforms.

Against this background, the activities of the subprogramme, which are the responsibility of ECLAC subregional headquarters for Mexico and Central America, are designed to meet the major challenges that will confront the countries of the subregion in the biennium 1998-1999. Their purpose will be to support the consolidation of structural reforms in order to achieve sustained growth built on a foundation of increased labour and capital productivity and accompanied by rising levels of equity. They will promote the establishment and consolidation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas and the application of an open regionalism approach to subregional integration and to agreements with parties outside the region.

Special attention will be paid to the impact of fiscal policy on saving and investment; the environmental aspects of growth; technological change and its effect on employment; the convergence of social policies; and globalization. Under the heading of linkages with the global economy, particular emphasis will be placed on participation by economic agents in international trade; the competitiveness of the subregion's manufacturing sector; policies that promote competitiveness in agricultural exports; and agricultural modernization. Electrical integration will continue to be a priority topic, together with analysis of the supply of gas and oil in Central America and policies for regulating it.

The work programme has been constructed around six subject areas. In the area of saving, investment and economic growth, the subprogramme will continue to examine economic trends in the subregion's 10 countries, with special emphasis on how national and subregional policies match up with the demands of economic globalization. Study will be devoted to the links between growth, investment and higher domestic saving and the effects of fiscal policy in encouraging and channelling domestic saving and promoting investment. In addition, research will be done on the feasibility of development based on sustainable use of natural resources in order to make more effective use of comparative advantages.

A related area of study will be the impact of environmental problems on sustainable development of production in the subregion.

Activities in the area of industrial competitiveness and agricultural modernization will focus on policies that promote competitiveness; technological development, particularly the building of production chains; organization of small rural enterprises; and subregional agricultural integration. Under the heading of industrial competitiveness, further analysis will be done on the challenges relatively late-developing small countries face in their industrialization process as a result of increasing economic integration with larger, more advanced economies.

In the area of labour markets, gender and equity, the tasks will be to analyse the effects of integration on employment and labour legislation and to support the countries of the subregion in their efforts to implement the Regional Programme of Action for integrating women into economic and social development. In addition, the repercussions of globalization on such areas as social security, human resource training and migration in the Central American countries will be studied.

In the area of international trade, priority will be given to the examination of commercial trends and Central American integration and to interdisciplinary analyses aimed at identifying instruments and policies that facilitate participation by economic agents, particularly the small and medium-sized, in the countries' external trade.

In the area of economic integration and regional cooperation, special importance will be assigned to tasks related to hemispheric integration and in particular to identifying the basic factors that might facilitate the transition from partial integration systems to a more comprehensive hemispheric scheme. Attention will continue to be paid to evaluating the effects of trade liberalization and economic complementarity agreements between countries of the subregion and to identifying trade policy instruments applicable on the national and subregional levels that will improve the quality of each country's linkages to the global economy while facilitating their process of convergence.

In the last subject area, which concerns energy integration in the subregion, the subprogramme will continue to support the efforts of the Governments in this regard and the functioning of the relevant forums. The progress achieved through the efforts of the last three years to reform the energy sector in Mexico and Central America will be evaluated. Lastly, the interrelationship between energy and the environment will be studied in order to support the initiatives of the countries of the subregion in the sphere of sustainable energy development.

1. Activities

Subject area 10.1: Saving, investment and economic growth

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

- i) Expert meeting on the role of fiscal policy in promoting saving and investment.
- ii) Expert meeting on the inclusion of the environmental dimension in the design and implementation of the economic development policies of the countries served by ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the design of fiscal policies to promote saving and investment in a context of globalization and increasingly open economies.

ii) A study on the coordination of monetary and fiscal policies to promote investment and saving in the subregion.

iii) A study on the interrelationship between macroeconomic policy and social sustainability in Mexico and the Central American countries.

c) Technical material

i) Notes on economic trends in the countries of the subregion in 1997 (10 documents).

ii) Notes on economic trends in the countries of the subregion in 1998 (10 documents).

iii) Contribution to the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1998.

iv) Contribution to the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1999.

v) Panorama económico de México, 1998.

vi) Panorama económico de México, 1999.

vii) Update and expansion of the database of economic and social statistics, and preparation of current economic and development indicators.

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with the design and evaluation of global economic policies and development programmes, to the countries of the subregion that request it.

e) Intermediate activities

Substantive support for intergovernmental meetings held in the subregion.

Execution of operational activities and of the activities referred to in paragraphs b) ii) and b) iii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 10.2: Industrial competitiveness and agricultural modernization

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Expert meeting to analyse the challenges facing industrial development in the context of hemispheric integration.

ii) Expert meeting on policies to support the modernization of rural micro-enterprises and small rural production units.

iii) Expert meeting on policies to support increased competitiveness of agricultural exports.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on technological development in small countries of the subregion, with a view to designing policies to promote the adoption of business strategies favouring technological modernization, with emphasis on environmentally sound technologies.

ii) A prospective study on the long-term production profile of the countries of the subregion with special emphasis on analysis of the links between agriculture and industry.

iii) A study on the international competitiveness of the manufacturing sector in the smaller countries of the subregion, with a view to identifying the obstacles standing in the way of successful participation by such firms in an integrated hemispheric market and proposing means of overcoming them.

iv) A study on the prerequisites for strengthening production linkages and for taking greater advantage of markets in the context of Central American integration.

v) A study on technological development in the production and processing of agricultural products, taking into account the need to preserve natural resources.

vi) A study on policies to promote and modernize agriculture within the context of regional integration.

vii) A study on organizational development of small rural enterprises and production units in the countries of the subregion.

c) Technical material

i) Development and expansion of the databases on manufacturing maintained at the subregional headquarters and promotion of their use in the countries.

ii) Collection, update, ordering and dissemination of information on the agricultural sector in the countries of the subregion.

d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with industrial competitiveness and agricultural modernization, to countries of the subregion that request it.

Execution of operational activities and of the activities referred to in paragraphs b) iii) and b) vii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 10.3: Labour markets, gender and equitya) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse topics related to labour productivity and unemployment in countries of the subregion.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on technology and poverty, which will analyse various aspects of the technological revolution and its effects on labour productivity and unemployment in countries of the subregion to be determined.

ii) A study on integration and convergence of social policies (labour markets, social security, human resources, migration) in countries of the subregion to be determined.

iii) A study on the effects of globalization on the peasant economy, with emphasis on the analysis of policies designed to mitigate the effects of the greater openness of the economy on poor rural groups and on types of rural organization that may offer some protection in this respect, in countries of the subregion to be determined.

iv) A report evaluating the level of fulfilment of the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, in countries of the subregion to be determined.

c) Technical material

Preparation of basic social indicators for Mexico and the Central American countries.

Execution of the activities referred to in b) iii) and b) iv) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 10.4: International trade**a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Expert meeting to consider participation by small and medium-sized exporters in external trade.

b) Non-recurrent publications

A study on participation by the various economic agents, especially the small and medium-sized, in external trade.

c) Operational activities**i) Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with international trade policies and trade negotiations, to countries and intergovernmental and regional organizations that request it.

ii) Group training

Organization of a course on linkages with world trade flows and economic integration and cooperation, in conjunction with regional or national institutions.

d) Intermediate activities

Formulation of a regional project on the competitiveness and economic efficiency of exports.

Execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 10.5: Economic integration and regional cooperation**a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

i) Expert meeting to examine the consequences of agreements on trade liberalization and economic complementarity in terms of convergence of the integration process and open regionalism.

ii) Expert meeting on the adjustment problems and transition costs involved in becoming part of the Free Trade Area of the Americas and proposed measures to reduce those costs.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) Expert meeting to examine the effects of trade liberalization and economic complementarity agreements, concluded by countries of the subregion among themselves or with third parties, on prospects for hemispheric integration.

ii) A study on the establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas in the year 2005, transition costs and proposals for reducing them.

c) Technical material

Update and expansion of the statistical, documentary and bibliographic databases on trade, integration and cooperation in the countries of the subregion.

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with economic integration and regional cooperation, to countries that request it.

d) Intermediate activities

Technical support for intergovernmental meetings on economic integration and regional cooperation.

Subject area 10.6: Energy integration

a) Technical services for intergovernmental meetings

Provision of technical services for the Central American Regional Energy Forum (FREAC), the Central American Electrification Council (CEAC) and the Central American Committee for Cooperation on Hydrocarbons (CCHAC), especially in connection with regular and special annual meetings called by the respective acting secretariats.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on the progress made on integration of the electricity systems in Central America and the Group of Three (Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela).

ii) A study on the supply of gas and oil in Central America.

iii) A study on environmentally sustainable development of the energy sector in Central America.

c) Technical material

Update of the energy database on the countries of the subregion.

d) Operational activities

i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with energy integration and management, to countries that request it.

ii) Group training

A seminar or workshop on the impact of the reforms in the petroleum markets of Mexico and the Central American countries.

Execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to in paragraph b) iii) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out primarily through coordination and regular consultation with ECLAC headquarters, other United Nations bodies and international, regional and subregional organizations such as UNCTAD, WTO, the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and the Secretariat of the Central American Monetary Council. Relations will also be strengthened with private sector associations and non-governmental organizations.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the activities involved, consultations will also be held on an ad hoc basis. On activities relating to international trade, in addition to coordination with UNCTAD, WTO, IDB, SIECA and CABEI, regular consultations will be held with subregional and national private-sector entities, particularly the Federation of Central American and Panamanian Private Entities (FEDEPRICAP) and the Federation of Central American Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FECAICA).

In the area of energy integration, cooperative relations will be maintained with OLADE, the Central American Electrification Council, CABEI and IDB. In the area of economic integration and regional cooperation, a close working relationship will be promoted with SIECA, the Secretariat of the Central American Monetary Council, CABEI, SELA, UNCTAD and WTO.

In the area of industrial competitiveness and agricultural modernization, activities will be carried out in contact with the pertinent government bodies, while collaboration will be maintained with international, regional and subregional organizations such as FAO, UNIDO, IICA, the Central American Agricultural Council, SIECA, and the Central American Institute for Industrial Research and Technology (ICAITI). Ties will also be sought with producers' associations, research centres and other non-governmental bodies, especially the Federation of Central American Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FECAICA) and the Federation of Central American and Panamanian Private Entities (FEDEPRICAP).

For execution of activities related to labour markets, gender and equity, close contact will be maintained with ILO and with the ministries of labour of the countries of the subregion.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials concerned with the formulation and execution of policies, programmes and projects in the areas indicated above, and additionally international, regional and subregional organizations concerned with integration and cooperation. It is expected that the outputs may serve as guidelines and reference material for such users in their respective functions and areas of competence.

Important users will also include a variety of public- and private-sector institutions, such as business, labour and professional associations, universities and other academic institutions, applied research institutes and other centres concerned with the development and dissemination of technology.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the supply of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental meetings and expert forums.

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN**Presentation**

ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, which serves as secretariat for the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), will continue to examine topics of particular relevance to economic and social development in the member countries members, formulating recommendations and providing technical cooperation and advisory services that meet their needs.

By opening up their economies, the Caribbean countries have become highly vulnerable to the changes now taking place in the global economy, particularly the increasing liberalization of trade. These changes will affect production, exchange rates and economic and social development in the Caribbean. Analysis of trends in these areas will be aimed at helping the countries of the subregion to adopt strategies and policies enabling them to draw the greatest possible benefit from the changes. The programme of work therefore includes subject areas relating to the subregion's linkages to the global economy, its competitiveness on an international scale and its relations with other countries of the hemisphere, with special emphasis on new phenomena of global or hemispheric scope, such as the establishment of economic blocks, various aspects of the relationship between Caribbean and European countries, and the recent creation of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

The CDCC secretariat will persist in its efforts to help the Caribbean countries reconcile their determination to push ahead on regional integration with their need for increased involvement in global and hemispheric mechanisms of economic cooperation. In this regard, there are plans to analyse the economic cooperation agreements concluded under the auspices of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The programme of work for 1998-1999 includes activities designed to promote cooperation among CDCC member countries and between them and the Latin American countries, bearing in mind the need to integrate the members of the Association of Caribbean States. Special attention will be paid to the programme for reducing language barriers in view of the high priority assigned by member countries to eliminating obstacles to greater cooperation.

During the 1998-1999 biennium, the secretariat will continue to provide assistance to the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) in order to contribute to the development of scientific and technological capacity in the subregion and to promote greater recognition of the potential contribution of technology to sustainable development. Attention will also be paid to the subject of renewable energy sources and their contribution to Caribbean development. ECLAC and the Council will study the technological aspects of economic and social development in the Caribbean and will examine the performance of the manufacturing and tourism sectors.

The CDCC secretariat will continue its analysis of economic trends in the countries of the subregion in order to present the situation from the Caribbean perspective. It will also examine various aspects of economic management and planning on the national level and the evolution of the regional and global economic situation; also planned are comparative case studies of export-led development, which will consider experiences both within and outside the region.

The secretariat will pursue its efforts in the field of statistics and statistical development. Its purpose is to help the Caribbean countries modernize the methods they use for compiling national accounts data and to provide training in the proper use of information technologies and systems. The secretariat's

Caribbean Documentation Centre will continue to provide support for substantive activities and to help member countries improve their capacity to develop and maintain computerized data storage systems.

The secretariat will continue to carry out activities related to population and development, women and development, and social development, topics that have assumed particular importance in the environment created by the adoption of new economic adjustment measures. Special emphasis will be placed on maintaining support for CDCC member countries in their implementation of the programmes of action adopted at United Nations world conferences devoted to these topics.

The subregional headquarters will also carry out activities related to the environment and development and to a variety of factors that affect sustainable development in small island developing States. The programme of work calls for updating environmental databases and for preparing studies on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; on transboundary environmental and development issues in the Caribbean subregion; and on other aspects of sustainable development of particular importance to Caribbean states.

Lastly, the CDCC secretariat will continue to provide services to the Caribbean Information System for Economic and Social Planning in relation to its programme of work and to the needs of member countries.

1. Activities

Subject area 11.1: Linkages with the global economy and competitiveness of the Caribbean economies

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse the repercussions of hemispheric and global economic events on the economic integration and global linkages of the Caribbean countries.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on global and hemispheric economic events and their repercussions on economic policy in the Caribbean.

ii) A study on factors relating to increased development of the services sector in the Caribbean.

iii) A document on the progress made in international trade negotiations on greater liberalization of world trade, and their consequences for the Caribbean.

iv) A document on the implications for the Caribbean of the globalization of financial markets.

v) A study of the competitiveness of some Caribbean economies in the context of global and hemispheric developments.

vi) A report evaluating CARICOM policies on trade, investments and payments, in the context of global and hemispheric economic development.

vii) A study of recent developments with regard to hemispheric economic cooperation and their significance for the Caribbean economies.

viii) A report on Caribbean trade statistics, including an analysis of trade between the subregion and Latin America, with a view to the identification of traditional and emerging markets.

c) Information material and services

Quarterly publication of an information bulletin on the external sector.

Subject area 11.2: Integration and regional cooperation

a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

One session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) and one meeting of the CDCC Steering Committee.

b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse aspects of cooperation for development relevant to CDCC member countries.

c) Non-recurrent publications

i) An updated study on trade among CDCC member countries and between them and other countries in the hemisphere.

ii) A study on the economic integration of the Caribbean in the context of the development of hemispheric and global trade.

iii) A study on economic cooperation among the Caribbean members of the Association of Caribbean States and the other members of the Association.

iv) An analysis of the potential impact of the creation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas on the economies of the non-independent Caribbean countries and possibilities for cooperation with these countries under the plan of action of the Summit of the Americas.

v) A study on the capacity of ECLAC associate members to carry out, on a national level, the activities contemplated in the programmes of action resulting from United Nations world conferences on the environment, small island developing States, women, natural disaster reduction, population, social development and human settlements.

d) Technical material

Update of the statistical database on trade among the members of the Association of Caribbean States and between the Association and the rest of the world.

e) Information material and services

i) Publication of the quarterly newsletter, Focus, on the activities of the CDCC.

ii) Publication of the monthly newsletter, Associate, on subjects of interest to ECLAC associate members.

Subject area 11.3: Development of production and technologya) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Two plenary sessions of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) and four meetings of its Executive Committee.

b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyse various aspects of technology and its relation to the economic and social development of the Caribbean.

c) Non-recurrent publications

i) A document on the operation and management of the agencies and institutions working in the field of science and technology in CCST member countries.

ii) A study evaluating the possibilities for greater development of the industrial sector in some Caribbean countries.

iii) A study on the technological dimensions of economic diversification and development in the Caribbean countries.

iv) A study evaluating the science and technology networks operating in the subregion and their effectiveness.

v) A document on recent trends and developments in the manufacturing sector of some Caribbean countries to be determined.

vi) A study on the promotion and adoption of new technologies within the context of sustainable development.

vii) A study evaluating the efficacy of the projects on renewable sources of energy carried out in the Caribbean.

viii) A study on the contribution of the tourism sector to the economic development of some Caribbean countries to be determined.

d) Information material and services

Publication of the quarterly newsletter of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST).

e) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with the development of production and technology, to government bodies and non-governmental organizations that request it.

Execution of operational activities and the activity mentioned in paragraph d) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.4: Economic development and information for development

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to examine aspects of economic management of the countries of the subregion in the context of world and regional developments.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on economic diversification and development in the single-crop economies of the Caribbean.

ii) Two summaries of economic trends in the CDCC countries (one in each year of the biennium).

iii) A comparative study on macroeconomic policies in some small island countries of the Caribbean and other regions.

iv) A study on the contribution of foreign investment to the economic development of the Caribbean.

v) An document evaluating the approaches and methodologies used in the preparation of economic projections in the Caribbean countries.

vi) A study evaluating the methodologies used in the Caribbean countries for the compilation of national accounts.

vii) Two reports on selected statistical indicators of Caribbean countries (one in each year of the biennium).

viii) A study on the effective use of information technology and systems in the Caribbean.

c) Information material and services

Publication in print and electronic media of the monthly newsletter, Current Awareness Bulletin.

d) Technical material

i) Publication of the CARISPLAN database on CD ROM, provided extrabudgetary resources are available.

ii) Maintenance of a database containing bibliographic information and complete texts, which can be accessed at a distance.

e) Operational activities

Advisory services

i) Provision of technical cooperation services related to economic planning and policy formulation and to the preparation of databases and data organization, to member countries and regional institutions that request it.

ii) Provision of technical assistance to documentation centres in the countries of the region that request it.

Execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.5: Human and social development

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Expert meeting on the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

ii) Expert meeting on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

iii) Expert meeting to consider matters relating to poverty and income distribution in the Caribbean, as part of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A document on some aspects of social integration in the Caribbean.

ii) A study on some aspects of poverty and income distribution in the Caribbean.

- iii) A summary of social development indicators in the Caribbean countries.
- iv) A study on recent population growth trends in CDCC member countries.
- v) A document evaluating the efforts made by Caribbean Governments to include demographic considerations in development planning.
- vi) A report on ways and means of implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the Caribbean countries.
- vii) A study on aspects of planning and gender equality in the Caribbean.
- viii) A report on implementation by the Caribbean countries of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, in the light of the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- ix) A study on the expansion of employment opportunities for women in the Caribbean countries.

c) Technical material

- i) Update of the database on social development indicators.
- ii) Update and expansion of the socio-demographic database.
- iii) Update and expansion of the information systems on vital statistics.
- iv) Update of the computerized bibliographic database on women and development in the Caribbean.

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to CDCC member countries that request it, in the following areas: evaluation and analysis of demographic statistics, the design and implementation of population policies, the integration of women into development, and the promotion of social development.

Execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to in paragraph a) iii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.6: Environmental sustainability**a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts**

Expert meeting to consider aspects of sustainable development relevant to the Caribbean countries.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study analysing aspects of sustainable development of particular relevance to the Caribbean, in light of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

ii) A study on transboundary issues relating to the environment and development in the Caribbean countries.

iii) A report on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

c) Technical material

Update and expansion of the environmental database for the Caribbean countries.

d) Operational activities**Advisory services**

Provision of technical cooperation services, to CDCC member States that request it, in connection with environmental sustainability and also with the implementation of follow-up activities relating to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with ECLAC headquarters; in addition, activities in the various areas indicated will be carried out in regular consultation and coordination with other agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and with governmental and non-governmental organizations active in the subregion.

Activities related to the linkages with the global economy and competitiveness of the Caribbean economies will be carried out in regular consultation and coordination with the secretariats of regional bodies such as the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), and with the countries members of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and their respective central banks.

Activities relating to the development of production and technology in the Caribbean will be carried out in close collaboration with the secretariats of CARICOM and OECS and the Technology and Energy Department of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). On the international level, working relations will be maintained with UNESCO, UNDP, the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development and other international organizations outside of the United Nations system, when appropriate. Close contact will also be maintained with national institutions engaged in activities in the field of science and technology.

Tasks related to economic development and information will be carried out in close coordination with the ECLAC Economic Development Division and the CARICOM secretariat.

Activities in the area of human and social development in the Caribbean will be carried out in collaboration with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, of regional or international scope, active in the fields of population and development, women and development, and social development, and particularly with the CARICOM and OECS secretariats, UNFPA, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, UNICEF, UNDP and ILO.

Work related to environmental sustainability will be carried out in coordination with the ECLAC Environment and Development Division, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNDP and other United Nations bodies, and the CARICOM and OECS secretariats. Collaboration may extend to joint execution of projects and programmes.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials concerned with economic and social matters and with the formulation and execution of policies, programmes and projects in the areas indicated above, and additionally international, regional and subregional organizations concerned with integration and cooperation. It is expected that the outputs may serve as guidelines and reference material for such users in their respective functions and areas of competence.

Important users will also include a variety of public- and private-sector institutions, such as business, labour and professional associations, universities and other academic institutions, applied research institutes and centres for the development and dissemination of technology.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the supply of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental meetings and expert forums.

Annex

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

1. Meetings1.1 Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Organization of meetings of representatives of government institutions of member countries to consider a specific topic relating to the functions performed by those institutions. In most cases, ECLAC will prepare a report or substantive document on the topic in question.

1.2 Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meetings of experts from outside the United Nations system, to provide advisory assistance to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC on a specific topic. The Commission usually prepares a report or substantive document on the topic to be dealt with at the meeting, to serve as a basis for the discussions.

2. Documents and publications2.1 Recurrent publications

Studies and/or information bulletins published by ECLAC with a periodicity previously laid down in the Secretariat's Publications Programme, such as the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, Boletín Demográfico, etc.

2.2 Non-recurrent publications

Studies published by ECLAC in accordance with its Publications Programme, but which do not appear regularly.

2.3 Technical material

Information contained in data bases, computer programs, etc., which does not come under the category of final outputs.

3. Information material and services

This covers all outputs whose purpose is to disseminate the activities of ECLAC, such as pamphlets, information notes and press releases, exhibition posters and other visual material, filmed and videotaped documentaries, material for radio broadcasts, guided tours, special events, etc.

4. Operational activities

4.1 Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to member countries at their request.

4.2 Group training

Specialized training seminars and courses organized and held by ECLAC for the benefit of member countries.

5. Intermediate activities

All activities whose results could be used in the preparation of final outputs.