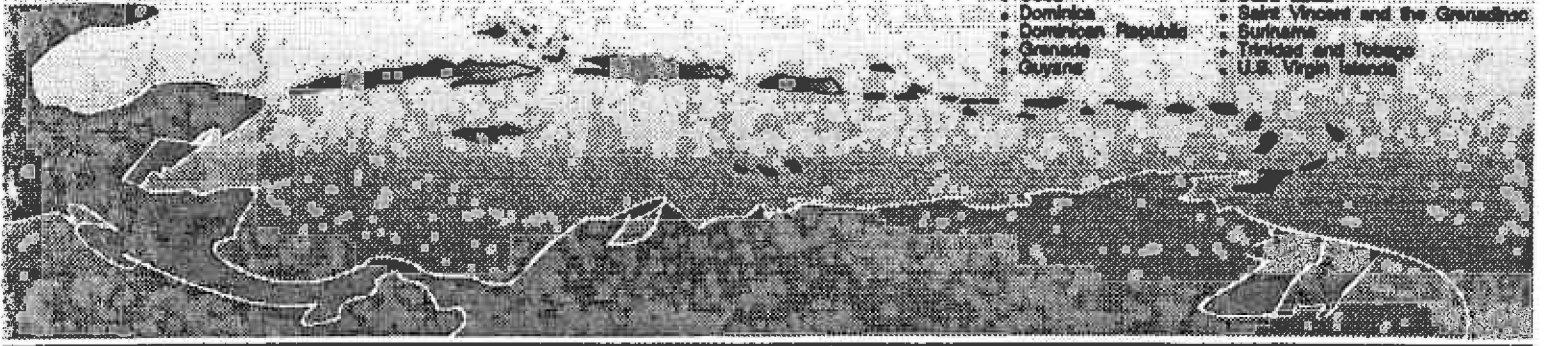


- Antigua and Barbuda
- Aruba
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Br. Virgin Islands
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- Netherlands Antilles
- Puerto Rico
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- U.S. Virgin Islands



Teleconference in preparation for the
 Fourth World Conference on Women
 University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
 Trinidad and Tobago
 1 November 1994

GENERAL
 LC/CAR/G.435
 20 December 1994
 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**REPORT OF THE
 ECLAC/CDCC TELECONFERENCE IN PREPARATION
 FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN**



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
 Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE

201 / 1 / 1994 / 12 / 20

**REPORT OF THE
ECLAC/CDCC TELECONFERENCE IN PREPARATION
FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (ECLAC/CDCC) Teleconference in preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women was convened at the UWIDITE Centre, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, 1 November 1994. The participating countries were: Barbados, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles and Trinidad and Tobago. Guyana was unable to utilize the UWIDITE country site and Cuba, although expressing interest, was unable to participate.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Asha Kambon of the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat at 11:30 a.m. She commented that while this methodology of conferencing was new to most participants, she hoped that it would prove to be useful. The floor was then opened for nominations and it was subsequently proposed that the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat chair the meeting. The agenda, as adopted, follows:

1. Identification of documents for use during the meeting
2. Document 1 - Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Review
3. Document 1 - Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Concluding remarks
4. Document 2 - Material for preparing strategic actions - DDR/1. Review
5. Document 2 - Material for preparing strategic actions - DDR/1. Concluding remarks
6. Evaluation of process
7. Any other business

**Agenda item 2: Document 1 - Regional Programme of Action for the
Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Review**

In response to a request by participants on the status of the document "Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001", the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat referred participants to the Draft Report of the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, Mar del Plata, 25-29 September 1994 and the letter of invitation to the twentieth Meeting of the Presiding Officers to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 16 - 18 November 1994.

The secretariat quoted the following paragraph from the letter of invitation:

"The Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, at its sixth session, in addition to adopting the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, decided that an open meeting of the Presiding Officers be held to discuss a number of proposed strategic actions to complement the regional programme of action. The purpose of the meeting is to adopt strategic actions to complement the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, adopted by the regional conference at its sixth session".

The secretariat also quoted paragraphs number 42-45 of the Draft Report. This information indicated that the Regional Programme of Action had been approved and, therefore, the document was closed for discussion in Santiago.

The countries responded that they were all of the view that the document had not been approved, and stated further that they had only given provisional approval of certain areas.

The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat informed the participants that if the countries of the region were of the same view and expressed such a view at the meeting in Santiago, then it might be possible for the document to be reopened for discussion. In the event of this happening, it was recommended that the Caribbean should be prepared to fully participate in this process.

The participants then reviewed the Regional Programme of Action and identified in that document the areas which the Caribbean had reserved approval during the Argentina meeting. Consensus was sought on the conceptual context of the areas leaving the countries to draft the exact text.

Agenda item 3: Document 1 - Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Concluding remarks

The review process of the Regional Programme of Action concluded with Governments agreeing on the following recommendations:

1. That paragraph 18 of the Regional Programme of Action should refer to all groups of women or to none at all.
2. It was agreed that Reproductive Health and Rights should be included in Strategic Objective II.5, as well as in Strategic Action II.5.
3. All references to the term "housework" should be replaced by "unwaged work".

4. It was felt that some reference should be made in the background text of the document to the problem of political violence against women in the region. Reference to this should also be made under Strategic Action V - Human Rights, Peace and Violence.
4. It was agreed that Strategic Area VI - Shared Family Responsibilities should be tightened.
5. In the Section V entitled "Follow-up activities for the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001", "subregional group" should be included.
6. Any reference to the term "manpower" should be changed to "human resources".
7. Statistical data should be specified both by gender and sex.

Agenda item 4: Document 2 - Material for preparing strategic actions - DDR/1. Review

The meeting then proceeded to review the document DDR/1 - "Material for Preparing Strategic Actions". It was decided at the meeting that the strategic actions proposed by the CDCC member countries would be reviewed. The countries then proceeded to identify both the strengths and the weaknesses of each strategic action and, where appropriate, countries were asked to re-draft the action area.

Agenda item 5: Document 2 - Material for preparing strategic actions - DDR/1. Concluding remarks

In the concluding discussions of this document, countries ensured that they would have their re-drafted sections of the document prepared for the twentieth Meeting of the Presiding Officers, to be held in Santiago, Chile, in November.

Agenda item 6: Evaluation of process

In evaluating the process, most participants considered that the teleconferencing process was a good substitute for the traditional method. A few, however, stated that it should not be allowed to replace the customary type of meeting where participants met at one venue, since they felt that the latter was the more effective method.

The ECLAC/CDCC secretariat commented that the process was a very good learning experience and would hopefully be used again in the future.

Agenda item 7: Any other business

Participants of the meeting addressed the question of attendance at the twentieth Meeting of the Presiding Officers in Chile. While Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago assured the meeting of their attendance, other countries could only give provisional assurance. At that point, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat informed the meeting that as soon as information on participation reached its office, it would share such information with the delegates present.

The participants then proceeded to thank the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat for its efforts in the area of Women in Development.

The Chair then officially closed the meeting.