

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)

BIENNIAL REPORT
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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
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UNITED NATIONS
Santiago, Chile, 1994

**536(XXV) LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind that the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development (Mexico City, 29 April to 4 May 1993)¹ unanimously adopted a declaration entitled "Latin American and Caribbean Consensus on Population and Development", which set forth the common position of the countries of the region concerning the issues of population and development,

Considering also that the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Government Experts on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (Saint Lucia, 6-9 October 1992),² together with the core concepts of the document **Population, Social Equity and Changing Production Patterns**,³ prepared by the ECLAC secretariat with the assistance of the Latin American Demographic Centre, and the reference documents submitted to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development were the principal inputs for the elaboration and adoption of the aforementioned Consensus,

Emphasizing the importance of the agreements reached at the meetings held, which represent the region's contribution to the forthcoming International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994),

Aware that the process of preparing the preliminary draft Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development has created in the region a propitious climate for devoting increased attention to the issues of population and development in order to achieve sustainable development with social equity and democracy,

Recalling that the Governments of the States members and associate members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, meeting at the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, decided to promote the drafting of a Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development,

Considering also that, at that Conference, the ECLAC secretariat was asked to prepare a preliminary draft regional plan of action, in permanent consultation with the countries members of ECLAC, and that, at a later stage, the draft plan was to incorporate the results of the International Conference on Population and Development,⁴

Taking into account that, to perform this task, the secretariat consulted permanently with the countries and the United Nations Population Fund, in particular through four subregional meetings (Central America and Mexico in Guatemala, the Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago, the Andean region

¹ LC/G.1762(Conf.83/4).

² LC/G.1756(Conf.81/3).

³ LC/G.1758(Rev.1-P).

⁴ LC/G.1826(CEG.19/7).

in Peru and the Southern Cone in Chile) and several meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Committee of High-level Government Experts,

Recognizing also the contribution made by non-governmental organizations in the areas of population and development, in the member countries and in the process of drafting proposals for the preliminary draft regional plan of action,

Bearing in mind that the preliminary draft as prepared has been analysed in depth by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and was approved at the nineteenth session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN) (Santiago, 1-4 March 1994), along with a series of recommendations for its appropriate implementation,⁵ and that it has been considered at the present twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Aware of the appropriateness of establishing an institution within the ECLAC system with responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the eventual regional plan of action,

1. Approves the preliminary draft and adopts it as the "Draft Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development", which is to incorporate the inputs generated by the International Conference on Population and Development;
2. Expresses its gratitude to the secretariat for preparing the preliminary draft in permanent consultation with the countries and with the cooperation of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA);
3. Decides to establish an ECLAC Sessional Committee on Population and Development, composed of representatives of the countries members of ECLAC, which will have final responsibility for the follow-up and review of the draft and, subsequently, of the Plan of Action, in accordance with the provisions of the document adopted in paragraph 1;
4. Agrees that the Presiding Officers of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN), who dealt with aspects relating to the formulation of the preliminary draft Regional Plan of Action, and any countries which wish to join them, shall assume, on an interim basis, the functions of the Sessional Committee on Population and Development, until it has been established;
5. Decides to request that the ECLAC secretariat support the Presiding Officers of CEGAN and, as appropriate, the Sessional Committee, as well as the subregional organizations, in their coordination of regional and subregional activities, in close cooperation with international organizations and competent United Nations agencies, in particular UNFPA;
6. Requests the Presiding Officers referred to in paragraph 4 of this resolution to:
 - a) provide the secretariat with guidelines for incorporating into the Draft Plan of Action the results of the International Conference on Population and Development, and

⁵ LC/G.1826(CEG.19/7).

- b) examine this proposed Plan of Action for approval and, once the secretariat has consulted with the member States, promptly implement it;
- 7. Reiterates, in the light of the substance of the Consensus and of the Draft Plan of Action, that the contributions of non-governmental organizations should be taken into account in implementing the Plan of Action;
- 8. Requests the international community and the member countries of ECLAC to increase their cooperation in the areas of population and development in Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular for the funding of activities under the Regional Plan of Action as soon as it has been adopted.