

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)**

**BIENNIAL REPORT
(16 May 1998 – 7 April 2000)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2000
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**UNITED NATIONS
Santiago, Chile, 2000**

581(XXVIII)
**SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE LATIN AMERICAN
 AND CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling its resolution 340(AC.66) of 25 January 1974, in which it directed that the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) should become a permanent institution of the Commission, with its own identity and responsible directly to its Executive Secretary,

Reiterating its appreciation to the Governments of the member States of the Regional Council for Planning and to its Presiding Officers for the valuable contribution they make to the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning in terms of both substantive orientation and regular financing,

Considering the desire of the Governments of the member States to receive fuller information with respect to the impact on the Institute of its greater integration with the Commission,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the resolutions emanating from the twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning, held in Montevideo in March 2000, which emphasize the following major aspects:

- (a) Approval of the report on the activities of the Institute covering the period from July 1998 to December 1999; the submission of the financial report for 1999; sound management of the institution's resources and of government contributions for joint training activities of the Institute and the Commission; and the need for the Institute to apprise the Governments of member States as to the evaluation of these activities on a regular basis;
- (b) The excellent results achieved by the High-level Seminar on Basic Planning Functions and the initiative to organize meetings on regional trends in public planning for Central America and Panama, for the English-speaking Caribbean and for Cuba and the Dominican Republic;
- (c) Full support for the definition of priority areas of the Institute's work from the year 2000 onward, for the corresponding financial proposal and for the organizational changes adopted with a view to strengthening the integration and coordination of the Institute's activities with those of the Commission;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of the member States of the Regional Council for Planning for their contributions to the regular system of government financing, which makes it possible to fund a large portion of the costs of the Institute's staff and activities;

3. Thanks the Government of Uruguay for its excellent work in organizing the twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning, held recently in Montevideo;

4. Expresses its satisfaction with the direct support provided by the Executive Secretary of the Commission for the Institute's activities and with the improvement in coordination with the Commission;

5. Recommends that the Institute, as the training branch of the ECLAC system, should move forward with its training activities and significantly expand them, in collaboration with the various subregional offices and divisions of the Commission and other international institutions, and that it should focus its substantive work on analysis, prospective studies, coordination and evaluation of public management and investment and of territorially-based and local development;

6. Recommends also that the meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning that are to be held in the years when the Commission holds its session should be held within the framework of that session;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its twenty-ninth session a progress report on the integration and coordination of the Institute's activities with those of the Commission.