

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

**BIENNIAL REPORT**  
**(7 April 2000 - 10 May 2002)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
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**Santiago, Chile, 2002**

**595(XXIX) BRASILIA RESOLUTION ON GLOBALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT**The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind resolution 582(XXVIII), adopted by the Commission at its twenty-eighth session, in which it urged the secretariat to analyse the interrelationship between the development agendas of the countries of the region and the policies associated with globalization processes in economic spheres, particularly those relating to trade, financing and capital flows, and in social and environmental spheres, in order to ensure that those policies take into account the interests of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recognizing that progress has been made in the gradual spread of shared ethical values, which are manifested most clearly in respect for human rights, in terms of both civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights, as is emphasized, in particular, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Noting that the emergence of signs of growing interdependence among countries in a number of areas, such as international finance and the environment, stands in sharp contrast to the insufficient development of a suitable global institutional framework for addressing these issues,

Aware of the profound processes of productive, trade and financial restructuring now taking place worldwide, with the active participation of transnational corporations at the helm of internationally integrated production systems into which some countries of the region are being incorporated,

Observing that the expansion of trade has not resulted in rapid worldwide economic growth, that the high degree of capital mobility has been accompanied by volatility and contagion and that knowledge and technological innovation have become further concentrated in the industrialized countries,

Noting the continued existence of income disparities between and within countries due to the persistence of inequalities in the world order in the spheres of macroeconomics and finance, production and technology, as well as in factor mobility, particularly as a result of the restrictions placed on the movement of labour,

Stressing, in sum, that the current phase of globalization has opened up a range of opportunities, some of which have been at least partially utilized by developing countries, but that it has also entailed risks that exacerbate certain long-standing problems in the region while also generating entirely new ones,

Stressing also the tradition and vitality of subregional integration schemes and the potential for deepening them within a framework of open regionalism, along with the wealth of regional institutions present in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Appreciating the proven capacity of the countries of the region to expand trade both within and beyond the region and to attract a large volume of resources, especially in the form of foreign direct investment; the progress attained by many countries in the area of macroeconomic management, especially with regard to the control of public finances and inflation; the strides made towards a more effective incorporation of the sustainable development agenda; the expansion, in many cases, of public

expenditure on education, which has enabled countries to increase the coverage of basic and secondary education and to launch initiatives to give their populations access to computerized information networks and audiovisual media; the efforts being devoted to making the labour market more adaptable by introducing new worker training arrangements and beginning to develop unemployment insurance schemes; and the role being played by the private sector in the modernization of various infrastructure sectors and in interacting with the public sector to develop innovative approaches in the area of social security,

Conscious that there are obstacles which still impede the process of changing production patterns with social equity and environmental sustainability in the region; that economic growth has been insufficient and volatile; that the increase in productivity has not narrowed the gap between the developed and developing worlds; that the linkages of export activities and foreign direct investment with other economic activities remain insufficient; that institutions for the promotion of sustainable development have few instruments and scant resources at their disposal; that the insufficient creation of quality jobs continues to impede a reduction in open unemployment and informal employment; that the educational divide between developed and developing countries persists in terms of both coverage (secondary and higher education) and learning outcomes; and that increased demands are being made for social security systems to cover both traditional risks (health care, old age and illness) and new ones related to the increased instability of employment and income,

1. Welcomes the document prepared by the secretariat, entitled “Globalization and development”, considering that, thanks to the concepts it explores, the information it contains and the proposals it sets forth in the national, regional and international spheres, it makes a significant contribution to the assessment of the Latin American and Caribbean countries’ position in the current phase of globalization;

2. Welcomes with satisfaction the positive agenda proposed by the secretariat for meeting the challenges posed by the current phase of the globalization process, and particularly the reaffirmation of national strategies as a pillar of the process of consolidating democracy; the region’s possible contribution to the construction of a global institutional structure that can mitigate external vulnerability and give the countries greater manoeuvring room in designing and implementing national policies; and the view that regional and subregional bodies are forums for cooperation and analysis;

3. Requests the secretariat to arrange for the wide dissemination of the document “Globalization and development” and to encourage its discussion in the following areas:

(a) Political, social, academic and business spheres and civil society organizations of the region, with a view to promoting national, subregional and regional dialogues concerning the chief components of the proposed agenda; and

(b) International organizations dealing with the various dimensions of economic development, with a view, in particular, to fostering an exchange of ideas regarding the proposals for correcting asymmetries and gaps in the international agenda;

4. Urges the Executive Secretary to undertake a more in-depth analysis of the following issues:

(a) **Education, science and technology**, highlighting the development of national and regional innovation systems that unite the efforts of the public and private sectors;

(b) **Social protection**, with the aim of achieving complementarity between public and private arrangements in order to broaden coverage and adopt solidarity-based approaches;

(c) **Countercyclical macroeconomic management**, adding national, subregional and regional measures to complement the changes required at the international level;

(d) **Production linkages**, defining policies for developing and deepening them and for forming production clusters; and

(e) **Sustainable development and competitiveness**, devoting special attention to the economic valuation of environmental goods and services and to the improvement of conditions for access to these markets;

5. Calls upon the secretariat to pursue its examination of the development strategies of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean within the context of the globalization process, based on an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental issues which also incorporates gender analysis, and to identify measures for adoption at the national, regional and international levels.