

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

BIENNIAL REPORT
(20 April 1996 – 16 May 1998)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1998
SUPPLEMENT No. 21



UNITED NATIONS
Santiago, Chile, 1998

**570(XXVII) 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 the Executive Secretary of ECLAC,

Reiterating its appreciation to the Governments of the member States of the Regional Council for Planning and to its Presiding Officers for their valuable contribution to the substantive orientation and regular financing of ILPES,

Recalling that at the twenty-fourth session of ECLAC the Governments of the member States agreed that ILPES should concentrate its activities in the area of strategic State management,

Bearing in mind the major efforts the secretariat is making to introduce a new management approach with the aim of enhancing the efficiency and efficacy with which the ECLAC work programme is carried out, to the benefit of the Governments of the member States, the chief beneficiaries of the work of the Commission,

Considering the desire of the Governments of the member States to receive fuller information with respect to the impact that the ECLAC management reform process will have on ILPES,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the resolutions emanating from the nineteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning, held in Madrid in November 1997, which emphasize the following:

- (a) Approval of the report on the activities of the Institute covering the period from July 1996 to June 1997;

Endorsement of the proposed programme of work for 1998 and the request made by the Governments for ILPES to concentrate on the priority area of strategic State management, especially its medium- and long-term dimensions. In this area, support is also given to the request made by the Governments that special attention be devoted to forward-looking analysis and consensus-building for the achievement of greater social equity and sustainability in public policies, and to the process of territorial decentralization and the local aspects of development, particularly with regard to the expansion of production, job creation and public safety;

- (b) The request for ILPES to continue to examine the questions of strengthening political systems and strategic State management;

- (c) The request for the Institute to intensify its relations with institutions and professionals interested in the Institute's activities through REDILPES and the *ILPES Bulletin* and extend its radius of coverage using modern systems of training, communication and dissemination;
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. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Spain, which recently became a member of the Regional Council for Planning and hosted the nineteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Council, for the support extended to ILPES;
4. Also expresses its gratitude to the Governments of France and Italy for their contributions to the activities of the Institute;
5. Expresses its satisfaction at the support provided by the ECLAC secretariat for ILPES activities;
6. Endorses the proposal that the tenth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the eleventh meeting of the Regional Council for Planning should be held in Chile towards the end of 1998;
7. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its twenty-eighth session a report on the institutional, functional and financial implications for ILPES of the management reform process being carried forward by ECLAC.