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Twenty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the
Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into
the Economic and Social Development of
Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, Chile, 16-17 May 1996

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND
ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING**

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS

Pursuant to paragraph 88 (2) of the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, adopted in 1977 at the eleventh extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Presiding Officers have the responsibility for acting as the link between member Governments and the ECLAC secretariat in the field of women's integration in development. In fulfilment of this provision, the Presiding Officers will hold their twenty-second meeting at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, on 16 and 17 May 1996.

Moreover, under section E, paragraph 261 (b), of the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, adopted by the countries members of ECLAC at the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from 25 to 29 September 1994, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference are responsible for following up the implementation of the Programme of Action.

The Presiding Officers elected at the sixth session of the Regional Conference, who will serve until the next session of the Conference, are: Argentina (Chairman); Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Netherlands Antilles and Uruguay (Vice-Chairmen); and Mexico (Rapporteur).

Debate at the session will revolve around the reform of the United Nations and activities in follow-up to the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing.

Below are the provisional agenda and annotations providing background information on the proposed agenda items.

II. ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda and organization of the work of the twenty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers

The representatives will have before them, for their consideration and approval, the provisional agenda (LC/L.936 (MDM.22/1)), which has been prepared by the secretariat, bearing in mind the various mandates of the Presiding Officers. The countries serving as Presiding Officers may offer any comments or propose any changes they think desirable.

2. Activities of the ECLAC secretariat from 1 June 1994 to 30 March 1996 relating to the integration of women into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean

Working document

- Activities of the ECLAC secretariat from 1 June 1994 to 30 March 1996 relating to the integration of women into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L...).

Complementary document

- Draft report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fortieth session (11-22 March 1996) (E/CN.6/1996/L.2).

Reference documents

- Directorio preliminar de los organismos nacionales a cargo de las políticas y programas destinados a las mujeres (LC/L...(MDM.22/4))
- Social Panorama of Latin America, Edition 1995 (LC/G.1886-P). United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.G.17
- Report of the sixth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.1850(CRM.6/7))
- Report of the twenty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.904(MDM.21/3))
- Changing power and autonomy of the Caribbean women, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 14 (LC/L.881)

In view of the specific nature of the work of the Presiding Officers since their nineteenth meeting, the secretariat thought it helpful to prepare a summary report on activities since 1 June 1994, in order to provide a longer perspective on the work that has been accomplished, particularly for the benefit of the new officers.

The Chairman and the delegations attending will report on activities related to the issue that are being carried out in their countries and subregions.

Because of its impact on the work of the ECLAC secretariat, a report will also be given on the results of the fortieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and their influence on activities on the regional level.

3. Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC

Reference documents

- Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC. Note by the secretariat (LC/L.1899(SES.26.4))
- Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC (DSM/4) (resolution adopted at the twenty-sixth session of ECLAC)

At the twenty-sixth session of ECLAC held in San José, Costa Rica, from 15 to 20 April 1996, the secretariat submitted a note as a contribution to the debate among the member countries, in view of the climate of reform and financial constraint in which the United Nations is now operating. Because these factors will necessarily have an impact on activities relating to women, it was thought advisable to bring this situation to the attention of the delegations, to facilitate their participation in the debates on the matter.

4. Future activities of the Presiding Officers in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001

Working documents

- Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (LC/G.1855)
- The Platform for Action, as it appears in the Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women (A/CONF.177/20)

In accordance with the Regional Programme of Action, the Presiding Officers are responsible for following up the Programme of Action. The Presiding Officers will debate the appropriate ways and means for implementing the recommendations, bearing in mind in particular the need to cooperate and coordinate in this area with Governments and other national and regional governmental and non-governmental organizations.

5. Other matters

Any other topics the countries may wish to debate will be dealt with under this agenda item.