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Thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers
of the Regional Conference on Women in
Latin America and the Caribbean

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**ACTIVITIES OF THE ECLAC SECRETARIAT RELATING TO THE INTEGRATION
OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

(1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001)

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I. INTRODUCTION

The activities carried out by the Women and Development Unit between 1 July 2000 and 30 June 2001 correspond to subprogramme 12, “Mainstreaming the gender perspective into the regional development process”, of the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 2000-2001. As in the previous biennium, the focus of the Unit’s work was on the follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, with special emphasis on the new measures and initiatives recommended at the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century (New York, 5-9 June 2001).

Thus, much of the Unit’s work consisted in deepening cooperation for development through the implementation of three projects funded from extrabudgetary sources, technical cooperation activities in the countries of the region and fund-raising for executing these activities in the years to come. The purpose of all these activities is to strengthen national mechanisms for the advancement of women and for gender equity, as demonstrated in practically all the technical assistance provided¹ and in the design of the project on strengthening the capacities of national women’s offices in Latin America and the Caribbean for governance, for which funding has already been approved for the next biennium.²

Another important area of work—and one which undoubtedly reinforces the foregoing—was the development of gender indicators in compliance with the Lima Consensus adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) and with the new measures and initiatives set out in resolution A/RES/S.23/3 as adopted at the special session of the General Assembly regarding implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which was designed to facilitate the country evaluations at the next special session scheduled for 2005. Most of the relevant activities were conducted as part of the project: “Use of gender indicators in public policy-making”, which is outlined below.³

In pursuing its study of the status of women in the region, the Unit has considered the impact of globalization on gender equity, the economic aspects of gender equity in the context of economic and social rights, and the importance of the gender perspective for social development, above all with respect to social security, labour markets and poverty. A special effort has been

¹ See section II.B.2.

² See section II.B.1.

³ See section II.B.1.

made to encourage countries of the region, which are all signatories of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to adopt the Optional Protocol thereto.

The advances made in all of these areas are announced periodically in the *Women and Development Unit* section of the ECLAC Web page, in accordance with the Unit's mandate to disseminate knowledge for promoting gender equity in public policies and in keeping, also, with its role as an intermediary between civil society, women's movements and Governments to ensure compliance with the Beijing Platform for Action and the Regional Programme of Action. The Web page also contains a revised and simplified version of the *Directory of national organizations dealing with programmes and policies on women in Latin America and the Caribbean* and the preliminary version of a database on programmes and projects implemented in the region for the advancement of women, in compliance with resolution III(VIII) as adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference; the update of this database will undoubtedly be on the agenda for the next biennium.

Poverty eradication

At the current meeting, the Presiding Officers will consider measures for improving poverty measurement and disseminating data that accurately reflect the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean and will consider the causes, effects and possible solutions. The 1999-2000 and 2001 editions of the *Social Panorama of Latin America*, for example, highlight the factors that tend to perpetuate poverty and present methodologies for measuring it at the country level, in particular, the social vulnerability index developed for the States of the Caribbean⁴ or the module on poverty which can be incorporated into the technical assistance programme to countries for building statistical systems and gender indicators.⁵

The special importance that ECLAC attaches to the issue of poverty is also reflected in the number of regional meetings it has organized on this theme and in which the Women and Development Unit has played an important role. The two most important meetings held during the period under review were an international seminar on the different manifestations of social vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean, conducted by the Population Division of ECLAC/CELADE (Santiago, Chile, 20-21 June 2001) and a conference on the search for a new paradigm: social capital and poverty reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean organized jointly by ECLAC and the University of the State of Michigan, United States (Santiago, Chile, 24-26 September 2001).

The information that emerged at these forums will form the basis for a report on poverty as it affects women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be presented by the ECLAC secretariat under agenda item 2.

⁴ See section II.D.2.

⁵ See section II.B.1 and II.B.2.

II. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

A. FOLLOW-UP TO THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 1995-2001

1. Meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

During the period under review, the Presiding Officers held two meetings, which were attended by representatives of bodies and agencies within the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations. It will be recalled that at its eighth meeting, the Regional Conference recommended that one of the two annual meetings of the Presiding Officers should be open to all member countries of the Conference; the open-ended meetings held since then have focused on a substantive issue crucial for the advancement of women and gender equity. The first of these was the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers, held from 13 to 15 September 2000 in Santiago, Chile, and was devoted mainly to the evaluation and follow-up of the advances recorded in the region in the use of gender indicators in the formulation of public policy. Participating countries agreed, through ECLAC and with its assistance, to promote harmonization of sex-disaggregated statistics and commitment to the use and development of gender indicators, by furthering the exchange of experiences and cooperation between national mechanisms for women and statistical agencies in member countries.⁶

At their thirty-second meeting, held from 19 to 20 April 2001 in San José, Costa Rica, the Presiding Officers agreed to urge their national statistical institutes to propose the establishment, under the Statistical Conference of the Americas, of an ad hoc working group on gender statistics in all spheres —not just the social sphere— and which could serve as the appropriate forum for reporting on progress achieved in developing gender indicators. It was also decided that the next meeting of the Presiding Officers would be open-ended and would address the issue of gender-mainstreaming in public policy-making.⁷

2. Meetings of experts

As part of its regular programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001 and in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action, ECLAC organized a meeting of experts on racial discrimination and gender (Santiago, 4-5 June 2001) to examine the relationship between these two forms of discrimination. The main objective of the meeting was to create a forum for exchange to promote dialogue between different analytical approaches, and to identify methodologies and tools

⁶ See the Report of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 13-15 September 2000) (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)).

⁷ See the Report of the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (San José, Costa Rica, 19-20 April 2001) (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3)).

required as well as the issues and types of research that could contribute to a research agenda shared by academics, politicians and civil society organizations. The meeting was attended by experts on racial and ethnic discrimination and the human rights of women in some countries in the region, by representatives of organizations within the United Nations system and by ECLAC staff. In their conclusions, experts identified measures for launching a public debate aimed at harmonizing relationships of conflict and promoting intervention in crucial aspects of citizenship-building and life in society.

The Women and Development Unit continued to make preparations for three meetings of experts to be held in the second half of 2001 on the measurement of violence against women and on the impact, on gender equity, of globalization, technological change and pension system reforms.

3. Meetings of organizations within the United Nations system

During the period under review, ECLAC participated in the sixth session of the Inter-agency Meeting on Women and Gender Equality (New York, 27 February–2 March 2001) and in the nineteenth session of the Sub-Committee on Women, Health, and Development of the Executive Committee of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) (Washington, D.C., 12-14 March 2001).

The Inter-agency Meeting was convened to reformulate a set of recommendations on the orientation, expected outcomes and appropriate approaches adopted by bodies within the United Nations system in respect of gender equality. It also renewed the Commission's mandate to act as coordinator for the working group on gender indicators on behalf of the five regional commissions. The working group was requested to compile a list of the activities of the members of the Inter-agency Committee with respect to gender indicators, and to design a project for compiling information and use of gender indicators in public policy-making, to be conducted over a period of five years.

At its nineteenth session, the Sub-Committee on Women, Health and Development, having considered the advances made in data compilation and the development of gender indicators on the health of women in the region, recommended that the Executive Committee of the Directing Council of PAHO urge member States to develop a new approach to women's health and attach a high priority to —and earmark funds for— the establishment of information systems which may be useful in formulating health policies may be based and which report on the fulfilment of national and international commitments relating to gender equity.

4. Inter-agency meetings

Among its activities in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action, ECLAC hosted the ninth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies in the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 12 September

2000). It was stressed that the following meeting should consider how to ensure gender mainstreaming in the activities of all participating organizations, both with respect to project execution and in terms of priority issues and budgetary decisions.

In collaboration with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Unit also launched the biennial report to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean entitled *Progress of the World's Women 2000* (Santiago, Chile, 9 April 2001) and participated in the electronic conference held at the twenty-first session of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) of the United Nations (22-24 May 2001).

B. PROJECTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

1. Projects

The period under review was particularly productive in terms of project execution. Firstly, work continued on the project “Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectoral ministries”, initiated at the end of the previous biennium and which is now in its final phase. Two projects were started, one on the use of gender indicators in public policy formulation and the other on the gender impact of pension plan reforms in Latin America; a third on strengthening governance capacity of national women’s offices in Latin America and the Caribbean is in the design stage and financing has been secured for the biennium 2002-2003.

Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and sectoral ministries

This two-year project, funded by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and being implemented by the Women and Development Unit, is aimed at strengthening and consolidating the Commission’s institutional capacity with a view to facilitating the systematic integration of the gender approach into its research and cooperation activities for development and into public policy proposals for countries in the region through more intensive collaboration between the Unit and other ECLAC divisions and through technical and conceptual contributions on the gender perspective that can enhance the work of the organization. During the period under review, a study was conducted on the degree of gender mainstreaming in ECLAC and this was used as the basis for formulating recommendations for strengthening and directing this process in the future.

At the country level, the project is a strategic attempt to support technical and political processes by strengthening equitable labour policies in a single economic sector identified as being of strategic importance for development in a particular country: the health sector in Argentina; tourism in Ecuador and the textile and clothing maquila industry in El Salvador. During the period under consideration, various inter-agency meetings were organized in each of these countries to present the objectives, the methodology applicable and the expected outcome of the project, sign cooperation agreements, obtain the full support of institutions participating in

the preparation of country studies and present the main conclusions of such studies. The outcomes of the national processes were as follows: the Ministry of Health of Argentina and the National Council for Women signed an inter-sectoral agreement for implementation at the provincial level; in Ecuador, the National Council for Women, the ministries of tourism, labour and the environment and the National Federation of Peasant, Indigenous and Afro-Ecuadorian Organizations agreed on an inter-sectoral agenda for mainstreaming the gender perspective in labour and economic policies in the tourism sector; and in El Salvador, an agenda and national strategy for the formulation of public policy with gender equity were outlined, specifically for the in-bond processing sector. In each of these three countries, a methodological report was prepared describing the inter-sectoral and participatory strategy applied in the project, in particular its achievements and setbacks, with a view to disseminating and replicating it in other countries of the region. The work conducted in the countries was incorporated in various analytical documents and proposals, some of which have been published in the ECLAC *Mujer y desarrollo* series;⁸ while the full text of the remaining studies is available on the Unit's Web page under the relevant project heading.⁹

The completion of this initial phase of the project coincided with the holding of a regional seminar on gender mainstreaming in economic and labour policies in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 12-13 June 2001), where the representatives of countries participating in the project and ECLAC staff members discussed mechanisms and strategies conducive to public policies with gender equity. Another objective of the seminar was to promote the participation of civil society in national processes and the development of a network of persons and institutions devoted to mainstreaming the gender perspective in public policies in Latin America. Requests for funding for the second phase are already being processed and it is hoped that a new series of similar cooperation activities can soon be started in other countries of the region.

Use of gender indicators in the formulation of public policies

The purpose of the inter-agency project "Use of gender indicators in public policies", funded by the Government of Italy and UNIFEM and which has been underway since October 2000, is to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region in the use of gender indicators in public policy-making. This project, scheduled to last three years, seeks to systematize existing indicators, to construct an integrated system of gender indicators combining available socio-economic indicators with new indicators on participation, empowerment, citizenship and violence, and to give assistance to countries in applying them at the national level.

For the first year of implementation, agreements were signed on the design of gender indicators in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization/Pan-American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO), World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). These agreements set out in detail the scope

⁸ See appendix: "Reports and Publications".

⁹ Web site: <http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/gtz/default.htm>.

for collaborating for the development, construction and up-date of an integrated system of gender indicators which will not only highlight the different realities in which the lives of men and women are unfolding, but also unravel the relationship between the two and point out the new areas in which inequities have shown up as a result of the advancement of women.

A major achievement of the project was the inclusion of specific activities for promoting the use of gender indicators in the programme of work of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which held its first meeting from 9-11 May 2001 in Santiago, Chile). The Conference accepted Bolivia's proposal to host the two technical meetings on statistics and gender indicators and requested the Commission to provide technical cooperation and assistance in organizing these forums, whose conclusions were expected to be a valuable contribution to future discussions. The first of these meetings on "Statistics and gender indicators for measuring the incidence and patterns of violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean" will be held in La Paz, Bolivia, from 21-23 November 2001. The second meeting, which is scheduled for the first half of 2002, is expected to lead to the coordination of a minimum set of indicators for systematizing the production of gender statistics in all countries in the region.

The third component of the project, which invites civil society and Governments to demand and use gender indicators for public policy design and monitoring, attaches a great deal of importance to the development of technical assistance activities for improving the quality of data and advocacy training. At the country level, technical assistance in designing a system of gender indicators was provided to the National Statistical Institute of Bolivia, the National Institute of Statistics, the National Women's Service (SERNAM) and the Ministry for Women's Affairs and Human Development (PROMUDEH) of Chile, and the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics of Peru. In the case of Peru, the system in question was geared specifically to indicators of violence against women. Technical assistance on urban indicators was also provided to the Women and Shelter Network of Argentina. Agreements on similar cooperation activities are expected to be signed in the near future with the Governments of Chile, Honduras, Panama and the Dominican Republic, which have requested the Commission to provide technical assistance in the production of gender indicators.

With respect to strengthening the use of gender indicators by Governments and civil society, this project included a commitment to disseminate the relevant information periodically through a Web page set up specifically for this purpose and launched on 8 March 2001.¹⁰

Gender impact of pension system reforms in Latin America

The project entitled "Gender impact of pension system reforms in Latin America" is the outcome of preliminary consultations with national women's offices and collaboration between divisions within ECLAC. It was started in November 2000 in Bolivia, Colombia and Brazil with funding from the Government of the Netherlands, and will last for 18 months. The basic purpose is to study reforms in the pension systems in these three countries and to determine the extent to which they have helped to overcome inequalities between men and women. The specific aims of

¹⁰ Web site: <http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/perfiles/default.htm>.

the project are as follows: (i) to systematize available knowledge on gender gaps in pension systems; (ii) to document and evaluate the impact of changes in pension systems, including their specific impact in terms of overcoming inequalities, and (iii) to formulate public policy recommendations that help to correct related gender inequalities in selected countries with the participation of national women's offices, civil society and female pension-fund beneficiaries.

The project comprises a legal-institutional study, a comparative analysis of the conceptual framework that prompted the pension reforms in selected countries and a study of the relationship between demographic change, women's participation in the labour force and the characteristics of pension systems in terms of access and benefits; in this regard, the links between these two are examined as well as current provisions and practices.

Lastly, a project has been designed for strengthening the capacity of national women's offices in Latin America and the Caribbean in terms of governance, and financing has already been approved for the biennium 2002-2003 through the Development Account of the United Nations.

2. Technical assistance

During the period under review, the Women and Development Unit carried out and supervised the following technical assistance activities:

(i) Coordination of the publication of the book "Las Mujeres Chilenas en los Noventa. Hablan las Cifras" (Libros de la CEPAL series No. 57 (LC/G.2105-P). United Nations Publication, Sales No. S.00.II.G.92) with the National Women's Service of Chile (Santiago, Chile, June-September 2000).

(ii) Technical assistance in preparing a proposal for incorporating policies on equal opportunities in the goals of the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Telecommunications of Chile for the six-year period 2000-2006 (Santiago, Chile, September 2000).

(iii) Support for the formulation of coordination strategies between academia, non-governmental organizations and the National Women's Service of Chile (Santiago, Chile, September 2000).

(iv) Technical assistance (funded by UNIFEM) to the fourth specialized meeting of Mercosur on women, where a paper was presented entitled "El mercado laboral en el Mercosur, Bolivia y Chile desde una perspectiva de género. Tendencias y propuestas" (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 30 November and 1 December 2000).

(v) Participation in the preparation of policy recommendations for research for development with the Netherlands Development Assistance Research Council (Amsterdam, Netherlands, 14-21 October 2000).

(vi) Support for gender mainstreaming from the Ministry for Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru, in the context of the government of transition and in preparation of the proposal "Hacia el Ministerio de Promoción de la Mujer y del Desarrollo Humano que el país necesita" (Lima, Peru, 14-16 February 2001; Santiago, Chile, 12-13 March 2001).

(vii) Support for the process of accountability of the National Council for Women of the Government of Ecuador vis-à-vis civil society (Quito, Ecuador, 26-30 March 2001).

(viii) Technical assistance in the preparation of a supplementary study for the inclusion of gender indicators in the "Informe Nacional de Desarrollo Humano 2000" (National Human Development Report 2000) of Guatemala (April-December 2000) and support in coordinating the "Informe Nacional de Desarrollo Humano 2001" within the framework of the activities of the UNDP unit responsible for socio-economic analysis (April 2001-February 2002).

(ix) Provision of technical assistance to the Centre for Gender Studies and Culture for Latin America and the Faculty of Philosophy and the Humanities in the University of Chile for the development of the research project on production and transfer of a dialogue-type model for educating young people on sexuality and reproductive health (Santiago, Chile, two-year agreement effective May 2001).

C. GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN ECLAC

1. Office of the Executive Secretary

During the period under consideration, the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC continued to rely on the substantive support of the Women and Development Unit in its activities in follow-up to the regional conferences organized by the Commission, the two most noteworthy being the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the Special Session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Santiago, Chile, 25-27 October 2000) and the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (Santiago, Chile, 9-11 May 2001). The Unit also collaborated with the Office of the Executive Secretary in developing a theoretical framework on the impact of globalization on gender equity and in the preparation of the position paper to be presented at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission (Brasilia, 6-10 May 2002).

2. Population Division of ECLAC - Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)

As in the previous biennium, the Population Division (CELADE) has systematically incorporated the gender perspective in all areas of its work, three of which received special attention during the period under review, as outlined below.

The gender variable is taken into account in all CELADE studies of demographic trends, in particular in its population estimates and projections by country, which are published in its Demographic Bulletin. During the reporting period, Bulletin No. 66, containing projections by calendar year, sex and simple ages, and Bulletin No. 67 on life tables by sex were published.

The applied research studies and technical support activities on social vulnerability and demography provided in response to requests by countries in the region identified the main risks and disadvantages revealed by population variables and which have repercussions at the individual, household and community levels in the region. In order to systematize the analysis and account for the complex regional heterogeneity, risk and disadvantage scenarios were prepared for three long-term demographic processes: demographic transition, urban transition and mobility and the second demographic transition. The results of this line of research indicate that whereas it is mainly women who stand to gain from demographic transition, since their life expectancy increases more substantially and they benefit from lower fertility, this transition entails new risks that are usually more severe for women (such as those linked to ageing); moreover, it does not ensure —although it does favour— a greater equilibrium in the relationship between men and women and leaves gaps that affect essentially the latter, including an increase in teenage pregnancies. Whereas the second demographic transition affords greater opportunities as regards gender equity —in fact, some of its components are the result of increased rights for women and more balanced relationships between men and women— its new attendant risks, for example the higher rate of separation, often have a greater impact on women and their children. Furthermore, the adverse effects of these new trends can be aggravated by laws and policies which, for ideological reasons, deny their very validity and existence, despite abundant proof of their increasing prevalence.

The indicators prepared by the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC to assess compliance with the agreements embodied in the Beijing Platform for Action were taken into consideration during the preparation of a system of indicators for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994) and its five-year review – Cairo +5 (New York, 1999). By virtue of the very nature of the agreements contained in the Cairo Programme of Action, variations in these indicators will also reflect some of the advances and setbacks recorded in the integration of women into the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Lastly, studies on vulnerable groups (young people and adolescents, as well as senior citizens) have called for special attention to gender specificity and the status of women. In the case of the former, while there are signs of increasing equality between young men and women in areas such as education, when it comes to reproductive responsibilities in cases of early

parenthood, the greater burden continues to fall on women. Bearing in mind, moreover, that the rate of teenage pregnancy is much higher among poor girls, these should be the main target groups of measures designed to improve family-planning and facilitate the postponement of intercourse and the first pregnancy. In the case of older persons, since women have a longer life expectancy, they already do—and will increasingly in the future—account for a greater proportion of older persons. According to studies, today's female senior citizens had few opportunities, during their active life, to set aside part of their income for their old age, a situation which, with some qualifications, is being repeated among active women today, who participate less in the labour market, receive lower income and retire earlier than their male counterparts, all of which poses considerable challenges to the State, families and the community.

3. Statistics and Economic Projections Division

The Statistics and Economic Projections Division has increasingly supported the Women and Development Unit's efforts to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system with a view to formulating gender indicators, and has incorporated additional sex-disaggregated data in its Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean.¹¹ During the period under review, its support was particularly important at the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (Santiago, Chile, 9-11 May), as was its assistance in the preparation of the above-mentioned technical meetings on statistics and gender indicators, following their approval at that Conference.

4. Social Development Division

In the course of the year, the Social Development Division conducted various technical assistance activities, as well as research and studies, and training and dissemination activities relating to gender analysis.

In the area of cooperation for development, one officer from the Division took part in bimonthly meetings with the National Women's Service (SERNAM) of Chile to consider gender equity for the design of a system of statistics and gender indicators which would include a special module on poverty. The objectives of this activity were to systematize existing information, give greater visibility to the status of women and determine the advances and setbacks in efforts to achieve gender equity (September to December 2000). During the same period, SERNAM also provided assistance on family-oriented policies to support the study of the Interministerial Group on the Family and the publication of the book "Familias y políticas: una reflexión necesaria". In the first half of 2001, technical assistance was provided to the Government of Transition in Peru on cross-cutting policy issues relating to the family and in Chile, lectures were given on family policies at SERNAM and the Foundation for the Family.

¹¹ The 2000 edition (LC/G.2118-P) was published in March 2000.

The Division also published studies incorporating the gender perspective, the most important being *Producción, tráfico y consumo de drogas en América Latina*, Políticas sociales series, No. 41¹² and *Violencia criminal y seguridad pública en América Latina: la situación en Argentina*, Políticas sociales series, No. 43.¹³

Through its participation in conferences and study meetings, the Social Development Division also made contributions to academic research on gender issues. Mention should also be made of the following papers: “Chile y Uruguay en los noventa: cambios en el mercado laboral por género” presented at the International seminar on work, gender and citizenship in countries of the Southern Cone, organized jointly by the Department of Sociology of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of the Republic (Uruguay) and the Chair for the Culture of Peace of the Association of Universities, Montevideo Group-UNESCO (Montevideo, Uruguay, 6-8 September 2000); “¿Nuevas familias para un nuevo siglo?” presented at the fifth Ibero-American conference on the family which focused on the impact of globalization on families (Madrid, 19-22 September 2000); “¿Modernidad en el mercado laboral urbano por género? Chile y Uruguay en los noventa”, presented at the seventh International seminar on the social sciences and the humanities; fields, methods, paradigms: new developments in human and social sciences, organized by the Institute for Advanced Studies of the University of Santiago de Chile (Santiago, Chile, 4-11 January 2001); and “¿Vulnerabilidad de las familias o familias vulnerables?”, presented at the International seminar on the different manifestations of social vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized by CELADE (Santiago, Chile, 20-21 June 2001). Members of the Division also participated in the seminar on women in the working world: a challenge for development, organized jointly by IDB and ECLAC (Santiago, Chile, 17 March 2001) and in the international seminar and workshop on Labour changes: conditions for a sustainable labour system, organized by the Centre for Women’s Studies (CEM) (Santiago, Chile, 18-20 April 2001).

On the other hand, the Division has provided teaching staff who have shared their experience in gender studies. Among the courses conducted were: “Introducción al núcleo de concentración: desigualdades sociales, acciones colectivas y políticas sociales”, in the module on social policies and gender of the Master’s in sociology of the University of the Republic (Montevideo, Uruguay, July 2000); part of the module “Problemas conceptuales y metodológicos en la producción de conocimientos y en las prácticas profesionales” of the Diploma in Studies on Gender and Society at the University of the Academy of Christian Humanism (Santiago, Chile, May-July 2001), and the module: “Bases sociales y económicas del desarrollo con énfasis en América Latina” in the Master’s programme in Gender and Development at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Madrid, Spain, 27-30 March 2001).

¹² LC/L.1431-P/E, October 2000.

¹³ LC/L.1439, November 2000.

5. Division of Production, Productivity and Management

The Division of Production, Productivity and Management also conducted activities incorporating the gender dimension. During the period under review, officers from the Division collaborated with the Committee on Women in Statistics of the International Statistical Institute to strengthen women's participation in the profession and foster the generation and use of gender statistics. In this connection, officials from the Division attended the Conference of the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) on statistics, development and human rights (Montreux, Switzerland, September 2000) and submitted the paper *Women in Statistics: Where are we?* The Division also collaborated in completing the project of the Committee on Women in Statistics entitled: *A Characterization of Statisticians by Gender in Several Countries* and prepared the relevant final report. Other tasks included the preparation of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly of the International Statistical Institute (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 22-29 August 2001), including the organization of the scientific meetings of the above-mentioned Committee *Measuring the Status of Women and Minorities in Society* and *Women's Contributions to Leadership in Statistical Education*; preparation of the paper *The Characterization of Women Statisticians*. The Division also published the study: *Mujeres en la Estadística: la profesión habla*, Desarrollo productivo series, No. 89.¹⁴

Members of the Agricultural Development Unit of the Division made gender-focused contributions for presentation at different forums. These included the paper "Empleo rural, grupos etarios y género" presented at the Seminar on non-agricultural rural employment, organized by the Paraná Institute of Agronomy/ASE and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)/Cooperation Programme for Rural Development in the Southern Cone (PROCORDER II) (Londrina, Brazil, 16-20 October 2000); and the paper "Distancia a mercados, áreas de poco potencial agrícola, empleo rural no agrícola, grupos etarios y género: lo que sabemos y lo que no sabemos", presented in the panel on the relationship between gender, development and public policies for the rural world, during the training session on gender indicators for members of the rural board organized by the National Women's Service (SERNAM) of Chile (Santiago, Chile, 19-20 April 2001).

6. Environment and Human Settlements Division

The Environment and Human Settlements Division prepared and organized the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference Preparatory to the Special Session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Santiago, Chile, 25-27 October 2000). On that occasion, the Women and Development Unit, with support from the project "Institutionalization of gender policies within ECLAC and in sectoral ministries in the region" assisted in the organization of a round table on "Governance and security of tenure"; the resulting recommendations are set forth in the Santiago Declaration on Human

¹⁴ LC/L.1436-P, November 2000.

Settlements adopted at the Regional Conference.¹⁵ The Division had already received support from the Women and Development Unit in incorporating the gender perspective in the position paper entitled “From rapid urbanization to the consolidation of human settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean: a territorial perspective”,¹⁶ which it presented at the Conference.

7. International Trade Division

In its programme of work 2000-2001 on integration, open regionalism and regional cooperation, the Division of International Trade incorporated a gender-based objective, namely objective 1.5 “Distributive aspects of Latin American and Caribbean linkages with the global economy”; under this heading, a meeting of experts will be held to examine the effects of liberalization and globalization on the most vulnerable social groups and to formulate appropriate policies, and a study will be published on the impact of liberalization and globalization on production and employment, with emphasis on the consequences for different vulnerable social groups, in particular, women, in specific countries of the region. In this connection, and in conjunction with the Women and Development Unit, the Division is organizing a meeting of experts on globalization, technological change and gender equity, to be held in São Paulo, Brazil, in November 2001. The Division’s contribution to this meeting will be a document on the state of knowledge relating to globalization and gender.

8. Programme Planning and Operations Division

The gender perspective is being increasingly incorporated into the Commission’s regular Programme of Work for 2002-2003 as a direct result of intersectoral collaboration between the Programme Planning and Operations Division, the Women and Development Unit and the other substantive divisions. With respect to extrabudgetary projects, the Project Management Unit, maintaining the policy it adopted in the previous biennium, has invited professionals from the Women and Development Unit to participate in workshops to define the work plans with a view to incorporating the gender perspective.

9. Extrabudgetary projects

The ECLAC projects which incorporate the gender perspective are set out below with a description of the specific objectives and activities envisaged:

CELADE has continued to coordinate the regional biliteracy project on production, the environment, gender and reproductive health, financed by UNFPA and UNIFEM. Under this

¹⁵ See *Report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the Special Session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda* (Santiago, Chile, 25-27 October 2000) (LC/G.2126(CONF.88/4)).

¹⁶ LC/G.2116(CONF.88/3).

project, which was started in the previous biennium, a methodology for local action which was successfully applied on a small scale in Cuzco, Peru in 1997 is now being tested on a large scale in various countries of the region, namely, Bolivia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru. Special attention is given to gender equity through community work that produces a break with the pattern of strict subordination of women. The emphasis on the social and cultural situation also facilitates a critical approach to the daily behaviour patterns of men and women.

One of the main objectives of the joint ECLAC/GTZ project “Policy options to promote the development of agricultural land markets with a view to facilitating land transfer to small farmers” conducted by the Agricultural Development Unit in the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, is to propose policies for the development of rural and peri-urban land markets in the light of criteria of efficiency, equity and gender. In order to promote equal access by women to the rural land market as one way of fostering their economic independence and overcoming poverty in the rural sector, a study was conducted on the status of women in respect of access to land in some countries of Latin America (Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay). The conclusions of the final document *Las mujeres y el acceso a la tierra* were presented to the panel on access to land for less privileged groups at the Regional seminar on land markets in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 30 November-1 December 2000), and this activity marked the completion of the project.

The final outcome of the project “Growth, employment and equity: Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s”, executed by the Economic Development Division was the publication, among others, of two books incorporating elements for gender analysis: *The income distribution problem in Latin America and the Caribbean*,¹⁷ which considers the wage gap between men and women by level of education, and *Economic reforms, growth and employment: labour markets in Latin America and the Caribbean*,¹⁸ which analyses the gender impact of labour market changes in the region.

The project “Improved damage assessment methodology to promote natural disaster mitigation and risk reduction awareness and preparedness in Latin America and the Caribbean”, which was launched in August 1999 with funding from the Government of the Netherlands, is being executed by the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico and the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean. During the period under review, the Women and Development Unit continued to provide support to these offices in the preparation of two subregional gender-disaggregated studies on the impact of natural disasters, as well as in the revision of the *Manual para la estimación de los efectos socioeconómicos de los desastres naturales*, originally published by ECLAC in 1991. In addition to these two gender-focused studies on the impact of natural disasters in Central America and the Caribbean, a third study on the situation in El Salvador was started in the first half of 2001 following the earthquake that struck that country with funding from the Government of Italy; it is being executed by the Environment and Human Settlements Division. In addition, the Women and Development Unit

¹⁷ LC/G.2127-P, May 2001.

¹⁸ LC/G.2121-P, November 2000.

participated in the design of a methodology to enable the disaster assessment team in El Salvador to measure losses in terms of women's unpaid work.¹⁹

Lastly, under an agreement with the Regional Secretariat for Planning and Coordination (SERPLAC, Chile), the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) has continued to participate in a project funded by IDB and the National Fund for Regional Development of Chile to update the development strategy for the Santiago metropolitan area. Within the framework of the project, which is aimed at preparing guidelines and specific actions based on five subject areas, an inter-divisional work meeting was organized, to which the Women and Development Unit was specially invited, to review gender mainstreaming in three of these subject areas: citizenship, competitiveness and identity, and regional culture (Santiago, Chile, 4 August 2000).

D. ACTIVITIES OF ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1. ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico

During the period covered by this report, the Subregional Headquarters in Mexico, which also covers the Central American countries, continued to intensify the process of mainstreaming the gender perspective into both its own substantive activities and those of the countries of the Central American subregion. In particular, the Social Development Unit published the final version of the document *Centroamérica: avances en el cumplimiento de la Plataforma y el Programa de Acción Regional para las Mujeres de América Latina y el Caribe, 1995-1999*,²⁰ and carried out the following studies which include gender analysis: the *Informe de la Reunión de Expertos sobre remesas en México: propuestas para su optimización*,²¹ *Indicadores sociales básicos de la Subregión Norte de América Latina y el Caribe*,²² 2000-2001 edition, a compilation of quantitative and qualitative information with a greater quantity of gender-disaggregated data, and *Mujer rural, escolaridad y empleo en el Istmo Centroamericano: hacia una identificación de áreas prioritarias de políticas públicas*,²³ prepared in the context of the sub-item on employment, equity and gender in the work programme of the subregional headquarters and then analysed at a meeting of experts that was organized with financial support from FAO (Mexico City, 26 January 2001).

Similarly, the Social Development Unit compiled bibliographical and statistical information to produce the document *Vivienda y pobreza: la experiencia salvadoreña en construcción urgente tras los terremotos*, which will be published at the subregional headquarters. Staff members from the Unit will undertake a mission to San Salvador in order to ask for the available information on the topic from the government agencies responsible for

¹⁹ See www.eclac.cl/mujer/noticias/noticias/9/6699/INFORMEterremoto.PDF.

²⁰ LC/MEX/L.444, September 2000.

²¹ LC/MEX/L.452(SEM.115/2), December 2000.

²² LC/MEX/L.460, April 2001.

²³ LC/MEX/R.793, December 2000.

reconstruction, as well as from the main non-government organizations participating in the work to assist and resettle the population affected (San Salvador, 20-25 May 2001).

This subregional headquarters has also provided input based on the gender approach for presentation at review meetings. Such contributions included: "Participación de la mujer en la nueva agenda internacional", presented at the Primera Semana de Relaciones Internacionales organized by the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)/Acatlán (Mexico City, 13 February 2001); "Beijing+5: equidad de género, un proceso en marcha", which was presented as part of the activities organized by the General Directorate of the Programme for Women's Services of the government of the State of Hidalgo, for International Women's Day (Pachuca, Mexico, 7 March 2001); and "El envejecimiento en el contexto internacional desde una perspectiva de género" presented at the forum for analysis and discussion of policies for older persons in Mexico City, organized by the Commission for Services for Senior Citizens, Retirees and Pensioners, of the Legislative Assembly (Mexico City, 23 and 24 March 2001).

Similarly, staff members of the Social Development Unit participated in training activities relating to gender analysis, with emphasis on those dealing with informal social security systems in Central America, in the context of the diploma course on social security: challenge, transition and prospects, given by the Inter-American Center for Social Security Studies (CIESS) (Mexico City, 3 November 2000); and the conference "Campo social de Centroamérica" presented at the Course on Higher Command and National Security, General Planning for National Security, of the Centre for Higher Naval Studies (Mexico City, 7 December 2000).

With regard to projects carried out by the subregional headquarters, this office completed the first phase of the project "Reproductive education and responsible parenthood in the Central American isthmus", under which national surveys were held for the first time on responsible parenthood and reproductive education in the six participating countries. Reviews and other documents containing proposals for public policies were then prepared for each country, and presented in a series of national seminars and forums: Costa Rica (23 and 24 October 2000),²⁴ Panama (26 and 27 October 2000);²⁵ Guatemala (6 and 7 November 2000);²⁶ El Salvador (9 and 10 November 2000);²⁷ Nicaragua (20 and 21 November 2000),²⁸ and Honduras (23 November 2000). These activities culminated in the publication of a regional review *Paternidad responsable en el Istmo Centroamericano*²⁹ and a document with proposals for the future, entitled *Iniciativa para la paternidad responsable en el Istmo Centroamericano*.³⁰ The Industrial Development Unit, which is executing the project "Competitiveness of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in Central America", financed by GTZ, is preparing four documents on

²⁴ LC/MEX/R.767(SEM.107/2) and LC/MEX/R.769(SEM.108/2), October 2000.

²⁵ LC/MEX/R.771(SEM.109/2) and LC/MEX/R.773(SEM.110/2), 16 October 2000.

²⁶ LC/MEX/R.776(SEM.111/2) and LC/MEX/R.776(SEM.112/2), 19 October 2000.

²⁷ LC/MEX/R.780(SEM.113/2) and LC/MEX/R.782(SEM.114/2), 19 October 2000.

²⁸ LC/MEX/R.785(SEM.116/2) and LC/MEX/R.787(SEM.117/2), 1 November 2000.

²⁹ LC/MEX/L.475, 27 June 2001.

³⁰ LC/MEX/R.805, 26 June 2001.

the situation in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador, which incorporate the gender perspective as a major variable. The initial version is scheduled for completion in October 2001.

In addition, the subregional headquarters has organized a series of internal activities intended to convey and promote technical knowledge relating to the gender perspective, with a view to encouraging gender mainstreaming in the substantive work of ECLAC. The main activities included the workshop on Sex and gender in public policies, organized with the support of the training committee of the subregional headquarters (Mexico City, 28 September 2000); the organization, in conjunction with UNIFEM, of a meeting on macroeconomics and gender, with the participation of the co-editor of the book *Macroeconomía, Género y Estado*, published by the Government of Colombia with the sponsorship of GTZ (Mexico City, 28 November 2000); and the seminar "El género en el análisis económico y social" (Mexico City, eight sessions in February and March 2001). In order to follow up on this seminar a new activity on macroeconomics and gender is planned, and will take place in September 2001.

2. ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

During the period covered by this report, the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean organized two expert meetings, one on gender and macroeconomic policies in the Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 16 and 17 October 2000) and the other on: Development of Social Statistical Databases and a Methodological Approach for a Social Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States (12 and 13 February 2001). The first meeting considered the impact of macroeconomic policies on social and gender equity, identified the areas in which additional empirical studies were needed, and examined better ways of achieving gender mainstreaming in the context of macroeconomic policy formulation.³¹ The second meeting benefited from the participation of experts from development cooperation organizations and other subregional institutions which were invited to advise the secretariat on implementation of the project on statistical databases on social issues.

Similarly, the Subregional Headquarters organized the Working Group Meeting on the Development of Data Collection Protocols/Information Systems on Domestic Violence (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 20 February 2001). The result was the proposal of guidelines for formulating a pilot protocol to ensure precise recording of this information on the basis of police and judicial records. In addition, the secretariat provided substantive support for the CARICOM Women's Desk: Meeting of Technical Officers with responsibility for Women and Development (Kingston, Jamaica, 5-8 December 2000).

With regard to technical cooperation activities, the Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean provided assistance to the Women's Bureau of the Dominican government, which included taking responsibility for moderating the national symposium "The Journey from Women and Development to Gender Mainstreaming" (Roseau, Dominica, 18-20 October 2000),

³¹ See Report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Gender and Macroeconomic Policies in the Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 16 and 17 October 2000) (LC/CAR/G.626).

as well as the preparation and execution of a survey, based on probabilistic samples, on the incidence and experience of violence in Dominica (February 2001). It is also providing support to the Government of Haiti by coordinating the project that was recently begun on strengthening the civil registration system. The project is financed by the UNDP, and will include a status report as well as drafting of recommendations on different possible enhancement strategies, with special reference to the socio-economic context and the challenges relating to resources. The Governments of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago have applied, respectively, for cooperation, assistance in converting their Women's Bureau into a Gender Bureau, and for assistance for their Gender Affairs Unit in its activities for gender mainstreaming.

The Subregional Headquarters is also providing substantive operational support for implementation of the legislative reform project on the family and domestic violence in the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. In that context, the working document *The Status of Research on Family Law in the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States*³² was drafted and an assessment completed on the implementation of laws against domestic violence in Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The initial version of this study is currently being revised. The Subregional Headquarters also collaborated with the Gender and Youth Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat in the revision of the "Gender Management Systems Document. Gender Mainstreaming in the Legal and Constitutional Sector: A Reference Manual for Governments and Other Stakeholders". A report was also prepared on international human rights standards in relation to women's economic rights, which was presented at the seminar "Women in Politics and Women's Economic Rights", organized by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Human Rights Association (Kingstown, Saint Vincent, 4 October 2000).

In April 2001, CARICOM invited representatives of the Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean to participate in its Gender Mainstreaming Task Force; the report of this group will be submitted to the Ministerial Policy Round Table on Gender and Development at the next conference of CARICOM ministers (Georgetown, Guyana, 2 October 2001).

In addition, the Social Development Unit of this subregional headquarters has published the first three issues of its newsletter *Gender Dialogue*, devoted to topical issues of gender mainstreaming in public policies in Caribbean countries.

Lastly, this Unit has received many requests for technical cooperation for drafting public policies aimed at young men. In response, consultations were held in Grenada and Saint Lucia and a preliminary document is being prepared with recommendations on the issue, taking into account the different points of view encountered in the assessment.

³² LC/CAR/R.52, January 2001.

III. OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. MEETINGS

1. Meetings organized by ECLAC

The book *Género, propiedad y empoderamiento: tierra, Estado y mercado en América Latina* was launched at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, on 22 April 2001. It was presented by the authors and comments were made by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, the Minister for the National Women's Service of Chile, and experts from the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) and the Women's Development Research Centre (CEDEM). This book, published by Tercer Mundo Editores of Colombia, presents the results of the most recent research on land ownership rights in Latin America. Other issues dealt with are gender inequality at the levels of the family, the State and the market, factors which impede the achievement of the level of equality established by legislation and the effects of neoliberal reforms on women and men.

2. Meetings co-sponsored by ECLAC

A training workshop "Hombres y mujeres: sujetos de la gestión pública", organized jointly by ECLAC, the National Women's Service (SERNAM) and UNDP, was held at ECLAC headquarters for senior officials of the Chilean government, to work out possible approaches to the adoption of gender equality policies for all government sectors (Santiago, Chile, 17 August 2000).

With the cooperation of the Andean Commission of Jurists the international seminar "Protección de los derechos humanos de la mujer: estándares internacionales" was also held at ECLAC headquarters. Jurists from countries of the Andean region participated. This meeting was moderated by the Women and Development Unit, which also presented the paper "Los derechos humanos de las mujeres: perspectivas para la adecuación de los estándares internacionales en el derecho interno de los países de la región andina" (Santiago, Chile, 11 and 12 December 2000).

ECLAC and the Governments of Chile and Norway took part in the IDB-sponsored meeting "Mujer en el trabajo: un reto para el desarrollo", organized as part of the IDB seminar on social equity. At this meeting, the Women and Development Unit collaborated in particular in the organization of the panel "Equidad de género en los sistemas de pensiones y protección social de la región", at which it also made a presentation (Santiago, Chile, 17 March 2001).

3. Other inter-agency meetings

With regard to other aspects of inter-agency coordination, during the first half of 2001 and in the framework of the inter-agency project "Use of gender indicators in developing public policies", the Women and Development Unit held various coordination meetings, mainly with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the World Health Organization/Pan-American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO).

The Unit continued to participate in the political Advisory Committee which advises on the study "Gender and equity in access to health services in the reforms of health and social security systems", carried out by PAHO in Chile through its Research Coordination Programme and the Programme on Women, Health and Development of its Division of Health and Human Development. ECLAC, together with other United Nations organizations, also participated in the first Symposium on equity and gender in health reform policies in Chile, organized by WHO/PAHO in collaboration with the National Women's Service (SERNAM) (Santiago, Chile, 25 April 2001).

With regard to the follow-up of commitments undertaken by ECLAC concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas, a representative of the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. took part as an observer in the first regular session of the Executive Committee 2000-2002 of the Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW), of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in Washington, D.C. on 15 and 16 February 2001.

4. Participation in other meetings

ECLAC representatives participated in the following meetings:

(i) Symposium on family violence, sponsored by the Women's International Zionist Organization/Chilean Israeli Institute of Culture/Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (ASONG), Santiago, Chile, 10 August 2000; presentation of the paper "Desafíos regionales para la eliminación de la violencia intrafamiliar";

(ii) International seminar on Latin American experience in the prevention of family violence, Lima, Peru, 23 August 2000; presentation of the paper "Avances en el abordaje de la violencia familiar desde una mirada de la región";

(iii) First international seminar on businesswomen "SIME 2000", organized by the support programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (APYME) of the Faculty of Administration and Economics of the University of Santiago, Santiago, Chile, 25 August 2000; presentation of the paper "Mujeres empresarias en América Latina: el difícil equilibrio entre dos mundos de trabajo. Desafíos para el futuro";

(iv) International Workshop on Gender Statistics for Policy Monitoring and Benchmarking, Orvieto, Italy, 9-13 October 2000; presentation of the inter-agency project "Use of gender indicators in public policy-making", coordinated by ECLAC;

(v) Conference of European Statisticians, Orvieto, Italy, 11-13 October 2000; presentation of the paper "La perspectiva de los usuarios en el uso de las estadísticas de género" at the Work Session on Gender Statistics;

(vi) Meeting "Women's leadership: theory and practice", organized by the Program for the Support of Women's Leadership and Representation (PROLEAD) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Cancún, Mexico, 28-30 August 2000; presentation of the paper "Liderazgo de la mujer: teoría y práctica. Cuando la forma lo es casi todo..." in the working group "Ascenso al poder: el contexto para el cambio";

(vii) Meeting of experts from Latin America and the Caribbean on Chapter 3 (Outlook) of the GEO-3 report (Global Environment Outlook) organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Centre for Public Policy Analysis of the University of Chile, 14-16 November 2000; a contribution was made on the gender approach to the environmental situation in Latin America;

(viii) Meeting of experts on economic, social and cultural rights and the Inter-American system for the defence of human rights, organized by the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH), San José, Costa Rica, 15-17 November 2000; contribution on the gender perspective in the approach to economic, social and cultural rights;

(ix) International seminar on municipal gender policies, La Paz, Bolivia, 20 November 2000; presentation of the paper "Situación regional de las políticas municipales de género";

(x) Seminar/workshop on gender and poverty, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 7-9 February 2001, organized as part of the project of the Family Allowance Programme (PRAF)/UNDP "Apoyo a la ejecución de la política de igualdad de oportunidades en el área de pobreza"; a reference document was prepared "Género y pobreza: los mandatos internacionales";

(xi) Technical Meeting on the Integrated System of Gender Indicators in the Area of Labour and Education, Brazilian Institute of Municipal Administration, Rio de Janeiro, 13 and 14 February 2001;

(xii) Main conference of the seminar/workshop "Municipal management and equal opportunities", Sur-Consultores/SERNAM, Santiago, Chile, 23 March 2001; presentation of the main paper "Gobiernos locales y equidad de género";

(xiii) National meeting "Managers and leaders among older persons", held in Chile (V Region), 3-6 May 2001; presentation of a paper on gender inequities in social welfare systems; and

(xiv) Seminar "Employment security, socio-economic security and social vulnerability", German Foundation for International Development (DSE)/Interdisciplinary Centre for Public Policy Research (CIEPP)/Research Centre on Population, Employment and Development (CEPED), Buenos Aires, Argentina, 25-27 June 2001; presentation of the paper "El trabajo de las mujeres: amenazas, seguridades y necesidad de políticas públicas. Notas para un debate".

B. TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The accumulated experience of ECLAC on mainstreaming the gender perspective in various areas of regional development has resulted in increasing numbers of requests from countries of the region for professionals from the Women and Development Unit to conduct teaching and training activities. Bearing in mind the significant contribution that these activities can make to the formulation of public policy, these activities were given high priority, despite the lack of resources, during the period covered by the report. The main activities included the following:

(i) Provision of tuition for the course on the new challenges of social inequity in the seminar "Ten years of gender studies at the Catholic University of Peru: social thinking and contemporary challenges", Social Sciences Faculty of the Catholic University of Peru (PUCP) (Lima, Peru, 21-25 August 2000);

(ii) Provision of tuition for the Inter-American course "Civil society and human rights", organized by the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH) (San José, Costa Rica, 13-17 November 2000);

(iii) Provision of tuition for the sixth International Course on Women and Human Rights, organized by the non-governmental organization, Manuela Ramos (Lima, Peru, 13-15 December 2000);

(iv) Class on interdisciplinarity and gender mainstreaming at the Academy of Christian Humanism (Santiago, Chile, 28 May 2001);

(v) Class on the inclusion of the gender equity principle in the development processes, Master's Degree in Anthropology and Development, University of Chile (Santiago, Chile, 29 May 2001);

(vi) Class on the contributions of the gender perspective to the analysis of social changes in Latin America and the Caribbean and the factors which are an obstacle to social integration, Doctorate in Social Sciences, University of Arts and Social Sciences (ARCIS) (Santiago, Chile, 28 June 2001);

(vii) Internship orientation provided to a graduate of the Universidad Externado de Colombia registered in the Master's degree course in International Studies of the University of

Chile. The object of this internship was to systematize the information available in the region on gender statistics and indicators, as well as on issues relating to the Beijing Platform for Action.

C. ACTIVITIES ON THE ELECTRONIC NETWORK

During the period covered by this report, one of the most dynamic aspects of the work of the Women and Development Unit was the electronic dissemination of its activities on the Internet. For that purpose, a Web site was designed and constructed, which is accessible from the ECLAC home page, and was officially launched on 8 March 2001. In addition to providing information on the Unit's publications, meetings and projects, the new portal allows Internet users to have access to the complete version of regional and international instruments for promoting gender equity and all information relating to the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and its Presiding Officers.

The Web site also provides access to a page devoted to the topic "La situación de las mujeres en América Latina y el Caribe", which is regularly updated with information from the project "Use of gender indicators in public policy-making". At present, users have access to 22 profiles of countries in the region, based on a minimum set of indicators, and to a series of regional comparative socio-economic indicators relating to: population and health, education, households and family, employment, income and political participation. This information is being updated to the period 1999-2000 for all the countries with the corresponding data. The updated series will be published together with a comparative thematic review at regional level.

In addition to the information on each country, the site provides a direct link to the relevant national file in the *Directorio de organismos nacionales a cargo de las políticas y programas para las mujeres de América latina y el Caribe*, which may also be accessed independently. The same procedure gives access to information in the database on programmes and projects for the advancement of women which are taking place in the Latin American and Caribbean region, whose establishment was entrusted to ECLAC by virtue of resolution III(VIII) of the eighth Regional conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000).

It is interesting to note that the facilities offered by the technologies used in the electronic network give greater visibility to the efforts of the Women and Development Unit to mainstream the gender perspective in the substantive work of ECLAC. Thus, thanks to the timely introduction of hyperlinks in the Unit's own Web site, the information offered to users in certain topical areas can be supplemented, by links to sites of the other substantive divisions, which demonstrate the possibilities for gender analysis in their respective fields of work.

Lastly, great importance has been given to the agreement signed by ECLAC and the World Bank on the generation of substantive information for the Development Gateway Portal, an electronic megasite established by the latter agency. As the gender issue was defined as a priority issue in that agreement, the "Género y desarrollo" site has, from the beginning,

contained political documents of significance to the region, such as the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean 1995-2000 and the Lima Consensus, as well as publications from the “Mujer y desarrollo” series and the database on the status of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. In relation to the latter, it should be noted that the World Bank is preparing national sites accessible through its global site, each of which will have a direct hyperlink to the relevant national profile in the Women and Development Unit's site.

Annex

STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS**2000**

Actividades de la Secretaría de la CEPAL relacionadas con la integración de la mujer en el desarrollo económico y social de América Latina y el Caribe desde el 1º de septiembre de 1999 al 30 de junio de 2000 (LC/L.1397(MDM.31/3))

Mujer y trabajo en las reformas estructurales latinoamericanas durante las décadas de 1980 y 1990, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 28 (LC/ L.1378-P)

Las mujeres chilenas en los noventa. Hablan las cifras, Libros de la CEPAL series, No. 57 (LC/G.2105-P)

Informe de la Novena Reunión de los Organismos Especializados y otras Organizaciones del Sistema de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Adelanto de las Mujeres de América Latina y el Caribe (LC/L.1467)

Informe de la Trigésima Primera Reunión de la Mesa Directiva de la Conferencia Regional sobre la Mujer de América Latina y el Caribe (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4))

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