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

Santiago, Chile, 5 and 6 September 2002

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

“Governance and gender equity”

A. BACKGROUND

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean is a subsidiary organ of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) consisting of high-level authorities with responsibility for issues relating to the situation of women and for policies to ensure gender equity in the countries of the region. It is the foremost intergovernmental forum in the region for the analysis of public policies from a gender perspective. The Conference is a permanent body convened at regular intervals in fulfilment of the mandates contained in the 1977 Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development and the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Both of these documents reflect the regional agenda, which is shaped by the international commitments undertaken at the Fourth World Conference on Women and other world summits.

At their thirtieth meeting, held in Lima in February 2000 during the eighth session of the Regional Conference, the Presiding Officers agreed that one of their two annual meetings should be open to all countries members of the Conference. At their thirty-third meeting, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, in October 2001, they agreed to hold their thirty-fourth meeting in the second half of 2002, since ECLAC would be holding its twenty-ninth session in the first half of the year (Brasilia, Brazil, 6-10 May 2002).

Pursuant to agreement 6 adopted at the Presiding Officers' thirty-third meeting,¹ the deliberations at the thirty-fourth meeting will focus on the analysis of national machineries for the advancement of women in relation to governance and public policies, with emphasis on best practices and successful approaches taken by such machineries.

The Presiding Officers will also consider the main issues to be discussed at the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in 2004, bearing in mind the proposal endorsed in agreement 7, adopted at their thirty-third meeting, to harmonize regional follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, with the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

¹ "To address the question of the objectives and structure, functions, working methods and outputs of national machineries for the advancement of women, together with their impacts and difficulties, with emphasis on best practices and successful approaches, at the next meeting of the Presiding Officers" (ECLAC, *Report of the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/L.1654(MDM.33/4)), p. 13).

B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Presiding Officers will have before them the following provisional agenda (LC/L.1741(MDM.34/1)) for their adoption or modification:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Review of activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers
3. Analysis of the linkages between democratic governance and gender equity
4. Follow-up to the agreements reached by the Presiding Officers at their previous meetings
5. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat with a view to preparations for the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
6. Other matters

2. Review of activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers

The secretariat will present an oral report on the work done over the period in question and the reference documents circulated to the Presiding Officers to provide detailed information on the relevant activities carried out by ECLAC since the Presiding Officers' thirty-third meeting, including those conducted by other substantive divisions of the Commission.

Reference documents

- Virginia Guzmán, *Las relaciones de género en un mundo global*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 38 (LC/L.1729-P)
- Informe de la Reunión de Expertos sobre Globalización, Cambio Tecnológico y Equidad de Género (LC/L.1707)
- Gloria Bonder, *Las nuevas tecnologías de información y las mujeres: reflexiones necesarias*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 39 (LC/L.1742-P)

- Informe de la Reunión internacional sobre estadísticas e indicadores de género para medir la incidencia y evolución de la violencia contra la mujer en América Latina y el Caribe (La Paz, Bolivia, 21-23 November 2001) (LC/L.1734)
- Diane Alméras, Rosa Bravo, Vivian Milosavljevic, Sonia Montañó and María Nieves Rico, *Violencia contra la mujer en relación de pareja: América Latina y el Caribe. Una propuesta para medir su magnitud y evolución*, Mujer y desarrollo series, No. 40 (LC/L.1744-P)
- Flavia Marco, *Factores jurídicos, demográficos y laborales que determinan diferencias de género en el sistema de pensiones. Los casos de Argentina y Chile* (DDR/6)
- Population Division of ECLAC – Latin American and Caribbean Centre (CELADE), Sociodemographic vulnerability: old and new risks for communities, households and individuals. Summary and conclusions (LC/G.2170(SES.29/16))
- Population Division of ECLAC – Latin American and Caribbean Centre (CELADE), *Boletín demográfico*, No. 70
- Ana María Aranibar and Eduardo Chaparro Ávila, “Las mujeres en la minería boliviana”, ECLAC Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division and Latin American Mining Organization (DDR/7)
- Irma Arriagada, *Familias latinoamericanas: diagnóstico y políticas en los inicios del nuevo siglo*, Políticas sociales series, No. 57 (LC/L.1652-P)
- Beverly Carlson, *Education and the Labour Market in Latin America: Why measurement is important and what it tells us about policies, reforms and performance*, Desarrollo productivo series, No. 114 (LC/L.1631-P)
- ECLAC/CDCC, *An Evaluative Study of the Implementation of Domestic Violence Legislation: Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines* (LC/CAR/G.659)
- ECLAC/CDCC, *Developing Social Policy for Youth with Special Reference to Young Men in Saint Lucia* (LC/CAR/G.667)
- ECLAC/CDCC, *Advancing Gender Equality in the Caribbean: Legislative Approaches to Sex Discrimination* (LC/CAR/G.670)
- ECLAC/CDCC, *Report of the ECLAC/CDCC Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Strategies to End Violence against Women: Data Collection Systems for Domestic Violence in the Caribbean* (LC/CAR/G.674)

- ECLAC/CDCC, *Data Collection Protocol for Domestic Violence* (LC/CAR/G.691)
- ECLAC/CDCC, *Gender Dialogue*, No. 5, November 2001
- ECLAC/CDCC, *Gender Dialogue*, No. 1, April 2002

3. Analysis of the linkages between democratic governance and gender equity

Under the agreements adopted at the Presiding Officers' thirty-third meeting, it was decided that the participants in the thirty-fourth meeting should discuss the objectives, structure, functions, working methods and outputs of national machineries for the advancement of women, together with their impacts and difficulties, with emphasis on best practices and successful approaches. Accordingly, the secretariat proposes that the deliberations at this meeting should focus on the analysis of national machinery for the advancement of women, governance and public policies.

(a) The secretariat will report on the activities carried out under the project "Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean" (Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, section 33, annex, part II D); on the lessons learned in the area of governance under the project on mainstreaming the gender perspective in ECLAC and in sectoral ministries; and on the technical advice and training provided under the inter-agency project on the use of gender indicators in public policy-making.

Reference documents

- Women and Development Unit, *Gobernabilidad democrática y género: Una articulación posible. Marco conceptual* (DDR/2)
- Women and Development Unit, *Descentralización y desarrollo local en América Latina* (DDR/3)
- Women and Development Unit, *Reforma del sistema electoral en América Latina* (DDR/4)
- Questionnaires and information request forms on democratic governance and gender in Latin America and the Caribbean, sent by ECLAC to the countries of the region in May 2002
- Loreto Bravo and María Nieves Rico (eds.), *Hacia la institucionalización del enfoque de género en las políticas económico-laborales en América Latina: Informe del Seminario Regional*, Seminarios y conferencias series, No. 20 (LC/L.1667-P)

(b) The member countries will report on how national machineries for the advancement of women have helped to mainstream the gender perspective in programmes on governance, including their successful approaches and the difficulties encountered in negotiating and implementing reform proposals and best practices in the area of governance and public policies.

Reference document

- Guidelines for the presentation of oral and written reports by the member countries

(c) The countries represented by the Presiding Officers will submit their recommendations for the implementation of the project “Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean”, in accordance with the project description contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Working document

- Women and Development Unit, *Una propuesta de acción: criterios para la selección de países en el proyecto “Fortalecimiento de las capacidades de las oficinas nacionales de la mujer en América Latina y el Caribe para la gobernabilidad”* (DDR/5)

Reference document

- United Nations, Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect. 33))

4. Follow-up to the agreements reached by the Presiding Officers at their previous meetings

(a) The Cuban delegation will report on the implementation of agreements 1 and 3 adopted at the Presiding Officers’ thirty-third meeting. By agreement 1, the States members of ECLAC were called upon to enrich and update their reports on the status of poor women in their countries, taking into account the contributions made during the meeting, in order to provide inputs for the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 4-15 March 2002). By agreement 3, the national machineries for the advancement of women represented at the meeting were requested to share the content and findings of the analysis of the issue of poverty conducted at the thirty-third meeting with their countries’ ministries of foreign affairs and permanent missions to the United Nations, as a means of contributing to the preparation of the directives to be submitted by each country to the Commission.

(b) The Mexican delegation will report on the implementation of agreements 4 and 5 adopted at the Presiding Officers' thirty-third meeting, in which it was proposed that the national delegations attending the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC (Brasilia, Brazil, 6-10 May 2002) should include authorities responsible for gender policies in their countries, and the Chairperson of the Presiding Officers was requested to submit the agreements adopted at their thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third meetings for the consideration of the delegations at that session.

Working document

- ECLAC, Resolution 586(XXIX), adopted at the Commission's twenty-ninth session, entitled "Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean"

Reference document

- ECLAC, *Globalization and development* (LC/G.2157(SES.29/3))

(c) Pursuant to agreement 9 adopted at the Presiding Officers' thirty-third meeting, the ECLAC secretariat will inform the countries of the agenda of future regional, subregional and international meetings relating to women's and gender issues so as to avoid any duplication of effort and facilitate planning.

(d) The countries of the region represented by the Presiding Officers will report on the process of signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in accordance with agreement 7 adopted at the Presiding Officers' thirty-second meeting, under which they agreed to call upon the legislative bodies of the countries that had not yet done so to expedite completion of the procedures leading to the signature, approval or ratification of that instrument.

Working document

- Status, in the Latin American and Caribbean countries, of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (table prepared by the ECLAC Women and Development Unit)

(e) Pursuant to agreement 5 adopted at the Presiding Officers' twenty-eighth meeting, the representatives of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations will submit written reports on the activities they have carried out since the Presiding Officers' preceding meeting, along with oral reports on their activities in relation to the linkages between democratic governance and gender equity.

Working documents

- Written reports of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations

5. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and the ECLAC secretariat with a view to preparations for the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) The secretariat will report on the proposal submitted by the Government of Mexico at the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC to host, in 2004, the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Tentative dates will be proposed for the convening of that session.

(b) The Presiding Officers will consider a proposal from the secretariat on the substantive issues that could serve to guide the deliberations at the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean with a view to harmonizing regional follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, with the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

(c) The Presiding Officers will take decisions concerning their future activities.

6. Other matters

Under this item, the delegations will consider any other issues they may wish to raise.