



**XI** REGIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
**ON WOMEN**  
IN LATIN AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN

Brasilia, 13-16 July 2010

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**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**



UNITED NATIONS



## **A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE**

### **1. Mandate and functions**

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) and is convened in compliance with the mandates contained in the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (1977). The Conference meets periodically at intervals of no more than three years. In accordance with the Plan of Action and the agreements adopted by Governments, it fulfils the following functions:

- To determine regional and subregional needs for technical assistance and give support to all United Nations bodies operating in the region to enable them to meet those needs;
- To put forward recommendations to Governments and to ECLAC itself based on studies carried out by the secretariat on the most feasible way of implementing the agreements adopted by United Nations regional conferences;
- To review and appraise periodically the activities of ECLAC and other United Nations bodies;
- To evaluate periodically the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action and the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean 1995-2001;
- To provide a forum for the exchange of information to facilitate mutual coordination and support for programmes designed to promote gender mainstreaming and the integration of women into the economic and social development process at various levels and permit the countries in the region to share relevant experience.

### **2. Purposes of the session**

The eleventh session of the Regional Conference also has the function of reviewing the implementation of the international commitments undertaken in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the sixth session of the Regional Conference in 1994 and reaffirmed in 2004 in the Mexico City Consensus and in 2007 in the Quito Consensus. To that end, the Conference at its eleventh session will undertake to examine the progress made by the region and the challenges that remain for achieving gender equality, with an emphasis on women's autonomy and economic empowerment.

## **B. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

### **1. Election of officers**

The delegations will elect the Presiding Officers of the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, who will serve as such until new Presiding Officers are chosen at the following session.

In accordance with the criteria established by the Presiding Officers, every effort will be made to ensure that the new Presiding Officers are chosen with due regard for the principles of adequate geographical distribution and rotation. The Presiding Officers consider it necessary to refer to the subject of regular attendance at meetings as “a commitment that countries must make” if they are to serve on that body.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The delegations will have before them for consideration and adoption the provisional agenda:<sup>1</sup>

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Activities carried out by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the ECLAC secretariat and specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations System since the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
4. Presentation of the position paper “What kind of State? What kind of equality?”
5. Consideration and adoption of agreements by the Conference
6. Other matters

The Conference will organize its work in accordance with the proposal made by the secretariat at the forty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference.<sup>2</sup> The programme of the eleventh session of the Regional Conference, which lasts for four days, includes a day-long plenary session encompassing the election of the Presiding Officers, the opening ceremony of the session, comments on the reports presented by the member States, the presentation of the position paper “What kind of State? What kind of equality?” (LC/G.2450(CRM.11/3)), the reading of the document submitted by civil society and a high-level panel.

Two days will then be devoted to simultaneous meetings and a plenary session on Haiti and Chile, and the fourth day will be given over to plenary debate and the adoption of the Brasilia Consensus.

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<sup>1</sup> LC/G.2448(CRM.11/1).

<sup>2</sup> Report of the forty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Port of Spain, 7-8 July 2009 (LC/L.3177), Santiago, Chile, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2009, agreement 2.

### **3. Activities carried out by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the ECLAC secretariat and specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations System since the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean**

The Chair of the Presiding Officers will report to the participants on the virtual forums held in June 2010, to which the national reports on actions undertaken in fulfilment of the Quito Consensus, adopted at the tenth session of the Regional Conference, were submitted. The report of the ECLAC secretariat<sup>3</sup> and the reports of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations System will also be presented.

### **4. Presentation of the position paper “What kind of State? What kind of equality?”**

The secretariat will present the document “What kind of State? What kind of equality?” in accordance with the annotated index of the document approved by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at their forty-third meeting. The document highlights the achievements made by the region and the challenges remaining for achieving gender equality, with an emphasis on women’s autonomy and economic empowerment, and includes a conceptual framework, a diagnosis based on the indicators of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, an analysis of economic and labour policies, a research agenda and proposals. The Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean analysed and commented on the document “What kind of State? What kind of equality?” in two virtual forums held prior to the eleventh session of the Regional Conference.<sup>4</sup>

The delegations will discuss the issues of the eleventh session of the Conference in the framework of a high-level event organized in thematic panels, each addressing a main theme of the document “What kind of State? What kind of equality?” The debate on each of the panels will open with presentations by special guests representing the different sectors engaged in the formulation of public policies on equality, decision-making, the administration of justice, civil society and academia.<sup>5</sup>

### **5. Consideration and adoption of agreements by the Conference**

The proposed agreements that will be submitted to the Conference for consideration will be aimed at adoption of the Brasilia Consensus.

### **6. Other matters**

Under this agenda item, the delegations may consider any other matter they deem appropriate.

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<sup>3</sup> Mainstreaming the gender perspective into regional development: activities of the ECLAC secretariat 2007-2010 (LC/G.2452(CRM.11/5)).

<sup>4</sup> Report of the forty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers, op. cit. agreement 11.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, agreement 4.