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Fifty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers
of the Regional Conference on Women
in Latin America and the Caribbean

Havana, 5-6 October 2017

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean is a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) that brings together government representatives to monitor compliance with international and regional agreements on gender equality and to promote the incorporation of the gender perspective and the guarantee of women's human rights in public policies in countries of the region, in order to make progress towards women's autonomy.

At their fifty-fifth meeting, held on 25 and 26 May 2017 at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean welcomed the offer by the Government of Cuba to hold their fifty-sixth meeting, at which the fortieth anniversary of the Regional Conference would be celebrated, in Havana in the second half of 2017.

The fifty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers will be devoted to the analysis of gender equality plans in the framework of sustainable development in the countries of the region. In addition, a presentation will be given on the theme to be addressed in the position document for the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The working group on the regional fund in support of women's and feminist organizations and movements will also report on its progress at the fifty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers.

B. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Session commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the first session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, held in Havana in 1977, and tribute to Vilma Espín, first President of the Federation of Cuban Women and first Chair of the Regional Conference.
3. High-level panel on the implementation of gender equality plans in the framework of sustainable development.
4. Presentation of the repository of legislation on migration and gender of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Information regarding the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Statistical Conference of the Americas.
6. Discussion on the theme of the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, 2019).
7. Report by the working group on the regional fund in support of women's and feminist organizations and movements.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of agreements.

C. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

Delegations will have before them the provisional agenda (LC/MDM.56/1) for consideration and adoption.

2. Session commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the first session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, held in Havana in 1977, and tribute to Vilma Espín, first President of the Federation of Cuban Women and first Chair of the Regional Conference

A commemorative session will be held to mark the fortieth anniversary of the first session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, held in Havana in 1977, and to pay tribute to Vilma Espín, first President of the Federation of Cuban Women and first Chair of the Regional Conference.

The session will include a high-level panel comprising representatives of the governments, the United Nations system and civil society, who will recall the first session of the Regional Conference and consider the contribution made by the Regional Conference and the Regional Gender Agenda to equality in the region.

Reference document:

- 40 years of the Regional Gender Agenda (LC/G.2682)

3. High-level panel on the implementation of gender equality plans in the framework of sustainable development

Over the past few years, the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean have made increasing efforts to overcome obstacles to the full incorporation of women under equal conditions in all spheres of social, cultural and economic life in the countries. This has led to a number of different public policy measures and proposals.

Accordingly, the countries of the region have designed and implemented gender equality plans, spearheaded by machineries for women's advancement. These plans constitute important policy and planning tools that reflect both existing challenges and the commitment of the States to overcoming them. This theme will be analysed by a high-level panel comprising ministers and authorities of gender machineries of the region whose equality plans are at different stages of implementation.

Reference document:

- Gender equality plans in Latin America and the Caribbean: road maps for development, Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean Studies, No. 1 (LC/PUB.2017/1-P)

4. Presentation of the repository of legislation on migration and gender of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC will present the repository of legislation on migration and gender of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.

5. Information regarding the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Statistical Conference of the Americas

Pursuant to agreement 9 adopted by the Presiding Officers at their fifty-fifth meeting, the secretariat will report on relevant aspects of the outcomes of other intergovernmental meetings of ECLAC: the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

6. Discussion on the theme of the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, 2019)

The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs will give a presentation on the theme to be addressed at the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will take place in 2019 in Santiago. Following the presentation, the floor will be opened for statements by the countries, followed by the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.

7. Report of the working group on the regional fund in support of women's and feminist organizations and movements

The representative of Mexico will report on the progress made by the working group on the regional fund in support of women's and feminist organizations and movements. The countries and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system will then have the opportunity to comment.

8. Other matters

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

9. Adoption of agreements

The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean will consider and adopt the agreements of their fifty-sixth meeting.