



UNITED NATIONS



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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Twenty-fifth session

New York, 9 February 2009

### **RESOLUTION 646(PLEN.25)**

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

*Recalling* resolution 553(XXVI) which affirms that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Commission is especially well qualified to undertake the tasks entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 106(VI), in the framework of a restructured United Nations; and that the Commission should, therefore, function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and the resulting provision of operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination,

*Recalling also* resolution 635(XXXII), in which the Commission endorsed the Programme of work adopted for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the 2010-2011 biennium, and urged the Executive Secretary to make a special effort to examine the challenges faced by the region in connection with the current global energy and food crisis and related issues by undertaking specialized studies that will permit the provision of technical advisory services and the formulation of public-policy options for dealing with such challenges,

*Recalling further* that the above-mentioned resolution 635(XXXII) encourages the Executive Secretary to continue the practice of convening the Committee of the Whole in the intervals between the sessions of the Commission in order to strengthen and broaden dialogue between member States and the secretariat on issues deemed to be relevant,

*Bearing in mind* that the President of the General Assembly has convened a conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development for the first half of 2009 within the framework of the United Nations General Assembly, and that the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol will be held from 7 to 18 December 2009 in Copenhagen,

*Recalling* that the Heads of State and Government of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered at the first Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean on Integration and Development, held in Costa do Sauípe, Bahia (Brazil), on 16 and 17 December 2008, agreed to forge a common position to confront the financial crisis and to participate actively in the conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development to be held in the framework of the United Nations General Assembly in the first half of 2009,

*Recalling also* that the Declaration of Salvador, Bahia, includes an agreement to hold a broad dialogue, in consultation, where appropriate, with regional experts or ministers of finance or persons acting in a similar capacity, with a view to constructing a new international financial architecture to guarantee the democratization and transparency of international financial management and to strengthen regulatory mechanisms in order to establish effective instruments for governance, prevention and immediate response to future crises,

*Taking into account* the presentation made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on the outlook and prospects for Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of the 2008-2009 crisis and the priority tasks to be undertaken by the Commission in support of the countries of the region in this context,

*Having considered* the document prepared by the secretariat: “The reactions of Latin American and Caribbean governments to the international crisis: an overview of the policy measures up to 30 January 2009”<sup>1</sup>,

1. *Congratulates* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on her appointment to head the Commission and expresses its willingness to give her its full support throughout her term of office;

2. *Requests* the Commission to collaborate actively with the countries in shaping a common regional position for presentation at the conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, to be held in the framework of the United Nations General Assembly during the first half of 2009 and in the regional dialogues, to contribute from the regional perspective to the discussions on building a new international financial architecture;

3. *Requests also* that the Commission, as part of the preparatory work for the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, provide support to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in organizing a regional preparatory meeting which will enable them to exchange views concerning a framework for a post-2012 climate change agreement;

4. *Reiterates* that it is important for the countries of the region, in particular in the present context, that the Commission’s programme of work be fully implemented.

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<sup>1</sup> LC/L.3000, January 2009.