

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)**

**BIENNIAL REPORT
(20 April 1996 – 16 May 1998)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
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Santiago, Chile, 1998**

**569(XXVII) LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN DEMOGRAPHIC
CENTRE - POPULATION DIVISION OF ECLAC**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling that in 1957 the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) was established as a project funded by the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance,

Recalling also its resolution 304(XIV), in which it recognized CELADE as an autonomous agency under the aegis of the Commission, and its resolution 327(XV), in which it recognized the need for continuation of CELADE activities in demographic research and training as an essential complement to the secretariat's programme,

Taking into account resolution 346(AC.68) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the Committee's tenth special session, held in 1975 in Mexico City, in which it provided that CELADE, an autonomous organization under the auspices of the Commission, should be incorporated into the latter's system as a permanent institution with its own identity,

Bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations formulated at recent intergovernmental meetings, in particular the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, held in 1993 in Mexico City, and the International Conference on Population and Development, held in 1994 in Cairo, which underscored the need to address population issues as an integral part of economic and social development strategies and policies,

Considering that the studies conducted by CELADE emphasize the important role which population dynamics and their component elements play in any development strategy designed to help increase the well-being of the population as a whole and, at the same time, to preserve the sustainability of the environment and do away with the inequalities in living conditions affecting different social and ethnic groups, geographic areas, and men and women,

Recognizing the important role played by CELADE in the region's preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, in the formulation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and in the preparations for meetings of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development,

Recalling that at recent sessions ECLAC has been requested to include funding for priority activities of the Commission in the field of population in its regular budget,

Taking into account, within the framework of the reform of the United Nations, its resolution 553(XXVI), in which it instructs the Executive Secretary to pursue and strengthen institutional development and management upgrading activities aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities which ECLAC carries out in fulfilment of the mandates conferred upon it by member States,

1. Expresses its utmost appreciation to CELADE for its work in the field of population in Latin America and the Caribbean over the past 40 years, first as a project of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and later as a part of the ECLAC system;
2. Endorses the decision of the Executive Secretary to incorporate CELADE fully into the ECLAC secretariat as a division of the Commission, to be designated the "Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre - Population Division";
3. Expresses its desire to see CELADE, as the Population Division of ECLAC, continue with its traditional activities as efficiently as before, particularly with regard to technical assistance, applied research and the training of human resources in the field of population;
4. Requests that the necessary financial and human resources be allocated from the regular budget to CELADE, as the Population Division of ECLAC, so that it may proceed with its valuable work, particularly in priority areas;
5. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Governments of Canada, France and the Netherlands for their contributions to the Latin American Regional Population Programme carried out by CELADE and to the international agencies that have supported the execution of other projects, particularly the United Nations Population Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank;
6. Also requests international agencies and the States members of ECLAC to reinforce their support for these activities.