

**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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**UNITED NATIONS
Santiago, Chile, 1998**

**572(XXVII) POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: PREPARATIONS FOR THE
REGIONAL APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Latin American and Caribbean Consensus on Population and Development adopted in Mexico City in 1993, the Cairo Programme of Action and the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development,

Recognizing the efforts made and the progress achieved by Governments and civil society organizations in the countries of the region in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Regional Plan of Action,

Noting the constraints and problems encountered, including the insufficiency of financial and human resources, in achieving the objectives and goals of population and poverty eradication programmes,

Bearing in mind that the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development held its second meeting on 13 and 14 May 1998 in Oranjestad, Aruba, and on that occasion considered the topics selected at its first meeting, held on 17 and 18 April 1996 in San José, Costa Rica, including reproductive health and poverty, follow-up and review of the activities of the Regional Plan of Action, and regional preparations for the special session of the General Assembly to be held from 30 June to 2 July 1999 to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Latin American Demographic Centre and to the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain for the activities undertaken in the past biennium with respect to the agreements contained in the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and for organizing the second meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, and to CELADE, in particular, for preparing the note by the secretariat entitled "Second report on the follow-up to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development"¹ and the document entitled "Population, reproductive health and poverty";²

2. Thanks the United Nations Population Fund for the support provided to the countries of the region in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and in assessing the results of the related activities;

3. Concurs as to the importance of identifying and promoting a national mechanism in each country which would be responsible for follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International

¹ LC/G.2005(SES.22/19).

² LC/G.2015(SES.22/20)

Conference on Population and Development, and of identifying or maintaining a liaison agency to coordinate activities related to the Regional Plan of Action;

4. Decides that at its next meeting the Ad Hoc Committee should examine the question of population, youth and development, and instructs the ECLAC secretariat to prepare substantive documentation on the subject, to include quantitative and qualitative information drawn from a variety of sources;

5. Requests CELADE and the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain, in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund and other relevant national and international organizations, to promote during the forthcoming biennium activities in the countries that place priority on the following issues: human resources training in the field of population, the census round for the year 2000, international migration, population information and education directed towards vulnerable groups, ageing and the elderly, the family, social inequalities and vulnerable groups, including indigenous populations;

6. Asks the relevant bodies to train human resources and to propose and implement programmes in the following fields: population and development, equity and gender; the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents; education for family life; prevention of maternal mortality, including complications of abortions; prevention of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV-AIDS; health-care management; access to quality services in the area of reproductive health; sexuality, reproductive health and gender; prevention of sexual violence; and the status of children, adolescents and young people;

7. Requests the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee to maintain permanent contact with the secretariat in order to follow up the Regional Plan of Action between sessions and to cooperate in obtaining the necessary funds to implement it;

8. Decides to entrust CELADE, in coordination with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and in consultation with the United Nations Population Fund and with its support, with the task of drafting a report on the situation and the action taken in Latin America and the Caribbean with respect to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, to be submitted by 15 November 1998 to the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee for their consideration;

9. Agrees that the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee, together with any other countries that wish to participate, shall meet before 15 December 1998 in order to consider the draft report, which, before 15 January 1999, shall be submitted as the report of the region to the Hague Forum (February 1999) and to the Commission on Population and Development, in its capacity as preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly;

10. Reiterates the agreement to involve civil society organizations at the national, regional and international levels so that, in terms of both the formulation of proposals and participation, they may advocate, promote and participate in the implementation, monitoring and assessment of the activities referred to in the present resolution;

11. Urges the countries of the region, even in periods of financial restriction, to allocate sufficient resources to implement population and development programmes that include the reduction of

poverty among their objectives, and to advocate the inclusion of the issues of population and reproductive health in reforms implemented in the sectors of education and health;

12. Urges the international community to increase its technical and financial assistance for this process, in fulfilment of the commitments established in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.