



2008 | Thirty-second session of ECLAC
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 9-13 June 2008

Distr.
GENERAL
LC/G.2377(SES.32/13)
12 May 2008
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

ECLAC SESSIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Annotated provisional agenda

2008-285



UNITED NATIONS



SIXTY YEARS WITH LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

1. Election of officers

The rules of procedure of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) provide for the election of a chair, two or more vice-chairs and a rapporteur. It is suggested that the composition of this group of presiding officers should be discussed at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on 10 June 2008 prior to the inaugural session of the Ad Hoc Committee. The presiding officers will remain in office until their successors are elected.

As provided in ECLAC resolution 536(XXV), entitled “Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development”, and paragraph 98 of that Regional Plan of Action (LC/G.1920; LC/DEM/G.159), the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development has final responsibility for the follow-up and review of issues relating to population and development, including the Regional Plan of Action. In addition, during the period between meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee, the presiding officers are responsible for coordination, follow-up and review of the Plan, and are provided with support in these tasks by the secretariat.

In accordance with ECLAC resolution 604(XXX) of 2004, the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development is the intergovernmental body in charge of follow-up to the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda

The delegations will have before them, for their consideration and approval, the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Presiding Officers of the Ad Hoc Committee. Member countries may make such observations or suggest such modifications as they deem appropriate under the aforementioned rules of procedure.

The provisional agenda was prepared in accordance with the Regional Plan of Action and ECLAC resolutions 536(XXV), 556(XXVI) and 577(XXVIII).

3. Report of the Chair of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development

Reference document:

- Report of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development and resolutions 615(XXXI) and 616(XXXI) of the thirty-first session of the Commission (DDR/1)

The Chair of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development will provide a general report on the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development, the execution of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994) and the activities carried out by the Presiding Officers during the period between March 2006 and May 2008.

The Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) – Population Division of ECLAC will report on the activities carried out by the secretariat between March 2006 and May 2008 and on the priorities which will guide the work of CELADE in the coming months.

The Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Division of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) will report on activities completed and planned by the Fund in the region within the framework of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, key measures for continued implementation of this Programme of Action and the recommendations resulting from the ten-year review process.

4. Follow-up to progress in the areas of human rights and development as part of the implementation of resolution 615(XXXI) on international migration

Reference document:

- Activity report 2006-2008 on international migration for the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (DDR/3)

As stated in resolution 615(XXXI) of the thirty-first session of the Commission (Montevideo, 2006), since March 2006 the secretariat has carried out many activities relating to international migration and development, always with due consideration for the gender perspective, cultural diversity and a respect for human rights. Those activities are carried out as part of the regular ECLAC programme of work and with the support of the ECLAC/UNFPA Regional Programme on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Ibero-American Secretariat.

In compliance with resolution 615(XXXI), the Commission, through the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, actively participated in meetings on international migration organized by governments, research centres and universities from various regions, as well as by United Nations agencies and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In 2007, resolution 615(XXXI) was brought to the attention of the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-ninth session, whose central theme was international migration and development, and preparations were begun to implement the resolution mandate to set up an inter-agency group, coordinated by ECLAC, in charge of migration.

During the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, the secretariat will present a full report of activities carried out in the area of international migration over the last biennium and there will be a discussion of events to date. The secretariat will also present member States with a proposal for future follow-up activities in relation to this issue.

5. Results of the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

Reference documents:

- Activity report 2006-2008 on ageing and development for the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (DDR/2)
- Report of the Second Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.2891(CRE.2/5))

ECLAC resolution 616(XXXI) (2006) asked the secretariat, in coordination with the organizations of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing and the competent institutions of the host country, to organize a second regional intergovernmental conference in 2007 to review and appraise the advances

made by the countries of the region in the application of the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.

At the Second Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a society for all ages and rights-based social protection, held from 4 to 6 December 2007 in Brasilia, Brazil, the countries in attendance adopted the Brasilia Declaration (LC/G.2359), which establishes priorities for the implementation of the Regional Strategy over the next five years. Also, in February 2008, the secretariat presented the conclusions of the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing to the forty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development, as part of activities to mark the fifth anniversary of the Second World Assembly on Ageing.

At the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development to be held during the thirty-second session of the Commission, the secretariat will present the results of the Second Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the forty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development. In this context, member countries are to define specific activities to be carried out in the next two years in relation to that issue.

6. Presentation and analysis of the document “Demographic transformations and their influence on development in Latin America and the Caribbean”

Working document:

- “Demographic transformations and their influence on development in Latin America and the Caribbean” (LC/G.2378(SES.32/14))

In accordance with paragraph 78 of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and with ECLAC resolution 536(XXV), the Ad Hoc Committee is to undertake an analysis of the population situation in the region when it meets during sessions of the Commission. In addition, in view of the practice of the Commission on Population and Development of the United Nations of dealing with a specific substantive issue at each meeting, it was decided, as set forth in ECLAC resolution 616 (XXXI), that the Ad Hoc Committee would, at its next meeting, study the issue of demographic transitions from a gender perspective and their influence on development, as well as their effect on poverty and inequality; the secretariat was also tasked with preparing the necessary substantive documents in conjunction with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

In compliance with this request, the secretariat has produced a document that provides member countries of the Commission with up-to-date information on the trends of population dynamics in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to identifying the main challenges for the region’s development in a situation characterized by rapid and intense demographic transformation. The document emphasizes the fact that, while there are some common features, the undeniable heterogeneity within and among countries nonetheless calls for the design and implementation of different and innovative strategies, in the framework of rights-based development.

The document thus analyses demographic information in accordance with the lines of action recently developed by ECLAC to guide public policy towards democratic and solidarity-based development. The lines of action emphasize the adoption of a human-rights-based approach to development and public policy, the expansion of social protection, the promotion of social cohesion, the gender perspective and giving priority to disadvantaged groups.

The first part of the document provides a general overview of the trends of population dynamics in the region. This includes an analysis of the various stages of demographic transition, factors associated with population growth (fertility, migration and age-group structure), as well as the consequences of those trends for population size and structure. The second part of the document consists of prospective population scenarios for the various stages of demographic transition—taking into account the potential growth of countries' populations, developments in large age groups, the ageing index and median age—and also analyses the demographic bonus resulting from changes in the dependency ratio. The third part of the document specifically examines the changing demands of certain sectors of society in the light of shifts in the population's age structure, while highlighting the development opportunities generated by the demographic bonus and the challenges posed by population ageing. The document concludes with an analysis of the context surrounding demographic change, and underlines, inter alia, the way that persistent poverty and inequities in the region affect certain groups of society in particular.

7. Country activities relating to the follow-up of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

Under this agenda item, member countries are expected to report on the advances made and actions planned in the framework of the International Conference on Population and Development, particularly concerning previous items on the agenda, and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. Owing to time constraints, it is suggested that they make very brief presentations on the most important activities that have been carried out in their countries and that they present more detailed written reports for distribution.

8. Other matters

This item provides for the consideration of any other issues which delegations may wish to raise.

9. Conclusions

The report on the meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development will be adopted in accordance with ECLAC rules of procedure and will present considerations and recommendations which the Committee considers relevant for the follow-up and implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development as well as for guiding the activities of the secretariat in that field. These considerations and recommendations will be submitted to the Commission for its approval at the plenary meeting.