



# UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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CEPAL

Economic Commission for Latin America

LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL MEETING FOR THE  
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

(Panama, Panama, 16-21 August 1978)

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Inauguration
2. Election of officers
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Presentation of country reports
5. Presentation of conclusions of the sub-regional meetings
6. Presentation and discussion of the regional document
7. Bases and components for an Action Programme
8. Other matters
9. Approval of the Rapporteurs' Report
10. Closing session

/Explanatory

Explanatory notes to the provisional agenda

1. At its first session from 31 January to 14 February 1977, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development decided that "each Regional Commission of the United Nations should convene in June/July 1978 a meeting with the participation of the UNCSTD Secretary-General and the interested organizations of the UN System, to examine the country reports in order to prepare regional papers relating to policies and action plans on problems at a regional level, in conformity with the Conference's programme, having in mind, if deemed appropriate, the subject areas of study". The regional papers shall be presented to the Preparatory Committee during its session in September 1978.

At the Latin American Meeting of Governmental Experts on Science and Technology for Development, held in Mexico from 31 October to 2 November 1977, the delegations approved, at the proposal of Panama, that the City of Panama would be host of the Latin American Regional Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development.

2. In relation with the documentation, this would be basically:

a) Country reports (point 4 of the provisional agenda). For the country reports received with due anticipation and which have less than 32 pages, there is an agreement with the UNCSTD Secretariat to reproduce and distribute them in their original language. In the case that the country papers exceed the 32 pages, the respective government should reproduce sufficient copies for the Meeting. The four-page resumés which were received with due anticipation will be distributed in three languages (Spanish, English and French), by the CEPAL Secretariat. This documentation will be available at the beginning of the Meeting.

b) A preliminary version of the regional document (point 6 of the agenda) prepared by CEPAL is annexed to this provisional agenda. This document will be available in Spanish and English.

/3. In relation

3. In relation to the organization of the Meeting, when discussing point 3, approval of the Agenda, the countries will decide the time allocated to the different points of the Agenda.
4. Point 1 of the agenda: Inauguration. At the opening meeting statements will be presented by Mr. Joao da Costa, Secretary-General of UNCSTD, Mr. Enrique V. Iglesias, CEPAL's Executive-Secretary, and by the official designated by the Government of Panama to inaugurate the Meeting.
5. Point 2 of the agenda: Election of officers. The election of a President, two Vicepresidents and a Rapporteur is foreseen. The Technical Secretariat will consist of CEPAL officers.
6. Point 4 of the agenda: Presentation of country reports. The respective delegations will describe the salient elements of their reports, pointing out the obstacles for scientific and technological development and the actions they wish to propose at a national, sub-regional, regional and world level.
7. Point 5 of the agenda: Presentation of conclusions of the sub-regional meetings. The Caribbean, Central American, the South Cone and Andean Group sub-regions will present the conclusions and proposals proceeding from their sub-regional meetings. The rapporteurs or representatives especially designated by the sub-regional groups will be in charge of these presentations.
8. Point 6 of the agenda: Presentation and discussion of the regional document. The provisional version of the regional document will be submitted by the Technical Secretariat and will be discussed. The delegations, having in mind the national and sub-regional experiences will discuss the document and propose the changes and additions they deem convenient. The approved final version will constitute the regional report which will be sent to the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee for its third session in September 1978.
9. Point 7 of the agenda: Bases and components for an Action Programme. Taking into consideration the points presented in the regional document, the recommendations made at the sub-regional meetings and the proposals made by the countries, at this point of the agenda, the general policy

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and lines of action would be established. These policies and lines of action would represent the Latin American and Caribbean position with relation to the Action Programme which should emanate from the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development.

10. Point 8 of the agenda: Other matters. All those matters relating to the Conference or with regional activities on science and technology which the countries consider convenient to present will be proposed and discussed in this point of the agenda. The Secretariat proposes in this point the discussion of the programme of activities which will rule from now until the UNCSTD which will be held in Vienna in August 1979. For this effect, the UNCSTD General Secretariat presents the possibility of holding topical seminars at an interregional level.

11. Point 9 of the agenda: Approval of the Rapporteurs' Report. In accordance with the usually established procedures, the delegates will approve a final report on the base of the draft report presented by the Rapporteur. The approved report will be sent to the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, for its presentation at their third session in September 1978.

12. Point 10 of the agenda: Closing session. The meeting will be closed by the President of the Meeting.