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### UNITED NATIONS

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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#### CEPAL

Economic Commission for Latin America Latin American Regional Meeting on the Action Plan of the United Nations Water Conference

Santiago, Chile, 9-13 October 1978

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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#### 1. Opening addresses

The Order of the Day for the opening meeting, to be held on the morning of Monday, 9 October 1978, will list the addresses to be delivered.

#### 2. Election of the Officers

It is suggested that the conduct of the meeting should be governed by the general principle that the Rules of Procedure of the Economic Commission for Latin America should be applicable wherever appropriate to the circumstances. Consequently, it is proposed that in accordance with Rule 16 the meeting should elect from among the representatives a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen, and a Rapporteur.

#### 3. Adoption of the agenda

Participants may adopt the provisional agenda as submitted, or make such comments on it as they deem appropriate. At this point, after consultations among the heads of delegations, a decision could also be taken on the organization of the work to be carried out between 9 and 13 October. It would be worth considering the possibility of holding plenary meetings on the first of these days, so that representatives can make general statements on their governments views, and on the last day, in order to discuss the recommendations of the meeting. Work on the other days could be carried out in a committee responsible for the detailed discussion of the agenda items and the preparation of the report of the meeting.

## 4. Presentation by delegations of their governments' views on matters raised by the United Nations Water Conference

In this item, delegations can state their reactions concerning the Conference and put forward their points of view on the opportunities, needs and problems with respect to carrying out the recommendations of the Conference at the regional level, with emphasis as far as possible on:

- the measures already taken or envisaged by their countries in connexion with the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan;

- Matters referred to in the Conference which their countries consider it most necessary and urgent to approach through some form of international action (it is suggested that the order proposed in agenda item 5 below should be followed);
- suggestions for international co-operation activities, especially those which will facilitate CEPAL's fulfilment of its central role in the promotion of intergovernmental co-operation, 1/ including (i) exchange of information; (ii) working groups, seminars and courses; (iii) research and case studies; (iv) technical assistance; and (v) others.

Countries were requested to send to the CEPAL secretariat a brief note no more than 6 pages in length giving a preview, as far as possible, of the statement to be made by their representative at the meeting.

The purpose of this note is to permit the secretariat to submit for the consideration of the meeting a comprehensive summary which could serve as the basis for agreement and facilitate that part of the report of the meeting covering the statements delivered by delegations.

5. Proposals on regional and international co-operation for the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan

On the basis of the document "Regional and international co-operation for the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.63/L.3/Rev.1), the statements made by delegates, the comprehensive summary prepared by the secretariat from the advance notes submitted by governments and other documents prepared by some international agencies, 2/ the meeting will discuss the opportunities,

<sup>1/</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2115 (LXIII).

The following documents have been received by the secretariat of CEPAL, since the meeting was convened, for distribution at the sessions: Documento Informativo Nº 2, Preparativos para el Decenio Internacional del Abastecimiento de Agua y del Saneamiento 1980-1990; Information Document Nº 3, Assessment of Water Resources, Summary, and Documento Informativo Nº 4, Naturaleza de los Arreglos Financieros para el Desarrollo de los Recursos Hidraulicos de América Latina.

needs and problems regarding the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan and will recommend ways of facilitating such application, especially through regional and international co-operation. The discussions could be centered on the subjects suggested by the Secretary-General and approved by the Economic and Social Council

- Application of the Plan of Action on community water supply and preparations for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (resolution II of the United Nations Water Conference and recommendations contained in paragraphs 15-17 of the report of that Conference);
- Action Programme on Water for Agriculture (resolution III of the Conference);
- Necessary measures for increasing the capacity of regional water organizations so as to promote co-operation in the field of shared water resources (resolution VII and recommendation G "Regional co-operation" of the Conference);
- Special recommendations for Latin America referred by the Conference to CEPAL (paragraph 88 of Part One of the report of the Conference and paragraphs 7-9 of the annex to Chapter I);
- Strengthening of CEPAL so that it can discharge its expanded functions in the water resources sector at the intergovernmental and secretariat levels (resolution VIII of the Conference, on institutional arrangements);
- Technical co-operation among developing countries in the water sector (resolution VI of the Conference and recommendations contained in paragraphs 99-103 of the report of the Conference;
- Financing arrangements for international co-operation in the water sector (resolution IX of the Conference and recommendations contained in paragraphs 94-98 of the report of the Conference).

Other subjects included in the Action Plan could also be discussed, such as assessment of water resources and their use; water use and efficiency; water use in industry; environment, health and

<sup>3/</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2121 (LXIII).

pollution control; policy, planning and management; natural hazards; and public information, education, training and research.

#### 6. Other business

Under this item of the agenda, delegates could deal with other matters which they may deem appropriate within the scope and spirit of the meeting, such as the nature of the information to be collected for the application of the Action Plan and the desirability and manner of obtaining such information.

#### 7. Adoption of the report of the meeting

The report, which will be adopted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, if possible by consensus, will contain summaries of the statements made by delegations, considerations, conclusions and recommendations, and other information of interest.

The report should be short and action-oriented, and should include only indispensable background material and annexes.

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