



# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL  
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12 September 1955  
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
Sixth Session  
Bogota, Colombia  
29 August 1955

## COMMITTEE III (International Trade)

### PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Held at Bogota on Monday, 12 September 1955,  
at 4:00 p.m.

#### CONTENTS:

Consideration of draft resolutions (continued)

#### PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. PONCE ENRIQUEZ	Ecuador
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. BROTOS	Uruguay
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. SCHIOPETTO	Argentina
	Mr. CAMPOS	Brazil
	Mr. REYES GUTIERREZ	Colombia
	Mr. LOPEZ ISA	Cuba
	Mr. DAZA	Chile
	Mr. SALGADO	Ecuador
	Mr. BREITHUT	United States of America

**NOTE:** Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the three working languages (Spanish, French and English) and addressed to Mr. Alfonso Santa Cruz, Secretary to the Conference, within 24 hours. The corrections should be accompanied by a note or written on headed note paper and should give the symbol of the summary record in question or, better, be made on a mimeographed copy of the record.

/Mr. HERRENSCHMIDT

Mr. HERRENSCHMIDT	France
Mr. APOLLON	Haiti
Mr. RIVERA	Honduras
Mr. GATICA	Mexico
Mr. GUERRERO	Nicaragua
Mr. NEWTON	Netherlands
Mr. AIZPU	Panama
Mr. SCOTT FOX	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. GINEBRA HENRIQUEZ	Dominican Republic
Mr. LACARTE MURO	Uruguay
Mr. BELLO	Venezuela

Also present:

Representatives of Member States:

Mr. ALMASY	Czechoslovakia
Mr. KOTT	Poland

Representative of a non-member State:

Mr. ROBERT	Spain
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Representatives of a specialized agency:

Mr. VERA )	International
Mr. LASO )	Monetary Fund

Representatives of an inter-governmental organization:

Mr. AMADOR )	Inter-American
Mr. PILVIN )	Economic and Social Council

Representative of a non-governmental organization:

Miss KAHN	World Federation of Trade Unions
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Secretariat:

Mr. SWENSON	Assistant Director
Mr. IVOVICH )	Secretaries of the
Mr. MALLON )	Committee
Mr. URQUIDI	Mexico City Office

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (continued)Draft resolution adopted by the Working Group (Conference Room Paper No.4/Rev.1)

Mr. URQUIDI (Secretariat) recalled that the date of 31 March 1956, in operative paragraph 6, had been included in the draft resolution subject to consultation with the Executive Secretary. In the opinion of the Executive Secretary it would be better not to mention any date and merely to say "as soon as possible".

Mr. BREITHUT (United States) said that he had not yet received any instructions with regard to the resolution under consideration (Conference Room Paper No. 4/Rev.1) but he would like to propose some provisional amendments, subject to the approval of his Government. He suggested that the draft resolution and his amendments to it might be discussed immediately, but that voting should be deferred until the following meeting. He hoped to have received instructions by then.

Mr. LOPEZ ISA (Cuba) supported the United States proposal, as he was in a similar position, having received no instructions from his Government.

Mr. LACARTE MURO (Uruguay), supported by Mr. GINEBRA HENRIQUEZ (Dominican Republic), proposed that the discussion of the draft resolution should be deferred until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

Draft resolution presented by the delegation of Chile (Conference Room Paper No. 20)

Mr. DAZA (Chile), introducing the draft resolution, announced that the operative paragraph should be replaced by the following text: "RESOLVES: To recommend to the Latin American Governments that, with a view to improving port facilities in the region, they should consider the advisability of requesting technical assistance for the training of staff in port administration and operation, taking into account at the same time the activities of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in this field." 1/

Mr. URQUIDI (Secretariat), explained that the Commission could not request the Technical Assistance Administration for help on particular projects

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1/ Provisional translation.

on behalf of the Latin American countries, as such technical assistance was granted only at the request of Governments. The training of staff was provided for in the Technical Assistance Programme, so that the new text was in order.

Mr. REYES GUTIERREZ (Colombia), proposed that the words "with a view to improving port facilities" should be replaced by "in view of the need to improve port facilities".

It was so decided.

Mr. SCHIOPETTO (Argentina), proposed that the words "innumerable" and "serious and" in the second and third lines of the second considerandum should be deleted, as they seemed exaggerated.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN put the three consideranda, as amended, to the vote separately.

The three consideranda, as amended, were adopted unanimously.

The Chilean draft resolution as a whole, with the above amendments, was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution presented by the delegation of Ecuador (Conference Room Paper No. 25.)

Mr. SALGADO (Ecuador), explaining the purpose of the draft resolution, underlined the importance to the formulation of economic policy in the Latin American countries of accurate and up-to-date information on the market situation of the region's basic export commodities.

Mr. BREITHUT (United States) supported the draft resolution as a whole, but he thought that the work required of the Secretariat under operative paragraph 1 was too heavy. It should be given some latitude, and he therefore proposed that the words "to the extent possible" should be inserted after the word "include" in the third line of operative paragraph 1.

He asked whether the work involved in implementing that paragraph might not impose a very heavy burden on the Secretariat.

Mr. SALGADO (Ecuador) accepted the United States amendment.

Mr. URQUIDI (Secretariat) explained that in the commodity studies appearing in the Survey and the Economic Review, it was not always possible to study every commodity. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Commission on International

Commodity Trade and the Inter-American Economic and Social Council kept those markets under review also.

Mr. GATICA (Mexico), supported by Mr. GUERRERO (Nicaragua), proposed that, in order to take into account the observations made by the representative of the Secretariat, the beginning of operative paragraph 1 should be amended to read, "To recommend to the Secretariat that it should continue, in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the analysis...".

It was so decided.

Mr. SCHIOPETTO (Argentina) pointed out that the Economic Review was a regular and periodic organ of information and it was therefore unnecessary to recommend, in operative paragraph 2, that it should be issued as such. He therefore proposed that the paragraph should be amended to read: "that the Economic Review of Latin America should supply the required information on the markets for basic commodities through the article on Recent Trends in the Export and Prices of Some Products". 1/

Mr. SALGADO (Ecuador) agreed to the Argentine amendment. Referring to the statement made by the representative of the Secretariat, he said that there was no danger of duplication, in his opinion. He recalled that a recommendation that the raw materials markets should be studied had been adopted at the Rio Conference of Ministers of Finance or Economy, but the field was very wide and ECLA could continue its studies without fear of duplication.

Mr. SCOTT FOX (United Kingdom) suggested that it might be wise to include a reference to the Food and Agriculture Organization in operative paragraph 1, as that organization also collected statistics on basic commodities.

Mr. URQUIDI (Secretariat) said that as there was permanent contact between FAO and the Commission it was unnecessary to make special mention of FAO in the draft resolution.

Mr. BREITHUT (United States) said that he assumed the question of priorities and financing would be dealt with by the appropriate United Nations body.

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1/ Provisional translation

The CHAIRMAN put the Ecuadorian draft resolution as amended, to the vote.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Mexico. (Conference Room Paper No. 24).

Mr. GATICA (Mexico) in presenting the resolution submitted by his delegation, said he wished to introduce some minor amendments. He suggested that the second, fifth and sixth paragraphs of the introductory part of the draft resolution should be deleted, and he introduced a substitute text for the operative part (E/CN.12/AC.29/2). He explained the concern of his delegation at the absence of published information on matters pertaining to tariff regulations. He was aware of the existence of the Brussels Bureau mentioned at a previous meeting by the representative of GATT but he doubted whether all the governments of Latin-American countries were either aware of it or members thereof. In the circumstances he thought it would be wiser if the Secretariat of ECLA were to be charged with the task of gathering the information and forwarding it to the interested bodies of member states.

Mr. AIZPU (Panama) feared that the implementation of the Mexican draft resolution would throw an additional burden on the ECLA Secretariat.

Mr. GUERRERO (Nicaragua) supported by Mr. REYES GUTIERREZ (Colombia) saw a need for such a resolution, but thought that some drafting amendments, of a minor nature, could perhaps be introduced to ensure that the ECLA Secretariat was not burdened with unnecessary work.

Mr. BREITHUT (United States of America) said he was likewise concerned with the possibility that the ECLA Secretariat might be asked to duplicate, at considerable effort and expense, work that was already being efficiently done by other international bodies. He would like to ask the Secretary to inform the Committee just how much extra work would be thrown on the Secretariat by the proposed resolution.

Mr. URQUIDI (Secretariat), in answer to the question raised by Mr. Breithut and others, stated that the Secretariat had accumulated a considerable amount of information and data on tariffs and trade regulations relating to Inter-Latin-American Trade but that it had not attempted to make a systematic compilation. Furthermore, such material was not complete

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and so, the Secretariat did not contemplate its publication. Nonetheless, the Secretariat would be willing to undertake the task now being requested, provided it could do so within its means. In that connexion, he considered that if the governments of the member states were to co-operate fully, it would undoubtedly reduce the work that would have to be done by the Secretariat.

Mr. GATICA (Mexico) accepted a series of minor drafting amendments proposed by various delegations but maintained the substance of the substitute text, as amended, which his delegation had submitted for the operative part of the proposal, since in his opinion, such information on tariff regulations was of vital importance to bodies concerned with trade.

Mr. PONCE ENRIQUEZ (the Chairman) put the draft resolution, as amended, to the vote.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by 15 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

Mr. BREITHUT (United States of America) explained that, in view of the fact that his delegation had not yet received its instructions, it had not been able to vote on the draft resolution and would reserve its position.

Mr. GINEBRA HENRIQUEZ (Dominican Republic) introduced a resolution (Conference Room Paper No. 37) which was concerned with the implementation of resolution No. 579 (A and B) of the Economic and Social Council.

The Chairman suggested that it might be better if discussion of the Dominican draft resolution (Conference Room Document No. 37) was postponed until the resolution had been circulated.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6:15 p.m.