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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Fifth Session
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
FIFTY-SECOND MEETING

Held at Rio de Janeiro, on Saturday
25 April 1953, at 4.30 p.m.

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Room Paper N° 57/Rev.1)

Closing speeches.

NOTE:

Any corrections to this record should be submitted in writing in any of the working languages (English, French or Spanish) to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, Casilla N° 179-D, Santiago, Chile. Corrections should be accompanied by or incorporated in a letter, on headed notepaper, bearing the appropriate symbol number, or, preferably, incorporated in a mimeographed copy of the record.

/PRESENT:

PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. EUVALDO LODI)	Brazil
<u>Later:</u>	Mr. LAFER)	
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. GIORDANO BRUNO ECCHER)	Uruguay
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. COCKE		Argentina
	Mr. ALCAZAR		Bolivia
	Mr. DE MOURA		Brazil
	Mr. BOTERO		Colombia
	Mr. FACIO		Costa Rica
	Mr. RADRIGAN)	
	Mr. BERTENS)	Chile
	Mr. GARRIDO		Dominican Republic
	Mr. GRESPO ORDÓÑEZ		Ecuador
	Mr. COTTIER		France
	Mr. NORIEGA MORALES		Guatemala
	Mr. RIGAUD		Haiti
	Mr. ALVARADO TROCHEZ		Honduras
	Mr. AMADOR		Mexico
	Mr. FEIN		Netherlands
	Mr. CANTARERO		Nicaragua
	Mr. UBBETTA FILLITAS		Paraguay
	Mr. BARRETO		Peru
	Mr. GODFREY		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. BOHAN		United States of America
	Mr. ITURBIDE		Uruguay
	Mr. CASAS BRICENO		Venezuela

Also present:Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. SILDEFER	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Mr. ROBICHEK	International Monetary Fund (IMF)
Mr. JUNQUEIRA SCHMIDT	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

/Representative of

Representative of an inter-governmental organization:

Mr. TAYLOR	Inter-American Economic and Social Council (IA-ECOSOC)
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Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

<u>Category A</u>	Mr. STEBELSKI	International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
<u>Category B</u>	Mr. PAES DE CARVALHO	International Union of Family Organizations
	Mr. VILAS BOAS	Inter-American Council of Trade and Production

Secretariat:

Mr. PREBISCH	Executive Secretary
Mr. SANTA CRUZ	Secretary of the Conference

WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES 1953-1954 (E/CN.12/328)

The CHAIRMAN submitted document E/CN.12/328 to the consideration of the Commission.

Mr. BOHAN (United States of America) asked that the following statement be included verbatim in the summary record:

"As I have stated earlier during this session, we take great interest in the work of the Commission and, in particular, in the work of its distinguished Secretariat. We feel that it has already made for itself an enviable record of high quality economic and technological accomplishment.

We are a little concerned, however, as we look over the resolutions adopted at our present meeting, at the vast scope of the work which we are asking our over-burdened Secretariat to assume. We do not want to force them to sacrifice quality of work for quantity of studies.

At the same time, my Government has instructed me to point out that we cannot agree to budgetary increases, and I must therefore abstain from voting on the budgetary implications of the new work programme".

/"Turning now

"Turning now to the document on the work programme before us, I am glad to see that a careful study of priorities has been suggested. I hope that, at our next session, we may be given an estimate as to the cost of each project, whether new or carried over from earlier sessions".

He recommended that the Executive Secretary should be, to use an American expression, "hard-boiled" in the use of his discretion in putting the work programme into execution in order to complete it within two years.

Mr. GODFREY (United Kingdom) welcomed the resolution providing for the publication of a quarterly bulletin, which he thought would make a useful contribution by giving up-to-date information in international trade and recent events in Latin America.

The CHAIRMAN said he would put the document under consideration (E/CN.12/328) to the vote in two parts, first the part relating to the work programme, and secondly the part relating to financial implications.

He put the first part to the vote.

The first part, relating to the work programme, was approved unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN put the second part to the vote.

The second part, relating to financial implications, was approved, with two abstentions.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION (Conference Room Paper N° 57/Rev.1)

Mr. ECCHER (Rapporteur) submitted the Fifth Annual Report for consideration of the meeting and gave a general description of the various chapters of the report. The report differed from previous ones in that it showed that ECLA had entered the stage of practical achievements. He expressed the wish that the report should mention the gratitude of the delegations towards the Brazilian Government, the Executive Secretary and his collaborators, the Brazilian press, and to all the personnel of the Secretariat who had helped to make the Conference a success.

The CHAIRMAN put the Fifth Annual Report (Conference Room Paper N° 57/Rev.1) to the vote.

It was approved unanimously.

/Mr. CRESPO ORDOÑEZ

Mr. CRESPO ORODOMEZ (Ecuador) on behalf of the delegations of Chile and Ecuador, moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman of the Commission and to the Executive Secretary.

Mr. COCKE (Argentina), Mr. FACIO (Costa Rica) and Mr. ECCHEI (Uruguay) seconded the motion.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the delegations, and expressed confidence in the future mission of ECLA.

The meeting was suspended at 5.30 p.m. and resumed at 6 p.m.

Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Secretary of the Conference) submitted a draft resolution requesting the Secretariat to transmit the Fifth Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

The draft resolution was approved.

The CHAIRMAN invited Mr. Horacio Lafer, Minister of Finance of Brazil, to take the chair for the closing stage of the Commission's Fifth Session.

Mr. LAFER took the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN paid a tribute to the excellent work accomplished by ECLA, and to the enthusiasm with which it worked under the skilful guidance of its Executive Secretary. The quality of the discussions at its sessions and the technical level of the studies has improved steadily.

He emphasized the contribution of ECLA towards creating an awareness of Latin America's economic problems by means of a new methodology which attempted to isolate the obstacles in the way of economic development. He referred especially to the recommendations concerning terms of trade and their effect on the balance of payments, the possibility of multilateral compensation in Latin America, intra-regional trade and certain industries such as the iron and steel, pulp and paper and basic chemical industries. The session had reaffirmed the basic principle of the harmonious development of agriculture and industry.

In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the Commission would continue to grow in prestige and strength since it had become an essential instrument for guiding governments in the economic development of Latin America.

/Mr. BOTERO (Colombia)

Mr. BOTERO (Colombia), on behalf of the delegations present, paid a tribute to the Executive Secretary. He stressed the contribution that the Commission was making in forming a new approach to the problem of economic development by substituting scientific for the empirical methods of the past.

He thanked Brazil for acting as host to the Commission. In the course of the session the representatives had had an opportunity to see the splendid progress being made by the country. Lastly, his Government was gratified that its invitation to the Commission to hold the next session at Bogota had been accepted.

Mr. LODI (Brazil) said the satisfactory results of the session were due to the high quality of the documents submitted and the capacity and spirit of co-operation of the delegates who had attended. He also expressed satisfaction with the resolution which assured the continuity and autonomy of the Commission and which, while mentioning the desirability of co-operation with other organizations, ended the period of continuous apprehension in that respect.

With reference to the conclusions of the session, he referred particularly to the need for increasing the rate of economic development of Latin American countries; the important part which foreign investment could play in that respect; the need to promote industrialization and the beneficial effects of increased industrialization on the development of agriculture, with which it was not incompatible; the benefits of economic planning, which would not impair but actually stimulate private enterprise; and finally the co-ordination of technical assistance and national economic plans.

Lastly, he thanked the Commission for the honour bestowed on his country by his election as chairman of the Fifth session.

Mr. PREBISCH (Executive Secretary) expressed his thanks for the many tributes which had been paid to him.

He was convinced that in Latin America the value of team work was being learned; the work of ECIA itself was the result of close co-operation among a group of economists, who deserved the credit for the work done. His greatest satisfaction had been that of contributing to the formation of a group of Latin American economists who were bound together by a unity
/of spirit,

of spirit, method and aim.

The debates at the fifth session had concentrated on the problems of economic development, on which Latin America had begun to form its own ideas, in keeping with its own peculiar conditions. The economists of ECLA considered themselves fortunate to be able to collaborate with the governments of Latin America in the quest for new ways to guide the process of economic growth.

Finally, he said the Secretariat had received a heavy work programme; he promised that it would exert the greatest effort to comply with the programme and to be worthy of the great confidence which the Commission had placed in the Secretariat.

The CHAIRMAN declared the fifth session of the Commission closed.

The meeting rose at 7.30 p.m.

Information Documents: (There are only in Spanish)

- 3 Carta dirigida por el Sr. Martínez Cabañas al Relator della Reunión.
- 8 Discurso pronunciado por el Sr. Delegado de El Salvador, Sr. Rafael Gower, en la Sesión Plenaria del 13 de abril de 1953.
- 11 Discurso pronunciado por el Sr. Presidente de la Delegación de la República Argentina, Excmo. Sr. Dr. Juan Isaac Cooke, en la Sesión Plenaria, el 13 de abril de 1953.
- 13 Programa de Desarrollo Económico en Colombia y Experiencias obtenidas en la ejecución de los mismos.
Exposición del Dr. Jorge Mejía Palacios, delegado alterno de Colombia, el día 10 de abril de 1953.
- 16 Exposición del Secretario, Dr. Víctor L. Urquidi, ante el Comité I.
- 26 Discurso pronunciado por el Dr. Manuel Balboa, de la Delegación de Argentina, en el Comité II, el 17 de abril de 1953.
- 27 Discurso pronunciado por el Sr. Jacobo Schatan de la Delegación de Chile.
- 33 Discurso de S. E. el Dr. Augusto Urbietta Fleitas, Presidente de la Delegación Paraguaya.
- 34 Discurso pronunciado por el Dr. Vittorio Marrana, Representante de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación.
- 37 Discurso pronunciado por el Dr. Ricardo Crespo Ordoñez, Presidente de la Delegación del Ecuador, en la Sesión Inaugural, 9 de abril de 1953.
- 38 Exposición hecha por el Dr. Antonio Casas Briceño, Jefe de la Delegación de Venezuela ante el Comité IV (Agricultura) el 20 de abril de 1953.
- 40 Declaración del Sr. Brunio Leuchsner, Secretario del Comité III ante la Reunión del 21 de abril de 1953.