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Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions

Mexico City, 17-25 April 1986

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of Officers

In accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and established practice, it is necessary to elect from among the representatives present a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda can be adopted as submitted, or with such amendments as participants may deem appropriate. It will also be necessary to decide on the organization of work of the sessional committee. One possibility would be to hold only plenary meetings for the detailed consideration of the agenda and the preparation of the report of the Committee. In this case, any item which called for special consideration could be dealt with in a working group.

3. Report on activities to promote and support co-operation among developing countries and regions carried out since the Committee's meeting at the twentieth session of the Commission

The Secretariat will present a document entitled "Activities of the ECLAC system to promote co-operation among developing countries and regions. Note by the Secretariat" (LC/G.1401 (SES.21/22)). This Note reviews the activities carried out in the two-year period 1984-1985 since the meeting of the Committee at the twentieth session of the Commission, with special reference to the following points:

a) Global reviews of support by the United Nations system to technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions

During the two-year period 1984-1985, various organs and units of the United Nations system have carried out appraisals of the way in which the system has moved to promote and support technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions. The ECLAC Secretariat has participated actively in these appraisal exercises by preparing and supplying information and background material on relevant activities of the ECLAC system.

b) Activities to promote and support technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions at the regional level

As TCDC/ECDC is a mode of co-operation and not a limited and clearly defined field of work, activities to promote and support such co-operation involve elements which are present in all the areas of the programme of work of the Secretariat. Consequently, the report presented by the Secretariat reviews the work done by the ECLAC system in a variety of areas of activity which involve a clear dimension of promotion and support of horizontal co-operation among the countries of the region.

Generally speaking, this work involves the following elements of co-operation:

- i) identification of opportunities for intensifying horizontal co-operation;
- ii) organization of exchange of experience among existing or potential agents of co-operation and support for this work through meetings aimed at promoting the application of forms of TCDC/ECDC;
- iii) intermediation activities to facilitate direct contacts among agents of co-operation of the countries in sectors where there are specific needs for and offers of co-operation;
- iv) support for national TCDC/ECDC co-ordination centres, at the request of the countries concerned;
- v) support for the establishment and operation of horizontal co-operation machinery at the regional or subregional level (e.g., co-operation systems and networks).

c) Activities to promote and support technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions at the interregional level

In the report of activities of the Secretariat, details are given of the progress made by the regional commissions in the preparation of a co-ordinated programme designed to set afoot, in consultation and co-ordination with the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system, various joint projects for promoting and supporting co-operation among countries of different developing regions.

Details are also given of activities which have had a direct connection with the promotion of TCDC/ECDC at the interregional level in areas specifically designated by the Caracas Programme of Action as having priority, such as the Multisectoral Information Network (RIM) and the establishment of a Developing Countries' Bank.

4. Guidelines for future activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support co-operation among developing countries and regions

Under this agenda item, delegations could consider and propose guidelines for the work of the ECLAC system aimed at ensuring that activities for the promotion and support of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions at the regional and interregional levels continue to be closely linked with the needs and demands of the countries of the region.

Among the guidelines which delegations might consider, the Note by the Secretariat suggests several aimed at: strengthening the active role of the ECLAC system in these matters; defining more exactly the differences between TCDC and ECDC; achieving closer links with national co-ordination centres; securing better involvement of the effective governmental and non-governmental agents of co-operation in the various spheres, and continuing to promote co-operation among developing regions.

/5. Other

5. Other business

Under this item of the agenda, delegations could deal with other topics which they consider to be appropriate within the scope and spirit of the meeting.

6. Adoption of the report

The report will be adopted in keeping with the Rules of Procedure, if possible by consensus, and will contain the considerations and recommendations which the Committee feels to be appropriate for guiding the activities of the ECLAC Secretariat in the matter. On adoption, the report will be submitted to the Commission for its approval.

