

United Nations

Nations Unies

UNRESTRICTED

**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

E/CN.12/1/Add.1
29 April 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-
SPANISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

NOTES ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST
SESSION OF THE COMMISSION (DOCUMENT E/CN.12/1)

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Introduction

The following notes, prepared by the Secretariat for the use of representatives, are a brief guide to the documents and agenda items before the Commission. In certain cases where action is likely to be required, attention has been drawn to this fact. These comments are, however, purely tentative and are not intended in any way to prejudge the action of the Commission.

Item 1. Opening addresses

The session will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General who will act as Chairman, pending the election of the Commission's Chairman. Addresses of welcome to the Commission by guests will be delivered at this point, and the representative of the Secretary-General will then make his opening address.

Item 2. Election of chairman

The representative of the Secretary-General, acting as Temporary Chairman, will ask for nominations for the Chairman of the Commission. Upon election, the Chairman will at once take over the conduct of the session.

Item 3. Adoption of provisional rules of procedure

Provisional rules of procedure based upon the rules adopted by other regional economic commissions will be circulated by the Secretariat. During consideration of this agenda item (document E/CN.12/2), the Commission may wish to refer to a committee the preparation of its own rules of procedure after taking into consideration those adopted by other regional economic commissions. Such a committee might be asked to report back during the first session of the Commission. Pending the final adoption of the rules of procedure, the Commission could decide to operate under the provisional rules.

/Item 4.

Item 4. Election of additional officers

The provisional rules of procedure envisage the election of one Vice-Chairman, as is the practice of the other two regional commissions. The addition of other officers is a matter for the Commission's decision.

Item 5. Adoption of the agenda

In the Secretary-General's official communication convening the first session of the Economic Commission for Latin America, an invitation was issued to Member Governments "to add any further items which they consider to be within the Commission's terms of reference and which are not covered by the provisional agenda".

At some convenient time during the discussion arising out of the adoption of the agenda, the Chairman may wish to submit to the Commission his report on credentials.

Item 6. Consideration of action under paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Commission's terms of reference (document E/710/Rev.1/Corr.1)

Under this, the principal substantive item on the agenda, the Commission will desire to formulate its plans for carrying out its mandate. With the object of facilitating the work of the Commission, the Secretariat has prepared the following papers:

Note on Scope and Functions of the Economic Commission for Latin America (document E/CN.12/3)

Proposals on the Need for an Economic Report and Survey (document E/CN.12/4)

The Provision of Expert Assistance and Technical Training as a Function of the Economic Commission for Latin America (document E/CN.12/5)

The Secretariat has set forth in these papers certain considerations bearing upon the Commission's work.

It would also desire to draw attention to a suggestion made in the document on "Proposals on the Need for an Economic Report and Survey". This suggestion is that the work of the Commission would be greatly aided if, in connexion with the discussions on this item, the Member Governments were to come to the first session prepared to present in the course of the debate as detailed a statement as possible regarding their current economic situation, with particular emphasis on those "economic problems arising out of the war and from world economic maladjustment".

Item 7.

America related to the Commission's terms of reference

connexion with this item, attention is drawn to a note

/prepared

prepared by the Secretariat (document E/CN.12/6). It is believed that a number of specialized agencies will be represented throughout the session and will participate in the work of the Commission. They will be prepared to inform the Commission of the work they have undertaken or plan to undertake in Latin America.

Item 8. Consideration of the Economic and Social Council resolution of 2 March 1948 (document E/733) concerning co-ordinated action to meet the continuing world food crisis

The Secretariat has circulated on this item a brief note outlining the background to the resolution of the Economic and Social Council (document E/CN.12/7). In addition the Food and Agriculture Organization is preparing, for submission to the Commission, a statement concerning that organization's position and proposals in this matter.

Item 9. Consideration of action under paragraph 9 of the Commission's terms of reference, particularly in regard to co-operation with the appropriate organs of the Inter-American system

Paragraph 9 of the Commission's terms of reference requires it to establish co-operation and co-ordination with the Inter-American System. The formulation of the Commission's total programme of work will naturally be undertaken in the light of this requirement. In addition, the Commission may wish to place on record certain instructions to its Executive Secretary as to the character and methods of co-ordination to be adopted, and may wish to indicate the measures to be taken to eliminate wasteful duplication of effort.

The Secretariat will circulate a brief note detailing the measures taken to date to ensure that the appropriate organs of the Inter-American System are properly informed of the preparations for the Commission's first session (document E/CN.12/3).

Item 10. Report to the Economic and Social Council

The Commission's terms of reference call for regular reports to be made to the Economic and Social Council as follows: "once a year a full report on its activities and plans and interim reports at each regular session of the Council". In addition: "The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals for activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole".

For this first session, the Commission report might consist of a record of its decisions and of the arrangements made regarding its future work, together with the necessary information regarding the

/meetings

meetings of the session. The Secretariat, if so instructed, could undertake the preparation of such a report.

In this connexion, attention is drawn to the following extract from the Economic and Social Council resolution adopted by the sixth session (document E/765) relating to reports of the Council's Commissions. The relevant paragraph of Part IV of this resolution states:

"THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

REQUESTS the Commissions of the Council to establish priorities of work in their respective programmes based on the urgency and importance of the projects in fulfilling the purposes of Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, and to indicate these priorities in their reports to the Economic and Social Council."

In the development of its programme of work, the Commission will need to establish the priorities requested.

Item 11. Date and place of next session

Attention is drawn to paragraph 15 of the Commission's terms of reference:

"The Commission shall at each session decide upon the place of meeting for its next session with due consideration for the principle that the countries of Latin America be chosen in rotation."

In view of the Secretary-General's responsibilities for the Commission's budgetary and administrative arrangements, the Secretariat will be ready to advise the Commission on the Administrative and budgetary aspects of any proposal under this item.
