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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Statement on the work programme by the
Executive Secretary.

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Resolutions adopted at the Second Session of the Commission request the Executive Secretary to undertake series of studies and other activities. They have the direct bearing on the Work Programme of the Secretariat of the Commission.

The Secretariat Work Programme between Second and Third Session of the Commission may be summarized as follows:

1. Special trade studies and meetings of trade experts; and assistance to be given the International Monetary Fund in its further study on Multilateral Compensation of International Payments in Latin America.
2. Second Annual Economic Survey of Latin America and related studies listed below as projects Nos. 3 and 4.
3. Special study on cyclical fluctuations and their nature in Latin America.
4. Special study on economic, financial and legal conditions for investments in Latin American countries.
5. Studies and Activities in the field of Agriculture and Forestry to be undertaken jointly by the ECLA Secretariat and the FAO, which will establish Special Study Groups; their activities may cover the following fields:

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- a) Agricultural Credit
 - b) Utilisation of Water Resources (dams, irrigation and related problems)
 - c) Transportation as related to the Development of Agriculture (existing transportation means, and their extension in order to open new areas).
 - d) Storage of Agricultural Products (means and methods, distribution, marketing).
 - e) Development of Forest Industries.
6. Special Studies of Transport Problems of Latin America.
7. Study on Immigration to Latin America to be prepared jointly with the United Nations Department of Social Affairs and in cooperation with interested specialized agencies.
8. Survey of existing facilities for training economists in Latin America.
9. Special assistance to be given by the Commission Secretariat to the Latin American Member Governments in appraising their needs for Technical Assistance through the United Nations and specialized agencies.

The Executive Secretary considers necessary to draw the attention of the Commission to the fact that implementation of the above programme of studies and other activities will require larger resources than are at present placed at the disposal of the Commission Secretariat.

Implementation of the work programme between Second and Third Session of the Commission would require (1) special financial appropriation for the balance of 1949, and (2) appropriate adjustments of the 1950 budget.

The additional funds necessary for the balance of 1949 (the average 4 months period has been taken into account) may be estimated as amounting from 40-50 thousand U.S. dollars. This includes increase in the number of established professional and secretarial posts, increase of funds for consultants and travel expenditure as well as for convening of trade experts meetings.

The Executive Secretary draws the attention of the Commission to the fact that the appropriations could only be made through appropriate organs of the United Nations and the Secretary General in accordance with the established policy. Before any action is taken in this connection the Economic and Social Council would have to take appropriate action on this report and recommendations contained in it.

Bearing this in mind the Executive Secretary enumerated the above Work Programme projects in order of priorities (1 - 9).



