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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN THE ECLA REGION

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UNITED NATIONS

(Technical Assistance Administration)

Technical Assistance Activities in the ECLA Region

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of the present report is to describe the technical assistance activities carried out in countries of Latin America by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration during 1952. It thus brings up to date the information contained in the report on technical assistance activities in the Economic Commission for Latin America region submitted to the first meeting of the Committee of the Whole held in February 1952 (E/CN.12/A.C.16/4).

2. The report describes technical assistance rendered by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration in the fields of economic development and public administration. In order to give a complete account of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration programme in each country, brief references are also made to assistance provided during the year in the field of social welfare. The report should be read in conjunction with document E/CN.12/302, prepared by the Secretariat of the Technical Assistance Board, which summarizes the technical assistance activities in the Economic Commission for Latin America region of all the organizations represented on the Board.

3. The activities reported below under country headings and under the heading of regional projects are described in considerably greater detail than has hitherto been the case in reports submitted to the Commission or the Committee of the Whole ^{1/}. It is hoped that the report in its present form will give governments a clearer picture of what has been attempted and accomplished, and that at the same time it will provide the basis for helpful discussions of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration's technical assistance programme in the region.

4. In assessing accomplishments under the programme, it will be realized that some of the benefits are indirect, though none-the-less important. For example, technical assistance in the development of basic industries, such as power and steel, has repercussions in stimulating subsidiary industries. Similarly, improvement of statistical services will be reflected in sounder bases for determining requirements, priorities and plans. Regional meetings of experts not only permit the diffusion of knowledge of the best methods used in each country represented, and the introduction of new practices, but also

^{1/} E/CN.12/171,223; E/CN.12.AC.16/4

establish contacts for continuing exchange of valuable information in the future.

5. Comprehensive technical assistance programmes such as those requested and carried out in several Latin-American countries in 1952 indicate a growing realization on the part of the Governments of the interdependence of the various sectors of the economy in their over-all economic development. There is also evidence in the programme of a growing awareness of the interdependence of the economies of the region and a desire for cooperation that will be mutually advantageous. The outstanding examples of this are the Central-American projects looking towards the economic integration of that area.

6. The Commission at its fourth session adopted a resolution (E/CN.12/281) in which it expressed the hope that technical assistance services to the Latin-American countries under resolutions 200(III), 246(III) and 304(IV) would be expanded. The present document records an encouraging increase in the scope and volume of technical assistance activities in the region. This is made particularly clear in the two tables annexed to the report, which give comparative figures for numbers of experts appointed and fellowships awarded in the fields of economic development and public administration during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952. Whereas in 1950, 28 experts were appointed and 27 fellowships and scholarships awarded, the corresponding figures for 1951 were 32 and 67. During 1952, 82 experts were appointed and 105 fellowships and scholarships were awarded. Similarly, there has been a progressive expansion in the programme of training and demonstration centres. One such project was organized in the Economic Commission for Latin America region in 1950, three took place in 1951, three in 1952 and the tentative programme for 1953, some parts of which are still in an early stage of preparation, comprises ten.

7. These encouraging facts must, however, be viewed in the light of the general situation of the expanded programme of technical assistance in relation to its financial resources. The growing demands for technical assistance are not matched by the availability of resources to meet them. On 16 December 1952, the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board warned the Economic and Social Council^{1/} that, unless government, which had not yet

done so, fulfilled their pledges for 1952, and unless contributions for 1953 reached the General Assembly's target figure of \$25,000,000, it would not be possible to carry out all the commitments already undertaken, still less to embark on new projects. The present precarious financial situation of the expanded programme has in fact necessitated a phasing of projects planned to take place during 1953 and succeeding years, and the plans for 1953 referred to in the following pages represent a considerable scaling down of the programme it had been hoped to carry out during the current year.

/II ACTIVITIES BY

II ACTIVITIES BY COUNTRIES

BOLIVIA

8. In implementation of the recommendations of the comprehensive mission sent to Bolivia in 1950 by the United Nations and specialized agencies, the Bolivian Government asked the United Nations to aid it in strengthening the country's administrative foundations by making available, under the expanded programme, a number of administrative assistants who would serve the Government as integral members of its Civil Services for periods of from two to five years. It is hoped that a firm foundation will thus be laid for the carrying out of specific projects recommended by the comprehensive mission and incorporated by the Government into its overall plan of economic development.

9. A special representative of the Secretary-General was appointed in February 1952. His duties include advice to the Secretary-General on the selection of candidates for administrative assistant and expert posts, liaison between the Secretary-General and the Bolivian authorities on the development of the United Nations technical assistance programme in Bolivia in general, and advice to the Coordinator-General of the Bolivian Development Programme. The special representative also acts as resident representative of the Technical Assistance Board.

10. Under a Special Agreement concluded between the Bolivian Government and the United Nations, the Organization agreed to appoint ten administrators to serve in various branches of the Government. The following appointments have so far been made: two public finance specialists, who are advising respectively on the reorganization of the Ministry of Finance and of the Office of the Controller-General; a specialist in banking and monetary systems, who is advising the Central Bank of Bolivia, in consultation with International Monetary Fund experts, on policy and practice concerning the stabilization of the monetary and exchange system; a specialist on the establishment of standards of budgetary practice, assigned to the office of the Director-General of the Budget;^{1/} an agricultural specialist, who is advising on the reorganization of the Ministry of Agriculture and Supply;

^{1/} This administrative assistant resigned after serving two months, owing to ill-health, and the possibility of leaving his post unfilled but of appointing instead an expert on budgetary law, for a period of six months, is under consideration.

two specialists on labour and social questions, one of whom is concerned with the reorganization of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and the other with the organization of technical and administrative services required for the application of the Ministry's social security scheme. All the above appointments were made during the spring of 1952. The appointment of the administrative assistant on budgetary questions was preceded by a short visit by a United Nations consultant in this field in the spring of 1952. In addition, an administrative assistant may be appointed to advise on the general questions of measures to reorganize and improve public administration in Bolivia. The special Agreement further provides for administrative assistants in the Ministries of Mines and Public Works, but their recruitment is being held in abeyance for the present.

11. A number of experts are furthermore assisting the Government in an advisory capacity in projects related to the responsibilities of the administrative assistance and arising out of recommendations made by the comprehensive mission.

12. The success of Bolivia's programme of economic development depends largely upon the availability of cheap and abundant power, which is needed for the expansion of agricultural, industrial and mineral production as well as for domestic use. There are large reserves of water power in the country, but much information on the subject remains to be collected. In March 1952, the UNTAA at the Government's request appointed an expert to assist in the preparation of a programme of electric power development and to advise on its implementation.

13. The Government attaches importance to the improvement and expansion of oil production in relation to its power development programme. It has accordingly asked the UNTAA to provide four experts in the field of oil resources development. An expert on the general development of oil production and an oil geologist have already been appointed. An expert who will be asked to advise on the preparation of the relevant basic legislation is under recruitment. The question of recruiting a fourth expert to advise on the improvement of cost analysis methods is at present under discussion.

/14. The basic problem

14. The basic problem of Bolivia's mining industry is to maintain the present level of tin production and to increase the output of other minerals. The possibilities of diversifying mineral production in Bolivia are considered to be very promising and the development of the country's mineral reserves could contribute greatly to economic welfare. The UNTAA at the Government's request has made available three experts in the field of mineral resources development. One expert, who took up a year's assignment in February 1952, is making recommendations on methods of mining, transporting, smelting and refining minerals and on the development of known mineral reserves. A second expert was appointed in March 1952 for one year to advise on production costs of mineral products. A third expert, appointed in October 1952, is reviewing the economic feasibility of establishing a smelting industry in the country.

15. In December 1952 the United Nations received a request for expert advice in connection with the activities of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia, the body which is responsible for the operation of Bolivia's tin-mining industry. The services of the following experts were requested: two mining engineers, one field geologist, two metallurgical engineers specializing in concentrates, two electrical engineers, specializing in power-production and traction, two mechanical engineers (diesel specialists), one mechanical engineer specializing in mining machinery and one specialist in the smelting of non-ferrous metals. In addition, it is possible that an expert on administrative management may be required in order to advise on administrative problems connected with the consolidation of the mining industry. Four of the above-mentioned posts could be filled by United Nations experts already in Bolivia; the contracts of three of them (those on hydro-electric power, mining and costs of mineral production) were recently extended for another year.

16. Almost the entire road network in Bolivia at present serves not more than one quarter of the country and to a large extent duplicates the railway system. An expert on road transportation took up a year's assignment in April 1952 to study the existing highway system and the need for its expansion in the light of national plans for economic development. He is also advising on road improvement and maintenance.

17. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has recruited two experts to advise on the purchase of machinery for sugar mills and is taking steps to recruit an expert on the calculation of industrial costs.

/18. As a result

18. As a result of a request for emergency aid made by the Government which took office in April 1952, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration provided the services of an expert on low-cost housing. The expert served for two and a half months in the summer of 1952. In order to make full use of his services, the Government set up a permanent committee on low-cost housing and organized for him an extensive series of visits to housing projects in various parts of the country.

19. In addition to the above technical assistance, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration is prepared, in response to requests from the Government to make available experts in the following fields: fiscal administration, personnel administration, the organization and initial administration of a development bank, the improvement and extension of the railway network, and land administration (in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization). Of these, the four first experts were covered by the special Agreement mentioned in paragraph 10 above.

20. A note on the joint field mission on indigenous populations will be found under "Regional Activities," paragraphs 133-140.

BRAZIL

21. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has agreed to make available to the Government of Brazil an expert on the industrialization of sisal to advise the Government, and particularly the Instituto Agronomico do Nordeste in Recife, on the planning and layout of industrial plants for the manufacture of sisal and sisal ropes.

22. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration is also seeking at the Government's request, to recruit an expert on rural housing to continue the work undertaken by the United Nations expert on living conditions and housing of rural populations who visited Brazil in the spring of 1951. The expert at present under recruitment will advise the Instituto Joaquin Nabuco on its rural housing programme in Eastern Pernambuco and, in particular, will study low-cost construction materials and the possibility of their improvement, and comparative costs of different types of economical rural houses. He will also be asked to prepare plans and designs for rural houses suitable for Eastern Pernambuco.

/23. Two further

23. Two further experts will arrive soon in Brazil for an assignment of two months, during which they will propose measures to improve traffic circulation in the metropolitan area of Rio de Janeiro and will coordinate traffic operations and safety activities. They will also advise on the organization, administration and training of traffic police.

24. The Government has also requested an engineer to advise on road paving techniques and an expert to undertake a topographical survey as a basis for regional planning. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration hopes to implement these requests in 1954.

25. An expert on the care of crippled children has been in Sao Paulo since May 1952. She has reported encouraging progress in the organization of a school of crippled children. An intensive citywide interpretation and publicity campaign has been successfully conducted, and funds and cooperation from different sources have been secured. An interesting development of this assignment is the creation of a workshop attached to the school which is designed to provide the children with an occupation after they leave school,

26. Assistance in connexion with the Brazilian School of Public Administration is described in paragraphs 145-147 below.

27. Twenty-two economic development and public administration fellowships and scholarships were awarded to Brazilian nationals during 1952, in such fields as hydraulic and thermal power resource appraisal; power plant construction and operation; general training in economics; development of industrial products; international trade; national income statistics; road transport; cargo protection; telecommunications; control of imports and exports and public administration.

BRITISH GUIANA

28. Although British Guiana has large untapped sources of water power in its many rivers, the lack of basic topographical and hydrological data has hitherto prevented the development of a hydro-electric scheme. The Government has therefore decided that a general survey of the hydro-electric potentialities of the whole territory should be undertaken, and has requested the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to provide an expert to examine such information as is already available and to advise on areas

/where priority should

where priority should be given to detailed surveys. The expert has been in the field since January 1953.

29. During 1953, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration awarded two public administration fellowships, to enable government officials to study government accounting and auditing in Canada.

CHILE

30. The Government of Chile requested an expert to help in the preparation of the 1952 population census in connexion with the census plan of the American continent. An expert was appointed by the United Nations in January 1952 to help the Government prepare a detailed census programme; plan the census organization; and train and recruit temporary personnel. When the expert finished this first part of his assignment, he started a second phase consisting in the processing and tabulation of census results. The expert has also advised on the selection of census equipment furnished by the United Nations.

31. Three fellowships and two scholarships were awarded during 1952, to enable Chilean nationals to study problems of the domestic financing of economic development, the design and construction of factories, taxation and public finance, viticulture, and the organization of technical assistance services in the United States and the United Nations.

32. Reference to the demonstration centre in vital and health statistics, which has been set up by the Government in cooperation with various international organizations, is made in paragraph 136.

COLOMBIA

33. On the basis of the recommendations of the International Bank's Mission to Colombia, the Government in late 1950 addressed a request to the United Nations for a comprehensive economic development mission.

34. The mission, which completed its work in early 1952, included the following experts supplied by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration: two taxation experts, one of whom advised on a long-range fiscal programme and the other on improved methods of assessing and collecting taxes; an expert on public utilities, who advised the Government on operational, financial and rate problems, with a view to the expansion of public utilities

/as part of the

as part of the Government's development plans; an expert on railway rates and operative costs; an expert on harbour terminals; and one statistician who advised on methods of collecting price and production statistics and of preparing price indices, a cost-of-living index, import and export indices and indices covering industrial and agricultural production.

35. The public utilities expert studied the situation of public utilities in Colombia and recommended in particular the establishment of an autonomous regulatory body to administer legislation pertaining to them, as well as further assistance by an expert who would help the Government in establishing this regulatory body and serve as a financial adviser in its early stages. On the basis of these recommendations, the expert returned to Colombia at the Government's request in May 1952, and during a 6-month's assignment made a detailed study of the financial situation of the Empresas Públicas de Cartagena, and proposed specific measures to improve their financial situation.

36. As a result of the recommendations made by the statistical expert who formed part of the comprehensive mission, the Government has asked that a team of seven experts be made available to assist in the further re-organization and development of Colombian national statistics. Seven fellowships for officials of the ministries concerned have also been requested. In response to this request, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, in cooperation with the United Nations Statistical Office, appointed a co-ordinator for the statistical team in October 1952 for a period of one year. This expert is assisting in the setting up of statistical research sections in various ministries. He is also advising the Director-General of Statistics on the development and coordination of various national statistical programmes. A senior census consultant took up a year's assignment in June 1952. He is assisting the Government in the technical validation of various aspects of the 1951 population census, and is advising on the processing and publication of the census results. He will be assisted by another census consultant, who will also help the Government in the field of statistics. Another member of the team will be an adviser on industrial production statistics, who has been appointed and will join the mission in February 1953. A consultant on

/statistical methodology

statistical methodology and training will also be sent to Colombia; two experts on agricultural statistics and cost-of-living statistics have been appointed by the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Organization, respectively, to complete the team. A fellowship was awarded during 1952 in statistical methodology.

37. A housing expert began a four-months assignment in Colombia in July 1952, during which period he worked with the Inter-American Housing Centre, a joint project of the Government of Colombia and the Organization of American States. The United Nations expert gave a course at the Centre and helped it to develop a research programme on building materials and construction methods. This was the first time that studies in the field of construction materials best adapted to housing problems of Latin America had been undertaken. The expert also advised interested Government agencies on the possibilities of obtaining building materials from local sources. As a result of the work of this expert, the Government has requested on behalf of the Centre the services of an expert to demonstrate building construction methods and techniques as well as building research equipment for demonstration purposes. The Government has also submitted a request for an expert to make a survey of housing in Colombia with special emphasis on the financial aspects of the programme. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has agreed to continue to provide technical assistance in this field, as well as to provide equipment for a laboratory for housing materials research, including stabilized earth, at the Centre.

38. The expert on railway cost accountancy and tariffs finished his assignment in March 1952 and presented his final report, in which he laid the ground-work for the introduction of systematic cost accountancy in the Colombian railway system. In addition the expert covered in his assignment a considerable number of other related matters concerning the financial and economic situation of the Colombian railroads.

39. The two fiscal experts also completed their mission and presented their report. It deals mainly with ways to reform income and property taxes in Colombia, and proposes measures for an improvement of tax administration.

/40. In addition to

40. In addition to the fellowship in statistics mentioned above, nine economic development and public administration fellowships and scholarships have been awarded in such fields as soil conservation, mineral resources, cooperatives in economic development, industrial organization and management, recovery of by-products of the steel industry, telecommunications, administration of tariffs and customs, and public administration.

CUBA

41. On the basis of recommendations of the International Bank's Mission to Cuba, the Government submitted a comprehensive request for some 25 experts in the fields of power, hydrology, mining, transportation, public finance, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. A preliminary mission of three United Nations experts paid a short visit to Cuba, in July 1952, to work out the details of a specific programme to meet the comprehensive request. The mission was joined in Cuba by representatives from the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

42. One of the economic advisers on the preliminary mission subsequently took on an assignment until the end of 1952 as Chief of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration Mission in Cuba. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration is implementing the Government's comprehensive request by stages. As a first step, a chief engineer and an expert in railway organization and financing are to be appointed. The latter will be asked to study the re-organization and possible merger of railroads and make recommendations thereon to the Development Bank.

43. Arising out of the recommendations made by a United Nations statistical expert who visited Cuba in 1951, the Government requested an economic statistician to assist in planning and improving the collection, compilation, tabulation and analysis of statistics of industrial production, consumption and prices, and in the general re-organization of the Government's statistical services. In response to this request, an expert was appointed in July 1952 for one year.

/ECUADOR

ECUADOR

44. Since 1949 a mission of public finance and customs experts has been at work in Ecuador. With their assistance a basic budget law was drafted and put into effect. In 1952 arrangements were made for a considerable expansion of technical assistance to Ecuador in this field. The present mission includes a customs administration expert who prepared a basic customs law and tariff regulations. This proposed legislation is under study by the Ecuadorean authorities, and the expert has returned to Ecuador for an extension of his assignment.

45. An income tax expert has been for some time in the country and is at present advising on the unification of different national and local taxes. The team has been augmented to include experts on budgetary reform, internal tax system reform, income tax administration and the reform of the provincial and municipal administrative and financial systems.

46. Fellowships and scholarships have been awarded during 1952 in the following fields related to the work of the mission: state and municipal administration, administration of tariffs and customs; fiscal administration; budget planning; taxation policy; legislation regarding the investment of foreign capital in the extractive industries.

47. In December 1952 a statistical expert, who has been working in Ecuador since July 1949, completed a mission during which he had assisted the Government in the successful taking of the first population census in Ecuador. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will continue its assistance in this field, by providing the Ecuadorean Government with the rental of statistical tabulation equipment and by making available two technicians on census tabulation. A fellowship was awarded during 1952 in the field of statistics and economic research.

48. An expert on government procurement completed a four-months assignment in June 1952, during which he made recommendations on the procurement, distribution and control of such items as metal office equipment, printing paper, stationery and lamps.

/49. A printing

49. A printing expert advised for four months on steps to modernize printing techniques in Government printing shops; he also organized courses for Government printing shop workers and held courses at a trade school in Quito.

50. As part of a training programme in the industrial field undertaken by the Government with the help of United Nations agencies, a ship-building foreman was appointed by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration in September 1952 for six months to organize demonstration projects and to train workmen in building small ships with local materials. The expert has been attached to the Comité de Vialidad de Guayas and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will supply some additional equipment needed for the success of the project.

51. Also as a part of its industrial programme, the Government propose to develop traditional trades and crafts. The ceramics industry with its long tradition of craftsmanship and design plays an important part in this phase of development, and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has provided an expert to advise on the improvement of present techniques used in the production of pottery and ceramics. The expert, who began his assignment in January 1953, will survey the methods and techniques followed in the production of ceramics and pottery in the main rural centres of the country and will also familiarize himself with available archeological collections. Afterwards he will devise improved production techniques and set up centres utilizing existing equipment and teaching new techniques. He will also assist the Government in the development of modern ceramics industry.

52. A United Nations expert who visited Ecuador in 1953 indicated the possibilities of using low-grade coal deposits at Biblian for industrial purposes and, particularly, for the projected cement plant. His work was followed up by a coal consultant who spent several months in Ecuador in the early part of 1952. A project for the exploitation of the deposits has been presented to the Government.

53. One of the obstacles hindering Ecuador's economic development is the lack of roads. Agriculture, forestry, the exploitation of mineral resources, and the establishment of small industries are seriously

/affected by the

affected by the lack of road transportation. The port of Guayaquil must, in addition, be relocated. In response to a request from the Government, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration made available in March 1952 an expert on ports and roads who acted as adviser to the Executive Road Committee of Guayas Province. The expert advised on the development of a new port in Estero Salado for Guayaquil. His assignment was extended in connexion with this work and he will also advise the Government on the establishment of a road construction pilot project. The Government has also asked the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to make available a team of eight experts to advise in the installation of two training centres to be set up to train Ecuadorean personnel in the maintenance and use of road-building machinery. Actual equipment to be used in the construction of new roads is already available in the country, but is in need of repair. The Government is preparing a map of the network of transport projects and is drawing up a list of priorities which the pilot project will use in building main transportation roads. The construction centres are to be set up in Quito and Guayaquil, and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will implement this request in stages, setting up first a centre in Quito and later on one in Guayaquil. A fellowship was awarded during 1952 in the field of highway and railroad construction.

54. In August 1952 an expert on the maintenance of automobile vehicles began a six-months assignment, during which he organized a brief course for repair shop personnel.

55. An expert on low-cost housing has been at work in Ecuador since April 1952. He has advised the Government on the re-building of Esmeraldas, a town with a population of 16,000 which had been partially destroyed by fire. Under his guidance ten city blocks were laid out to demonstrate modern city-planning methods and systems of low-cost housing in tropical towns and cities of the Esmeraldas type. The expert has been particularly successful in the designing and building of low-cost, fire-proof, earthquake-resistant and sanitary houses of a new type. The success of this scheme led the Government to consider the establishment of a national planning and housing agency to deal with all matters relating

/to housing and

to housing and town and country planning in Ecuador. The expert has already returned to Ecuador to advise on the establishment of this agency to coordinate programmes for the development of the port of Esmeraldas, and to be prepared to assist the city of Guayaquil, if requested, in its town and country planning. If required, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will provide other consultants to assist him and is now procuring some equipment in the form of two cement block making machines to help the expert in his new assignment. A fellowship was awarded during 1952 in the fields of housing and city planning.

56. In addition to those mentioned above, economic development and public administration fellowships have been awarded during 1952 in the fields of agriculture and industrial credit; cartography and photogrammetry; telecommunications; and public administration.

57. A note on the joint field mission on indigenous populations (Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru) will be found in paragraph 138-140.

EL SALVADOR

58. In March 1951 the Government asked the United Nations to send a comprehensive mission to El Salvador to undertake a study of economic and social conditions and to draw up an integrated plan for the economic and social development of the country. In response to this request, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration made available during 1951 and 1952, for periods varying between three and eight months, a chief of mission, who also served as chief economic adviser, and experts in the following fields: industrial economy, textile industries, inland transportation, port development, telecommunication electric power, geology, housing, social welfare administration, family income, public finance and marketing. The Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Educational Cultural and Scientific Organization and the International Monetary Fund also provided experts in their respective fields.

59. The expert on industrial economy, after a complete survey of the industrial development of the country, recommended some specific measures

/to promote

to promote industrialization in El Salvador, namely, expert advice to develop the pineapple canning industries and the canning of other fruits and vegetables; the manufacture of light metal products, such as nails, staples, pipes, small tubes; the manufacture of building materials, notably bricks and other items made wholly or partly of cement; the dairy industry, including production of dried milk; the breeding of meat cattle and the production of meat and other packing house products. The expert further recommended the elimination of prohibitions relating to the manufacture of commodities on an industrial scale; measures to increase the economic collaboration with the other Central-American Republics; and the creation of a Development Corporation, with an initial capital of between ten and twenty million Colones, to undertake basic industrial research and assist in the financing of new industrial and related agricultural ventures.

60. The expert on the textile industry suggested official encouragement for the modernization of the mechanical textile industries. In particular, he recommended the issuance of long-term loans at low rates of interest; help to nationals to study in foreign textile schools; the adoption of arrangements to combine several mechanical factories together to build and operate a single dye and finishing plant; the encouragement of hand-loom and hand-weaving industries for the production of fabrics of artistic design and superior quality which would not compete with fabrics made on mechanical looms; and the manufacturing of superior articles for export. The cost of the proposed modernization has been estimated at one million dollars.

61. The industrial and agricultural development studied by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and the Food and Agriculture Organization, needs to be implemented in conjunction with the parallel development of ancillary industries, namely, transportation, energy and communications. This field was covered by the United Nations Technical Assistance Organization experts on inland transportation, port conditions and telecommunications, and by an International Civil Aviation Organization expert on civil aviation.

/62. The inland

62. The inland transportation expert studied the present condition of the road and railway systems in relation to the economic needs of the country and suggested measures for the improvement of the present situation. He proposed the establishment of a transportation advisory committee to assist the Government in the simplification of procedures concerning regulation of rates, labour and wages, traffic control, etc. He also emphasized the need of Central-American cooperation in all fields of transportation.

63. El Salvador, like most other Central-American countries, is heavily dependent on foreign trade. Its main agricultural product, coffee, is sold principally in foreign markets and many consumer and practically all capital goods are imported from abroad. It is therefore important for the country to have adequate port facilities to handle its needs. The expert on port improvement surveyed the three ports that at present serve the country: - Cutuco, La Libertad, and Acajutla - and suggested the development of a modern efficient port in Acajutla. For this purpose, he recommended an investment of approximately 45 million Colones.

64. The expert on telecommunications suggested that El Salvador should keep pace with the universal movement toward the use of the telephone rather than the telegraph. The special training required by telegraph operators makes the use of the telegraph service uneconomical and it is already a world-wide practice to send telegraph messages by telephone to those areas that do not warrant the maintenance of telegraph offices. To improve telephone services, the expert suggested the establishment of a semi-autonomous institute to administer the system of telecommunications, and a rapid increase in the number of telephones in order to make the present system more efficient and economical. He estimated the capital needs for new investment in the telephone field at approximately 200,000 Colones. However, the annual revenue of this additional investment would be in the order of 93,000 Colones.

65. The availability of relatively cheap electric power is an important factor in the industrial development of a country because without it some

/industries could not

industries could not be established and others would be uneconomical to operate. Until now El Salvador has been relying primarily on electricity produced by diesel motors, although in some localities power is produced by hydraulic means or by exploiting volcanic formations. The importation of diesel fuel is a considerable drain on the balance of payments and increases the cost of electricity to the consumer. The electric power expert sent by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration envisaged an electrification programme on a 10-year basis. In the first phase, facilities now existing in villages and towns might be modernized and new capacity might be installed where it is at present insufficient; in the second stage, electricity might be introduced in villages and towns now not connected to electric facilities; in the third stage, rural communities might be electrified and, finally all other outlying areas might be brought within the reach of electric power. The whole programme on a ten-year basis would cost roughly 31 million Colones.

66. In addition to technical assistance in industrial and ancillary fields, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration also made available assistance in the fields of geology, housing, social welfare administration and marketing.

67. The geologist suggested that a general geological mapping programme be undertaken. He emphasized the need of studies of lignite samples, of the mercury and molybdenum deposits, the oil shales and the beach sands; the determination of the underground water reserves in the most arid zones of El Salvador; and the possible use of different types of ferruginous earth for the pottery and ceramics industries. He also recommended the creation of a mining institute to undertake forth with research on some of the problems outlined above. He estimated the cost of this project at approximately 100,000 Colones during the first year and 60,000 Colones annually thereafter.

68. In countries where people live near the subsistence level, there is a tendency to spend less on housing than on food or clothing. Inadequate housing is thus an indication of a low standard of living and a characteristic of under-developed countries. El Salvador is no exception to this rule. There is a shortage of houses in major urban centres and slums are spreading.

/Housing in rural

Housing in rural and small communities is most inadequate. An adequate housing programme will require a ten-year investment of 433 million Colones. The execution of a programme of such magnitude requires close co-operation between the Government and private industry. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration expert suggested that the Government might subsidize housing required by families most in need and assist private investment in the construction of small houses. Private capital could be interested in the construction of small houses for rental if the rent control law were to be revised and measures were adopted to slow down the increase in the price of land for housing development.

69. Parallel to development in the economic field there is a great need for improvements in the social welfare field. To aid the Government in readjusting its social welfare machinery, an expert was added to the mission to advise in this field. The expert studied the welfare needs of the country and the Government's means to fulfil them, and recommended the full implementation of legislation already on the statute books and the establishment of a balanced effort in all important fields, avoiding duplication and overlapping of efforts in social welfare. He suggested that the assistance given by the private agencies should be closely co-ordinated with the assistance provided by the Government.

70. An expert took on a short assignment at the end of 1952 to complete a sample survey of family income.

71. The financing of a considerable portion of the development programme would fall upon the Government of El Salvador. The proper fulfilment of this task would require administrative machinery geared to this purpose. In this connexion, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration public finance expert suggested to the Salvadorean Government measures to make the largest possible amount of revenue available for development projects, namely: the elimination - by reducing personnel where it is not needed - of all unnecessary current Government expenditures, raising the rate of the stamp and consumption taxes, increasing property and inheritance taxes, and raising - when not in conflict with the needs of economic development - certain import duties, and improving the administration and collection of direct taxes.

/72. The expert

72. The expert on marketing drew up preliminary and informal recommendations on measures to improve the marketing of agricultural products in the country.
73. The Chief of Mission assembled all the different reports prepared by Technical Assistance Administration and the other agencies and, in order to give the Government a bases for immediate action on the development plan, prepared an action programme for 1953 to allow the authorities to allocate budgetary funds for this purpose. This first step having been taken, the Chief of Mission is now summing up the conclusions of the different reports to give the Government an over-all view of the development plan.
74. In addition to the work of the comprehensive mission, a number of individual experts have been working in El Salvador. In the social welfare field an expert on social welfare training started an assignment in January 1952 during which she drew up a plan for a school of social work. Her assignment will be estended in order to implement the plan. A child welfare expert and an expert to organize social welfare services in the rural community of Sitio del Niño are under recruitment.
75. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration hopes to extend assistance at the Government's request in the preparation of plans for the organized development and modernization of cities, and an expert will be sent to advise the Government on town and country planning.
76. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration awarded the following economic development and public administration fellowships and scholarships during 1952: a fellowship to study problems concerning the domestic financing of economic development; three scholarships to study statistical research and methodology, and the economics of transportation; and a fellowship to study banking and business administration.

/GUATEMALA

GUATEMALA

77. In 1952 the United Nations Technical Assistance Organization rendered assistance to the Guatemalan Government in the field of social services. This assistance was two-fold. First, the United Nations Technical Assistance Organization collaborated in the administrative re-organization of the Guatemala Institute of Social Security, and second, it participated in the organization of a school of social work.

78. The administrative organization of the Guatemala Institute of Social Security is being assisted by an expert who has been engaged since May 1952 on a survey of the organization and operation of the Institute and has developed and put into operation the administrative system, methods and procedures most adequate for the proper operation of the organization. The expert is also assisting in the development of sound personnel classification, selection, performance standards, training and orientation and, in general, in the establishment of an adequate system of personnel management. He is co-operating with the general manager and other leading officials of the Institute in the supervision and establishment of the field services.

79. Two social welfare training experts completed their assignments, during which they advised on the programme of the Guatemalan School of Social Work annexed to the Institute.

80. During 1953, it is expected that the expert on public administration will continue his work and that another expert on social work will be sent to Guatemala.

81. An expert on the welfare of the blind went to Guatemala in September 1952 for a short period and made a survey of the conditions of the blind in the country and of the services which have so far been established for their education, welfare, and employment. She made suggestions as to the best way in which the problem of blindness could be approached and the areas in which direct action could most profitably be initiated in the immediate future.

82. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will make available in co-operation with the International Labour Organization and the World Health Organization, an expert to assist in the Government's programme for the rehabilitation of the handicapped.

83. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration awarded a scholarship to enable a Guatemalan official to study highway construction in the United States.

HAITI

84. Technical assistance provided by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to Haiti during 1952 included the provision of expert advice on industrial development, monetary and fiscal policy, agricultural credit, statistics, lignite deposits, social welfare and community development.

85. An expert on electric power completed a five-months mission in November 1952. He made a thorough study of the electric power situation in the country as well as of the legislation pertaining to this field. He also advised on the distribution and supply of electric energy with a view to its increased use by small industries in rural districts, and made proposals for the organization of an electrification programme.

86. The mission of the expert on electric power was related to the work of a small industries expert who began a year's assignment in December 1952, and who is surveying the known resources for the development in rural areas of small water-power-driven plants for the production of electric light and power to serve rural communities and provincial towns; the establishment of compost factories and water purification plants; and the setting up of small industries, such as tanneries. He is also expected to advise on the setting up of those projects which receive the Government's approval and to take an active part in their organization.

87. In the general field of industrial development, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has agreed to make available an expert with wide industrial and commercial experience who will advise and assist the Government in such fields as the financing and organization of new industrial enterprises; the establishment of an institution for economic development, with particular reference to industrial development; and tariff modifications to be introduced with a view to promoting the industrialization of the country.

/88. During 1952,

88. During 1952, two fellowships and one scholarship in industrial fields were awarded, for the study of industrial organization, coffee growing and industrial chemistry.

89. An expert on monetary and fiscal policy concluded an 18-months assignment in October 1952. He advised the Government and the National Bank of Haiti on steps to put into effect various recommendations concerning revenue and expenditures, budget policies, taxation, credit, local government finances, and related matters made by the United Nations mission which visited Haiti in 1948.

90. An expert on agricultural credit took up a year's assignment in September 1952. He is assisting the Government in the internal organization of the newly established agricultural and industrial credit bank, and advising on the types and conditions of loans to be granted both to producers and agricultural co-operatives. The expert is also drafting the legislative rules and regulations relating to the bank's activities, and is participating actively in the organization of rural co-operatives in Haiti.

91. The assignment of a statistician who completed two years' service in December 1952 was extended for another year. He worked in close co-operation with the Department of National Economy on matters concerning the establishment of an institute of statistics which was set up in September 1951. The work of the institute is being carried out with the assistance of the United Nations expert; it included the training of personnel, a review of existing statistical data, the organization of basic data required by the Government, and the publication of a quarterly bulletin of statistics. The expert also undertook special statistical assignments at the Government's request in such fields as the determination of the degree of illiteracy; expenditure and consumption in low-income family groups; and balance of payments. A fellowship was awarded for the study of export and import statistics, and a scholarship was awarded in the field of educational statistics.

92. At the Government's request, an expert on lignite resources was sent to Haiti to make a brief survey of the country's lignite deposits with a view to preparing a programme for carrying out further research on the
/value of these

value of these deposits and the advisability of exploiting them.

93. An expert on community development paid a short visit to Haiti in the summer of 1952, at the Government's request. He discussed with the competent authorities the broad outlines of a programme of community organization and development. The expert found that prospects appeared favourable for the application of a programme of community self-help which would be based on economic and social realities in Haiti and would make use of existing human and material resources. As a result of his visit, the Government requested the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to provide an expert to assist in the development of a sound community development programme. It has also asked the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to arrange for shorter visits of specialists as needed, and to award fellowships to enable Haitian nationals to study methods of rural community development in countries where these methods have been successfully applied. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will implement this request in 1954.

94. A social welfare expert took up a year's assignment in January 1952. After completion of a survey of existing needs and programmes, she submitted a plan which, requiring minimum expenditure, would aim toward the establishment or improvement of the following services: training of social welfare workers and auxiliaries; social services in the anti-tuberculosis programme; expansion of medical social services in the school system; programme in the field of juvenile delinquency; programme for the orphanages, social centres for the crowded sections of the capital city, and social services in plantations and factories; rural welfare programme in the Artibonite Valley, and a social centre at Petit-Goave.

95. The Government has decided to encourage the systematic development of tourist trade in Haiti, and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has agreed to make available two experts to set up a hotel management school in Port-au-Prince.

96. In the field of public administration, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has agreed to make available an expert to survey departmental training needs, as a preliminary phase in the preparation
/of the curriculum

of the curriculum for a public administration training course and the determination of the number of experts required in such a course. Twelve fellowships in various public administration fields were awarded during 1952.

97. In addition to the fellowship and scholarship awards mentioned above, fellowships granted during 1952 included awards in the fields of cooperatives, port and harbour facilities, agricultural and industrial credit and banking.

JAMAICA

98. A statistician made available in 1952, for two years, by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration in consultation with the United Nations Statistical Office, is working in the Jamaican Central Bureau of Statistics on the compilation and analysis of basic economic data, particularly in the fields of national income and the incidence of taxation. He is also organizing a coordinated scheme of social and economic statistics.

99. In October 1952 a flood control expert was sent to Jamaica for three months at the Government's request. He surveyed the principal rivers, particularly the Cobre River, and made recommendations on the construction of dams to prevent flooding of the lowlands during the rainy season. He also studied the possibility of using the concentration of the dam waters to alleviate drought season problems, and of developing hydraulic plants. The Government has also requested the services of a hydrologist for a period of one year, and of an expert to advise the chairman of the Yallahs Land Valley Authority on general problems of the area's development. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will send, in 1953, an expert to make a preliminary survey of the Yallahs area.

100. A public administration fellowship was awarded during 1952 to enable a Government official to study personnel administration in Canada.

/ MEXICO

MEXICO

101. In 1952 an expert and an assistant made available by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration studied the organization and work of the Government printing office in Mexico City, and suggested measures for its re-organization. To implement the recommendations of this expert, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will provide equipment for the printing office in the near future.

102. An expert on community development and an expert on village planning and rural housing are working as members of a team of experts appointed by the United Nations and the specialized agencies, within the framework of the United Nations Educational Scientific Organization Fundamental Education Centre for Latin America (Patzcuaro, Mexico). The Centre trains personnel and produces teaching materials to develop and apply practical techniques for understanding community beliefs, traditions, values, and social institutions; ascertaining the needs -- including social needs -- of the people; motivating self-help activities for meeting these needs by methods that are adequately related to local cultural values; and training fundamental education experts in these skills and techniques.

103. The Government of Mexico has submitted a request, on behalf of the National University, for six experts to assist in a programme of training for public administration as well as for further assistance in the translation of teaching materials. It is expected that the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration will send two lecturers early in 1953 to augment the teaching staff for new courses in public administration being conducted by the National School of Economics. In accordance with the request, these experts will also collaborate in the establishment of a pilot project in advanced administrative methods within one of the established departments of the government. It is anticipated that two or three additional experts will be sent to assist in the conduct of the pilot project.

104. Fellowship and scholarship awards to Mexican nationals include two fellowships in the field of economic planning, a scholarship in the field
/of industrial

of industrial development and a fellowship to study the organization of technical assistance services in the United States and in the United Nations.

NICARAGUA

105. The United Nations has under consideration a comprehensive request to the Government of Nicaragua in connexion with its four-year plan for public investment. Experts are requested in the fields of tax collection, customs tariffs, economic statistics, public administration, and foundries and bessemer converters. A request for an expert in the management of silos and graneries has been transferred to the Food and Agriculture Organization.

PANAMA

106. An expert on the tabulation of census results completed a three months mission in March 1952. He helped the authorities concerned to put into operation the tabulation programme for the 1950 census of housing, population and agriculture, and to simplify and expedite the procedures used in the tabulation of census data with mechanical equipment.

107. Arising out of the recommendations of the International Monetary Fund's mission to Panama, the Government requested the services of an expert on national income statistics. This request was submitted in the place of an earlier request for a general statistician. An expert was appointed in October 1952 for one year. He is assisting the General Bureau of Statistics to develop methods of estimating national income and procedures for obtaining data.

108. The International Bank's mission to Panama recommended among other matters that the Government should initiate a programme of administrative and fiscal reforms as a first step towards the development of the country's economy. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has accordingly agreed, at the Government's request, to provide the services of two experts, one on public administration and the other on tax administration. The former will be asked to make a general
/study of the

study of the administrative structure of Panama and its civil service regulations, and to assist in drawing up a programme of administrative reorganization. He will work closely with the taxation administration expert, who will be concerned with measures to improve the administration and collection of internal revenue and in the administration of taxes, in connexion with the Government's projected revision of fiscal practices.

109. During 1952, one economic development fellowship was awarded, for the study of economics in the United States.

110. In the social welfare field, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration at the Government's request is currently recruiting three experts: a specialist to assist in the organization of probation services for the juvenile Courts; an expert in the field of psychiatric social work; and a medical social worker.

PARAGUAY

111. An expert on public administration commenced a five-months assignment in February 1952, during which he advised on the reorganization of the Ministry of Commerce, including its personnel; on budgetary and administrative practices and economic development programmes, and on the selection of candidates for United Nations fellowships and scholarships. Following the recommendations of this expert, the Government created an economic planning commission.

112. In September 1952 the Government asked that this expert be assigned as economic adviser to the Government with the special function of advising the planning commission on its extensive programme of work; on priorities; and on general coordination of economic development plans and projects formulated as a result of advice from experts supplied under international and bilateral programmes of technical assistance. This expert was also appointed as chief of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration mission in Paraguay.

113. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration made available at the Government's request an expert on municipal administration and legislation. This expert, who began a year's assignment in November 1952, is assisting and advising the Mayor of the capital city of Asunción on the /organization of the

organization of the administration of the city, the municipal budget, municipal finance, the management of municipal personnel, and the coordination of municipal services. He has also been asked to survey municipal legislation and to recommend ways in which it could be improved.

114. In view of the growth of Asunción, the Government wishes that a survey of the city and surrounding area be undertaken and that a plan for its development be drawn up. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has made available a town planning expert to undertake this survey. He has been in the field since December 1952.

115. In response to a request for expert advice on the organization of an inland water transport development corporation, an expert undertook an exploratory assignment in August 1952. He analyzed the over-all problems of inland water transportation in relation to the country's economy and studied the organization of river transport enterprises. He proposed a general plan of re-organization and made recommendations on specialists required to improve operations. As a result of his mission, further request for expert advice on the re-organization of the Paraguayan merchant fleet and on the maintenance of port loading equipment and diesel marine engines have been received by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and will be put into operation as soon as possible.

116. The Government is undertaking a programme of agrarian reform and has drawn up plans to settle sparsely populated areas and to integrate scattered rural communities into the national economy. In this connection, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration made available an expert who is advising the Government and the Institute of Agrarian Reform on the organization of rural communities, particularly in newly settled areas, and on the establishment of development projects for such areas. The expert began a year's assignment in August 1952.

117. In order to further technical assistance in many fields where Paraguay is in great need of help, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has agreed to provide experts in the following fields: price control and rationing, the development of factories and cottage industries, industrial and commercial statistics, the economic aspects of low-cost housing, the maintenance and repair of road-building machinery and vehicles, and the improvement of the telecommunications systems.

PERU

118. In response to a request received from the Government in October 1950, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration sent a mission to survey and plan the restoration of the city of Cuzco and the social and economic development of the province of Cuzco. A comprehensive plan of action was prepared and submitted to the Government in August 1951. Subsequently, negotiations were carried on with the Government for United Nations assistance in connexion with implementation of the programme. The United Nations Technical Assistance Administration agreed to provide an expert to assist in the organization of a board of reconstruction and industrial development of Cuzco; an industrial development specialist to study the agricultural and industrial resources of the area; an expert on cement production; a hydraulic engineer, and an expert in the storage and industrial processing of corn and other cereals.

119. An expert on administrative and economic planning paid a short visit to Cuzco in 1952 and drew up a preliminary report on the organization of the board and the direction which should be given to its work. His recommendations are being implemented by an economic and administrative planner who has been in Peru since October 1952 assisting in the organization of the board and in setting up its administration; he is also helping to coordinate the activities of the board and those of the other Government agencies whose cooperation is required for the programme of economic and social development to be undertaken by the board; and he is advising the board in the planning of an integrated and balanced programme of economic and social development for the Cuzco region.

120. In April 1952, United Nations Technical Assistance Administration provided the Cuzco reconstruction project with an expert who is making studies on the demand, disposition of materials and raw materials, cost of production, transportation and marketing of cement in the Cuzco region. When this preliminary study is completed he will design a cement factory and supervise its construction. This is a long-range project which is expected to last until 1954.

121. The lack of electric power is one of the major obstacles to a more rapid economic development of the province of Cuzco and, to assist the

/Government in this

Government in this field, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration provided an expert to estimate present and future demand for electric power and the additional capacity required, and to decide whether a large project or several small projects should be undertaken; he is also making estimates on the cost of production and comparative capital investments required. This project and its implementation will be carried on in 1954.

122. An expert on corn processing is under recruitment and will be sent to the field as soon as possible. He will first study the possibilities of expansion of present corn and cereal storage facilities, and thereafter will study the market and possible demand for processed corn and other cereals, make estimates of cost of setting up plants, study the market and possible demand for the products, and assist the Government in the development of the industry.

123. The economic development expert who is due in the field soon will work in close collaboration with an agricultural specialist who has been supplied by the Food and Agriculture Organization on a basic study of the agricultural and industrial resources of the area and their utilization for economic development.

124. In 1953, in connexion with the Cuzco development project, an expert on community organization will be sent by United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to make a preliminary survey in this field.

125. A note on the joint field mission on indigenous populations (Perú, Bolivia, Ecuador) will be found in paragraphs 138-140.

TRINIDAD

126. A fellowship was awarded to a veterinary officer of the Department of Agriculture, to study in Canada the control of livestock diseases.

URUGUAY

127. Five fellowships were awarded to Uruguayan nationals, in the following fields: photogrammetry, construction and operation of hydro-electric plants, inland water transport, road transport, and the facilitation of shipping traffic.

/VENEZUELA

VENEZUELA

128. Five fellowships were awarded to Venezuelan officials during 1952, for the study of the geological analysis of mineral resources; petroleum geology; the evaluation and development of mineral resources; metallic minerals, and non-metallic minerals.

III REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Economic Integration Programme for Central America

129. The meeting of the Ministers of Economy of the five Central American countries (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador) which was held in Tegucigalpa in August 1952 was attended by the Executive Secretary of the Technical Assistance Board and the Deputy Director-General of the Technical Assistance Administration. Subsequently a representative of UNTAA was appointed to a Working Group set up with ECLA and the other agencies concerned to further define and elaborate on the requests for technical assistance arising out of the Meeting of Ministers. The report of the Working Group is now being considered by TAB, after which it will be circulated to the Governments. The fields in which the Governments are requesting assistance under the integration programme are as follows

- a) cotton, cotton yarn and textiles;
- b) oilseeds, oils, fats and related industries;
- c) cattle-raising, dairy products, preparation of meats and hides, footwear, leather goods, and other by-products;
- d) fishing and related industries;
- e) forest resources, lumber, woodpulp, and paper industries;
- f) rubber tyres, tubes and other rubber goods;
- g) wooden and wax matches;
- h) electric power;
- i) Institute of Industrial Technological Research (see also below paragraph 131);
- j) Technical training in the fields of industry and management.

130. The Economic Integration Programme for Central America is more fully described in document E/CN.12/296.

Institute of Industrial Technological Research, Central America

131. This project arises from a resolution adopted on August 27, 1952, by the Committee of Ministers of Economy on Economic Cooperation in

/Central America.

Central America. The resolution envisages assistance to be rendered by UNTAA and ECLA for the setting up of an Institute with the following objectives:

- (1) To carry out methodical and coordinated research on the utilization of the natural resources found in Central America, with a view to developing industry, mining, electric power and other forms of production;
- (ii) To carry out studies of the Central American industries and to propose suitable techniques for perfecting methods of quality controls and other similar measures, with a view to raising the level of productivity;
- (iii) To advise private enterprise as requested and to initiate campaigns for the improvement of working methods, in cooperation with government offices, labour unions and private enterprise;
- (iv) To study and propose adequate technological methods for improved industrial development of the region, taking into account the size of the capital available and the need to make the best use thereof;
- (v) To act as an advisory organ for the Central American Governments on technical matters connected with industrial projects, in the selection of experts and in other similar matters;
- (vi) To train Central American researchers and technicians in the various activities promoted by the institute and to train skilled labour for such activities;
- (vii) To sponsor by all possible publicity methods the knowledge of individual techniques and to stimulate concern for industrial technological research.

The UNTAA proposes to participate in meeting this requirement initially by an exploratory visit to the five Central American Republics of a small group of experts experienced in the organization and functioning of similar industrial research institutes in Latin America, Europe and North America. The project is discussed in more detail in document E/CN.12/300.

/Central

Central American Transport Survey and Seminar

133. The economic integration of Central America is seriously hampered by lack of transport facilities. Much of the existing transport merely serves to connect towns in the interior with sea ports and to facilitate trade with countries outside the region. Mules are still the only means of transport between many points. In response to requests from the governments concerned, the UNIAA, in collaboration with the Secretariat of ECLA, organized a survey group to make a critical appraisal of existing forms of transportation in Central America. The survey, which is to be followed by a seminar, includes an analysis of possibilities of enlarging and improving transport facilities in the area, with a view to furthering economic development, mutual trade relations and economic integration. In carrying out this work, a group of seven experts studied transportation systems in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and El Salvador, spending several weeks in each country during the latter half of 1952. The seminar, which is scheduled to open in May 1953, will be attended by transport officials from these countries.

Economic development training programme, Chile

134. Present institutional facilities in Latin America for the teaching of economics are not designed to give the special training needed to solve fundamental economic development problems of the area or to deal with specific aspects of development in the individual countries of the region. To meet the need for such training, the UNIAA is assisting ECLA in the organization of a training programme which opened in Santiago, Chile, in June 1952 at the headquarters of the Commission. Selected officials from Latin American countries work under the close supervision of the programme chief and in addition are assisted by ECLA secretariat officials in the analysis of concrete problems of economic development. Systematic readings and discussions on theoretical problems are an important part of the curriculum. The participants thus benefit from the experience of ECLA economists, who in recent years have concentrated on development problems in Latin America and have assembled the theoretical material and factual data on which to base an integrated approach to the subject. It /is proposed

is proposed to continue the programme in 1953, and to increase the number of participants from ten to twelve. This project is more fully described in document E/CN.12/303.

Expert Working Group on Iron and Steel Industry in Latin America, Colombia

135. A meeting of experts on problems of the iron and steel industry was organized in October 1952 in Bogota under the joint auspices of the Government of Colombia, the UNTAA and the Secretariat of ECLA. Experts from the seven Latin American countries which either already have a steel industry or are actively planning the development of such an industry, met with others from Belgium, Canada, France, Western Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the ECLA Secretariat. The Latin American participants numbered about sixty and included specialists in particular aspects of the iron and steel industry as well as officers concerned with general economic considerations. They were drawn from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. The sixty experts attending from countries outside the region were specialists in various technical processes of iron and steel making. The technical and economic discussions which took place were based on approximately eighty background papers prepared in advance and were designed to be of direct and immediate assistance to the development of the industry in Latin America. They covered such topics as the means for overcoming the effect of limiting factors (fuels, scrap, adaptation of steel making processes to specific Latin American iron ores; alternative processes for iron ore reduction as a means of improving the economic possibilities of small scale operation); the influence of the size of a plant on finished steel production; the comparative advantages of Latin American countries in producing iron and steel; Latin American iron and steel making practices; and the Latin American market. A fuller account of this project will be found in document E/CN.12/293.

Demonstration centre in the field of vital and health statistics, Chile

136. Following a request from the Government of Chile, the United States Government, the Technical Assistance Administration and the Statistical Office of the United Nations, WHO and the Organization of American States /cooperated with

cooperated with the Chilean Government in the setting up in August 1952 of a permanent demonstration centre in vital and health statistics. Its general aim is to determine, under actual operating conditions, what measures are required to improve current information on the health status of the population, and to serve as a model for other countries in the region which are interested in expanding and improving their biostatistical services. The centre is concerned, first, with the development within the School of Public Health of Chile of fuller and more intensive training in all phases of theoretical and applied biostatistics; second, with the development of governmental vital statistics offices to serve as model offices for demonstration purposes and for the in-service training of persons studying at the academic centre. The centre comprises lecture courses and seminars, the award of fellowships to enable persons from other Latin American countries to take part in the project, research projects, field experiments, a sample health survey, and the translation of basic technical materials into Spanish.

Inter-American seminar on national income research

137. The United Nations is cooperating with the Governments of Chile, the United States, the Pan-American Union, and the Inter-American Statistical Institute in the holding of a regional seminar on national income research. The seminar will take place in Chile in January 1953.

Joint field mission on indigenous populations in Latin America
(Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru)

138. Following several discussions between representatives of the United Nations and specialized agencies, the governments concerned and experts on Andean Indian problems, the ILO Committee of Experts on Indigenous Labour recommended at its first session in January 1951 that a joint inter-agency field working party should develop programmes for the integration of indigenous populations into the social and economic life of certain Latin American countries. It was decided to limit the activities of the working party initially to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, countries with large indigenous populations.

139. Requests for technical assistance in this field were subsequently received from the governments of these three countries and the Technical

Assistance Board at its 17th meeting approved the establishment of a joint field mission to the Andean highlands. The team, which has already visited the area, was composed of representatives of UNESCO, ILO, WHO, FAO and the United Nations, working under the leadership of a chief of mission. ILO assumed responsibility for the substantive aspects of the mission and the United Nations was primarily responsible for its administrative aspects. The team reviewed previous attempts at social and economic rehabilitation of the indigenous populations of the three countries, in order to determine the type of technical assistance most suited to help in the expansion of existing programmes and the development of new projects.

140. The mission has completed its report which is to be submitted to the Technical Assistance Board. Its basic recommendation is the organization of a long-term action mission in the field of rehabilitation of indigenous populations.

Expert working group on training auxiliaries for community development,
Latin America

141. The UNTAA hopes to organize during 1955, in co-operation with other interested organizations, a regional meeting of technical personnel to study problems of recruitment, training and employment of welfare workers for under-developed rural areas; the training and functions of auxiliary personnel; techniques of training for rural community centres; and overall measures for the co-ordination and improvement of such training.

Survey team on the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped,
Latin America

142. In August 1952, a joint UNTAA-WHO mission of two experts undertook a tour of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Paraguay, at the invitation of the governments of these countries, to survey possibilities of establishing one or more regional demonstration and training centres for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped. The mission's recommendations are at present under review.

/Rural Welfare

Rural welfare seminar, Brazil

143. The Brazilian Government has asked the UNTAA to organize a seminar on rural welfare problems in Latin America. The seminar, which opened in Rio de Janeiro early in 1953, is intended to provide an opportunity for the evaluation of existing technical resources and provisional knowledge of rural community services in Latin America, and for the drawing up of practical plans of action to improve existing services.

Seminar on social defence, Brazil

144. The UNTAA, in co-operation with the Government of Brazil, is organizing a seminar on social defence, planned to take place during the first half of 1953. Its aim is to provide an impetus to the development of appropriate legislation and services in the field of social defence in Latin American countries.

School of public administration, Brazil

145. The Brazilian School of Public Administration (Escola Brasileira de Administração Pública) opened in Rio de Janeiro in April 1952. Like its immediate precursors, the Social Courses and Seminar in public administration held between November 1951 and March 1952, it is a joint project of the UNTAA, the Brazilian Government and the Getulio Vargas Foundation. The services of four visiting faculty members, as well as a project officer, were supplied by the UNTAA during 1952 and it is expected that six full-time visiting lecturers will be sent to Rio de Janeiro during 1953. A notable feature of this project is the award of special fellowships by the UNTAA to provide advanced training in other countries for Brazilian professors who will replace the internationally recruited faculty members during the next two or three years.

146. The UNTAA and the Foundation jointly offer to officials and students from other countries of Latin America a number of scholarships for study at the School, the selection of candidates and other arrangements being handled by a committee of Brazilian and United Nations faculty members in Rio de Janeiro. During 1952, 34 holders of such scholarships were trained at the school, in addition to 149 Brazilians who were selected for Government scholarships from among employees of the central, state and municipal governments and public corporations.

/147. The first

147. The first academic year of the School's operation has been marked by a rapidly spreading interest and activity in Brazil in regard to the problems and study of public administration. New courses in public administration have been established in several universities; a National Congress of Municipalities has been held and has recommended the initiation of special courses in municipal administration; and an Advisory Board on Technical Assistance in Public Administration has been set up.

Workshop on budgetary management, Central America

148. The UNTAA, the Fiscal Division of the United Nations and the Secretariat of ECLA are co-operating in the organization of a workshop on budgetary management techniques, which is planned to take place for two to three weeks in September 1953 at the ECLA sub-office in Mexico City. Several Central American governments have officially expressed their interest in and support of this project and it is expected that participation will be mainly from that area. Considerable preparatory work has been done during 1952 with the assistance of two professional officers employed for this purpose. The workshop would concern itself with methods of presenting budget accounts in such a form as to provide the basic data on governmental field operations required to estimate their overall impact on the level of output and employment, on the price level and on the balance of payments.

149. Impetus for such a project was given by the Technical Assistance Conference on Comparative Fiscal Administration (Geneva, 1951), during which considerable emphasis was placed on the importance of adequate budget management as a prerequisite for the formulation and implementation of economic development policies. A report on this conference has been published as document ST/TAA/M/3.

Centre for Advanced Training in Public Administration, Central America

150. Requests have been received from the Governments of El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama for expert advice related to public administration, including training for the public service. Preliminary discussions also with representatives of Costa Rica and Guatemala indicate a general interest in the possibility of establishing a regional institution for advanced training in the field of public administration. A member of the UNTAA staff has visited the countries of the region to discuss the details of this proposal.

A N N E X A

Number of economic development and public administration
experts in field or appointed during 1950, 1951, and 1952
by recipient country

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
<u>BOLIVIA</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>17</u>
Expanded programme		5	17
Resolution 200(III)	11	-	-
<u>BRAZIL</u>	<u>2</u>	-	-
Expanded programme	-	-	-
Resolution 200(III)	2	-	-
<u>CHILE</u>	<u>3</u>	-	<u>1</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	1
Resolution 200(III)	3	-	-
<u>COLOMBIA</u>	-	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>
Expanded programme	-	6	9
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	-
<u>CUBA</u>	-	-	<u>6</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	6
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	-
<u>ECUADOR</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>14</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	4
Resolution 200(III)	5	5	10
<u>EL SALVADOR</u>	-	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
Expanded programme	-	7	11
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	-
<u>GUATEMALA</u>	-	-	<u>2</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	2
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	-
<u>HAITI</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	5
Resolution 200(III)	4	5	2
<u>JAMAICA</u>	-	-	<u>2</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	1
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	1

/MEXICO

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
<u>MEXICO</u>	<u>3</u>	-	<u>2</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	2
Resolution 200(III)	3	-	-
<u>PANAMA</u>	-	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Expanded programme	-	1	2
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	-
<u>PARAGUAY</u>	-	-	<u>4</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	3
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	1
<u>PERU</u>	-	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>
Expanded programme	-	-	2
Resolution 200(III)	-	2	3
<u>ST. LUCIA</u>	-	<u>1</u>	-
Expanded programme	-	1	-
Resolution 200(III)	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>62</u> ^{1/}

1/ Includes resident representatives and their assistants, administrative responsibility for whom was transferred to TAB on 1 October 1952.

ANNEX B

Number of fellowships and scholarships in
economic development and public administration
awarded in 1950, 1951 and 1952

	<u>Number of fellowships & scholarships awarded</u>			
	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
BOLIVIA	1	-	-	1
BRAZIL	2	14	22	38
BRITISH GUIANA	-	-	2	2
BRITISH WEST INDIES	-	1	2	3
CHILE	5	3	5	13
COLOMBIA	-	1	10	11
COSTA RICA	1	1	-	2
CUBA	3	5	-	8
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	-	2	-	2
ECUADOR	5	20	17	42
EL SALVADOR	-	2	5	7
GUATEMALA	-	1	1	2
HAITI	2	8	23	33
MEXICO	4	3	4	11
NETHERLANDS WEST INDIES	1	-	-	1
NICARAGUA	1	-	1	2
PANAMA	-	-	2	2
PARAGUAY	-	-	2	2
URUGUAY	2	2	5	9
VENEZUELA	-	4	5	9
TOTAL	27	67	105	199