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SUGGESTED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

1959-60

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Introductory note

Introductory note by the Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary submits the following suggested programme of work and priorities for 1959-60. It is subject to the decisions of the Commission at its eighth session as regards the deletion of projects, modification of priorities and addition of new projects or new aspects of existing projects.

## BASIC DIRECTIVES

As in the past, in preparing the programme of work and priorities, the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and the Executive Secretary have continued to follow the basic directives and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly, as well as the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions regarding programmes and priorities in the economic and social fields, concentration and co-ordination of efforts and resources, control and limitation of documentation, the pattern of conferences and related questions. Particular attention has been given to the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolutions 324 (XI), 362 B (XII), 402 B (XIII), 451 A (XIV), 497 C (XVI), 553 (XVIII), 557 (XVIII), 590 (XX), 597 (XXI), 604 (XXI), 630 (XXII), 664 (XXIV), 693 (XXVI) and 694 (XXVI).

## CONCENTRATION AND CO-ORDINATION

The Economic and Social Council at its twenty-sixth session noted with satisfaction, in resolution 693 (XXVI),<sup>1/</sup> the extent to which the principles of concentration and co-ordination have been applied in the review of programmes by the regional economic commissions and their secretariats and the progress that has been made in this connexion. Moreover, the Council endorsed the suggestion that the Secretary-General and the Council's subsidiary bodies bear in mind that certain activities might better be undertaken by such bodies as universities, national, private or public institutions, or non-governmental organizations, in order to permit the secretariat to make the most effective use of its own resources. The Council expressed the hope that regional commissions would give consideration to the use of this procedure, wherever practicable. During the past year, a number of projects were carried out according to the above-mentioned policy, which permitted the secretariat to make the most effective use of its own resources. These projects<sup>2/</sup> include the following:

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1/ See Information Document N° 1, page 66.

2/ Project numbers refer to the programme of work and priorities as given in the Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Latin America covering the period 30 May 1957 to 8 April 1958 inclusive (E/3091), pp.18-23.

- Project 3 (i) The studies on the economic development of El Salvador, Honduras and Panama have been undertaken with the close collaboration of national working groups which have collected most of the data and done part of the drafting.
- In the case of Costa Rica, as indicated in the Progress report by the Executive Secretary on the programme of work (E/CN.12/513, para.55) the University in that country prepared an economic development project to carry out the study with the help and advice of the secretariat.
- Project 14 Work on the coffee study in Brazil has been facilitated by the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, which has provided technicians to assist in the field work, and by the Brazilian Coffee Institute (Instituto Brasileiro do Cafe) which has provided both technicians and financial resources.
- Project 21 The Chilean Development Corporation (Corporación de Fomento de la Producción - CORFO) has provided personnel to assist in the preparation of the pilot study of chemical industries (see E/CN.12/525).
- Project 22 The Joint ECLA/FAO/TAO Pulp and Paper Advisory Group has been given invaluable assistance in all its missions by the local industrialists or by the corresponding development corporations.
- Project 24 The ECLA/TAO/WMO Water Resources Survey Group has been assisted in its work in Chile by the Irrigation Department (Dirección de Riego) of the Ministry of Public Works (Ministerio de Obras Públicas), the Development Corporation (CORFO), the Empresa Nacional de Electricidad and a number of public institutions. In Ecuador it had the valuable assistance of the National Planning Board (Junta Nacional de Planificación), Caja Nacional de Riego; Banco de Fomento; Banco Central and the Ministries of Public Works, of Development and Defence, Meteorological Department (Dirección de Meteorología).

/In Argentina,

In Argentina, it was assisted by the Department of Military Manufacturers (Dirección de Fabricaciones Militares), Department of Energy and Fuels (Secretaría de Energía y Combustibles), the National Meteorological Service (Servicio Meteorológico Nacional) and other national and local services.

Project 29 (ii)

Inventory of existing industries. The collection of data for the inventory has been materially assisted by the collaboration of the following industrial organizations: Asociación de Industriales Metalúrgicos (Argentina); Federação das Industrias do Estado de São Paulo (Brazil); Instituto Chileno del Acero (Chile); Federación de Industriales Metalúrgicos (Colombia) and the Department of Economic Research (Departamento de Investigaciones Económicas) of the Banco de México (México).

#### PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

In accordance with resolution 693 (XXVI) and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 1202 (XII), the Executive Secretary has kept under constant review the aim of reducing wherever possible the number and length of the meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies and ad hoc working parties. With this in view, the second session of the Trade Committee will be held simultaneously with the eighth session of the Commission in Panama.

#### REGIONAL PROJECTS IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS BUREAU OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS (TAO)

As in the past, it is expected that TAO and the ECLA secretariat will continue to co-operate in implementing various projects. Most of these projects, such as those concerning the training of economists, seminars and the convening of working groups of experts, have been proposed in accordance with Council resolution 222 (IX) and ECLA resolutions.

/TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME FOR 1959-60.

The secretariat considers that the programme for 1959-60 should be essentially a continuation of the present work programme with due regard to certain changes in the emphasis and direction of work, particularly with respect to the common market. Studies, reports, meetings and other activities related to the common market and payments problems have absorbed an increasing amount of the Commission's resources and it is anticipated that this will continue for at least another year or two. It is estimated that from 25 to 30 per cent of the work of the secretariat during 1959-60 will be devoted to the common market. Therefore the Commission will undoubtedly bear this in mind in considering any new work projects. The secretariat has suggested only one new project: a study of Latin American timber production and consumption trends and prospects to be undertaken jointly with FAO (project N° 17). A statement bearing on this proposal is contained in document E/CN.12/507.

Although most projects in the work programme are continuing projects, in certain cases, such as that of the common market, the exact nature of the work will depend to some extent on the decisions taken at the eighth session.

As will be observed in the annotated list of projects, the secretariat is not planning to do any work on several projects in 1959-60 either because of lack of resources or because they are of low priority. Of these the secretariat suggests that the following be eliminated from the work programme:

7. Study of public administration in relation to economic development - resolutions 81 (VI) and 137 (VII).

The study presented to the seventh session has been revised and published (TAA/LAT/17). Further work and assistance in the field of public administration is being carried out by the United Nations Office of Public Administration, therefore it would seem that no more studies for the time being are required by the Commission.

10. Preliminary survey of organization and structure of capital markets in Latin America - resolution 3 (IV).

The secretariat has not had the resources to make an over-all survey of capital markets in Latin America and it does not see any prospects

/for doing

for doing so within the next two years. Moreover, the main aspects of the problem will be included in the analyses of fiscal and monetary policies.

18. Selective expansion of agricultural production and co-ordination of programmes between countries - resolutions 87 (VI) and 88 (VI).

The joint ECLA/FAO study on this subject was submitted at the seventh session (E/CN.12/378/Rev.2). The secretariats of ECLA and FAO do not anticipate doing any further work on this project although certain aspects may be dealt with in other studies.

19. Measures for improving the conditions of uneconomic farms - resolution 135 (VII).

The secretariat feels that this type of work is being carried out by FAO experts in the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the ECLA secretariat is not in a position to provide this sort of aid.

35. Study of multilateral trade and payments arrangements between Latin American and European countries - resolution 47 (V).

The secretariat considers that no special study is required on this matter in view of the trend towards full convertibility. Moreover, this subject can perhaps better be dealt with as a part of the secretariat's analysis of trade and balance of payments which is published in the annual Economic Survey.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

The secretariat wishes to call the attention of the Commission to its above-mentioned statement on a proposed study of Latin American timber production and consumption trends and prospects (E/CN.12/507). The secretary intends to submit, in his budget proposals for 1960, a request for additional professional posts required to carry out the programme as set forth in this document. These posts are needed mainly because of the increased work-load resulting from the Commission's project for the creation of a common market and payments system in Latin America.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

The programme of work is divided into five broad sections, namely:

/Section I:



- Section I: Current economic situation  
Section II: Economic growth and technique of programming  
Section III: Economic problems of agriculture (projects undertaken with the collaboration of FAO)  
Section IV: Industry, mining and energy  
Section V: International trade.

The last project ("Co-operation in the technical assistance programme") covers various fields of activity and is therefore included at the end of the programme, separately from the broad sections.

It has not been found practicable or useful to attempt to establish priorities as between these broad sections.

Within each broad section projects are listed in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 402 B (XIII) into the following three groups:

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

This group consists of projects and activities in which the responsibility of the Commission and its secretariat, pursuant to the Commission's terms of reference and resolutions, is of a continuing character. The studies and reports contemplated are to be presented from time to time. Each study may differ from and supplement the others in scope (country coverage), substance (different aspects of major problems), and time (development during a given period).

Group 2: Ad hoc projects of high priority

This group consists of non-recurrent projects, for which an approximate duration can be estimated. It includes projects outside the broad scope of the continuing projects (group 1) as well as occasional topics within the scope of such continuing projects.

Group 3: Other projects

This group consists of projects which, in view of staff and budget limitations, will have to be deferred for the present and probably cannot be undertaken in 1959.

The criteria used in proposing the classification of projects according to the above groups include, among other factors, an estimate of the basic importance of each project concerned, as well as an estimate of the most effective way of utilizing available resources. No relative priorities are assigned to projects within groups 1 and 2 or between these two groups.

## ANNOTATED LIST OF PROJECTS

Projects are consecutively numbered with arabic numerals. For specific aspects of major projects roman numerals in parentheses (i), (ii), (iii), etc. are used. The notes on the projects are intended to identify them, but the pertinent resolutions of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies are the official guide to their full and real scope.

The resolutions of the Economic Commission for Latin America are identified by an arabic numeral indicating the serial number, followed by a roman numeral, in parentheses, indicating the session at which they were adopted.

The resolutions of the Committee of the Whole are identified by an arabic numeral indicating the serial number, followed by the appropriate Committee symbol, in parentheses.

The resolutions of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee are identified by an arabic numeral followed by the symbol "CEE" in parentheses.

The resolutions of the Trade Committee are shown by arabic numerals followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session at which they were adopted.

## SECTION I: CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION

Group I: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

1. Economic Survey of Latin America - resolutions 44 (V) and 79 (VI) - published annually.
2. Economic Bulletin for Latin America - resolutions 32 (V) and 79 (VI) - published twice yearly.

## SECTION II: ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TECHNIQUE OF PROGRAMMING

Group I: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

3. General problems of economic development and technique of programming - resolutions 48 (V), 81 (VI), 132 (VII) and 137 (VII).
  - (i) Analysis and projections of economic growth in individual countries - resolution 48 (V)

The study on economic development of Argentina (E/CN.12/429/Rev.1, Spanish only) has been completed and the printed edition of the first volume presented to the eighth session. In collaboration with local working groups, the secretariat has completed studies on El Salvador (E/CN.12/495, Spanish only) and Panama (E/CN.12/494). A similar study on Costa Rica

/is being

is being prepared by the University. The secretariat has collaborated in various parts of it. Work is proceeding on the analysis and projections of economic development in Honduras, and plans are being made to undertake similar studies for Guatemala and Nicaragua, to be followed by one for Central America as a whole during 1960.

A study on Peru (E/CN.12/493) has been prepared, in which development has been viewed from the particular standpoint of industry. This is the first study of its type to have been undertaken by the secretariat, and the methods used may prove of interest for other studies.

A full explanation of the methods used in the projections and analyses of these studies will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Economic Bulletin.

- (ii) Analyses and projections of economic growth for the region as a whole, taking into account the possibilities of complementary development - resolution 81 (VI)

In connexion with the work on the common market, a preliminary study has been prepared on the prospects of economic growth in Latin America (E/CN.12/C.1/13). Research into this subject will be continued during 1959-60.

- (iii) Study of monetary and fiscal policies for economic development - resolution 81 (VI)

An account of inflationary trends in various countries is usually presented each year in the Economic Survey. The secretariat plans to pursue the study of inflation in a more systematic way during 1959-60.

The secretariat is also making a study of fiscal problems and policies in relation to economic development. The first of such studies will be completed in the course of 1959.

As part of this project, the secretariat is co-sponsoring, with the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the Office of Public Administration, a Budget Workshop to be held at ECLA's headquarters from 26 May to 6 June 1959.

- (iv) Study of social factors affecting economic development - resolutions 82 (VI) and 124 (VII)

In resolutions 82 (VI) and 124 (VII) the Commission requested the continuation of the work on the social aspects of economic

/development and

development and also that the secretariat should provide Governments with assistance in the preparation of guiding principles or outlines for research in this field. Resources have been insufficient to continue this work during the past two years. However, the secretariat, together with UNESCO and the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, is co-sponsoring a seminar on urbanization problems, to be held at Santiago from 6 to 18 July 1959, and is preparing two papers for it, one dealing with employment opportunities and the other with economic development and urbanization.

(v) Advice and assistance in programming by sectors and by regions and in the preparation and evaluation of projects - resolution 137 (VII)

A statement describing the purpose and method for carrying out this project is contained in document E/CN.12/518.

As a first step, the secretariat is collaborating with the United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations in assisting the Government of Colombia, at its request, in compliance with the terms of resolution 137 (VII). It is expected that this type of assistance will be extended to other countries during 1959-60.

4. Economic integration in Central America - resolutions 24 (IV), 55 (V), 84 (VI), 27 (CCE), 123 (VII) and 140 (A.40).

The activities of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee entered upon a new stage with the signature of the Multilateral Treaty on Free Trade and Central American Economic Integration<sup>3/</sup> and the Agreement on the Régime for Central American Integration Industries. The work will proceed further in accordance with the resolutions of the Committee and its subsidiary organs and of the Commission.<sup>4/</sup> Some of the studies have been prepared by the secretariat while it collaborates in others requested by the Committee with experts of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (TAO, FAO, ILO, UNESCO) in compliance with requests from the Central American Governments.

(i) Central American trade - resolutions 9 (AC.17), 18 (AC.17), 19 (AC.17), 4 (CCE), 7 (CCE), 11 (CCE), 22 (CCE), 24 (CCE), 37 (CCE), 56 (CCE) and 58 (CCE)

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<sup>3/</sup> Both were signed at Tegucigalpa on 10 June 1958 during the fifth session of the Economic Co-operation Committee and may be referred to in the relevant report. (E/CN.12/492 and E/CN.12/CCE/151).

<sup>4/</sup> For more detailed information on the work done see Progress report on the Central American Integration Programme since 10 June 1958 (E/CN.12/517).

The secretariat will collaborate with the Trade Sub-Committee and Central American Trade Commission in technical studies relating to the implementation of the Multilateral Treaty on Free Trade which has already been ratified by three member Governments. Work will be concentrated on the equalization of customs tariffs for the items included in the schedule appended to the Treaty; studies will also be initiated with a view to the expansion of free trade in Central America and the co-ordination of the five countries' trade policies implicit in the gradual formation of a customs union.

- (ii) Industrial and agricultural development - resolutions 2 (AC.17), 1 (CCE), 2 (CCE), 8 (CCE), 14 (CCE), 20 (CCE), 26 (CCE), 27 (CCE), 28 (CCE), 38 (CCE), 39 (CCE), 40 (CCE), 41 (CCE), 48 (CCE), 49 (CCE), 57 (CCE), 60 (CCE) and 62 (CCE)

A study will be made of possibilities of putting the Régime for Central American Integration Industries into practice and of the ways and means of doing so. Studies on the project for a pulp and paper plant in Honduras, which are being carried out by FAO and TAO experts, will be completed, as well as those on the insecticides industry which will be brought to the attention of the Economic Co-operation Committee at its next session. The secretariat will continue to collaborate with the Central American Research Institute for Industry in considering new industrial possibilities within the integration programme and, in co-operation with TAO and the ILO, will energetically promote the programme for the expansion and regional specialization of the textile industry, in accordance with the recommendations of the Working Group on the Textile Industry, which met in Nicaragua in 1958.

As regards the agricultural sector, the secretariat will undertake studies, in collaboration with FAO and TAO experts, with a view to the co-ordination of inter-Central American grain production and trade policies, the development of stock farming, the encouragement of meat exports and the production of raw materials for industrial development. It is planned to begin a study in 1960 on land tenure, in collaboration with the Central American Higher University Council and the Latin American Centre for Social Research.

- (iii) Transport - resolutions 4 (AC.17), 21 (AC.17), 18 (CCE), 19 (CCE), 42 (CCE), 43 (CCE), 44 (CCE), 45 (CCE), 46 (CCE), 64 (CCE), 65 (CCE), 66 (CCE) and 67 (CCE)

/The secretariat

The secretariat will collaborate in studies on the implementation of the Central American agreements on road traffic and on uniform road signs and signals, signed by Governments in June 1958, and of the general specifications for the construction of roads and bridges in Central America and Panama, approved at the first session of the Transport Sub-Committee in September 1958. A study will be undertaken to develop road transport services. A draft Central American maritime code will be completed and submitted to Governments for their consideration.

(iv) Electrification - resolutions 3 (AC.17), 25 (CCE) and 59 (CCE)

In co-operation with a TAO expert, the secretariat will take part in the study on electric power development in Central America to be carried out in 1959-60, as well as in other aspects of electric power co-ordination. The first session of the Central American Electric Power Sub-Committee will be held in 1958.

(v) Housing, building and planning - resolution 61 (CCE)

Pursuant to resolutions of the Housing Sub-Committee, an inventory will be made of Central American industries manufacturing construction materials, and the possibilities of establishing integration industries and increasing inter-Central American trade in these materials will be examined. Under the housing programme, a TAO expert will undertake studies on the standardization of construction materials. Assistance will be forthcoming from the Pan American Union and other international organizations in connexion with other aspects of the programme.

(vi) Development financing - resolutions 5 (AC.17), 22 (AC.17) and 50 (CCE)

The comparative study of legislation on tax exemptions for the promotion of new industries will be completed in collaboration with the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and brought to the attention of the Economic Co-operation Committee.

(vii) Statistics - resolutions 20 (AC.17), 3 (CCE), 21 (CCE), 47 (CCE) and 69 (CCE)

During 1959, a start will be made on the co-ordination of forest statistics with the assistance of FAO, and meetings of working groups will be held on agricultural and industrial statistics. The United Nations Statistical Office, the Inter-American Statistical Institute and FAO will participate in the work.

/(viii) Social problems -

(viii) Social problems - resolutions 27 (CCE), 51 (CCE) and 73 (CCE)

The study of the middle class in Central America and its relation to savings and investment capacity will be completed, in collaboration with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs. New studies will be undertaken on labour and its adaptability to economic development requirements.

(ix) Research and training institutes - resolutions 6 (AC.17), 23 (AC.17), 5 (CCE), 6 (CCE), 31 (CCE), 52 (CCE), 53 (CCE) and 72 (CCE)

It is hoped to intensify co-operation with the Central American Research Institute for Industry with respect to Central American industrial integration. Contact will continue to be maintained with the Central American Advanced School of Public Administration.

5. Joint ECLA/TAO Economic Development Training Programme - resolutions 4 (IV), 48 (V) and 85 (VI).

Nineteen trainees attended the regular course of the training programme, held at ECLA headquarters from 30 June 1958 to 28 February 1959. Intensive courses were held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 4 August to 7 November 1958, and at Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 1 October to 23 December 1958, attended respectively by some 50 and 70 participants.

During 1959, in addition to the regular training programme in Santiago, intensive courses will be held at Buenos Aires, Argentina, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Bogotá, Colombia. It is planned that the programme will continue along the present lines in 1960.

The manual on economic development projects has now been published (E/CN.12/426 and Add.1/Rev.1).

6. Study of transport problems - resolutions 38 (AC.16), 68 (V) and 120 (VII).

Work on transport has been proceeding actively under the Central American Economic Integration Programme (see item 4 (iii)). A special study on transport in Argentina (E/CN.12/491) has been completed.

In connexion with the work on the common market, the secretariat has prepared a short paper on current transport problems in the region (E/CN.12/C.1/14) indicating the type of studies that might be undertaken during 1959-60.

7. Study of public administration in relation to economic development - resolutions 81 (VI) and 137 (VII).

No further work is planned for 1959-60.

8. Studies of demographic growth and manpower requirements in relation to economic development - resolution 83 (VI).

In connexion with the urbanization seminar (see item 3 (iv) ), the secretariat is preparing a paper on the creation of employment opportunities. In addition, work has been done on manpower requirements in connexion with the study on economic development in Argentina and in response to a special request from the Government of Ecuador. For the eighth session, the secretariat has prepared a resumé of work done on manpower studies (E/CN.12/519) and of the problems that need to be studied in the next few years.

9. Meeting of experts on problems of economic growth and the technique of programming - resolution 48 (V).

The purpose of this meeting would be to bring together Latin American economists to discuss the principal problems of economic growth and to explore the possibilities of improving and extending a technique for programming economic development. The experts would not represent their Governments but rather act in a personal capacity. The meeting may be held in 1960.

10. Preliminary survey of organization and structure of capital markets in Latin America - resolution 3 (IV).

No work is planned on this project for 1959-60.

11. Study of technical research and training in Latin America - resolutions 13 (IV) and 53 (V).

This project would require substantial financial resources and technical staff not at present available to the secretariat. This project might be carried out at some future date in collaboration with the Technical Assistance Programme and the specialized agencies.



SECTION III: ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURE  
(Projects undertaken with the collaboration of FAO)

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

12. Agricultural development, programming in individual countries and technique of agricultural programming - resolutions 63 (V) and 89 (VI)

Although this project was given high priority, the lack of resources has prevented work on it from being done before 1959.

13. Study of productivity of labour and of capital in agricultural production - resolutions 87 (VI) and 134 (VII)

Work on this project may be started in 1960 after completion of the coffee studies.

Group 2: Ad hoc projects of high priority

14. Study of productivity and costs of coffee production in relation to economic development - resolutions 63 (V), 90 (VI) and 136 (VII)

The studies on coffee in Colombia and El Salvador (E/CN.12/490) have been published and work is continuing on the study in Brazil. A progress report on the work has been submitted to the eighth session (E/CN.12/512). This project should be completed by the end of 1959.

15. Study of factors affecting development of livestock industry in Latin America - resolution 91 (VI)

As the work on this project developed, it was found that there was insufficient data to give it the scope originally intended. The first stage of the study is presented as one of the chapters in the study on the role of agricultural commodities in the proposed Latin American common market (E/CN.12/499). In this first stage, prevailing conditions in the region have been examined in terms of prospects for expanding livestock production. This preliminary work will be followed by a second stage, to be carried out in the latter part of 1959 and in 1960, designed to identify those factors which impede or encourage the development of the livestock industry in Latin America.

16. Study of possibilities of increasing investment in agriculture - resolution 92 (VI)

The secretariats of ECLA and FAO have not yet been able to start work on this most important project owing to lack of resources.

17. Study of Latin American timber production and consumption trends and prospects

This study calls for an over-all survey of timber resources, and the

/economic possibilities

economic possibilities of their development, with particular reference to providing raw material for the wood working industries. <sup>5/</sup> FAO set aside funds for its part of the work, and providing the necessary resources are allocated for ECLA's contribution, work can start at the beginning of 1960, with a view to completing the project in 1961 or 1962.

Group 3: Other projects

18. Selective expansion of agricultural production and co-ordination of programmes between countries - resolutions 87 (VI) and 88 (VI)

The study based on this project was submitted to the seventh session (E/CN.12/370/Rev.2) and has since been published. No further work on this project is contemplated during 1959-60 by the secretariats of ECLA and FAO except in the course of other projects.

19. Measures for improving the conditions of uneconomic farms - resolution 135 (VII)

No work is planned on this project for 1959-60.

SECTION IV: INDUSTRY, MINING AND ENERGY

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

20. Inventory of existing industries - resolutions 2 (I) of the Trade Committee and 116 (VII)

A report on this study is being presented at the eighth session (E/CN.12/524). Work on this study will be expanded during 1959-60.

21. Iron and steel making and transforming industries - resolutions 10 (IV), 57 (V), 96 (VI) and 127 (VII)

In compliance with the above resolutions (in particular 127 (VII) and 116 (VII) on the creation of a Latin American common market, the secretariat is undertaking a series of studies on the iron and steel making and transforming industries. Work is currently in progress on flat steel products, the railway equipment and the motor vehicle industries. During the course of 1959-60 these studies will be extended to include tractors, shipbuilding, machine-tools and, possibly, petroleum extraction equipment and agricultural machinery.

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<sup>5/</sup> Similar studies have been carried out in Europe by ECE and FAO, and another is being undertaken in Asia by ECAFE and FAO. Attention should be called to the financial implications of this project. See the note by the secretariat on the Study of Latin American timber trends and prospects (E/CN.12/507).

22. Study of chemical industries - resolutions 59 (V) and 97 (VI)

Work has been undertaken, in conjunction with the Chilean Development Corporation (Corporación de Fomento de la Producción - CORFO) on a pilot study of the chemical industry with special reference to Chile. A progress report has been prepared for the eighth session (E/CN.12/525). Work on an over-all study of the chemical industry in Latin America should start during 1959 and will continue into 1960.

23. Joint ECLA/FAO/TAA Pulp and Paper Advisory Group to assist countries in the development of the pulp and paper industries - resolutions 58 (V), 98 (VI) and 128 (VII)

The Advisory Group has completed, during the period under review, first drafts of studies on Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela, which are being submitted to the respective Governments, in accordance with the procedure followed with regard to its earlier studies on Argentina and Chile. Work is proceeding in Colombia, Cuba and Surinam, and an additional request from Brazil is being complied with.

Resolution 128 (VII) requested that the Group should organize standard budgets for investment in pulp and paper mills and evaluate the possibilities of purchasing and manufacturing machinery for such mills. This study has been started but will not be completed until mid-1960.

24. Development of energy resources - resolutions 99 (VI), 100 (VI) and 130 (VII)

During the past year, only a limited amount of work has been done on energy resources, requirements and problems but the secretariat plans to bring up to date the basic study which it published in 1957, namely Energy in Latin America (E/CN.12/384/Rev.1).

In accordance with resolution 130 (VII), the secretariat in co-ordination with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the International Atomic Energy Agency, will continue to keep Governments informed of all economic aspects of atomic energy which are of special interest for the Latin American countries.

25. Preliminary examination, based on existing information, of multiple water resources utilization in Latin America - resolution 99 (VI)

Under the terms of this resolution, a joint ECLA/TAA/WMO Water Resources Survey Group was set up. It has completed studies on Chile and Ecuador, and a third on North Patagonia (Argentina) is at the final drafting stage. The first study was presented at the eighth session (Information

document N° 2) after comments from the Chilean authorities had been included. The second is being presented to the Government of Ecuador before being reproduced, but a summary has been included in document E/CN.12/501. During 1959, the Group will undertake a similar survey in Venezuela and possibly in Central America. Work in 1960 will depend upon the number of requests received and the resources available to meet them.

Group 2: Ad hoc projects of high priority

26. Special meeting on the mining industry - resolution 129 (VII)

Lack of resources has prevented any advance being made with this project.

27. Meeting of experts on problems of energy development - resolution 99 (VI)

Preparatory work for this meeting will be started in 1959 and it is planned to hold it in the latter part of 1960.

Group 3: Other projects

28. Utilization of international rivers and lakes - resolution 131 (VII)

A short study on the legal aspects of the utilization of international rivers and lakes has been prepared for the eighth session by a consultant (E/CN.12/511). Lack of resources has prevented any further work being done on this project.

29. Textile industry - resolution 11 (IV)

The secretariat continues to follow developments in this industry in connexion with its country studies and for publication in the annual Economic Survey.

SECTION V: INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

30. Common Market and Payments - resolutions 69 (V), 101 (VI), 115 (VII) to 122 (VII) and 1 (I) to 4 (I) of the Trade Committee

A report of the work accomplished and under way on this project is contained in the progress report by the secretariat (E/CN.12/513). Basic studies on customs duties, classification and nomenclature; agriculture, industry and transport in relation to the creation of a common market; and the prospects of growth of the Latin American economies with the gradual

/creation of

creation of a common market will be continued and in some instances intensified during 1959-60. The role and the work of the Commission in preparing a specific agreement for the gradual creation of a common market and for a payments system will be determined by the decisions taken at the second session of the Trade Committee and at the Commission's eighth session.

In addition, work will continue on the studies on specific problems of intra-regional trade and possible solutions, in accordance with resolution 69 (V).

31. Trade in traditional products - resolution 119 (VII) and Trade Committee resolution 4 (I)

Work on this subject is part of the secretariat's regular programme and is published periodically in the Economic Survey or in the Economic Bulletin.

32. Trade between Latin America and the rest of the world - resolutions 54 (V), 102 (VI) and 121 (VII)

(i) Possibility of expanding production of Latin American export commodities - resolution 45 (V)

(ii) Study of future trends of demand for products exported by Latin America - resolutions 102 (VI) and 121 (VII)

These two topics are discussed periodically in the annual Economic Survey and the Economic Bulletin.

33. Study of changes in composition of Latin American imports from industrialized countries - resolution 45 (V)

The Economic Survey of Latin America 1956 contained a special study on this subject <sup>6/</sup> and it has also been dealt with in the first part of the Economic Survey for Latin America, 1958.

34. Studies of the terms of trade and their influence on the rate of economic development - resolution 46 (V)

This topic is periodically discussed in the annual Economic Survey.

Group 3: Other projects

35. Study of multilateral trade and payments arrangements between Latin American and European countries - resolution 47 (V)

No work has been done or is planned on this project.

<sup>6/</sup> "Preliminary study of the effects of post-war industrialization on import structure and external vulnerability in Latin America", op. cit., pp.115-163.

36. Co-operation in the technical assistance programme - resolutions 921 (X) of the General Assembly and 110 (AC.34) of the Committee of the Whole.

Apart from co-operation with the Technical Assistance Programme on specific projects as indicated above, the secretariat continued to render assistance to the TAO Regional Office for Latin America during 1958 and the early part of 1959.