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DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES 1961-62

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1961-1962

BASIC DIRECTIVES

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 Budget 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), 694 (XXVI), 709 (XXVII), 710 B (XXVII), 724 A (XXVIII), 731 B (XXVIII), 742 (XXVIII), 751 (XXIX), 777 (XXIX), and 791 (XXIX).

CONCENTRATION AND CO-ORDINATION

In accordance with the policy laid down in resolution 693 (XXVI) of the Economic and Social Council, the secretariat has continued to enlist the co-operation of such bodies as universities, national, public or private institutions and non-governmental organizations. This has permitted it to make the most effective use of its own resources. The projects carried out in accordance with this policy over the past year include the following:

Project 3 (i). The study on the economic development of Honduras was carried out in close collaboration with a national working group, consisting of economists from the National Economic Council (Consejo Nacional de Economía) and the Central Bank with assistance from the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The studies on the economic development of Guatemala and Nicaragua are also being conducted with the active co-operation of Government-sponsored working groups.

/Project 3 (iii).

Project 3 (iii). The Ford Foundation has provided a substantial sum to assist the preparatory work on tax administration and fiscal policy.

Project 3 (v). The advisory groups assigned to Bolivia, Chile, Colombia and Venezuela are working in direct contact with the planning and development institutions of these countries, which are co-operating closely with the respective groups.

Project 4 (vii). The study on land tenure and agricultural labour conditions in Central America is continuing, with assistance from experts provided by BTAO, FAO and the ILO. The operative co-ordination of this project has been entrusted to the Central American Higher University Council (Consejo Superior Universitario Centroamericano) and co-operation is being received from other national institutions.

The research carried out in El Salvador concerning the mobility of the labour force and its relations with the industrialization process was conducted in 1960 by a BTAO expert, together with experts provided by the Government.

Project 4 (ix). The Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America (ESAPAC) is now devoting a major share of its attention to the economic integration programme. This year a short course will be given on customs administration and seminars will be held on the administration of development laws, highways, communications and the integration treaties. The secretariat will collaborate closely in the development of these activities.

Project 6. The Government of the Netherlands has lent an expert to work on transport problems.

Project 13. Work on the coffee study in Brazil was greatly facilitated by the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, which provided technicians to assist in the field work, and by the Brazilian Coffee Institute (Instituto Brasileiro do Café) which provided both technicians and financial resources.

/Project 19.

Project 19. Work on the inventory and analysis of Latin American industry has advanced thanks to the co-operation of many government and private institutions, in particular the industrial associations in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico.

Project 20. The Chilean Development Corporation (Corporación de Fomento de la Producción - CORFO) provided personnel to assist in the preparation of the pilot chemical industries study, on Chile, and also for the general study. Similarly, the Venezuelan Development Corporation (Corporación Venezolana de Fomento) has afforded financial and other assistance for the general study. In other Latin American countries similar research has been carried out with the assistance of various governmental and private organizations. Some 40 private companies interested in the development of the chemical industry in Latin America have provided information of great value for this work.

Project 21. The ECLA/FAO/BTAO Pulp and Paper Advisory Group has been given invaluable assistance in all its missions by local industrialists and by the corresponding development corporations.

Project 22. After co-operating in the formation of the Latin American Steel Institute (Instituto Latinoamericano de Fierro y Acero - ILAFA), the secretariat is continuing to collaborate with this organization.

Project 23. Work on the basic equipment industry has been initiated by virtue of the financial and other assistance provided by the Argentine Federal Investment Council (Consejo Federal de Inversiones) the Federation of Metallurgical Industries (Argentina) (Federación de Industriales Metalúrgicos), and the Brazilian Association for the development of Basic Equipment Industries (Associação Brasileira para o Desenvolvimento das Industrias de Base - ABDIB).

/Project 25.

Project 25. The ECLA/BTAO/WMO Water Resources Survey Group was assisted in its work in Venezuela by the Venezuelan Development Corporation and other national and local institutions and services. In Bolivia, it is enjoying the active co-operation of the National Planning Board (Junta Nacional de Coordinación y Planeamiento) and other government bodies.

Project 26. The Latin American Electric Power Seminar, scheduled for 31 July - 12 August 1961 in Mexico City, has received support during the preparatory stages from a number of organizations throughout Latin America, the United States, Canada and Europe. Particular mention should be made, however, of the Federal Electricity Council, Mexico (Consejo Federal de Electricidad), which is co-sponsoring the meeting and providing all the facilities, and of the Nacional Financiera, S.A., Mexico, which is making a financial contribution to the work.

Project 27. A pilot project on technological research in Latin America has been started with staff loaned by such organizations as the Economic Planning Centre (Centro de Planificación Económica) of the University of Chile, the Chilean Steel Institute (Instituto Chileno del Acero), the Technological Research Institute of the University of São Paulo (Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas de la Universidade de São Paulo) and the Argentine Federal Investment Council (Consejo Federal de Inversiones Argentino).

Project 32. The special textile studies undertaken in 1960 and 1961 have been possible thanks to the financial and other support given respectively by the Textile Institute of the Industrial Development Society (Sociedad de Fomento Fabril) (Chile), and the Association of Textile Industries of the State of São Paulo (Sindicato das Industrias de Fiação e Tecelagem em Geral do Estado de São Paulo) (Brazil).

Project 33. (ii). The work on customs systems and duties and the meeting of experts on tariff problems were greatly facilitated by the assistance of the expert loaned for four months during 1960 by the Customs Co-operation Council (Brussels).

PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

In accordance with resolution 693 (XXVI) of the Economic and Social Council, and bearing in mind resolution 1202 (XII) of the General Assembly, 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. In compliance with this aim, the third session of ECLA's Trade Committee was planned to run concurrently with the ninth session of the Commission.

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

As in the past, it is expected that BTAO and the ECLA secretariat will continue to co-operate in implementing various projects. Moreover, ECLA was consulted at an early stage in relation to the regional projects for the two-year period 1961-62, and most of these projects, such as those relating to the training of economists, establishment of advisory groups, seminars and meetings of experts, will be put into effect in conformity with the procedures and regulations laid down for similar cases.

CHANGES IN THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1961-1962

It is foreseen that the Commission may wish to introduce some changes in the work programme, as new priorities arise and in view of the joint work programmes envisaged in the recent agreement reached by the Executive Secretary with the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States and the President of the Inter-American Development Bank.

- A. New Projects ^{1/}
- B. Projects eliminated ^{1/}
- C. Projects which have been modified

Project 4 has been modified in accordance with the recommendations made at the seventh session of the Central American Committee on Economic Co-operation.

With the introduction of a new section, on social development, the numbering of projects in the last annual report (E/3333) has been modified as follows:

Projects 3 (iv), 8 and 10 (i) are now grouped together under Section III - Social Development, and numbered Projects 9, 10 and 11.

Project 10 (ii) has now been shifted to Section V, Industry, Mining and Energy, and is numbered Project 27.

Because of these changes, the numbering of the remaining projects has been modified as follows:

<u>Old number</u>	<u>New number</u>	<u>Old number</u>	<u>New number</u>
9	8	21	22
10 (i)	11	22	23
8	10	23	24
9	8	24	25
10 (i)	11	25	26
10 (ii)	27	26	28
11	12	27	29
12	13	28	30
13	14	29	31
14	15	30	32
15	16	31	33
16	17	32	34
17	18	33	35
18	19	34	36
19	20	35	37
20	21	36	38

^{1/} These will depend on the decision taken at the 9th Session.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

The Commission has, on previous occasions, authorized the Executive Secretary, in dealing with the different work projects, to use available resources to hold such conferences, expert working groups and meetings or panels of experts as he may consider necessary, providing that prior approval has been obtained from the Governments concerned and consultations with the appropriate specialized agencies have taken place. The Commission may wish the Executive Secretary to continue that policy.

Although it is desirable to have as stable a programme as possible, unforeseen factors may make it necessary to abandon certain projects or to establish different priorities. For that reason the Commission may, as in the past, wish to leave it to the discretion of the Executive Secretary to modify or defer projects or alter the order of priority within the approved programme, should such unforeseen developments make it necessary.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The programme of work is divided into six broad sections, dealing respectively with the current economic situation; economic growth and technique of programming; social development; economic problems of agriculture (projects undertaken with the collaboration of FAO); industry, mining and energy; and 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, separate from the larger sections.

Within each section, priorities are listed in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 402 B (XIII) as follows:

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 continuing. The studies and reports contemplated are to be presented periodically. Each study may differ from and supplement the others in scope (country coverage),

/substance (different

substance (different aspects of major problems), and time (development during a given period).

Group 2: High priority ad hoc projects

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 1961, unless otherwise specified.

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 numbered consecutively 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 resolutions of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies are the official guide to their 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

The resolutions of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee are identified by an arabic numeral followed by the symbol "CCE" 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 1: Continuing projects and high priority activities

1. Economic Survey of Latin America - resolutions 44 (V) and 79 (VI) - published annually. In accordance with the agreement reached with the Organization of American States (OAS), the preparation of the Economic Survey will in future be a joint project, for which the OAS will be the executing agency. The ECLA secretariat will, however, continue to publish its own analytical appraisal of the current economic situation, based on the facts emerging from the joint Survey.
2. Economic Bulletin for Latin America - resolutions 32 (IV) and 79 (VI) - published twice yearly. The Statistical Supplement which has been a feature of the Bulletin in recent years will in future be published twice yearly as a separate volume.

SECTION II: ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TECHNIQUE OF PROGRAMMING

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

3. General problems of economic development and technique of programming - resolutions 48 (V), 81 (VI), 132 (VII), 157 (VII), 147 (VIII), 148 (VIII) and 155 (VIII)
 - (i) Analysis and projections of economic growth in individual countries - resolution 48 (V)

At present the secretariat is working on country studies only in Central America. Those on Panama and El Salvador were printed early in 1960. One on Honduras is currently in the press, and work is proceeding on economic development studies for Guatemala and Nicaragua.

/(ii) Analyses

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

Basic data are being compiled and analysed for a study on comparative rates of economic growth, with particular reference to trends and structural changes in relation to the economy as a whole as well as in respect of the agricultural, industrial, external and public sectors.

As a sequel to the country studies under 3 (i) above, plans are being made to start this year on a study of the growth prospects of the Central American countries on the basis of an integrated economy.

(iii) Study of monetary and fiscal policies for economic development - resolutions 81 (VI) and 148 (VIII)

The secretariat is preparing an analysis of inflation in relation to the economic growth of Latin America, in which it will endeavour to explain the evolution and causes of this economic phenomenon, taking into account its effect on development.

In accordance with resolution 148 (VIII), the secretariat has been assisting Governments (in connexion with the Advisory Groups programme) in adapting the best available budgetary methods to Latin American conditions, and has been devoting considerable effort to providing government employees with training in budget operation. Plans are being made for a second Budget Workshop to be held in 1962.

In recent months, preparatory work has been carried out by ECLA, the OAS, the IDB and the Harvard University Law School International Programme in Taxation with regard to proposals for a long-range programme to strengthen Latin American taxation systems, with a view to mobilizing resources for financing economic and social development in the region. Two joint conferences are planned, the first on tax administration (scheduled for September 1961) and the second on fiscal policy (scheduled for early 1962).

/(iv) Advice

(iv) Advice and assistance to Governments in the programming of economic development - resolutions 137 (VII) and 155 (VIII)

Advisory Groups, organized jointly by ECLA and BTAO with the active collaboration of FAO and the support of other specialized agencies, have been operating over the past year in Bolivia and Colombia. These two groups will continue their work in 1961, and two more have been formed, for Chile and Venezuela. The groups in question have been organized at the request of Governments in compliance with resolution 137 (VII).

A paper drawing on experience to date has been submitted for consideration at the ninth session (E/CN.12/584).

On the basis of negotiations carried out with the OAS and the IDB, these advisory groups will in future become joint activities, for which ECLA is to be the executing agency. In this way it is hoped to meet many requests which have hitherto remained pending for want of adequate resources.

In addition to strong support from FAO, which in one country has organized its technical assistance programme around the Advisory Group needs the ILO appointed a manpower expert in March 1961 to work with the Groups and is looking into the possibility of assigning further resources to this work. It is anticipated that in future other specialized agencies will also be collaborating to a greater extent in the Groups.

4. Economic integration in Central America - resolutions 24 (IV), 55 (V), 84 (VI), 27 (CCE), 123 (VII), 140 (AC.40), 152 (VIII) and 173 (AC.45), 101 (CCE), 102 (CCE), 104 (CCE), and 107 (CCE)

The ratification of the General Treaty of Central American Economic Integration and the Agreement Establishing the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, signed in December 1960, will entail new forms of collaboration between the secretariat and the Governments in the study of problems arising from the application of these treaties and of the measures needed to bring the Central American common market into full operation within a period of five years.

/The Committee

The Committee will hold its third extraordinary session this year in order to consider the direction which its activities should take in view of the agreements mentioned above. Plans are also afoot for the Trade Sub-Committee to meet three times during the course of the year, and one session each will be held by the Housing, Electric Power, Agricultural Development, Statistical Co-ordination and Transport Sub-Committees, as well as ad hoc meetings of working groups on industrial development and on equalization of fiscal incentives to development. Several of these meetings will take place simultaneously, and other consecutively, in order to ensure more efficient utilization of available resources.

- (i) Central American trade - resolutions 9 (AC.17), 19 (AC.17), 4 (CCE), 7 (CCE), 11 (CCE), 22 (CCE), 24 (CCE), 37 (CCE), 58 (CCE), 81 (CCE), 83 (CCE), 101 (CCE), 102 (CCE), 103 (CCE) and 106 (CCE)

The secretariat will co-operate with Governments in work relating to the establishment of the standard Central American import tariff which has to be negotiated within six months after the entry into force of the Protocol to the Agreement on Equalization of Import Duties and Charges - also signed in December 1960 -, as well as in the preparation of instructions for applying the Integration Treaties. It will also work out draft standard regulations for determining the source of merchandise and will assist Governments in studying the special régimes embodied in the General Treaty.

- (ii) Industrial development - resolutions 2 (AC.17), 2 (CCE), 8 (CCE), 25 (CCE), 26 (CCE), 27 (CCE), 38 (CCE), 39 (CCE), 40 (CCE), 41 (CCE), 57 (CCE), 59 (CCE), 60 (CCE), 70 (CCE), 71 (CCE), 75 (CCE), 84 (CCE), 85 (CCE), 88 (CCE) and 104 (CCE)

The secretariat will direct its work mainly towards the concerting of the first protocols under which - pursuant to the General Treaty - industries on a regional scale will be established. A session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Industrial Development will be held in July. The group will examine integration prospects for given branches of industry and will formulate draft protocols for presentation to the Committee.

A Working Group will meet to examine and recommend measures needed for equalizing legislation on fiscal incentives to industrial development and for co-ordinating their application.

The secretariat has been collaborating in the establishment of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration. During 1961 it will co-operate with the Bank particularly in the organizational work, as well as in the initiation and programming of its activities.

(iii) Agricultural development - resolutions 1 (CCE), 14 (CCE), 20 (CCE), 48 (CCE), 49 (CCE), 62 (CCE), 63 (CCE), 76 (CCE), 89 (CCE), 90 (CCE) and 91 (CCE)

The Agricultural Development Sub-Committee will meet for the first time in August this year. The secretariat will present studies on the co-ordination of production policies and the regulation of Central American trade in basic agricultural commodities. These studies will be carried out in co-operation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and will provide the basis for the formulation of the special agreements contemplated in the Treaty on Central American Economic integration. At the Committee's request, a special study will be undertaken on the problems arising out of the equalization of import duties and charges on specific agricultural commodities.

(iv) 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), 67 (CCE) and 92 (CCE)

In co-operation with a BTAO expert and the appropriate national bodies, a Central American highway programme will be drawn up, determining the sections that must be finished in order to establish a regional road network which will make the common market effective. Indications will be given of the amount of investment needed and of the corresponding priorities. The programme will be submitted to the Transport Sub-Committee in the course of 1961. At another session this Sub-Committee will examine the draft Central American Standard Maritime Code.

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

Special attention will be devoted to the study of possibilities for the interconnexion of existing electric power systems in Central America.

/The Electric

The Electric Power Sub-Committee will hold its second meeting in the third quarter of 1961 and will have before it a study on this subject, analysing in particular the possibilities for combined electric power development in Honduras and El Salvador. This study has been prepared by a BTAO expert. Problems relating to costs, financing and other kindred aspects will also be discussed.

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

The fifth session of the Statistical Co-ordination Sub-Committee is scheduled for the last quarter of the present year. Prior to this, a working group on agricultural statistics will meet to review the studies on census co-ordination and the joint programme for continuous statistical series, prepared by a FAO expert.

The second Central American Statistical Compendium will be published in 1961, and the preparation of a Methodological supplement to the compendium will be completed.

(vii) Socio-economic aspects - resolutions 27 (CCE), 51 (CCE), 73 (CCE), 93 (CCE) and 94 (CCE)

Research will continue on the structure of land tenure and on agricultural labour conditions in Central America, and on the inter-relationships between these and economic integration. This work is being carried out with the co-operation of experts from BTAO, FAO and the ILO and will be co-ordinated by the Central American Higher University Council; national institutions are also co-operating in this project.

On the basis of research conducted in El Salvador, problems of manpower mobility and its relations with industrial development will be studied at the level of Central America as a whole.

The Housing Sub-Committee will hold its second session in order to study the technical problems connected with the organization and development of the production of building materials and with the establishment of a broader market, of regional scope, for such materials. For this purpose, studies are being prepared in the field of modular co-ordination and on the use and improvement of Central American materials.

/The possibility

The possibility of undertaking a low-cost housing programme on a large scale, with foreign aid, is also being studied. A BTAO expert is working on this project and steps are being taken to obtain the collaboration of one or more OAS experts.

(viii) Incorporation of Panama in the Central American Economic Integration Programme - resolution 80 (CCE)

Panama has decided to become a member of the Central American Research Institute for Industry (ICAITI) and of the Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America (ESAPAC), and the formulation of the corresponding agreements between the Government of Panama and the institutions mentioned is now being studied.

(ix) Research and training institutes - resolutions 7 (AC.17), 23 (AC.17), 5 (CCE), 6 (CCE), 31 (CCE), 52 (CCE), 53 (CCE), 78 (CCE), 95 (CCE) and 98 (CCE)

The Central American Advanced School of Public Administration (ESAPAC) has entered upon a stage of its activities which will require a greater degree of co-operation from the secretariat, inasmuch as its work will now be more closely related to the Economic Integration Programme. During the present year, the secretariat will collaborate with the School in a short course on customs administration and in seminars on administration of development laws, highways, communications and the integration treaties. Co-operation with the Central American Research Institute for Industry (ICAITI) will be intensified in respect of those aspects of its work which are directly related to the integration programme.

5. Joint ECLA/BTAO Economic Development Training Programme - resolutions 4 (IV), 48 (V), 85 (VI), 153 (VIII) and 1957 (VIII)

The regular course at Santiago has been suspended during 1960-61 with a view to its reorganization, and during this period efforts have been concentrated on the preparation of teaching materials and on arrangements for an expanded programme, beginning on 1 July 1961, whose main object will be to train specialists in different sectors of the economy. Intensive courses for 1961 are planned for nine countries (four in conjunction with

/Advisory Groups),

Advisory Groups), while in one country a special streamlined course for very senior Government officials has been requested.

6. Study of transport problems - resolutions 38 (AC.16), 68 (V), 120 (VII) and 179 (AC.45)

Activities during the past year have consisted chiefly in the work of the Advisory Groups, particularly in Colombia and Bolivia, and in the study of transport problems directly related to the Central American Economic Integration Programme (see item 4 (iv)).

In addition, work has been carried out in connexion with the preparation of teaching materials for the ECLA/BTAO training programme, with particular reference to transport programming. For this purpose, the experience gained by the Advisory Groups and through the training Programme has been pooled.

The systematic collection of data on different branches of transport in Latin America has been embarked upon, since this is an essential prerequisite for the study of the problems involved. However, resources so far have been insufficient to ensure the progress desired.

Lack of resources has also hampered the preparations for the seminar of experts to study problems of intra-regional transport, as requested in resolution 179 (AC.45). It is hoped that by pooling available resources with those of the OAS, more rapid advances may be made in the urgent work required on transport problems in Latin America.

7. Preparation of a minimum programme of statistical data - resolution 154 (VIII)

The assignment of a regional statistician to ECLA early in 1960 has constituted a valuable step towards the preparation of the minimum programme of statistical data. A series of seminars has been planned, under the joint sponsorship of the United Nations Statistical Office, the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI) and ECLA. The first, on industrial statistics, took place in October 1960, and a second, on trade statistics, is scheduled for the end of 1961. A third, on prices, is expected to take place in 1962. Other seminars and working groups will be organized as resources become available and need arises.

One of the secretariat's senior statisticians will shortly visit a number of countries to confer with the statistical authorities regarding minimum statistical requirements, especially in the field of social conditions and levels of living.

Group 3: Other projects

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

It has not yet proved possible to convene this meeting, the purpose of which is to bring together Latin American economists to discuss the principal problems of economic growth and to explore the possibilities of improving the techniques of programming economic development and making them widely known.

The secretariat considers that the report on The experience of the ECLA/BTAO Advisory Groups and the practical problems of programming economic development (E/CN.12/584) may constitute a good basis for discussion in relatively small working groups that may be convened to evaluate existing techniques of programming likely to be useful to Governments currently engaged in drawing up economic development programmes.

SECTION III - SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Group 1: Continuing projects and high priority activities

9. Study of social factors affecting economic development - resolutions 82 (VI), 124 (VII), 150 (VIII) and 176 (AC.45)

The staff resources of the Social Affairs Division are at present insufficient to carry out more than a minimum programme in relation to this project. Nevertheless, an expert working group met in Mexico from 12 to 21 December 1960, under the joint auspices of ECLA, UNESCO, BTAO and the Bureau of Social Affairs, to discuss social aspects of economic development. The preliminary report of this meeting includes a list of research needs, thus implementing in part the recommendations in resolution 124 (VII). Once some of this fundamental research has been

/carried out,

carried out, further meetings at the expert level are contemplated, to be followed by others at the government level.

The results of this first meeting will be discussed at the conference on education and economic and social development, scheduled for December 1961 under the joint sponsorship of UNESCO, ECLA, the Bureau of Social Affairs and the OAS (resolution 176 (AC.45)).

10. Studies of demographic growth and manpower requirements in relation to economic development - resolutions 83 (VI) and 149 (VIII)

The secretariat has completed a study on problems of demographic growth (E/CN.12/583 and E/CN.12/604); close co-operation is being maintained with the Latin American Demographic Research and Training Centre, with particular reference to the five-year demographic programme for under-developed countries sponsored by the Population Commission.

The ECLA secretariat convened at Santiago, in May 1960, the third meeting of an Inter-Agency Working Party on Problems of Skilled Manpower in Latin America, which was attended by representatives of ILO, UNESCO, OAS and ICEM. It is anticipated that this working party will continue to meet from time to time in order to exchange information and deal with problems of mutual interest relating to skilled manpower.

11. Studies on education and economic development - resolutions 150 (VIII) and 176 (AC.45)

The secretariat is sponsoring, together with UNESCO and the OAS, a conference on education and economic and social development, to be held at ECLA headquarters in December 1961. The secretariat is preparing several papers for the meeting, relating to the financing of education, economic studies and the integration of educational and economic and social planning (see section II.3 (iv) above).

In conjunction with UNESCO and the OAS, the secretariat co-sponsored a mission to examine the teaching of economics in Latin America. This mission completed its assignment in October 1960 (see E/CN.12/546/Rev.1).

/SECTION IV:

SECTION IV: 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), 89 (VI) and 158 (VIII)

This is one of the most important continuing projects of the Joint ECLA/FAO Agriculture Division. Some of the work involved is used for the preparation of the Economic Survey of Latin America and the FAO publication The State of Food and Agriculture, both published annually.

The Joint Division also helps in the establishment and servicing of the Advisory Groups and supplies the agricultural staff attached to the groups by FAO with the economic background data which they require.

Work has also been proceeding on the institutional and other factors which retard or accelerate agricultural development and on the prospects for expanding Latin America's supply of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials. Pressure of other commitments and lack of personnel have prevented any progress from being made with the manual on agricultural programming.

A special mission collaborated with the Government of Ecuador in an investigation of overall levels of agricultural productivity. A report was presented to the appropriate authorities in Ecuador and will be published shortly.

The Joint Division is presenting at the ninth session a paper (E/CN.12/592) outlining an agricultural policy for accelerated economic development in Latin America.

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

The second part of the series Coffee in Latin America has been completed. The first part, dealing with the problems of coffee-growers in Colombia and El Salvador, was published in 1958; the second part, relating to coffee-growing in the State of São Paulo, Brazil, was sent

/to press

to press at the end of 1960, and consists of two volumes, the contents of which have been summarized in an article published in the Economic Bulletin, Vol. V, N°2.

At the request of the Government of Colombia and the National Federation of Coffee-Growers a technical mission was sent to that country in order to collaborate in a project to study the diversification and overall improvement of agriculture in the coffee-producing zones.

14. Study of factors affecting the development of livestock production in Latin America - resolution 91 (VI)

Country studies on livestock production have been completed for Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Uruguay. In the case of Colombia, the work was carried out in collaboration with the Advisory Group and the resultant study is being used by the Government as basic material for its livestock programme. Field work will shortly be undertaken in Argentina and Chile.

Once the country series has been completed, an overall study will be prepared which will summarize their findings and on the basis of these analyse those factors which impede or further the development of the livestock industry in Latin America and the prospects for expanding livestock production.

15. Role of agricultural commodities in the proposed Latin American common market - resolution 158 (VIII)

Further to the series of commodity studies submitted at the eighth session, the Joint ECLA/FAO Agriculture Division has drafted a paper on the role of agriculture in Latin American common market and free-trade area arrangements. It is also planned to continue this work by preparing a certain number of technical papers required by the Latin American Free-Trade Association.

Group 2: Ad hoc projects of high priority

16. Study of Latin American timber production and consumption trends and prospects - resolutions 133 (VII) and 159 (VIII)

This study is well advanced, and is scheduled for completion by the end of 1961. It explores timber resources in the region, and the

/economic possibilities

economic possibilities of their development, with particular reference to the provision of raw materials for the wood industries.

Group 3: Other projects

17. Study of the possibilities of increasing agricultural investment
- resolution 92 (VI)
18. Study on the productivity of labour and capital in agricultural production - resolutions 87 (VI) and 134 (VII)

Despite the importance of these two projects (17 and 18), the Joint ECLA/FAO Agriculture Division has not yet been able to begin work on them for want of resources.

SECTION V: INDUSTRY, MINING AND ENERGY

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

19. Inventory and analysis of existing industry and plans for its development Trade Committee resolution 2 (I) and resolution 116 (VII) of the Commission

The first report on this subject, presented at the eighth session, has been followed by the completion of a study on the metallurgical, metal transforming and electro-mechanical industries, which provides a general view of the distribution of these activities throughout Latin America. Some gaps in the data will be filled at a later stage.

A further study is planned which will present a much broader analysis of manufactured products, although in less detail than in the case of the metal transforming industries.

20. Study of chemical industries - resolutions 59 (V), 97 (VI) and 162 (VIII)

Field work for the overall study on chemical industries has been completed, and a first analysis of the present market has been submitted to the ninth session (E/CN.12/591). The overall study is scheduled for completion by the end of the year.

21. Joint ECLA/FAO/BTAO Pulp and Paper Advisory Group to assist countries in the development of the pulp and paper industries - resolutions 58 (V), 98 (VI), 128 (VII) and 163 (VIII)

After completing a series of country studies, in 1960 the Group prepared an integrated study on the pulp and paper supply, demand and trade in Latin America. The Group has also taken advantage of its different missions to collect data for the study of Latin American timber production (see project 16).

The future programme of the Group includes one new country study requested by Argentina; follow-up of country studies, with particular reference to pre-investment analyses; further studies relating to regional economic integration, intra-regional industrial co-operation, and improvements in pulp and paper statistics and information; and a survey of international financial sources for pulp and paper development.

22. Iron and steel industry - resolutions 10 (IV), 57 (V), 96 (VI), 127 (VII) and 162 (VIII)

No specific work on this project has been undertaken recently, although that done on projects 17, 23 and 27 is very closely concerned with the iron and steel industry.

23. Metal transforming industries - resolutions 57 (V), 96 (VI), 127 (VII) and 161 (VIII)

The report on the railway equipment industry presented at the eighth session has now been brought up to date, and covers Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Work is proceeding on a study of basic industrial equipment, in compliance with resolution 161 (VIII) and, to a lesser extent, 162 (VIII) (see project 21 above). The first part, dealing with Argentina, Brazil and Chile, is due for completion early in 1962. A provisional draft of a report on Brazil has already been completed.

24. Development of energy resources - resolutions 99 (VI), 100 (VI), 130 (VII), 164 (VIII) and 165 (VIII)

The secretariat has brought up to date the electricity section of its report Energy in Latin America (United Nations Publications, Sales N°: 1957.II.G.2) for presentation at the Latin American Electric Power Seminar (see project 26); a survey of hydro-electric resources in the region has also been completed, as well as studies on methods of projecting demand for electricity and on the evaluation of future needs in Latin America together with investment requirements and means of financing them. Summaries of these studies have been presented at the ninth session, while the complete versions will all be submitted to the Latin American Electric Power Seminar.

In compliance with resolution 130 (VII), the secretariat has continued to co-operate with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

25. Preliminary examination, based on existing information, of multiple water resources utilization in Latin America - resolutions 99 (VI) and 166 (VIII)

The Water Resources Survey Group, sponsored jointly by ECLA/BTAO/WMO, and set up under the terms of resolution 99 (VI), has now completed a study of water resources in Venezuela, and a summarized version has been submitted to the ninth session. The Group is currently conducting field work in Bolivia, and will subsequently proceed to Colombia, in accordance with Government requests. A request from the Government of Argentina is also pending.

The earlier study on Chile was published in 1960.

Group 2: Ad hoc projects of high priority

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

The Latin American Electric Power Seminar, convened in accordance with resolution 99 (VI), under the joint sponsorship of ECLA/BTAO and the Government of Mexico which is acting as host, is scheduled to take

/place in

place in Mexico from 31 July to 12 August 1961. Some 90 papers have already been received, from Latin American and international experts and from companies concerned with various aspects of electric power development.

The Seminar will explore some of the principal economic, financial, technico-economic and institutional problems affecting electric power development, and will be attended by over 200 participants, including experts and observers.

Group 3: Other projects

27. Technological research and technical training in Latin America
- resolutions 13 (IV) and 53 (V)

Towards the end of 1960, with assistance from several interested organizations (see paragraph above), the secretariat began work on a pilot project relating to technological research facilities in Argentina, Brazil and Chile. The findings are expected to pave the way for a more extensive study, which may possibly be carried out with the collaboration of the OAS and UNESCO.

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

29. Study of the institutional factors which affect industrial development - resolutions 160 (VIII)

30. Latin American centre for hydroelectric planning and utilization
- resolution 166 (VIII)

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

It has not been possible to carry out any work on projects 28 to 31 (inclusive) during the course of the past year. As and when resources become available, efforts will be made to undertake some or all of them.

32. Textile industry - resolution 11 (IV)

In view of the importance of this industry to the Latin American Free Trade Association, and of the financial and other collaboration received from interested organizations in Brazil and Chile, the secretariat has been working on studies relating to the present state of equipment in this industry in Brazil, and to the current status and operating conditions of the industry in Chile.

As resources become available, it is planned to extend this work to other countries in the region.

Developments in the industry are also covered in the annual Economic Survey.

/SECTION VI:

SECTION VI: INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Group 1: Continuing projects and activities of high priority

33. Common market and payments - resolutions 69 (V), 101 (VI), 115 (VII) to 122 (VII), 168 (VIII) of the Commission, 172 (AC.45) of the Committee of the Whole, and 1 (I) to 4 (I) and 6 (II) to 10 (II) of the Trade Committee.

(i) Meeting of a group of experts

The experts will be appointed by Governments for the purpose of preparing a draft agreement on the establishment of a Latin American common market. After consultation with Governments, this meeting has been deferred.

(ii) Study of customs systems and duties

The secretariat has undertaken the following studies and activities:

- (a) A study on Customs duties and other import charges and restrictions in Latin American countries, with average levels of incidence analysed in detail (item by item), according to categories of products, for eleven countries (E/CN.12/554 and Adds. 1 to 11);
- (b) The organization of a working group on customs questions, held from 1 to 12 August 1960 (E/CN.12/568).
Work is proceeding on:
- (c) The preparation of basic principles and procedures for transforming quantitative and administrative restrictions into standard customs duties;
- (d) The study of tariff systems and customs administration;
- (e) The preparation of basic principles and procedures for the adoption of a standard customs nomenclature.

(iii) Comparative study of exchange controls and other quantitative and administrative restrictions, with special reference to their effects on the establishment and operation of a common market

This question has been dealt with to some extent in the study described under 33 (ii) (a) and also in relation to specific studies carried out for the Latin American Free-Trade Association.

/(iv) Comparative

- (iv) Comparative study of the incentives for new investment, both foreign and domestic, particularly in the industrial sector, and the disparities which may exist and lead to distortions in the common market

A first study (E/CN.12/550), prepared by a joint ECLA/OAS mission, has been completed under the title of Foreign private investments in the Latin American Free-Trade Area, United Nations publications, Sales N°: 60.II.G.5. It is planned to continue this type of research.

- (v) Factors affecting productivity and their repercussions on the competitive position of the different countries and industries

This work has not yet been started for lack of resources.

- (vi) Study of all aspects of transport in relation to the integration of markets

In preparation for this study, work is proceeding on a systematic collection of data in respect of the transport systems of Latin America.

- (vii) Meetings of government experts on trade policy from different groups of Latin American countries

Consultations have been and are being maintained in many countries. Particular reference should be made to those between Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela (Quito - 7 to 10 December - see E/CN.12/555).

- (viii) Dissemination of information on the benefits to be obtained from the expansion of trade and on the reasons for establishing a common market

Interest in this problem has been so great that editions of documents relating to trade questions here have proved insufficient to meet demand. Steps are being taken to ensure reprinting of the more important texts. Lectures have been given, and numerous press releases distributed, and work is well advanced on a pamphlet for the information of the general public. Moreover, all the Central American Treaties and the Montevideo Treaty have been published by the Commission with a view to making them known as widely as possible.

(ix) Work

(ix) Work related to the Latin American Free-Trade Association

In compliance with the request made by the Governments signatories of the Montevideo Treaty, the secretariat has undertaken such activities as the following:

- (a) Technical advice to the Latin American Free-Trade Association (ALALC), for which purpose staff have been assigned to the ALALC practically on a permanent basis. A series of papers on technical problems has been prepared;
- (b) Assistance has been given in the organization of different meetings of government experts.

Advisory work has been carried out in such a way that it will, as far as possible, be useful to all the Latin American countries. Similarly, general work on trade problems is also designed to be of use to the Governments members of the ALALC.

(x) Preparatory work for the third session of the Central Banks Working Group

This session has not yet taken place; the corresponding technical studies are in course of preparation.

(xi) Preparatory work for the third session of the Trade Committee

In this connexion, apart from the special studies and activities indicated above, the secretariat has prepared a document on the Latin American movement towards multilateral economic co-operation (E/CN.12/567) and a paper on the Central American common market (E/CN.12/587), with a view to providing information on the progress made towards a regional common market.

34. 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 its findings are published periodically in the Economic Survey for Latin America.

35. Trade between Latin America and the rest of the world - resolutions 45 (V), 102 (VI), and 121 (VII)

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

/(ii) Studies

- (ii) Studies 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 Economic Survey and the Economic Bulletin.

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

No specific work has been done on this project since the publication of the Economic Survey for Latin America, 1958.

37. 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 Economic Survey and the Economic Bulletin.

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

The secretariat works in close co-operation with the Technical Assistance Programme on specific projects mentioned in various parts of this work programme.