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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Tenth Session
Mar del Plata, Argentina, May 1963

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening addresses

The programme of proceedings and opening addresses will be made known in the Order of the Day for the opening meeting.

2. Election of Officers

Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure provides that "the Commission shall, at the commencement of each session, elect from among the representatives a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election".

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda (E/CN.12/655) was sent to Member Governments, together with a letter of invitation to the present session, after consultation with the Chairman of the Commission, as stipulated in the Rules of Procedure. The Commission may amend the agenda or include additional items. Amendments may also be introduced at any time during the session.

4. The present status of the Latin American economy

This item, which will be considered at plenary meetings, will afford an opportunity for general discussion on the present status of the Latin American economy. To facilitate the proceedings, the secretariat has presented a brief analysis of the most important events which took place in 1962. Similarly, the latest issues of the Economic Bulletin for Latin

/America and

America and its Statistical Supplement contain articles of topical interest, together with the most recent figures and data on various sectors of the economy.

Documents:

* La situación económica latinoamericana en 1962 (E/CN.12/679)

Economic Bulletin for Latin America, Vol. VII, No. 2 and Vol. VIII, No.1

Statistical Supplement to the Bulletin, Vol. VII, No. 1

5. Economic and social development of Latin America

The review of major trends in the economy of the region for which the sessions of the Commission generally provide an opportunity acquires special importance on the present occasion, in view of the persistent slackening in the rate of expansion of the Latin American economies and the aggravation of problems of various kinds. At the same time, possibilities and prospects have been opened up which must be exploited to the utmost in order to overcome the trend towards stagnation and to recover and surpass earlier rates of economic and social development.

These problems and prospects make it advisable that advantage be taken of the present session to attempt an over-all evaluation of the experience gained during the post-war period, with a view to contributing to the establishment of basic guidelines for future development policy. This need has largely determined the nature of the relevant documents which the secretariat is presenting for consideration by the Commission, and which, moreover, include a considerable number of studies on various social aspects of development.

Documents:

Towards a dynamic economic and social policy for Latin America
(E/CN.12/680)

The economic development of Latin America in the post-war period
(E/CN.12/659)

The role of external financing in the economic development of
Latin America (E/CN.12/649)

Social trends and programmes in Latin America (E/CN.12/645)

* Documents marked with an asterisk are available in Spanish only.

Economic development in Latin America. Sociological considerations (E/CN.12/646)

The industrial entrepreneur in Latin America (E/CN.12/642).
Add.1: Argentina; Add.2: Brasil; Add.3: Chile; Add.4: Colombia^{1/}

The social development of Latin America in the post-war period (E/CN.12/660)

Geographic distribution of the population of Latin America and regional development priorities (E/CN.12/643); and Economic Bulletin for Latin America, Vol. VIII, No. 1

Urbanization in Latin America. Results of a field survey of living conditions in an urban sector (E/CN.12/662)

Provisional report of the Conference on Fiscal Policy organized by the OAS/IDB/ECLA Joint Tax Program (E/CN.12/638)

* Los transportes en América. Notas sobre los progresos de los estudios en esta materia y algunas de las principales conclusiones que se derivan de las investigaciones en curso (E/CN.12/673)

6. Progress of planning in Latin America

Most of the Latin American countries have been devoting considerable effort to the planning of their economic and social development. To these activities the secretariat has contributed in some cases directly, through the Advisory Groups programme - for which the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning is now responsible -, and in others indirectly, through its general and methodological research.

The tenth session of the Commission offers an opportunity to make a searching examination of the experience acquired, analyse the progress achieved and define the principal problems at present confronting the region. Discussion of this kind is essential, both on account of the importance attached to this subject and because planning should represent a permanent process rather than a sporadic effort. The establishment of the central mechanisms and the formulation of the preliminary plans constitute only the initial phase of this process, which will have to be improved upon and extended to the stages of implementation and supervision. Moreover, the topics to be discussed include aspects of the question that have not yet been fully elucidated, but in relation to which practical action itself urgently calls for a clearly defined guidance.

^{1/} Adds.1, 2, 3 and 4 will be available in Spanish only.

The documents presented by the secretariat, while they may contribute to the evaluation of the progress achieved and the assessment of current problems, incorporate the results of new efforts in the methodological field, as well as the findings of several international seminars and meetings, together with suggestions and improvements relating to statistical data.

The discussions and recommendations of the Commission may be of special importance for future activities where international technical assistance in the field of planning is concerned.

Documents:

- Progress in the planning field in Latin America. Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/677)
- Report of the Latin American Seminar on Planning (E/CN.12/644)
- Demographic analysis and development planning. The work of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) (E/CN.12/687)
- Report of the Workshop on Budgetary Classification and Management in South America (E/CN.12/634)
- Report on the Latin American Seminar on Housing Statistics and Programmes (E/CN.12/671)
- A measurement of price levels and the purchasing power of currencies in Latin America, 1960-62 (E/CN.12/653)

Reference documents:

- Provisional report of the Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development in Latin America (E/CN.12/639)
- * Proyecto de lista uniforme de productos manufacturados (E/CN.12/648)

7. Trade policy and the economic integration of Latin America

The consideration of this item will be concentrated on the following aspects:

(a) Trade relations with other regions of the world

The unfavourable course taken by Latin America's external trade, and its marked effect in reducing the region's economic growth rate, make it advisable to devote special attention to the problems of Latin America's trade relations with the rest of the world. The documents submitted by the secretariat on this subject include, among other matters, an analysis of recent developments and trends in trade with the member countries of the European Economic Community, and places special emphasis on the need for an effective co-ordination of Latin America's trade policy.

/(b) ECLA's

(b) ECLA's participation in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

This meeting, which is to take place not later than the beginning of 1964, will provide an exceptional opportunity for the less developed countries to put before an international forum the basic problems of their trade relations, including those touching on terms of trade, the difficulties of developing new export lines - mainly in manufactured and semi-manufactured goods - and the limitations inherent in the traditional patterns of specialization in international trade. The Commission's debates on this subject can both lay the ground for Latin American participation in this conference, and furnish valuable indications that will enable the secretariat to provide the co-operation it has been asked to give in the preparatory work of the conference.

(c) Economic integration of Latin America

The documentation submitted by the secretariat on this subject is intended to facilitate the Commission's examination of the programmes and prospects for regional economic integration, in the light of the progress achieved by the Latin American Free Trade Association, the pace at which integration aims are being fulfilled, and the measures that may be found desirable in order to increase this pace.

Documents:

Trade with Europe and Latin American trade policy. Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/667)

Recent developments and trends in Latin American trade with the European Economic Community (E/CN.12/631)

The achievement of co-ordination in Latin American trade policy: relations with the European Economic Community (E/CN.12/632) and Economic Bulletin for Latin America, Vol. VII, No. 2

* United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/682)

The progress achieved by the Free Trade Area and the prospects for Latin American economic integration (E/CN.12/668)

Multilateral Economic Co-operation in Latin America, Vol. I. Texts and documents (E/CN.12/621) United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 62.II.G.3

8. The Central American Economic Integration Programme

With the recent accession of Costa Rica to the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration and other Central American instruments, Central American regional integration has now attained its full regional scope, and highly satisfactory progress has been achieved. This item of the agenda will provide an opportunity to examine the progress achieved by the Central American common market and the work done by the regional agencies concerned with financing, industrial technology and raising the level of administration in the countries of the region.

Documents:

General situation and future outlook of the Central American Integration Programme. Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/666; E/CN.12/CCE/265/Rev.1)

Report of the third special session of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee (E/CN.12/657; E/CN.12/CCE/268/Rev.1)

Report of the fourth special session of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee (E/CN.12/658; E/CN.12/CCE/262/Rev.1)

Report of the eighth session of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee (E/CN.12/672; E/CN.12/CCE/303/Rev.1)

Preliminary examination of possibilities for integrated industrial development in Central America (E/CN.12/683; E/CN.12/CCE/245)

9. Industrial development of Latin America

Since the last session of the Committee of the Whole, the secretariat has completed a whole range of studies, many of which were submitted for discussion at the Seminar on Industrial Programming held recently at São Paulo, a report on which is being submitted to the tenth session of ECLA in a separate document.

Consideration of this item of the agenda by the Commission will be divided into the two following sub-items:

(a) Industrial development: present situation and future prospects

This consists of an over-all study of the main trends and problems of industrialization, summarizing and evaluating experience during the post-war years, with a view to laying down fundamental guidelines for future policy in the industrial development of Latin America. The documentation

/submitted by

submitted by the secretariat will underline, in addition to considerations of an over-all nature, the importance of technological research for the region's industrial development; it will also provide some background information on such essential technical and economic questions as economies of scale in industrial programming and their consequences in relation to national development and to Latin American economic integration.

(b) Problems of the main industrial sectors

The documents presented by the secretariat include an examination of the present characteristics and future prospects of demand and the possibilities of satisfying it, special problems of productivity and re-equipment, and possibilities of regional trade and export to other areas, etc. in a number of vital industrial sectors that include the manufacture of heavy equipment and machine-tools, the chemical industry, forest products, and the pulp and paper and textile industries.

Documents:

Industrial development in Latin America: problems and prospects (E/CN.12/664)

Report of the Seminar on Industrial Programming (E/CN.12/663)

"Technological research in Latin America", Economic Bulletin for Latin America, Vol. VIII, No. 1

Economies of scale in relation to industrial programming (E/CN.12/665)

Latin American timber trends and prospects (E/CN.12/624) United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 63.II.G.1

Pulp and paper in Latin America: supply, demand and trade (E/CN.12/625) United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 63.II.G.7

Reference documents:

* La industria química en América Latina (E/CN.12/628 and Add.1, 2 and 3)

* Estudio sobre la fabricación de equipos industriales de base en la Argentina (E/CN.12/629 and Add.1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).

The manufacture of industrial machinery and equipment in Latin America. I. Basic equipment in Brazil (E/CN.12/619) United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 63.II.G.2

The manufacture of industrial machinery and equipment in Latin America. II. The machine-tools industry in Brazil (E/CN.12/633)

* La industria textil en América Latina. I. Chile (E/CN.12/622) United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 63.II.G.4

A industria textil do Brasil: pesquisa as condições de operação no ramo de fiação e tecelagem (E/CN.12/623) (Portuguese only)

10. Economic problems of agriculture

In common with other salient questions on the agenda, the Commission's discussion of this topic is expected to focus on an evaluation of agricultural development in the post-war period and an examination of the main problems in the agricultural sector - including those of an institutional nature - with a view to determining the essential criteria for defining a development policy to remedy the extremely backward state of Latin American agriculture in general.

The secretariat submits to the Commission for its consideration a document that is specifically intended to be used as a working paper for a discussion along these lines. A report on livestock in Brazil is also presented as part of the series of studies on livestock in various Latin American countries.

Moreover, within the scope of the general debate on the problems and prospects of agriculture in Latin America, the Commission's discussions might also help to specify the ways in which the Latin American countries can participate in the World Food Programme.

Documents:

Agriculture in Latin America: problems and prospects (E/CN.12/686)

Livestock in Brazil: status, problems and prospects (E/CN.12/636)

The World Food Programme, with a Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/684)

11. Natural resources and electric power

The increasing need to promote the diversification of the Latin American economies and the requirements resulting from the aim of expediting economic development and substantially improving the living conditions of the Latin American peoples underline the importance of a broader knowledge and a better assessment of the region's natural resources. Moreover, the planning activities which are being undertaken have given further proof that information on these vital matters is still fragmentary and incomplete. Hence, a particularly significant contribution might be made by the Commission's discussions with respect to ways and means of improving the present situation.

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As a basis for an examination of this kind, the secretariat submits a preliminary paper in which present knowledge of the region's principal natural resources, the research techniques that might be used to add to that knowledge and the institutions responsible for such work in Latin America, are described in broad outline.

Information is also supplied in other documents on the experience of the Survey groups sent to different countries to study water resources, and an account is given of the conclusions reached at meetings of experts on electric power.

Documents:

- * Los recursos naturales en América Latina, su conocimiento actual e investigaciones necesarias en este campo (E/CN.12/670).

Water resources in Latin America. Outline and evaluation of the work accomplished by ECLA (E/CN.12/650)

Progress report on the work of the Water Resources Survey Group in Argentina (E/CN.12/688)

- * Informe de la reunión de expertos sobre estadística y terminología eléctricas, conteniendo el glosario terminológico y los modelos de cuadros estadísticos (E/CN.12/637)

Report of the meeting of experts on bases for electricity rates in Latin America (E/CN.12/640 and Add.1/Corr.1)

Reference documents:

- * Estudio sobre la electricidad en América Latina. Vol. I (E/CN.12/630)
United Nations Publication, Sales No: 63.II.G.3

- * Resumen de los debates y acuerdos de la reunión de representantes de las empresas eléctricas de América Latina que auspician la publicación de la Revista Latinoamericana de Electricidad (E/CN.12/641)

12. Activities in the field of technical assistance

Pursuant to the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations began to decentralize its economic and social activities in the past year, beginning with the regional technical assistance projects. In order to inform the Commission of the present status of the decentralization activities in Latin America, the secretariat is presenting a special note and, as part of the same item on the agenda, is submitting an information paper prepared by the Technical Assistance Board on its activities in Latin America financed by the Regular and Expanded Programmes.

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At the same time, a note prepared by the United Nations Office for Public Administration on the programmes carried out by the Organization in this field is being submitted to the member Governments of the Commission for their consideration.

Documents:

Decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and strengthening of the regional commissions (E/CN.12/669)

Technical assistance activities in Latin America (E/CN.12/635)

United Nations programme for technical assistance in public administration (E/CN.12/654)

13. Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning

In compliance with resolution 220 (AC.52), adopted by the Commission at the ninth session of the Committee of the Whole, the Institute was established as an autonomous body under the aegis of ECLA, with the financial assistance of the United Nations Special Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank. Its activities began on 1 July 1962.

(a) Progress report

According to the provisions in point 2 (a) (Part A) of the above-mentioned resolution, the Governing Council of the Institute is required to submit to the Commission each year a progress report on the work of the Institute. This requirement is met at the present session by the special report submitted with a note by the secretariat.

(b) Election of members of the Governing Council

In accordance with point 3 (Part A) of resolution 220 (AC.52), it is incumbent upon the Commission to elect the eight members of the Governing Council of the Institute whose term of office expires at this time. The rules and conditions for the election are given in the note presented by the secretariat to the tenth session.

Documents:

Report by the Governing Council on the activities of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning in 1962-63, with a note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/678)

Note by the secretariat on the election of new members of the Governing Council of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (E/CN.12/652)

/14. Co-operation

14. Co-operation with inter-American agencies

The Commission's substantial participation since the ninth session in the activities undertaken by the inter-American agencies are summarized in a note by the secretariat which sets forth the agreements adopted by the Joint ECLA/OAS/IDB Ad Hoc Committee on Co-operation, the work performed jointly by these three organizations, and ECLA's participation in the work of the Panel of Experts (the Committee of Nine) established in accordance with the Charter of Punta del Este, and in the Inter-American Agricultural Development Committee (CIDA).

Documents:

Note on co-operation between the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Latin America and other inter-American agencies (E/CN.12/674)

15. United Nations Building in Santiago, Chile

The construction work on the building began during the last months of 1962, and it is hoped that the work will be completed by mid-1964. The reports on this subject submitted by the secretariat outline the progress of the work, the financial situation, the deficit envisaged and the gift programme established by member Governments.

Documents:

United Nations Building in Santiago, Chile: Report of the secretariat (E/CN.12/675)

Report of the Committee on the Gift Programme for the United Nations Building in Santiago, Chile (E/CN.12/676)

16. Programme of work and priorities

(a) Programme of work and priorities, 1963-64

At each session the Commission adopts the programme of work and priorities for the next two years, which is subsequently included in the annual report submitted to the Economic and Social Council. In preparing the programme, account is taken of the decisions adopted at the session as well as the recommendations of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission's subsidiary organs. Similarly, the United Nations specialized agencies are consulted where necessary.

/The Commission

The Commission will have an important part to play in the plans for the United Nations Development Decade. In this connexion, the Secretary-General has submitted detailed projects to the Economic and Social Council, particularly with respect to the expansion of trade for the less developed countries, the planning of national development, industrial development, and the application of science and technology in solving the problems of the less developed countries making full use of natural resources and improving housing conditions. The secretariat is submitting a document containing suggestions as to the work that can be done in Latin America in order to achieve the goals established in the resolution on the Development Decade. In due course the secretariat will also submit to the Commission a draft work programme and a proposed order of priorities for each of the projects.

The Commission will also have before it a report on the activities in the field of housing, building and planning by the relevant Economic and Social Council body.

(b) Resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council of concern to the Commission

In preparing its programme of work the Commission should bear in mind the recommendations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. To facilitate this task the secretariat has submitted a summary of the resolutions that are of concern to the Commission, and the full text of these resolutions is given in an information document.

Documents:

Draft report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council, Part I (E/CN.12/656)

Draft programme of work and priorities 1963-64 (to be submitted during the tenth session)

United Nations Development Decade. Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/685)

Note by the secretariat on the report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning of the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.12/681)

Note by the secretariat on resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council of concern to the Commission (E/CN.12/651)

/17. Consideration

17. Consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council

Every year the Commission submits to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans and on those of its subsidiaries bodies. The report also includes an account of the proceedings of the session, the text of the resolutions adopted and the programme of work and priorities. In order to facilitate the preparation of the report the secretariat has distributed in advance a draft of the first part of this report.

18. Place and date of the eleventh session

According to its rules of procedure, "the Commission shall at each session decide upon the place of meeting for its next session, with due consideration for the principle that the countries of Latin America shall be chosen in rotation". On this occasion the Commission is called upon to study the invitations received from Member Governments for the next session, to adopt a decision on the question, and to decide on the place and date of the next session. Since it was first established the Commission has held a session every two years, and the Committee of the Whole has met in the intervening years.

