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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Fifth Session
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Draft resolution approved by Committee IV

THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that in many cases the agricultural statistics of the countries of Latin America are not sufficiently broad, comparable or systematic for the adequate compilation and analysis of the data needed for studies of economic development in agriculture;

CONSIDERING further that these shortcomings may impair the validity of the conclusions reached concerning problems of agricultural economy;

REQUESTS the Secretariat:

1. When appropriate, to state quite clearly in its economic studies what are the statistical deficiencies, indicating the sources and, in the case of estimates prepared by the Secretariat, the methods followed in the preparation of the data;
2. To take the initiative in preparing, in co-operation with FAO and the Inter-American Statistical Institute, an investigation into the structure of the system of agricultural statistics of the Latin-American countries and of the techniques used by them, for the purpose of indicating where

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the most serious deficiencies occur and determining in what cases the existing statistics may be accepted and in what cases they should be broader or more thorough so as to conform to specified standards and so as not to impair the validity of the conclusions contained in the economic studies based on the said statistics; and

3. To endeavour, in co-operation with FAO, to devise speedy and adequate methods for collecting the available data and information.