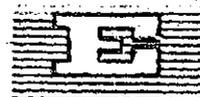


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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Committee of the Whole
February, 1954
Santiago, Chile

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION
IN CENTRAL AMERICA

ANNUAL REPORT

(28 August 1952 - 16 October 1953)

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/NOTE BY THE

Note by the Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary has pleasure in submitting to the Committee of the Whole the Annual Report of the Committee on Economic Integration in Central America, covering the period from 28 August 1952 to 16 October 1953, as approved at the Second Session held in San José, Costa Rica.

The Executive Secretary wishes to draw attention to the fact that at the San José meeting it was agreed to call the Central American body "Committee on Economic Co-operation in Central America" with a view to broadening its functions and composition. The Committee amended its rules of procedure accordingly.

Since the Second Session of the Committee, the Secretariat has been engaged in organizing further work requested by the Committee in the fields of transportation, tariff nomenclature, customs regulations, and inter-Central-American trade and has collaborated in directing the work of the technical assistance missions, through the ECLA/TAA/FAO Working Party, which has met periodically at the offices of ECLA in Mexico City.

In addition to the proposal for the establishment of an Advanced School of Public Administration, which was approved by the San José meeting, the work of the technical missions on electric power, technical and administrative training, an institute for industrial technological research, forest products and pulp and paper is well advanced. It is anticipated that the preliminary reports of these missions will be ready early in 1954. The mission on livestock and dairy products began its work at the end of 1953.

The Secretariat has continued to work on this programme in close collaboration with the Central American Governments and hopes during 1954 to carry out the new studies requested by the Committee, as far as its resources permit.

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the period between 28 August 1952 and 16 October 1953.

It is divided into four parts:

The first consists of a brief outline of the activities of the Committee and its Secretariat during the period between the First and Second Sessions.

Part Two refers to the technical assistance provided by the United Nations and its specialized agencies within the Programme for Economic Integration in Central America.

Both these Parts are based on reports made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Resident Technical Assistance Representative on the work accomplished since the previous Session.

The third part deals with the work of the Committee during its Second Session at San José, from 13 to 16 October 1953.

Finally, Part Four includes the resolutions adopted at the Second Session.

This report, drafted by the Rapporteur of the Second Session, Dr. Jorge Sol Castellanos, Minister of Economy of El Salvador, was adopted unanimously at the closing meeting, on 16 October 1953.

/PART ONE

PART ONE

BRIEF OUTLINE OF ACTIVITIES BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND SESSIONS

A. Introduction

The First Session of the Committee was held at Tegucigalpa between 23 and 28 August 1952. At that session, apart from being officially constituted, the Committee specified the functions entrusted to it by the Economic Commission for Latin America and approved its own rules of procedure. In addition, the general principles that should govern the policy for economic integration and reciprocity in Central America were examined and it was agreed that this policy should be carried out gradually and progressively, on the basis of mutual co-operation.

The Committee drew up a series of recommendations relating to specific projects, most of which would require technical assistance from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America. Other recommendations were to be undertaken by the Secretariat of the Commission in consultation or collaboration with other international agencies, or would be sent to government departments other than the Ministries of Economy.

B. Technical Assistance requested for the Programme for Economic Integration and Reciprocity

Between October and December 1952, the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua advised the Secretary-General of the United Nations that they had ratified the resolutions adopted at Tegucigalpa, recommending that technical assistance be sought in order to promote the economic integration of Central America. They requested the Secretary-General to accept these resolutions as a formal application from Central-American governments concerned for an integrated programme, in accordance with the principles established in the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme of the United Nations. They asked, furthermore, that the aforementioned resolutions should be communicated to the appropriate organizations for the study and for the preparation of concrete projects for technical assistance.

The United Nations Technical Assistance Board at its XXI Session, held at Geneva from 15 to 20 September 1952, had already noted the resolutions approved at the First Session of the Committee on Economic Co-operation, and

/agreed to

agreed to appoint a Working Group, composed of one representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America, who would preside, another from the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and a third from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development would likewise be invited to participate in the Working Group. Similarly, the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) agreed to send representatives when subjects within their sphere of action were to be discussed.

The duties of the Working Group were defined as follows:

- a) To examine the requests for technical assistance received from the Central American governments, arising from the resolutions adopted at the Tegucigalpa Meeting, and to draft agreements concerning such assistance for submission to the appropriate organizations and governments as from 1 December 1952, specifying the number of experts required and their respective fields of investigation.
- b) To recommend the necessary measures for carrying out the programme, in order that the Technical Assistance Board may consider and decide upon the advisability of appointing a resident representative to the five Central American governments.

The Working Group met at ECLA's Mexico City office from 3 to 23 November 1952. This meeting was attended by the representatives of the Economic Commission for Latin America, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

After a general discussion of the programme for economic integration and the technical assistance required by the Central American countries, this Group began to establish the bases for the requests for technical assistance to be studied by the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of Economy on Economic Co-operation and which would ultimately have to be approved by the five Central American governments.

In each project a concise statement of the problem was given, mentioning all the relevant factors, outlining in detail the technical assistance which would be required, and indicating the number of experts, the work of each and
/the period

the period deemed necessary for the execution of the work in hand.

In accordance with the plans made by the organizations belonging permanent to the Working Group, its members travelled to Tegucigalpa, with a view to submitting the requests for technical assistance to the consideration of the Chairman of the Committee on Economic Co-operation. The Group then visited the other four countries in order to co-ordinate the opinions of the respective governments on the form and substance of the requests, and the terms of the agreements with the organizations providing technical assistance.

During these visits, the Working Group met the Ministers of Economy and leading officials concerned with the programme of economic integration in each country, while in certain cases independent specialized organizations were consulted. As a result of these activities, certain changes were made in the original draft requests prepared in Mexico City.

At the instance of the Government of El Salvador, a new request was included for the establishment of an Advanced School of Public Administration to meet requirements in this field in the five Central American republics and possibly, the Republic of Panama. The five countries agreed that this project was of the greatest importance in carrying out a Programme of Economic Integration, and asked for its inclusion in the requests for technical assistance submitted to the United Nations.

The Working Group also analysed the capacity of absorption for technical assistance, the means available to governments for carrying out the projects and the prospects for the success of the missions. The Group gave special attention to the methods for efficient co-ordination of the technical assistance to be provided by the Programme of Economic Integration, both within the governmental framework and between the different organizations which are present assisting the Central American countries. This was done to avoid a possible duplication of effort, simultaneously rendering technical assistance more efficient.

The Working Group reported fully on these matters to the Technical Assistance Board and made recommendations, establishing an order of priority based on the views expressed by the governments concerned.

The Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of Economy on Economic Co-operation in Central America, Dr. Marco A. Batres, after receiving the recommendations made by the Working Group, consulted the other Central American

/Ministers of

Ministers of Economy. In a statement addressed to the Chairman of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board, on behalf of the Committee, Dr. Batres submitted to the United Nations and the specialized agencies the concrete proposals to be considered as an integral part of the joint application for technical assistance signed by the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. For reasons connected with internal legislation, the Government of Guatemala forwarded its request to the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board directly, but it was along the same lines as those submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on Economic Co-operation.

The concrete proposals submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on behalf of the four governments, and by the Government of Guatemala independently, referred to the following projects:

1. Electric power
2. Institute for Industrial Technological Research
3. Advanced School of Public Administration
4. Livestock and dairy products
5. Forest products, pulp and paper
6. Vegetable oils and fats
7. Technical training in the industrial and administrative fields
8. Cotton and the textile industry
9. Fisheries
10. Wooden and wax matches
11. Inner tubes and tyres

With a view to co-ordinating the different technical assistance activities including those relating to programmes of economic co-operation, provided by international agencies to the Central American republics, the United Nations Technical Assistance Board agreed to nominate a Resident Representative for the five countries; he would be advised by a Working Group with the same composition as that established in November 1952.

C. Sub-Committee on the Unification of Central American Tariff Nomenclature

The Committee, at its First Meeting, approved a resolution on "The Unification of Nomenclature for International Trade Statistics and Tariffs" (resolution 9 (AC.17)), in which, apart from making recommendations on the subject, it was decided to appoint a Sub-Committee as soon as possible to draft a plan for a uniform tariff nomenclature to be adopted by the Central American countries.

/Giving effect

Giving effect to this resolution, the Sub-Committee on the Unification Central American Tariff Nomenclature met at Tegucigalpa on November 25, 1952. Experts attended from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua as well as one each from the Inter-American Institute of Statistics, the United Nations Statistical Office and the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America. The ECLA representative acted as Secretary.

The Sub-Committee drew up a draft nomenclature (NAUCA) [Document E/CN.12/AC.17/25] taking as a guide the order of grouping followed in the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) of the United Nations. As a result, there will be one single classification for both customs and statistics purposes.

Furthermore, the Secretariat prepared a document giving a detailed explanation of the way to apply the classification proposed by the Sub-Committee, to the Central American countries. [Document E/CN.12/AC.17/25/Add.1].

D. Mission and Seminar on Transport in Central America

The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America informed the Committee at its First Session that the Mission of Experts nominated by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and the Economic Commission for Latin America to study transport in Central America is already at work; he also reported on the project for holding a Seminar on this subject. The Committee took note of his report and agreed to sponsor the Seminar.

The Transport Mission completed its field work in December 1952 and subsequently remained at the Mexico City office until May 1953, engaged in preparing its preliminary report.

Accepting the kind invitation of the Government of Costa Rica, the Seminar on Transport in Central America was held, from 9 to 20 June 1953, at San José. It was attended by Central American experts, the members of the Mission, staff of the ECLA Secretariat and other experts from the United Nations, the Organization of American States and some agencies specializing in transport. The Seminar based its discussions upon the Mission's preliminary report.

With assistance from the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Mission prepared a revised version of its report to include the decisions of the Seminar. The reports of the Mission and of the Seminar were combined in a single printed volume. [Document E/CN.12/356 - ST/TAA/Ser.0/8]

/E. Other work

E. Other work undertaken by the Secretariat

1) Financing of economic development and integration in Central America

During the first Session, the Executive Secretary was requested [resolution 5 (AC.17)] to study "the most adequate methods of financing plans of development and integration in Central America". To initiate this study, the Secretariat engaged a consultant to prepare a preliminary study, presented at the Second Session under his signature and entitled "Problems of financing of economic development and integration in Central America". (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/30). Special attention is paid in this paper to the nature and sources of domestic saving, present financial institutions and stock markets and the prospects for developing them as a means of encouraging both domestic financing of economic development programmes and the possible projects included in the Central American integration plan. This is followed by an examination of the possible advantages and disadvantages inherent in the establishment of a Central American development institute, a promotion institute with more limited functions, or other forms of financial co-operation between the five republics.

2) General work

During the period between the First and Second Sessions of the Committee, the Secretariat of the Commission mainly participated in the technical assistance for the programme of integration, through the Working Group. This Group has continued to meet at the Mexico City Office to provide the expert missions with general information on the economies of the Central American countries and to collaborate with the experts in preliminary studies on the subjects for their field research.

The Secretariat has, moreover, prepared for these missions bibliographies, statistical summaries and special studies on the Central-American countries.

PART TWO

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

A. Collaboration by the Technical Assistance Board and the Specialized Agencies

At its March meeting, the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) decided to co-operate with the Central American governments in their efforts towards a gradual integration of their economies. Furthermore, the Board agreed to note with satisfaction the report of the Working Group and expressed its willingness to co-operate with the governments in carrying out the resolutions adopted by the Committee of Ministers of Economy and Economic Co-operation, and consequently to provide, within the financial resources of the TAB programme, the technical assistance requested.

For 1953, TAB agreed to supply the necessary experts to cover the following requests:

- a) Institute for Industrial Technological Research
- b) Advanced School of Public Administration
- c) Electric power
- d) Forest products, pulp and paper
- e) Livestock and dairy products
- f) Technical training in the industrial and administrative fields

The first three programmes would be undertaken by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration: the item on livestock and dairy products by FAO; the programme on forest products, pulp and paper would be carried out jointly by the Technical Assistance Administration and FAO, while the last item would be in the hands of UNESCO and ILO.

Similarly, to co-ordinate technical assistance activities for the integration programme, as well as those provided individually to each of the Central American countries, the Board agreed to nominate a resident representative in the area. This representative would be advised on matters relating to Central American Co-operation by a Working Group, on which the agencies providing technical assistance and the Economic Commission for Latin America would be represented. The

/International Bank

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development would also be invited to participate in the Working Group when subjects within its sphere of action were under study.

Finally, the Technical Assistance Board decided to accept the sum of US\$5,000 from each of the five governments, as the contribution of the Central American countries to the implementation of the programme for 1953. This sum would be used or provide a part of the subsistence expenses and local travel of experts nominated by the Board.

B. Special projects

Between March and October, the organizations entrusted with carrying out the programme were engaged in forming their expert missions, some of which have already begun work in Central America, as noted below.

1. Advanced School of Public Administration

In June, an expert from the Public Administration Division of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration began to visit all the Central American countries with the aim of studying the organization of the Advanced School of Public Administration. This expert has already completed his preliminary work and has drafted a project for the establishment of the School, this constituting the basis for the report which the Public Administration Division of TAA, through the ECLA Secretariat, presented to the Second Session of the Committee of Ministers of Economy.

2. Forest products, pulp and paper

In July 1953, having studied the material available at the Mexico offices of the Resident Representative and the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Forestry Mission began its work in Central America. The Mission consists of three European experts who have wide Latin-American experience in their particular sphere of action. One of them is a specialist in the conservation and protection of forests, and has been working for over a year with the Government of Honduras. Another, who specialized in forestry industries, has been working in Mexico for two years, advising the Government of that country on these matters. The third is a specialist in pulp and paper production and, apart from

/previous work

previous work carried out in South America, has made pilot studies on this subject in Costa Rica. The Forestry Mission has already visited Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala, and is at present in Costa Rica. Its report is expected to be completed by the end of 1953.

3. Technical Training in the Industrial and Administrative Fields

The Mission on technical training in the industrial and administrative fields began work in Central America at the beginning of August, having studied the information available at Mexico City. It is composed of two Latin-American teachers with long experience in technical training, and has already visited the republics of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. In October 1953, it was in Costa Rica.

4. Electric power

The Electric Power Mission, composed of three European experts, one of whom has already had experience in Latin-American electric power problems, has begun its preliminary studies and will shortly start its field work in Costa Rica. Under the terms of the request made by the Governments, this Mission will remain in Central America for several months and will submit a report on the region's present and immediate future power requirements, the apparent available resources and the practical means for better utilization of those resources.

5. Institute for Industrial Technological Research

The Mission to study the possibilities for organizing an Institute for Industrial Technological Research is expected to arrive in Central America at the beginning of November. The Institute would assist governments in improving manufacturing techniques and in developing the industrial potential for a better utilization of natural resources. The Mission is to consist of a European, a Canadian and a Mexican expert, all of whom have broad experience in such problems.

6. Livestock and dairy products

This Mission, composed of North American and European experts specialized in cattle raising under tropical and sub-tropical climates, will begin its work on about 15 November. It will study present

/conditions for the

conditions for the production of meat and milk, to formulate recommendations for their greater development, bearing in mind Central American economic co-operation. In view of the importance of the subject, it was considered advisable to divide the Mission into two groups, under one single authority. One group, composed of three experts, will pay special attention to livestock and dairy production in Costa Rica and Nicaragua, while the other will undertake similar work in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. The results of the research of these two groups will later be studied and analysed for incorporation in a report to cover Central America as a whole.

/PART THREE

PART THREE

SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

A. Composition, attendance and organization of work

All the member nations attended the session, i.e. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The Government of Panama nominated Mr. Manuel Pino, Ambassador in Costa Rica, to be its representative as an Observer at the meetings of the Committee.

The delegations were as follows:

a) Delegations of member countries:

<u>Costa Rica</u>	Chief Delegate:	Alfredo E. Hernández Volio Minister of Economy and Finance
	Advisers:	Jorge Rossi, Vice-president, Banco Nacional de Costa Rica
		Alvaro Castro Jenkins, Director Department of Economic Studies, Banco Central
		Alfredo T. Povedano, Chief, Commercial Department, Ministry of Finance
		Wilburg Jimenez Castro, Director General of Statistics and Census
		Miguel Angel Mata Amador Income Tax Inspector
<u>El Salvador</u>	Chief Delegate:	Jorge Sol Castellanos Minister of Economy
	Advisers:	Benjamín Wilfrido Navarrete, Under-Secretary for Finance
		José A Guerra, Assistant Director General of Highways
		Jaime Quesada, Advisor to the Ministry of Economy

/Guatemala

Guatemala Chief Delegate:

Roberto Fanjul Garcia,
Minister of Economy and Labour
(Owing to his unavoidable absence,
the Chief Delegate was replaced at
the third meeting by Lic. Ramón
Cadena Hernandez, Under-Secretary of
Economy and Labour)
Ramón Cadena Hernandez, Under-Secretary
of Economy and Labour
Max Jiménez Pinto, Counsellor
of the Monetary Board
Daniel Venegas, Congressman
Manuel Amado Rodas, Adviser,
Ministry of Economy

Honduras Chief Delegate:

Marco A. Batres, Minister of
Finance, Public Credit and Commerce
Advisers:
Roberto Ramírez, President
Banco Central de Honduras
Gabriel A. Mejía, Director of
Income Tax Services
Jorge St. Siegens, Adviser,
Banco Nacional de Fomento
Paul Vinelli, Adviser
Banco Central de Honduras

Nicaragua Chief Delegate:

Jesús Sánchez Roiz, Minister of
Economy
Advisers:
Luis A. Cantarero, Secretary,
Consejo Nacional de Economía
Jaime Montealegre, Chief,
Department of Commerce,
Ministry of Economy
Gustavo A. Guerrero, Chief
Department of Economic Studies,
Ministry of Economy

b) Observers

Manuel Pino, Ambassador of the
Republic of Panama to the Government
of Costa Rica

c) Specialized Agencies

Alfredo Saco, Food and Agriculture
Organization

/E.M. Lewis,

E.M. Lewis, International Civil Aviation Organization

Rafael Paz Paredes, International Civil Aviation Organization

Guillermo Padilla Castro, International Labour Office

Kurt Forcart, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization

At the inaugural meeting, Sr. Alfredo Hernandez Volio, Chief Delegate from Costa Rica, was elected Chairman, and at the first working meeting, Mr. Jorge Sol Castellanos, Chief Delegate from El Salvador, was elected Rapporteur.

The Committee met in plenary meetings and in the course of the debates special sub-committees were formed.

B. Agenda

The provisional agenda presented by the Secretariat was approved, with some modifications, at the inaugural meeting. The revised agenda was as follows:

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1. Opening addresses

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2. Election of Chairman

3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda

4. Progress Report on work accomplished since the first session.

Background documents: Report of the Executive Secretary (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/27)

Report of the Resident

Representative of the United Nations Technical Assistance

Board (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/28)

5. Unification of Tariff Nomenclature

Background documents: Report of the Sub-Committee established under resolution

9(AC.17)

(Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/25)

6. Economic integration and Inter-Central American Trade

7. Transport in Central America

Background documents: Report of the ECLA/UNTAA Mission and of the Seminar of Transport in Central America (E/CN.12/AC.17/29)

- /8. Financing of

8. Financing of Economic Development and Integration

Background documents: "Preliminary report on financing economic development and integration in Central America"
(Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/30)

9. Advanced School of Public Administration

Background documents: Project for establishing an Advanced School of Public Administration
(Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/31)

10. Amendments to the Committee's rules of procedure

11. Consideration and adoption of the Report of the Committee

12. Date and place for the Third Session of the Committee

C. Summary of the Debates

1. Work accomplished since the first session

At the first meeting, consideration was given to the reports presented by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and by the Resident Representative of the Technical Assistance Board on the work accomplished since the Committee's first session. The delegations were of the opinion that both the work carried out by the Secretariat and the technical assistance which had been provided were along the lines laid down by the Committee, thus constituting a considerable advance in the programme for Central American economic integration. Upon noting the technical assistance received from the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and the specialized agencies, the delegates agreed to express their thanks to the Technical Assistance Board and to its member organizations for the support given to their requests. They further expressed the hope that the same importance would be given firstly to those requests which had not yet been met, secondly to those which might result from the work of the present missions and finally those arising from the second session. The following resolutions on these subjects were adopted: Res. 17 (AC.17) "Status of the Economic Integration Programme" and Res. 24 (AC.17) "Technical Assistance" (Documents E/CN.12/AC.17/32 and E/CN.12/AC.17/39).

2. Unification of Tariff Nomenclature

The Committee had before it the report of the Sub-Committee on the

/Unification of

Unification of Central American Tariff Nomenclature (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/25) and the additional memorandum prepared by the Secretariat on this subject (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/25/Add.1). The delegations expressed their approval of the work of the Sub-Committee and pointed out that their governments, without awaiting approval of the report, were already adopting the Uniform Central American Customs Nomenclature (NAUCA) prepared by the Sub-Committee. Nevertheless, although this nomenclature does in principle meet the customs requirements of the Central American countries, some difficulties, in form rather than substance, have arisen in its application, since the countries have individually undertaken the work of putting it into practice. This circumstance, in the view of the delegations, made it indispensable to hold another meeting of customs experts to study various aspects of the application of NAUCA. Given the importance of Central American co-operation in these matters, it was considered that other subjects of interest should also be covered, among them tariff nomenclature for export products, customs regulations and procedure and the disparity of customs taxes and fiscal and monetary rulings, which do or may occasion contraband trade. It was thought preferable that the previous Sub-Committee should be transformed into a new one, with a broader mandate and renamed the Sub-Committee on Central American Trade; its headquarters would be at Tegucigalpa, but it is empowered to meet at other capitals or at the Mexico City Office of ECLA when the work so requires. Resolution 18 (AC.17) "Trade Nomenclature and Regulations" (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/33), apart from agreeing to the establishment of the Committee, details its functions.

3. Economic integration and Inter Central American Trade

Recognition was given to the overwhelming importance for this programme of measures tending to facilitate trade between the Central American Countries, and in particular the trend among some of these countries to sign bilateral free-trade treaties, comprising mutually approved lists of commodities. It was thought desirable for the future to reach agreement for a multilateral free-trade treaty for Central America, with a minimum list common to all. This type of treaty could be superimposed upon the bilateral system. It was also noted that it might be desirable to sign multilateral treaties for specific commodities, similar to those

/relating to coal

relating to coal and steel in Europe. Nevertheless, it was decided that it would be premature to reach the stage of multilateral treaties, until there had been more detailed study of the experience gained from the bilateral ones - which appears to be favourable - and of all other relevant factors. It was thus agreed to recommend that governments continue the policy of bilateral free-trade treaties and to request the Secretariat to study Inter Central American trade and the prospects for establishing a multilateral agreement. The Delegation of Honduras made the reservation that its Government was not in a position to define its policy regarding free-trade treaties until, firstly, its foreign trade studies had been completed, secondly, a revision has been made of its prevailing treaties with El Salvador and the United States, and thirdly, until the fiscal, monetary and administrative reforms, begun in Honduras, had been completed.

Resolution 19 (AC.17) on "Inter Central American Trade", was adopted (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/34).

4. Transport in Central America

The Committee took note of the extensive report on transport in Central America and the results of the Seminar on this subject held at San José, Costa Rica, in June 1953. In recognizing the great value of these reports for planning economic development and particularly for the economic integration programme, it was considered advisable to enjoin governments to pay due attention to the recommendations of the Mission which drafted the study. To put into practice those recommendations which governments considered desirable, and, since some transport matters are not under the authority of Ministries of Economy but under that of Public Works or other national organizations, it was agreed to request the Secretariat to prepare draft projects on subjects of regional interest. ECLA was asked to consult governments on the best way of discussing these problems at Central American meetings to be attended by delegates of the competent ministries and other bodies. All aspects of land, sea and air transport requiring joint government action could be discussed at such meetings. At the suggestion of one delegation, it was also agreed to request the Secretariat to undertake research into the economic bases

/that may exist

that may exist for establishing a Central American merchant shipping line. If such basic economic factors are found to exist, a project should be presented to governments, indicating alternative forms of organization and financing, while giving due consideration to present shipping lines of national registration. It was further agreed to request a similar study on the possibilities for creating a Central American air transport company.

The Committee heard with satisfaction the report presented by the representative of the International Civil Aviation Organization concerning the meeting that had been held between the Directors of Civil Aviation in Central America and Panama on subjects in their special field. The Committee expressed the hope that the Directors, at their next meeting, would study the recommendations on air transport included in the report of the Transport Mission, and, in this connexion, requested that the Secretariat should forward the relevant documents to these officials.

Resolution 21 (AC.17) (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/36) on "Transport in Central America", was approved.

5. Financing of Economic Development and Integration

The Secretariat presented the "Preliminary report on financing economic development and integration in Central America" (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/30), which studies existing financial institutions and means for encouraging and channelling savings, and suggests possible measures that might be adopted. The debates emphasized the importance of increasing the efforts of governments and central banks for accomplishing better and greater use of domestic saving, as the best basis for financing economic development. It was thought premature to determine how individual projects in the integration programme should be financed, since they are still being formulated. But there was agreement that it was desirable to study the problem further. Since Central American reserve banks hold periodic meetings and are directly or indirectly concerned with such financial matters, it was agreed to request that the Secretariat report be studied at the next such meeting. At that time they might adopt or propose measures for increasing and channelling savings and for developing stock markets, both at the domestic level as well as that of Central American co-operation.

/In this

In this respect, Resolution 22 (AC.17) (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/37)

"Financing of Economic Development" was adopted.

6. Statistical Uniformity in Central America

In order to facilitate the accomplishment of the economic integration programme, it was thought desirable that in Central America there should be uniform statistical standards, concepts and methods, as well as legal dispositions and technical procedure. It was agreed to support this motion and to request the Secretariat to study adequate means for achieving such uniformity, in collaboration with the competent national and international authorities. It was further agreed to recommend to governments that they arrange meetings between their directors of statistics, to settle the details of implementing this recommendation. Resolution 20 (AC.17) "Statistical Uniformity in Central America", (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/35) was approved in this connexion.

7. Advanced School of Public Administration

The Survey for establishing an Advanced School of Public Administration, prepared by the Public Administration Division of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, was particularly welcomed by delegations. They indicated their government's interest in an early start for the School's teaching work. Some delegations pointed out that their governments had already sent their contribution towards this project to the Technical Assistance Administration, or had voted the necessary funds. In Resolution 23 (AC.17) "Advanced School of Public Administration" (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/38), it was agreed to recommend to governments that they should approach the Technical Assistance Administration so that the School might be established along the general lines of the report submitted for the Committee's consideration; secondly any supplementary agreements should include procedure for consultation and co-operation, which would provide the Advanced School of Public Administration with a juridical organization guaranteeing the continuity and permanence of this project.

8. The Committee's Rules of Procedure

The delegations were unanimous that experience of the Committee's

/work over a

work over a year had shown the advisability of incorporating Ministers with other portfolios more directly in its work. Membership should not be limited exclusively to Ministers of Economy. In some Central American countries, Economy and Finance are combined in one ministry, in others not. Furthermore, not only do these ministries deal with questions on which the Committee should express an opinion and which have a bearing on the programme of Central American economic integration, but other ministries also have an interest, as for instance, those of Agriculture, Public Works, and even of Education. With the aim of including these ministries in the work of the Committee and to give them an opportunity for more direct participation in the integration programme, while avoiding jurisdictional difficulties which might occur between the different ministers in one government, it was agreed to modify the Committee's rules of procedure. Thus it was established that other ministers of state, who were accredited by their governments, might also be members of the Committee, while Ministers of Economy retained an ex-officio status therein. Resolution 25 (AC.17), "The Committee's Rules of Procedure" (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/40) included additional less important modifications, mainly designed to harmonize the other rules of procedure with this principal modification.

9. Date and Place of Third Session

Under resolution 14 (AC.17) (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/21) approved at the Committee's first session at Tegucigalpa on 27 August 1952, the offer of the Government of Nicaragua had already been accepted. Thus, the third Session will take place in Managua and the Committee confined itself to repeating its acceptance of the invitation and empowering the Chairman to fix its date with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

10. Votes of thanks

The Committee warmly thanked both its Chairman, Sr. Alfredo E. Hernández Volio, Minister of Economy and Finance of Costa Rica for his capable management of the debates, and the Government of Costa Rica for the outstanding hospitality shown to delegations at all times. It further expressed its appreciation of the efficient work of the

/Secretariat and thanked

Secretariat and thanked the representatives of the United Nations and the specialized agencies both for attending the meeting and for contributing to the work on the agenda.

PART FOUR
 RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED
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SITUATION OF THE ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROGRAMME

17 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 15 October 1953

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN
CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for
Latin America has presented a report on the work carried out since the
Committee's First Session (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/27),

RESOLVES

TO TAKE NOTE with satisfaction of the report of the Executive Secretary
of the Economic Commission for Latin America on the work carried out in
implementing the gradual and progressive programme for economic integration
in Central America, as recommended at the Committee's First Session.

/TRADE NOMENCLATURE

TRADE NOMENCLATURE AND REGULATIONS

18 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/33)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that the Sub-Committee on the Unification of Central American Tariff Nomenclature, established in accordance with resolution 9 (AC.17) of the Committee's First Session, has submitted for its consideration a project for Uniform Central American Tariff Nomenclature (Nomenclatura Arancelaria Uniforme Centroamericana - NAUCA) (Document E/CN.12/AC.17/25);

CONSIDERING that the project submitted by that Sub-Committee is adapted to the requirements of the Central American countries and that customs standardization is essential in order to carry out the economic integration programme;

CONSIDERING that it is necessary, for more adequate application of NAUCA, to have a standard manual for international trade, as indicated by the sub-items in NAUCA;

CONSIDERING that it is desirable to adopt a uniform nomenclature for export products;

CONSIDERING that, in order to secure effective application of NAUCA, it is necessary, as far as possible, to standardize customs legislation, regulations, terminology and procedure, as well as the varying concepts for units of appraisal and criteria for valuing merchandise, and

CONSIDERING that differences between the taxation systems, as well as other economic factors which affect the cost of imported goods, encourage contraband, to the prejudice of the interests of each of the Central American countries,

RESOLVES

- 1) To approve the report of the Sub-Committee on the Unification of Central American Tariff Nomenclature presented on 4 March 1953, and to express its thanks to the members of the Sub-Committee and to the technical advisers who made a decisive contribution to the satisfactory accomplishment of this work;
- 2) To recommend that governments adopt the Uniform Central American Customs Nomenclature (NAUCA) as soon as possible;
- 3) To request the Secretariat to take up with the United Nations Statistical Office and the Inter-American Statistical Institute the enlargement of the /standard manual

standard manual for foreign trade published by these bodies by including the sub-items comprised in NAUCA;

4) To constitute a Sub-Committee on Central American Trade, with headquarters at Tegucigalpa but empowered to meet at any of the other Central American capitals or at the Mexico City Office of the Economic Commission for Latin America when the work so requires. This Sub-Committee shall have the following functions:

- a) To draw up a uniform Central American tariff nomenclature for export products;
- b) to study the means for unifying customs legislation, regulations, terminology and procedures, as well as the concepts for units of appraisal and criteria for valuing merchandise;
- c) to proceed with the consideration of customs, commercial, monetary, exchange, taxation or other factors affecting the cost of commodities exchanged between the Central American republics, particularly those which are or may be the object of contraband, with a view to offsetting the differentials which give or may give rise to such traffic.
- d) to formulate recommendations on the foregoing subjects so that governments may adopt uniform solutions and procedure.

/INTER CENTRAL

INTER CENTRAL AMERICAN TRADE

19 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 15 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/34)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that it is essential for the economic integration of Central America that trade between the different countries be facilitated and that a multilateral free-trade treaty is an effective means to that end;

CONSIDERING that bilateral free-trade treaties between some of the Central American countries constitute a step towards the integration of their economies, and,

CONSIDERING that the absence of adequate studies on Inter Central American Trade hampers the immediate achievement of the above-mentioned objectives,

RESOLVES

- 1) To recommend that governments continue their present policy of signing bilateral free-trade treaties with other Central American countries;
- 2) To request the Secretariat, in consultation with the respective governments, to study inter Central American trade and the prospects for establishing a multilateral free-trade treaty among the Central American countries, presenting relevant recommendations to the Committee.

/STATISTICAL UNIFORMITY

STATISTICAL UNIFORMITY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

20 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 15 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/35)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that it is fundamental, both for Central American economic development and for the accomplishment of the economic integration programme, to depend upon uniform statistical data,

RESOLVES

- 1) To request the Secretariat, in collaboration with competent national and international bodies, to study adequate measures for establishing uniform statistical standards, concepts and methods, as well as for co-ordinating legal dispositions and technical procedure relating to the collection, compilation and publication of statistics which have a bearing on the accomplishment of the Central American economic integration programme.
- 2) To recommend that governments, in collaboration with the Secretariat and the aforementioned bodies, arrange meetings between their directors of statistics to settle the details of implementing the recommendation in clause 1) above.

/TRANSPORT IN

TRANSPORT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

21 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 15 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/36)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN
CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that the development, improvement and co-ordination of transport
are of fundamental importance to the economic integration of Central America,
and

BEARING IN MIND the extensive report on this subject, prepared by the Joint
Mission of the Technical Assistance Administration and the Economic Commission
for Latin America with the collaboration of the International Civil Aviation
Organization (Document E/CN.12/356), as well as the results of the Transport
Seminar held at San José, Costa Rica, in June 1953,

RESOLVES

- 1) To take note with satisfaction of the report on Transport in Central
America, prepared by the Joint Mission of the Technical Assistance
Administration and the Economic Commission for Latin America with the
collaboration of the International Civil Aviation Organization, and
to express its thanks to the Mission for the work accomplished;
- 2) To take note with satisfaction of the report on the Transport Seminar
held at San José, Costa Rica;
- 3) To recommend to the Central American governments that they give their
fullest attention to these reports with the aim of implementing,
within their possibilities and in accordance with their own transport
policy, those of the Mission's recommendations which are of interest
to the economic development of their respective countries and, in
particular, to the economic integration of Central America;
- 4) To request the Secretariat to prepare, after individual negotiations
with each Central American government and in consultation or collaborat
with the pertinent international bodies, draft projects serving as a
basis for implementing those recommendations of regional interest
contained in the aforementioned reports, and to approach governments
in due course to establish the best means for arranging meetings at
which officials of the competent ministries and government agencies are
represented, in order to discuss the following subjects:

/a) co-ordination of

- a) co-ordination of international land communications as regards plans, specifications, procedure and other aspects of highway construction;
 - b) regulation of international road traffic with the aim of adopting uniform standards for facilitating such traffic and which will allow for the removal of unnecessary obstacles thereto;
 - c) regulation and improvement of maritime and port services;
 - d) joint action designed to effect a reduction in maritime freight and insurance charges, as well as the elimination of discriminatory measures in such matters;
 - e) regulation and expansion of Central American air services;
 - f) co-ordination and improvement of statistics relating to land, sea and air transport; and
 - g) other factors which, in the opinion of governments, are considered as being of common interest.
- 5) To request the Secretariat to undertake research into the real and potential traffic between Central American ports, and between these and foreign ports, both through transshipment at Panama and through direct services, with a view to determining whether there is any economic basis for establishing a Central American merchant shipping line, to provide efficient maritime services; if such an economic basis exists, to formulate a plan for establishing a Central American merchant shipping line, to be submitted to governments and indicating alternative forms of organization and financing, while giving due consideration to present shipping lines of national registration.
- 6) To request the Secretariat to study, in consultation with the Central American Directors of Civil Aviation, the possibilities for creating a Central American air transport company and to submit such a report to governments, proposing possible solutions and paying due consideration to national companies already in existence.
- 7) To recommend to governments that, to ensure the accomplishment of the work indicated in this resolution, they should give the Secretariat the co-operation and assistance essential for obtaining optimum results.

FINANCING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

22(AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/37)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that, in fulfillment of resolution 5 (AC.17) adopted at the Committee's First Session, the Secretariat has submitted the "Preliminary report on financing economic development and integration in Central America" (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/30) and that it is desirable to adopt measures designed to increase and channel savings and to develop stock markets,

RESOLVES

- 1) To take note with satisfaction of the Preliminary report on problems of financing economic development and integration in Central America presented by the Secretariat;
- 2) To recommend the governments of the Central American republics:
 - a) to undertake monetary, banking, fiscal and other measures designed to increase savings and to channel them towards the financing of domestic and regional economic development, and
 - b) to give the aforementioned report the widest possible circulation, particularly among financial circles in their respective countries;
- 3) To recommend the reserve banks of Central America to study the said report and to adopt or encourage those measures which in their opinion are desirable for achieving the aims outlined in the preceding paragraph, requesting them also, at their periodic meetings, to consider and agree upon methods for Central American co-ordination in this matter.
- 4) To request the Secretariat, in co-operation with the competent international agencies, to collaborate with the Central American governments and reserve banks in carrying out the aims of this resolution and, in particular, to continue to study the financial problems related to the Central American economic integration programme.

ADVANCED SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

23 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/38)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that the governments of the Central American republics requested the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to undertake a study on the establishment of an Advanced School of Public Administration and that, following a discussion of the general outlines of the project between each government and the expert nominated for this purpose, the said study has been submitted to this Committee (Doc. E/CN.12/AC.17/31), and

CONSIDERING that the project for establishing the said School has been welcomed with enthusiasm and that it is desirable for the teaching work to begin as soon as possible,

RESOLVES

- 1) To take note with satisfaction of the report prepared by the Public Administration Division of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, submitted by the Secretariat;
- 2) To recommend the governments of the Central American Republics:
 - a) To approach the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration so that it may establish an Advanced School of Public Administration along the general lines proposed in the aforementioned report, with the participation of the governments and in accordance with supplementary agreements that may be signed for that purpose, bearing in mind the preliminary steps already taken;
 - b) To establish, for the supplementary agreements mentioned in the preceding paragraph, procedure for consultation and co-operation to provide the School with juridical status, thus guaranteeing the continuity and permanence of this programme;
- 3) To request the Technical Assistance Administration and participating governments to reach agreement as soon as possible on the recommendations for establishing the school contained in this resolution, bearing in mind the generally expressed desire at this session that the first teaching term should begin on 1 March 1954.

/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

24 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/39)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY OR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that under resolution 2 (AC.17) of the Committee's First Session it was agreed to request the United Nations and its specialized agencies for technical assistance to study specific activities of interest for the economic integration programmes of Central America;

CONSIDERING that the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and its member organizations agreed to provide such assistance and that the activities of the several missions have begun or are about to begin, in accordance with the requests put forward by the governments of the Central American republics;

CONSIDERING that some of the requests submitted are still pending and similarly that certain new technical assistance requirements, to continue the work already begun, may arise as a result of the activities of those missions,

RESOLVES

1) to express its appreciation to the Technical Assistance Board and to the Technical Assistance Administration, as well as to the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization, for the efficient way in which they have met the government requests relating to technical assistance for the Central American economic integration programmes;

2) to request the Technical Assistance Board and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, when establishing their 1954 budgets and within the bounds of their financial resources, to continue giving the same importance to the Central American economic integration programme, so that early attention may be given to those requests which have not yet been approved, those arising as a result of the deliberations of this Session and those which may arise out of the activities of the missions which began work during 1953, giving the following order of priority to the projects, according to individual agencies:

- a) Advanced School of Public Administration
- b) Transport in Central America
- c) Trade Nomenclature and Regulations

/d) Institute for

- d) Institute for Industrial Technological Research
- e) Electric power
- f) Technical training in the industrial and administrative fields
- g) Forest products, pulp and paper
- h) Livestock and dairy products
- i) Cotton and the textile industry
- j) Vegetable oils and fats

3) To recommend that the governments of the Central American republics should reach agreement with the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and the specialized agencies as soon as possible concerning the signing of the agreements, the contribution of the countries concerned and the number of experts who may be required for the 1954 programme.

/THE COMMITTEE'S

THE COMMITTEE'S RULES OF PROCEDURE

25 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/40)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that resolution 9 (IV) of the Economic Commission for Latin America, adopted on 16 June 1951 at its Fourth Session, provides a general indication of the functions of this Committee, as a permanent body for economic co-operation between the Central American countries;

CONSIDERING that under resolution 11 (AC.17), adopted by this Committee on 27 August 1952 during its First Session, its terms of references were laid down and its rules of procedure approved, and

CONSIDERING that the experience gained indicates the advisability of introducing some modifications relating to the organization and functions of the Committee, in order to include the participation of those senior officials responsible for the economic policy of the Central American countries and to establish closer inter-governmental collaboration to solve common economic problems, particularly those relating to economic integration,

RESOLVES

- 1) To approve the Committee's Rules of Procedure according to the text attached to this resolution;
- 2) To abrogate the previous Rules of Procedure approved under resolution 11 (AC.17) of 27 August 1952.

/ THE RULES

THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION

Rule 1

The Committee on Economic Co-operation in Central America is a permanent organization of the Economic Commission for Latin America, on the government level.

Rule 2

The Ministers of Economy of the Central American republics shall be ex-officio members of the Committee, together with such other Ministers of State as the respective governments may wish to accredit as members thereof.

In the event of any of the Ministers of Economy being unable to attend a meeting, he may be represented by a special accredited delegate.

Rule 3

The members of the Committee may be accompanied by advisers and experts nominated by governments.

Such advisers and experts may represent their respective chief delegates with the right to speak and to vote, at any meeting of the Committee or of its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 4

The Governments of the Central American Republics shall grant their Ministers, as well as special delegates, advisers and experts, the usual credentials required for United Nations meetings.

Rule 5

The Chairman of the Committee shall be the Minister of Economy in the host country.

He shall continue in office for the period between one session to that immediately following it.

Rule 6

If the Chairman ceases to be his country's Minister of Economy, he shall be replaced as Chairman by the person succeeding him in that post.

Rule 7

At each session of the Committee, a rapporteur shall be elected, who may be one of the Ministers' Delegates, advisers or experts.

/Rule 8

Rule 8

The Chairman shall participate in the meetings of the Committee as such, and not as the representative of the government accrediting him. In this case, another member of his delegation shall represent the government concerned.

Rule 9

The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America shall be responsible for the Secretariat of the Committee.

CHAPTER II - FUNCTIONS

Rule 10

The following are the functions of the Committee:

a) To propose to the participating governments such concrete measures as are directed towards the gradual and progressive integration of the economies of the Central American countries and to co-ordination of their domestic programmes of economic development.

b) To determine the carrying out of research and study in connexion with the objectives outlined immediately above.

c) To direct and channel the utilization of technical assistance in matters pertaining to the integration of the Central American economies; to co-ordinate the requests made by these Governments for technical assistance in such matters; to superintend the progress and execution of the work done by experts and to take note of the reports and studies submitted by them.

d) To establish sub-committees for dealing with subjects related to the economic integration of Central America and to sponsor meetings of experts.

CHAPTER III - SESSIONS

Rule 11

Ordinary sessions of the Committee shall be held once a year and the Ministers shall attend personally. In the event of any one of them being unable to attend, he shall be represented by a special delegate accredited by his government.

At these meetings, the Committee shall, in agreement with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, determine the approximate date and place of the next meeting.

Rule 12

In addition to the sessions referred to in the preceding rule, the Committee may hold other meetings, attended by the Ministers or their delegates, when the continuity of the work so requires.

In such cases, the Chairman of the Committee, on his own initiative or at the request of any one of the governments, shall issue the necessary notice of convocation, after consultation with the remaining governments and in agreement with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

/Rule 13

Rule 13

The quorum for any session shall consist of a simple majority of members, but voting on any principal motion may only take place provided all the member countries are represented. Each country shall have only one vote. Decisions on principal motions shall be unanimous, but those on procedure may be taken by a simple majority of votes. In the event of any doubt as to whether a decision is principal or procedural, the voting must be unanimous. Abstentions shall not affect such unanimity.

Rule 14

The conduct of the debates and voting procedure shall follow the usual parliamentary procedure. In the event of doubt, the Rules for the Economic Commission for Latin America shall be applied.

Rule 15

At the close of each Session, the Committee shall detail the result of its work to the Economic Commission for Latin America, in a report to contain a summary of the work and the full text of the resolutions adopted.

CHAPTER IV - THE SECRETARIAT

Rule 16

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Committee and of its subsidiary bodies. He may appoint another member of the Secretariat to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 17

The Executive Secretary, or his representative, may make either oral or written statements at any meeting on any question under discussion.

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the organization and preparation of the Sessions. At the beginning of each session, he shall present a progress report on the work carried out during the period between sessions. During that interval, the Executive Secretary shall, as far as possible, keep the participating Governments informed as to the progress of the work.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary shall, at least thirty days before the inaugural meeting of each session, distribute to the member Governments copies of the provisional agenda, together with the reports and documents to be discussed at that session.

CHAPTER V - GENERAL RULES

Rule 20

In the event of any matter arising which has not been foreseen in the present rules, the pertinent rules of the Economic Commission for Latin America shall be applied, provided they are deemed suitable for the purposes of the Committee.

Rule 21

The Committee may at any time amend the present Rules of Procedure.

Approved at San José, Costa Rica, on 16
October 1953.

/DATE AND

DATE AND PLACE OF THIRD SESSION

26 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/41)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that under Resolution 14 (AC.17), adopted at its First Session, the Committee agreed to take note of the generous offer of the Government of Nicaragua to hold the Third Session at Managua and to accept that invitation with pleasure,

RESOLVES

To repeat its acceptance and to empower the Chairman of the Committee, in agreement with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, to establish the date for the Third Session.

/VOTE OF THANKS

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES OF COSTA RICA

27 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/42)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

RESOLVES

To express its sincerest gratitude to the Government and Authorities of the Republic of Costa Rica for the generous hospitality offered to the Delegations and the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America, as well as for the efficient measures taken to ensure the smooth running of the meetings.

/VOTES OF THANKS

VOTES OF THANKS TO THE OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE, THE SECRETARIAT AND THE
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

28 (AC.17) Resolution adopted on 16 October 1953
(E/CN.12/AC.17/43)

THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF ECONOMY ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN CENTRAL
AMERICA,

RESOLVES

To express its warmest thanks

a) To the Chairman of the Committee, Ing. Alfredo E. Hernandez Volio, Minister of Economy and Finance of Costa Rica, for the efficiency with which he has conducted the proceedings of the Committee, thus contributing to the successful accomplishment of the work;

b) To the representative of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and other members of the Secretariat for the preparation of the Session and of the technical reports which provided the Committee with a sound basis for its discussions;

c) To the representatives of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and Technical Assistance Board, as well as to those of the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Office, and the International Civil Aviation Organization, for having attended the meeting and for having given explanatory comments of great value in clarifying the discussion of various important topics.