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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Third Committee of the Whole Meeting
Santiago, Chile

SPECIAL AD INTERIM REPORT

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A. MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. BACKGROUND

1. In accordance with resolution LXVI of the Tenth Inter-American Conference, the Organization of American States requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations that the Secretariat of the Commission should co-operate with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in the preparation and work of the meeting of Ministers of Economy or Finance to be held at Rio de Janeiro from 22 November 1954.

2. Officials of the Secretariat conferred with officials of the IA-ECOSOC Secretariat on the form of collaboration and it was agreed that the ECLA Secretariat should prepare a background report and that it would be desirable to form a small committee of outstanding Latin Americans to formulate recommendations and projects on the basis of that study.

3. In this connexion, the Government of Chile addressed a note to the Secretariat suggesting that the Committee of the Whole be convened, in view of the fact that "the Government of Chile is of the opinion that the Secretariat of ECLA would be in a better position to carry out the assignment entrusted to it by the Caracas resolution if it received support and directives from the body to which it belongs".

4. After consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and other Member Governments, the proposal of the Chilean Government received the support of a majority, and consequently the Secretariat convened the Third Meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

2. OPENING AND CLOSING MEETINGS

5. The first meeting of the Committee was held at Santiago, Chile on 30 July 1954. The opening address was delivered by His Excellency Mr. Roberto Aldunate León, Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs.

6. The closing meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on 30 July 1954. Speeches were delivered by representatives of Brazil, Panama and Uruguay, and also by the representative of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

/7. The Committee

7. The Committee of the Whole approved the present Special Ad Interim Report.

3. MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

8. Delegations from the following Member Governments attended the meeting:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

9. In view of resolution 515 (XVII) - letter B - of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretariat invited the Government of Italy to participate in the meeting, on a consultative basis, in accordance with the terms of reference of the Commission.

a) Report of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen on examination of credentials

10. The Chairman, in accordance with paragraph 14 of the Commission's rules of procedure, reported at the first meeting on 30 July 1954 that the credentials of the delegations accredited to the Committee of the Whole, as submitted to the Executive Secretary, had been examined by the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen and found to be in order.

b) List of Delegations

Argentina:

Representative: Ismael de la Cruz Guerrero, Ambassador to Chile

Alternate: Gabriel Martínez

Bolivia:

Representative: Fernando Iturralde Chinel, Ambassador to Chile

Brazil:

Representative: Henrique Rodrigues Valle

Alternate: Frederico Carlos Carnauba

Chile:

Representative: Oscar Salas, Under-Secretary for Economy

Alternates: Sergio Molina, Camilo Riccio, Jorge Burr

/Colombia:

Colombia:

Representative: Eduardo Bónitto, Ambassador to Chile
Manuel S. Manotas, Leonel Torres,
Alfonso Gaviria, Alfonso Duque Hoyos.

Costa Rica:

Representative: Alfonso Goicoechea, Ambassador to Chile
Alternates: Raúl Hess Estrada, Porfirio Morera Batres

Cuba:

Representative: Ramiro Hernández Portella, Ambassador to Chile

Dominican Republic:

Representative: Franz Baehr, Chargé d'Affaires in Chile

Ecuador:

Representative: Walter Pitarque

France:

Representative: Jacques Coiffard, Ambassador to Chile

Guatemala:

Representative: Rafael Aguilar, Chargé d'Affaires in Chile
Alternates: J. Antonio Palacios, Martin Barreda B.

Haiti:

Representative: Arnaud N. Merceron, Chargé d'Affaires in Chile

Mexico:

Representative: José de J. Núñez y Domínguez, Ambassador to Chile

Netherlands:

Representative: P.A. Kasteel, Minister Plenipotentiary to Chile
Alternate: J. van der Gaag

Nicaragua:

Representative: José María Castillo

Panama:

Representative: Carlos Ycaza Vásquez, Ambassador to Chile

/United Kingdom

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Representative: H.A. Hankey, Chargé d'Affaires in Chile
Alternate: J.H. Wright

United States of America
Representative: Claude Courand

Uruguay
Representative: Hugo V. de Pena, Ambassador to Chile

Italy:
Representative: Tommaso Mancini
(on a consultative basis)

c) List of Representatives of Specialized Agencies

Food and Agricultural Organization: B.F. Osorio-Tafall
Alfredo Saco

International Labour Organisation: Moises Poblete Troncoso

International Monetary Fund: Jorge Sol Castellanos

d) Representative of the Inter-American
Economic and Social Council: Pedro Irañeta

e) List of Representatives from Inter-Governmental Organizations

Inter-American Statistical Institute: Enrique Gansado

f) List of Representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations

Category A

International Chamber of Commerce: Hernán Elizalde

International Organization of Employers: Francisco Muro de Nadal

Category B

Inter-American Council for Commerce
and Production: German Fischer,
Francisco Castillo

4. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

11. At the first meeting the following officers were elected:

/Chairman:

Chairman: Oscar Salas (Chile)
First Vice-Chairman: José de J. Núñez y Domínguez (Mexico)
Second Vice-Chairman: Ismael de la Cruz Guerrero (Argentina)
Rapporteur: Henrique Rodrigues Valle (Brazil)

B. AGENDA

12. The agenda, as adopted by the Committee at its meeting on 30 July 1954, was as follows:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Collaboration of ECLA at the Meeting of Ministers of Economy or Finance of the member countries of the Organization of American States, to be held in Rio de Janeiro during the last quarter of 1954. Report of the Secretariat on this subject (E/CN.12/AC.25/2)
4. Date of the Sixth Session of the Commission. Statement of the Secretariat (E/CN.12/AC.25/3)

C. PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

1. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

13. The Executive Secretary stressed the significance which, at the present time and in view of the current economic situation, the Meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy has for the Latin American countries and for economic development as a whole. He emphasized the importance of the invitation extended by the Organization of American States to the Secretary General of the United Nations at the Tenth Inter-American Conference, that the ECLA Secretariat co-operate in the Meeting of Ministers. He further underlined that collaboration between them is not only possible, but that such collaboration may offer considerable advantages for studies of Latin America's economy, as well as concrete solutions to its problems.

14. The Executive Secretary went on to inform the delegates of the steps he had taken in connexion with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, and of the agreements reached between himself and the

/Preparatory

Preparatory Ad Hoc Committee for the Rio meeting on the type of collaboration requested from ECLA. He pointed out that it had been suggested that the Secretariat should cover the items on the agenda in complete freedom, and that his intention was to prepare a basic report on the problems of economic development upon which specific recommendations would be formulated in collaboration with a Council composed of outstanding Latin Americans. He gave the names of the members of this Council, indicating their individual qualifications. The Executive Secretary thanked the International Monetary Fund for having sent an observer to the Committee of the Whole meeting who would later collaborate with the Secretariat in the work for the Rio meeting. He also reported on the present situation of the work being carried out by the Secretariat for this meeting and indicated that this necessarily implied a change in the Work Programme approved at the Fifth Session and slightly modified at the Second Meeting of the Committee of the Whole. He stated that, as a consequence of these new activities and, principally in view of the necessity for an adequate period of time between two important economic conferences, he was of the opinion that the date of the Sixth Session should be postponed from that originally set for May 1955 at Bogotá. He announced that efforts were being made to establish a new date for this meeting with the Colombian Government.

15. The Executive Secretary requested delegations to approve the steps that had been taken and to authorize the execution of the work of collaboration with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council which had already begun. He also noted the convenience of member governments considering the possibility of accrediting permanent delegations to the Committee of the Whole, a step which would simplify the convening of future meetings and would permit closer contact with governments.

16. In the discussion of the report of the Executive Secretary, the delegations supported the steps that had been taken. The Chilean Delegation, expressing its approval of the work being carried out, presented a draft resolution which was unanimously adopted (Document E/CN.12/AC.25/4).

17. This same delegation stated that, in requesting the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, the object of the Chilean Government was to secure the necessary political support for the collaboration of the Commission in the Rio de Janeiro Conference. The Chilean Delegation recalled the background of this Conference and stressed its importance. It pointed out that the delegations attending the Tenth Inter-American Conference held a common viewpoint with regard to Latin America's economic problems. After reviewing these problems, the Chilean Delegation stated that their solution should be a result of the new Conference. It analysed the agenda of this Conference, and pointed out the difficulties of the task entrusted to it, indicating that it was due to these that the co-operation of the Secretariat had been requested.

18. The Argentine Delegation, seconding the draft resolution presented by the delegation of Chile, emphasized that ECLA's collaboration at the Rio de Janeiro Meeting should be as extensive as possible. After discussing several points on the agenda of this Conference, and stressing the problem of agricultural and livestock surpluses, the delegate stated that his Government maintained that under-developed countries should be guaranteed both a relative stability in the volume of trade and a just and equitable price ratio.

19. With regard to the date of the next Session of the Commission, the Colombian Delegation expressed its satisfaction that Bogotá had been selected as the site for the meeting and stated that owing to its Government's previous commitments the Sixth Session could not be held in August. In consequence, the Committee of the Whole resolved to authorize the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements to hold the Sixth Session during the second half of 1955, in agreement with the Government of Colombia and taking into consideration the Conference Programme of the United Nations.

20. The representative of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council thanked the United Nations for the attention given to the request made by the Organization of American States to the effect that the Commission should collaborate in the work and preparation of the Rio de Janeiro

/Conference.

Conference. He then stressed the importance of the work now being carried out by the two organizations.

21. The Uruguayan Delegation proposed that - subsequent to consultation with the governments - the agenda of the next Session of ECLA should include an item recommending that foreign representatives accredited to the Chilean Government should be appointed permanent members of the Committee of the Whole, thus facilitating the convening of future meetings and ensuring closer contact with the governments. The proposal of the delegation of Uruguay coincided with the suggestion made previously by the Secretariat. The delegations unanimously expressed their agreement in principle and the inclusion of the Uruguayan proposal in this Ad Interim report was approved.

2. RESOLUTIONS

22. The Committee of the Whole approved the following resolution at its third meeting:

COLLABORATION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA IN THE MEETING OF MINISTERS
OF FINANCE OR ECONOMY TO BE HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Resolution 76 (AC.25) approved 30 July 1954
(E/CN.12/AC.25/4)

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,
CONSIDERING:

- a) The request made by the Organization of American States to the Secretary General of the United Nations that the Secretariat of the Commission collaborate with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in the preparation and work of the Meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy of member governments of the Organization of American States, to be held in Rio de Janeiro in November 1954, in accordance with resolution LXVI adopted at the Tenth Inter-American Conference;
- b) The statement of the Executive Secretary of the Commission on the agreement reached between himself and the Ad Hoc Committee

/of the Inter-

of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council entrusted with the preparation of the Meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy, providing for the collaboration of the Secretariat of the Commission in this conference;

RESOLVES:

Firstly, to take note with satisfaction:

- a) Of the invitation extended to the Secretariat of the Commission to collaborate with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council regarding this matter, and of the measures taken by the Secretariat of the Commission to collaborate in the Meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy.
- c) Of the appointment of a Preparatory Council, consisting of six outstanding Latin Americans, which will formulate recommendations and projects on the basis of the study prepared by the Secretariat.

Secondly, to indicate its pleasure at this collaboration between the Commission and the Inter-American Economic and Social Council as a new stage in the co-ordination of work and closer collaboration between these two agencies;

Thirdly, due to the importance of this co-operation and the nature of the studies and recommendations being prepared for the Meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy, to present a special interim report of this Meeting of the Committee of the Whole to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, together with copies of the reports sent to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.