



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL  
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Committee of the Whole

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY OF THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Held at the Hotel Carrera, Santiago, Chile, on  
Monday 11 February 1952, at 16.00 hours.

SUMMARY.

1. Election of Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Statement by the Executive Secretary of the Commission  
Study of the Work Programme related to economic development, presented  
in the Progress Report.
4. Election of another Vice-Chairman

NOTE: Any corrections to this record should be submitted in writing in any of the working languages (English, French or Spanish) within three working days, to Mr. Santa Cruz, Secretary of the Committee. Corrections should be accompanied by or incorporated in a letter, on headed notepaper, bearing the appropriate symbol number and enclosed in an envelope marked "Urgent". Corrections can be dealt with more speedily by the services concerned if delegations will be good enough also to incorporate them in a mimeographed copy of the record.

PRESENT:

Chairman	Mr. BALTRA CORTES	Chile
Vice Chairman	Mr. LERENA Mr. ARMENDARIZ DEL CASTILLO	Argentina Mexico
Rapporteur	Mr. ROMERO MARTINEZ	Nicaragua
Members	Mr. ARGENTO Mr. ALDES HERTZOG Mr. ARANHA PEREIRA Mr. HERNANDEZ PORTELA Mr. OYARZUN Mr. PEREZ HENRIQUEZ Mr. CORSINO CARDENAS Mr. CHARVET Mr. ORDOÑEZ PANIAGUA Mr. MALEBRANCHE Mr. KASTEEL Mr. PATERSON  Mr. SMITH Dr. DE PENA Mr. GONZALEZ VALE	Argentina Bolivia Brazil Cuba Chile Dominican Republic Ecuador France Guatemala Haiti Netherlands United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland United States Uruguay Venezuela
Organization of American States	Dr. TAWLOR	Executive Secretary
Representatives of specialized agencies	Mr. KOULISCHER Mr. AKKAR Mr. POBLETE TRONCOSO  Mr. BARR  Mr. ESTABLIER  Mr. BUDNIK	International Labour Office  Food and Agricultural Organization  UNESCO  World Health Organization
Representatives of non-governmental organizations	<u>Category A:</u>  <u>Category B:</u>	World Federation of Trade Unions  South American Petroleum Institute.
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Dr. PREBISCH Mr. BLOCH	Executive Secretary Representative of Mr. Owen, Assistant Secretary in charge of Economic Affairs and of the Director General of TAA

1. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN AND OF THE RAPPORTEUR

The Chairman called for nominations for Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

Mr. RIOSECO (Chile) proposed as Vice-Chairman, Mr. Carlos Gustavo Lerena (Argentina). This was seconded by Messrs. PEREZ HENRIQUEZ (Dominican Republic) and CHARVET (France). Mr. ROMERO (Nicaragua) suggested that Mr. Lerena be elected by acclamation. Mr. ARANHA PEREIRA (Brazil) supported this suggestion.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. LERENA (Argentina) had been elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

Mr. LERENA (Argentina) accepted the nomination with thanks, stating that it was an honour for his country and a responsible task for himself. He added that Argentina, led by His Excellency President Juan Perón, is fighting for the destiny of Latin America, and in particular for its economic development, which will allow these countries to occupy their rightful place in the community of nations. He stated that Argentina had fought to raise the standard of living of its people and had always been ready to uphold the prices of raw materials.

Mr. VALDES (Bolivia) proposed Mr. ROMERO (Nicaragua) as Rapporteur. Mr. ARANHA PEREIRA (Brazil) seconded this motion and Mr. PEREZ HENRIQUES (Dominican Republic) suggested that the election be by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN stated that Mr. ROMERO has been elected as Rapporteur by acclamation.

Mr. ROMERO (Nicaragua) accepted the nomination with thanks and went on to express his country's satisfaction at the recognition of the Charter of San Salvador.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The CHAIRMAN laid before the meeting the second item, approval of the Agenda.

Mr. PATERSON (United Kingdom) stated that his government had always been interested in the economic activities of the region, but had to complain of the delay with which documents for this meeting have been distributed, a delay which had meant that his Government and Delegation had not had time to study them properly. He recalled that the meeting at Rio de Janeiro was postponed in order to give the Secretariat time to prepare the work. He stated, nevertheless, that he accepted the agenda as it stands and congratulated the Executive Secretary on his excellent work. As regards Item 8, he expressed his desire to receive the document as soon as possible, in order to be able to consult his Government, and

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asked that discussion of that item be postponed until the latter part of the meeting.

Mr. CHARVET(France) suggested that it would be useful to have the order of priority in the ECLA work programme published as soon as possible.

The Chairman announced that the order of priority might possibly be distributed that afternoon.

Mr. KASTEEL (Netherlands) supported the remarks made by the representative of the United Kingdom.

The Agenda was adopted

PROGRESS REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - EXAMINATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

The CHAIRMAN called on the Executive Secretary to take up Item 2 of the Agenda.

Mr. LERENA (Argentina) took over the Chair.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY expressed his appreciation of the tributes paid to the Commission and to himself at these meetings which he felt to be equally deserved by all his staff. He expressed his pleasure that Mr. BALTRA (Chile) was presiding over this meeting of the Committee of the Whole, as he had done at the First Meeting of ECLA stating that his influence, good advice and constructive criticism had helped to shape ECLA. He went on to say that while Mr. Baltra was working on the Commission, another eminent Chilean, don Hernán Santa Cruz, worked on behalf of ECLA on the Economic and Social Council, thus showing that this was not a personal attitude on their part, but that it represented the support of the Government of Chile. He added that Chile's support since taking the initiative in the establishment of ECLA, had been continuous, and that this policy had been ratified that morning by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

He then analysed the objectives and goals of ECLA and the work programme on which it is engaged (the Executive Secretary's statement will be distributed as a document).

The CHAIRMAN declared the debate on the statement of the Executive Secretary open.

Mr. SMITH (United States) congratulated the Executive Secretary on his studies and work and also congratulated the delegations on having such a competent and forceful personality at the head of the organization.

/Mr. BALTRA(Chile)

Mr. BALTRA(Chile) after stating the the United States Delegate had forestalled him in congratulating the Executive Secretary on his report, made the following observations: first, he considered it would be better to hold the seminar on problems of economic development before the Fifth Session of ECLA, instead of in February 1953, in view of the importance of this subject to the Latin American countries; secondly, he suggested that the special seminar on fiscal and monetary policy in relation to the economic development of Latin America, should also for the same reason, take place before the Fifth Session; thirdly, he hoped that the study on intra-regional trade would be co-ordinated with the project on economic integration of the Central American countries, since the problem of intra-regional trade and of the integration of the Central American economies not only affects the Central American countries, but also has repercussions on trade between those countries and the rest of Latin America; fourthly, referring to the Economic Survey of Latin America, he pointed out that the study of the terms of trade, that is, of the relative prices of the imports and exports of Latin American countries, was today, as it had been before, of fundamental importance for the economies of those countries. It was true, he added, that the Secretariat had already presented a study on this subject at Montevideo, but present circumstances made it necessary to deal with this problem again. For these reasons he thought that this subject should form part of the Economic Survey of Latin America; fifthly, he referred to co-ordination between ECLA and Inter-American Economic and Social Council stating that in the Executive Secretary's Progress Report the manner in which this coordination has been carried out had not been clearly explained, but that the Executive Secretary's remarks on this subject had clarified the matter perfectly.

Mr. ARGENTO (Argentina) referred to the interesting remarks made by the Chilean representative and particularly stressed the point made regarding the study of the terms of trade, a subject which was of particular interest to the Government of Argentina, which has for some time been pointing out the importance of raw material prices in international trade.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY replied to the remarks of the representative of Chile and Argentina and explained that it had been decided to hold the two seminars referred to by Mr. Baltra in 1953, not because the Secretariat considered them unimportant but because two other seminars had already been arranged for 1952: one

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on the iron and steel industry and another on transportation in Central America. He added that all these seminars were being undertaken in cooperation with the Technical Assistance Administration, and that this Administration had pointed out the difficulties of holding four seminars in the same year, and moreover, it was the Secretariat's experience that it was not desirable to submit general problems for discussion by experts before as the Secretariat had defined them through preparatory studies. These two considerations had led the Secretariat to accept the point of view of the Technical Assistance Administration. As regards the third and fourth points made, he stated that the Secretariat would bear them in mind when considering the work to be carried out this year.

He then referred to the agreement reached with Mr. TAYLOR, the representative of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, for simplifying the distribution of work between the two organizations and avoiding any duplication.

He ended by requesting Mr. Baltra, providing these were satisfactory, to be kind enough to give his support as presented, or, in the event of further explanations being required, to call for them, so that the statement could be expanded.

Dr. BALTRA (Chile) expressed his thanks for the explanations and stated that they were completely satisfactory.

#### ELECTION OF ANOTHER VICE-CHAIRMAN

Dr. DE PENA (Uruguay) stated that, as no second Vice-Chairman had been elected, he wished to propose the representative of Mexico for the post, first because the Chairman of ECLA, Mr. Martinez Baez (Mexican) Minister of Economy was unable to attend this meeting; and also, as a mark of appreciation to Mexico for the hospitality it has extended to the Branch Office of ECLA.

The proposal was supported by several delegations.

Mr. ARMENDARIZ DEL CASTILLO was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

Mr. HERNANDEZ PORTELA (Cuba) suggested that before passing on to Item 3 of the Agenda, the report of the Executive Secretary should be approved; this was seconded by Mr. ARGENTO (Argentina).

The Chairman called for the approval of the report.

Dr. DE PENA (Uruguay) Proposed that the report be approved with the addition of the remarks of the Chilean representative and the explanation given by the Executive Secretary.

The Report was adopted.

Mr. ARMENDARIZ DEL CASTILLO (Mexico) expressed his thanks for  
as Vice Chairman.

Mr. ARMENDARIZ DEL CASTILLO

Mr. ARMENDARIZ DEL CASTILLO (Mexico) expressed his thanks for his nomination as Vice-Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting after having called the second plenary meeting for 10 o'clock on Tuesday 12 February 1952.