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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Sixth Session

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND MEETING

Held at ECLA Headquarters, Santiago, Chile,  
on Monday, 7 April 1958, at 3.25 p.m.

CONTENTS

- Inter-Latin American trade (E/CN.12/AC.40/3 and Corr. 1)
- Technical assistance for economic development  
(E/CN.12/AC.40/4 and 5)
- Central American economic development and integration  
(E/CN.12/AC.40/10)
- United Nations building in Santiago (E/CN.12/AC.40/6)
- Co-ordination between ECLA and IA-ECOSOC  
(E/CN.12/AC.40/7 and 12)
- Programme of work and priorities (E/CN.12/AC.40/8 and  
Corr. 1, E/CN.12/AC.40/9 and 11)
- Draft resolution on the 10th anniversary of the Commission  
(Conference room document No. 1)

Corrections to this provisional summary record should be submitted in Spanish and English within twenty-four hours of its distribution to Mr. A. Santa Cruz, Secretary of the Commission, preferably on a copy of the record itself, for incorporation in the final summary record.

## PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. L. CORREA PRIETO	Chile
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. L. TORRES	Colombia
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. NOGUES	Argentina
	Mr. CASTRILLO	Bolivia
	Mr. GURGEL VALENTE	Brazil
	Mr. HERRERA LANE	Chile
	Mr. BONITTO	Colombia
	Mr. GOICOECHEA QUIROS	Costa Rica
	Mr. BAEHR	Dominican Republ
	Mr. LINDO	El Salvador
	Mr. de BOISSESON	France
	Mr. UNDA MURILLA	Guatemala
	Mr. ANTOINE	Haiti
	Mr. COELLO	Honduras
	Mr. OROZCO	Mexico
	Mr. DAUBANTON	Netherlands
	Mr. NAVAS BARRETO	Nicaragua
	Mr. COUCHONAL	Paraguay
	Mr. WAGNER DE REYNA	Peru
	Sir Charles EMPSON	United Kingdom
	Mr. RANDALL	United States of America
	Mr. ROJAS	Venezuela

## ALSO PRESENT:

Representatives of States Members  
of the United Nations, non-members  
of the Commission, attending in a  
consultative capacity:

Mr. RUDA	Czechoslovakia
Mr. VICZENIK	Hungary
Mr. MANCINI	Italy
Mr. YOSIMISU	Japan
Mr. SAN SEBASTIAN	Spain

Representative of a State, not  
a Member of the United Nations,  
attending in a consultative  
capacity:

Mr. ENGELS

Federal Republic of Germany

Representatives of  
specialized agencies:

Mr. ILLANES EDWARDS

International Labour  
Organisation (ILO)

Mr. SACO

Food and Agricultural  
Organization of the  
United Nations (FAO)

Mr. SCHROEDER

World Meteorological  
Organization (WMO)

Representatives of inter-  
Governmental organizations:

Mr. TAYLOR

Inter-American Economic and  
Social Council (IA-ECOSOC)

Mr. LASOCKI

Inter-Governmental Committee  
for European Migration (ICEM)

Representatives of non-  
Governmental organizations:

Category A Mr. ECHENIQUE MARTINEZ

International Confederation  
of Free Trade Unions

Mr. GOLDSACK DONOSO

International Federation of  
Christian Trade Unions

Miss QUINTANA

International Federation of  
Women Lawyers

Mr. SOTO VERGARA

World Federation of Trade  
Unions

Secretariat:

Mr. PREBISCH

Executive Secretary

Mr. SWENSON

Deputy Director

Mr. SANTA CRUZ

Secretary of the Commission

Mr. LEUSCHNER

Technical Assistance  
Administration

INTER-LATIN AMERICAN TRADE (E/CN.12/AC.40/3 and Corr.1)

Mr. RANDALL (United States) thanked the secretariat for the work and studies it had carried out and corrected the statement he had made at the morning meeting regarding the delay in the distribution of documents.

It would be premature to give too much priority at the present time to point 7 concerning the possibilities of setting up regional development agency although it was important. He was fully satisfied with the Executive Secretary's statement on financial implications but asked for an explanation of the expression "would promote technical assistance". It was not clear whether the new body would be responsible for such assistance or whether greater advantage would be taken of the technical assistance services already in existence.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY explained that the intention was primarily to study Latin America's technical assistance requirements in connexion with the regional market. On the basis of that study, the Working Group would devise the best method of utilizing the organizations offering international or bilateral services.

Mr. RANDALL (United States), referring to point 8 (b) Consultations with Governments and other bodies, said that ECLA should not engage in promotional activities. It should leave the creation of committees or groups in the different countries and also the dissemination of information on new industries to the dynamic forces in the individual economies. He expressed his satisfaction with the studies on customs tariffs and nomenclature and suggested that the Inter-American Statistical Institute and similar bodies might provide valuable assistance in that field. Although his delegation was greatly interested in the report under consideration, it was not prepared to discuss the substantive part of the text in view of its preliminary nature. If necessary, it would make its reservations and comment on the proposals at the next meeting of the Trade Committee.

Sir Charles EMPSON (United Kingdom) stated that his Government was very interested in the progress made in the establishment of a common market and was convinced of the benefits it would bring to regional and world trade. Since the United Kingdom was a member of the GATT, it would abide

/by the

by the rules of that organization in so far as the creation of free trade areas concerned, but apart from that reservation, was anxious to encourage the formation of a regional market by giving sympathetic consideration to requests for information or materials made by the ECLA secretariat or for consultants by the Technical Assistance Administration.

His Government fully agreed with the statement in the report that a special payments system was required and hoped that the next session of the Working Group would formulate definite proposals for such a system. It also hoped that the Group would bear in mind the views on the transfer of balances expressed by the United Kingdom representative at the seventh session of the Commission, and by the Group in the report on its first session, to the effect that a special payments system would not prevent Latin America from participating in a general multilateral scheme. Since such participation would not be feasible unless the transfer of balances were to be based on units of account acceptable in all countries, his Government hoped that the Working Group would consider that problem at its next session.

Mr. DAUBANTON (Netherlands), referring to Mr. Prebisch's statement on the Latin American regional market, emphasized the need for collaboration rather than competition between such a market and the European common market. Although not speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, he believed that the six countries represented in it would be willing to co-operate with the Latin American region.

Mr. DE BOISSESON (France) agreed with the Netherlands representative. Apart from the fact that collaboration between the two markets would be of mutual benefit, the objectives of the European common market could not be fully achieved without complete co-operation between the two economic regions.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (E/CN.12/AC.40/4 and 5)

Mr. LEUSCHNER (Technical Assistance Administration) explained that the report under consideration was a supplement to the document on technical assistance activities submitted to the seventh session of the Commission (E/CN.12/432).

/After tracing

After tracing the progress of the decentralization of technical assistance activities through the establishment of two units in Santiago and Mexico, he emphasized the specific advances made by the technical assistance programme in Latin America during the two years of the decentralization experiment. They were largely inspired by the collaboration of ECLA with the technical assistance office in Santiago. To ensure that available resources were used to the greatest advantage, recipient Governments should guide the activities of the Programme since they knew best their own requirements and resources.

Lastly, on behalf of the Technical Assistance Administration he thanked the Governments for their support of the Programme both in their own countries and at international conferences and ECLA for the valuable co-operation it had given.

Mr. HERRERA (Chile) submitted a draft resolution on technical assistance activities (Conference room paper No.2)

Mr. RANDALL (United States) said that his delegation would abstain from voting since it had received no instructions from its Government on the point at issue.

Mr. ROJAS (Venezuela) supported the draft resolution but feared that decentralization might prolong the formalities necessary for obtaining technical assistance.

Mr. WAGNER DE REYNA (Peru) associated himself with that view.

Mr. SACO (FAO) pointed out that there was some confusion in the draft resolution between the Technical Assistance Administration's programme and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

#### CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION (E/CN.12/AC.40/10)

Mr. LINDO (El Salvador) submitted a draft resolution (conference room paper N° 4) on behalf of all the Central American delegations. The economic integration of those countries was not important in isolation but as a means of achieving a more advanced union.

Mr. HERRERA (Chile) supported the draft resolution and expressed his Government's satisfaction at the progress achieved in the integration of Central America, which might serve as an example of the practical results

/which could

which could be obtained by the co-operation of a number of international organizations.

The draft resolution was unanimously adopted.

UNITED NATIONS BUILDING IN SANTIAGO (E/CN.12/AC.40/6)

The CHAIRMAN invited consideration of a draft resolution presented by the representative of Venezuela. (See Conference room paper N°5)

Mr. RANDALL (United States) supported the draft resolution although he was not in a position to approve any final plan.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously

Mr. ROJAS (Venezuela) said that in principle his country was in agreement with the Secretary General's report and might perhaps contribute a larger loan for the financing of the building.

Mr. DAUBANTON (Netherlands) said that, subject to parliamentary approval, his Government had approved a loan of 35,000 dollars on the condition that the majority of member countries of ECLA also made a contribution and that suitable provision were made for reimbursing that sum.

CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN ECLA AND IA-ECOSOC (E/CN.12/AC.40/7 and 12)

Mr. TAYLOR (Inter-American Economic and Social Council) made a brief statement on co-ordination between IA-ECOSOC and ECLA during the ten years that the latter had been in existence (see Information document N° 4).

Mr. TORRES (Colombia) submitted a draft resolution on the co-operation of ECLA in the 1960 Census (see conference room paper N° 3). He described the activities of the Inter-American Statistical Institute and stressed the value of its contribution towards the solution of Latin American problems.

The draft resolution was unanimously adopted.

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES (E/CN.12/AC.40/8 and Corr.1, E/CN.12/AC.40/9 and 11).

Mr. DURAN (Secretariat) said that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs was about to undertake a number of studies for which they

/would require

would require the co-operation of the regional commissions. Since the Department would make use of the knowledge and experience already acquired by those commissions, the collaboration it intended to request would not add in any way to the many burdens already borne by the ECLA secretariat.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY explained that the request by the Division of Social Affairs would not cause ECLA to neglect its programme of work. It would enable the secretariat to repay the valuable co-operation extended to it by the Division through the secondment of some of its officials to Santiago, as an experiment in decentralization. He wished to draw the attention of the delegations in particular to the work of Mr. Duran who had directed the Division of Social Affairs in Santiago for two and a half years and was about to return to Headquarters. He considered that such collaboration should be maintained in a permanent form.

Mr. SACO (FAO) described the way in which the activities of the ECLA/F. Programme had been expanded. In 1959 it would be in the hand of six permanent staff members, three from each agency. Moreover, the number of regional officials of FAO out-posted to Santiago would be increased to ten and the possibilities of obtaining expert collaboration in specific fields would thus be enhanced. He reviewed the progress achieved and stressed the magnitude of the coffee study which had been started in 1954 and had already covered three countries. The study on the livestock industry had been held up through lack of resources but the additional staff should overcome that difficulty.

Mr. HERRERA (Chile) expressed satisfaction at the results of the economic development training programme and hoped that it would both continue and expand. Higher priority should be given to the preliminary study on the organization and structure of capital markets in Latin America. ECLA studies on the iron and steel-making and pulp and paper industries were of great importance to Chile. On the other hand, the plan to hold a special meeting on the mining industry had not been given the consideration it deserved and he hoped that this situation would be rectified in 1959 or 1960. Special preference should be given to questions of trade and markets.

/With respect



With respect to point 30 on Trade between Latin America and the rest of the world, a more detailed analysis of fluctuations in the prices of basic commodities should be made.

Mr. WAGNER DE REYNA (Peru) endorsed the remarks of the Chilean representative with regard to the special meeting on the mining industry.

Mr. RANDALL (United States) was in no doubt that the secretariat had been wise to postpone work on certain parts of the work programme adopted at the seventh session of the Commission in order to meet the new commitments of the regional market project. He approved those changes always provided that they implied no additional charges on the budget and requested the secretariat to take note of his Government's position in its report to the Economic and Social Council.

The programme of work and priorities was adopted unanimously.

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ECLA (Conference room paper N°1)

Mr. RANDALL (United States) approved the draft resolution but had some doubts as to the type of publication that was considered and its budgetary implications.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY explained that the publication would be a condensation of previous studies and would not involve additional budgetary costs for the secretariat except those of printing.

Mr. WAGNER DE REYNA (Peru) proposed that the resolution should congratulate Mr. Prebisch on his leadership of the Commission.

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY said that it was not the normal procedure to mention his name in a resolution particularly as ECLA's work was collective. On behalf of all ECLA officials, he thanked the Representative of Peru for his proposal.

Mr. ANTOINE (Haiti) suggested that the publication should appear in three languages: Spanish, English and French.

The CHAIRMAN said that the proposal would be borne in mind and if possible carried out.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.