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

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Held at the Hotel Carrera, Santiago, Chile, on
Wednesday, 10 February 1954, at 11.45 a.m.

CONTENTS

- Draft resolution on co-ordination between ECLA and LA-ECOSOC presented by the Delegations of Argentina, Brazil and Chile (Conference Room Paper No. 2)
- Draft resolution on technical assistance approved by the Working Group (Conference Room Paper No. 4)
- Report of the Committee on Credentials
- Statements by representatives of non-governmental organizations

/PRESENT:

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<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. GUILLERMO DEL AEDREGAL HERRERA	Chile
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Mr. RAMIRO HERNANDEZ FORTELA	Cuba
	Mr. HUGO V. DE AENA	Uruguay
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. JOSE AVILES	El Salvador
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. IEREZ VILLAMIL	Argentina
	Mr. ITURRALDE CHINEL	Bolivia
	Mr. RODRIGUES VALLE	Brazil
	Mr. SE. ULVEDA CONTRERAS	Chile
	Mr. RUEDA MARTINEZ	Colombia
	Mr. BARRANTES BERNUDEZ	Costa Rica
	Mr. SOTO	Dominican Republic
	Mr. LUIS VILLAZAR	Ecuador
	Mr. ANGLES	France
	Mr. MERCERON	Haiti
	Mr. GALVEZ	Honduras
	Mr. NUÑEZ Y DOMINGUEZ	Mexico
	Mr. KASTEEL	Netherlands
	Mr. HERNANDEZ CAMUS	Nicaragua
	Mr. YCAZA VASQUEZ	Panama
	Mr. MALLORQUIN	Paraguay
	Mr. WRIGHT	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. SANDERS	United States of America
	Mr. GONZALEZ VALE	Venezuela

/Also present:

Also present:Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. OSORIO-TAFALL	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations)
Mr. LARSEN	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Representatives of inter-governmental organizations:

Mr. TAYLOR	Inter-American Economic and Social Council
Mr. IRIETO	Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration

Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

<u>Category A:</u>	Mr. ELIZABE G.	International Chamber of Commerce
	Mr. PUENTES ZAÑATA	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
	Mr. VARGAS LUEBLA	World Federation of Trade Unions
<u>Category B:</u>	Mr. ADLER	Agudas Israel World Organization
	Mr. LOURAVIEFF	Commission of the Churches on International Affairs
	Mr. EDO	Inter-American Federation of Automobile Clubs
	Mr. KRULL	International Organization for Standardization
	Miss JORQUERA	Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations; World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union
	Mr. IRIETO TRUCCO	Organization of Chilean Non-Governmental Bodies for the United Nations

/Mr. DAVILA

Category B (continued)

Mr. DAVILA	Rax Romana - International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs
Mr. SIEGAN	South American Petroleum Institute
Mrs. COLOMBO DE LA GARRIQUE	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Mr. SANTA MARIA	World Power Conference
<u>Secretariat:</u>	
Mr. COMEN	Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Public Information
Mr. REBISCH	Executive Secretary
Mr. SWENSON	Assistant Director
Mr. SANTA CRUZ	Secretary of the Committee

/DRAFT RESOLUTION

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN ECLA AND IA-ECOSOC SUBMITTED
BY THE DELEGATIONS OF ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND CHILE
(Conference Room Paper No.2)

The CHAIRMAN declared the discussion open on the draft resolution on co-ordination between ECLA and IA-ECOSOC, presented jointly by the delegations of Argentina, Brazil and Chile, and called upon Mr. Santa Cruz (Secretary of the Committee) to read the draft.

Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Secretary of the Committee) read the draft resolution.

Mr. DE PENA (Uruguay) moved the adoption of the resolution.

The draft resolution on co-ordination between ECLA and IA-ECOSOC was adopted unanimously.

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SUBMITTED BY THE WORKING GROUP
(Conference Room Paper No. 4)

Mr. SEPULVEDA (Chile) submitted for the consideration of the Committee the draft resolution on technical assistance prepared by the working group established for that purpose at a previous meeting.

Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Secretary of the Committee) read the draft resolution.

Mr. HERNANDEZ PORTELA (Cuba) congratulated the working group on the text and moved that the resolution be adopted.

The draft resolution on technical assistance was adopted unanimously.

Mr. SEPULVEDA (Chile) said that the draft resolution just adopted differed from the original one submitted by the Delegation of Chile; his delegation therefore requested that the Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council should include a paragraph to the effect that Latin America did not receive adequate funds, or funds in proportion to those allotted to other parts of the world, and therefore recommended that the system employed by TAA for the regional integration of Central America should be extended to other areas of Latin America on the basis of grouping together those countries with common interests and problems.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the subject be left until the afternoon

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meeting, when the Annual Report was to be discussed.

It was so decided.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

The CHAIRMAN reported that the Committee on Credentials had examined the credentials of the delegates and found them to be in good and due form.

STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The CHAIRMAN stated that the representatives of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) wished to make statements and that, according to the rules of procedure, the unanimous approval of the Committee was required before they could do so.

The Committee granted the necessary authorization.

Mr. VARGAS PUEBLA (WFTU) pointed out the need for ECLA to take into consideration the opinions of the workers, and explained his organization's views concerning the position of the workers in some Latin American countries, indicating that the capital formation during 1945-1952 took place at the expense of wages. He therefore suggested that ECLA might undertake a study on wages, unemployment and social security. He put forward the view that the economic prosperity of the Latin American countries during the Korean conflict was fictitious and had been based on restrictions of imports. Referring to the subsequent decline in exports, he stressed that surplus agricultural production in the United States would result in serious competition for Latin America. He suggested that ECLA should consider the possibility of expanding markets by including the USSR, China and other countries. He went on to criticize the activities of certain foreign companies, the inflationary policy and the influence of foreign monopolies on the export trade. He recommended closer contact between ECLA and the working classes and suggested that studies should be carried out firstly in relation to the possibility of independent economic development in Latin America and secondly on the desirability of undertaking land reform.

/Mr. FUENTES ZAPATA

Mr. FUENTES ZAPATA (ICFTU), after paying tribute to the work of ECLA, put forward some recommendations which were of interest for the workers. In his view, economic development depended on obtaining adequate economic resources under acceptable conditions. Although he agreed that private foreign investments should be made, he hoped that they would be direct and would not enjoy special privileges. As, under those conditions, private capital would be insufficient, he favoured the establishment of a United Nations fund to channel loans and subsidies, so as to avoid the political and economic dependence of some countries on others. He pointed out that the Eighth United Nations General Assembly had left pending the question of such a fund, and therefore urged governments to take the necessary steps to bring it into being. Such a fund could be used to expand transport, communications and other means for accelerating the rate of development.

Since Latin America's economy was particularly vulnerable to price fluctuations, he stressed the desirability of drawing up international agreements and stockpiling in order to stabilize prices, recommending that the Commission use its influence with the United States to secure its ratification of the tin agreement signed at Geneva. He further suggested that the Commission should approach the United States with a view to ensuring a stable market and fair prices for Chilean copper. He added that the rise in coffee prices would restrict consumption and that an agreement was necessary to prevent fluctuations in coffee prices, suggesting that the matter should be studied by ECLA. After signifying his appreciation of the work carried out by ECLA in connexion with the economic integration of Central America, he expressed the hope that decisive steps would be taken towards achieving real economic unity.

Mr. ITURRALDE CHINEL (Bolivia) referred to the remarks made in connexion with his country by the representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions. He said that the new Bolivian Government had completely reversed the previous situation and had proceeded to

/legislate for

legislate for the nationalization of the mines and land reform, with a view to improving the conditions of the working classes. He added that nationalization of private enterprises was not a permanent policy in his country but had been an emergency measure occasioned by bringing certain mining groups under state control. Finally, he said that trade unions were currently conducting their activities in complete freedom and that they supported the Government.

Mr. HERNANDEZ PORTELA (Cuba) stated that the United States did not monopolize sugar production in Cuba, and in fact purchased only a part of the output, a much larger part being sold to other countries.

Mr. MERCERON (Haiti) also refuted the reference to the existence of foreign monopolies in his country.

Mr. PEREZ VILLAMIL (Argentina) referred to the statements made by the representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions, concerning the situation of the workers in his country and said that there had certainly been an improvement in the living conditions of the workers. He paid tribute to the social achievements of General Perón's government. He said that although these achievements were not under discussion, the working class was the best qualified to comment on them, and six million organized workers had given their verdict on the Government's work.

Mr. YCAZA VASQUEZ (Panama) wished to associate his delegation with the tributes paid by others to the work of the Commission. He went on to explain the functions and importance of the Free Zone in Panama, adding that he had handed to the Executive Secretary some documents on the subject. They were also at the disposal of any delegates who might be interested.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.