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ILPES

Instituto Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Planificación Económica y Social
NACIONES UNIDAS CEPAL-PNUD GOBIERNOS DE AMERICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE

Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning
UNITED NATIONS ECLAC-UNDP LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS

Institut Latino-Américain et des Caraïbes de Planification Economique et Sociale
NATIONS UNIES CEPALC-PNUD GOUVERNEMENTS DE L'AMERIQUE LATINE ET DES CARAIBES



RESOLUTIONS OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF
THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR PLANNING

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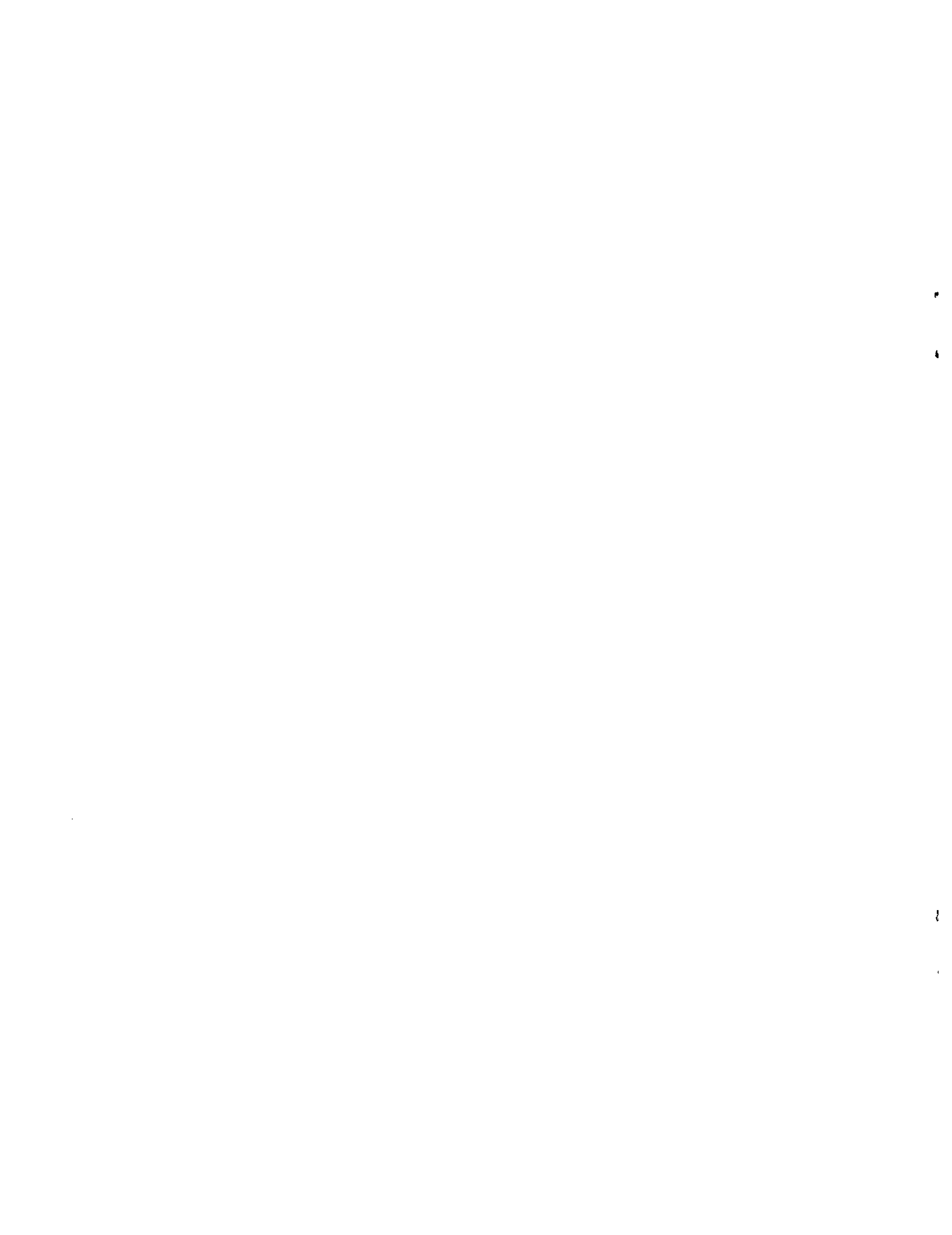
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FIRST MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Contadora Island, Panama (2 November 1975)

Recommendations

1. With respect to the items concerning ILPES, the preliminary report on the activities planned for the continuation of the fourth phase was discussed. The participants thought that the Institute should carry out and study activities in a number of areas which are listed below:
 - a) The activity of ILPES as the Secretariat or liaison and circulation office among the planning agencies. In this connection, it was felt that the kind of seminar being held in Panama on short-term economic planning and policy, which had been organized by ILPES, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy of Panama and the National Bureau of Economic Research was considered very positive. The seminar was attended by planners, experts and managers of central banks to discuss a subject which was an important topic for the countries. Again it was stated that it was desirable to have the ministries of planning meet and prepare bulletins for distribution on the planning experiences of the countries.
 - b) It was recommended that the Institute should specialize in a number of areas to avoid touching superficially on many areas and that it should complement work being done in planning by the countries. Special attention was drawn to the importance that regional development and urban planning could have within the context of global planning, which the Institute had already begun to deal with and to the sociopolitical aspects of planning, a subject on which work was being done by ILPES under the heading of Planning and the State.
 - c) Another concern was the need to study and recommend solutions to the problem of poverty and distribution of wealth. It was proposed that a seminar should be held on these subjects, based on three or four papers prepared by ILPES and the planning agencies of the countries.
 - d) It was also recommended that the analysis of the short-term policies and short-term with longer term integration should continue to be analysed. In respect of the document submitted at the Contadora Island Conference, it was agreed that these statements should be published after being edited by ILPES, NBER and the Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy of Panama. It was also proposed that a second seminar should be held on the subject.

- e) With respect to the training programmes, it was recommended that ILPES should consult the governments as to their training needs so that the course content might be tailored more to those needs than to the programmes of previous years which perhaps did not reflect the actual concern of the countries.
- f) In this connection, the Director of the Institute informed the meeting that a new programme had been drawn up during the year and that the general planning course had been reviewed with the collaboration of ECLAC and ILPES officials and professors who had no connection with these agencies. The support of the governments represented at the meeting was requested in resuming the planning course at the headquarters.
- g) The members of the Subcommittee and the guests said that the inclusion of general planning courses should be reconsidered because the courses did not appear to be suited to meet existing demands and that such a course at the headquarters of the Institute was not advisable at that time.
- h) ILPES was asked to make its courses more specific and less general. The members of the Subcommittee also insisted that the training programme and the course content should address the needs of governments directly and not be based only on past experience. It was also recommended that there should be a link with the higher education institutions of the countries, to which ILPES could offer collaboration in those subjects in which it specializes and in channelling students towards some of the already established centres.

SECOND MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Bogotá, Colombia (12 September 1976)

Recommendations

1. First Conference of Ministers of Planning

It was unanimously agreed to convene the Conference of Ministers of Planning, and to try to make it a permanent forum for Latin American planners. The offer made by the Minister Gumersindo Rodríguez was accepted and it was proposed that the first conference should be held in Caracas. It was recommended that the meeting should begin on a Thursday and should last three days between 5-20 April 1977, bearing in mind that the scheduling of other international conferences would make a later date very difficult.

The participants felt that the main purpose of the Conference of Ministers of Planning should be to exchange experiences among the planning agencies of countries and that, therefore, it would not be necessary to submit documents for discussion by international agencies. Special account was taken of the importance of having a forum for the planners to meet and examine the evolution of planning, its achievements and problems in the different countries.

It was suggested that the Institute could act as the technical secretariat of the Conference of Ministers and play a role similar to that of the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) in its relations with the central banks.

It was emphasized that the topics to be dealt with at the first conference should deal with the specific experiences of the participating Ministers. Hence, the difficulty arose of reconciling the generality implicit in selecting areas and the specificity required in dealing with individual cases.

The subcommittee suggested the areas and it was proposed that ILPES should define more specific subjects in line with the specific experiences which might be presented. These topics would then be submitted for consideration by the authorities of the technical committee and to the countries, which would make statements or comments.

The following areas were suggested:

- a) Experiences in sectoral and regional planning and its implementation. This topic would be discussed on the first day of the conference and deal with specific cases.
- b) The budget, the public sector and the plan. This topic would be discussed on the second day of the conference and cover the decision-making process, the definition of the area of action to be reserved for the private sector and the role of the public enterprises, with reference being made to specific examples.
- c) The meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES. Consideration, evaluation and definition of ILPES' functions, its financing, its administrative aspects and its links with the planning agencies of the countries.

This topic would be dealt with on the third and last day of the conference, together with its conclusions which would include the possible institutionalization of the conference and its aims for the future.

2. Programming and financing of ILPES

The Subcommittee felt that the difficult financial situation during the coming year would require prompt and decisive action to prevent a reduction in personnel and activities which might endanger the Institute's very existence and its services to the countries and an analysis of its functions and outlook in the medium and long term.

It was considered that the second aspect should be based on a more thorough review than could be made then and that it would be useful, on the occasion of the Conference of Ministers, to discuss the matter more fully and with the participation of the entire technical committee.

However, the participants felt that it would be advisable to deal with some of the substantive topics of the functions of ILPES and be appraised of its opportunities, bearing in mind the current financial restrictions.

It was agreed that the Institute had made and could continue to make a valuable contribution to the planning agencies of Latin America through its basic programmes of advisory assistance, training and research, but that to do this, it was necessary to remain within the frontier of science, incorporating new findings, renewing the aims of the past and upgrading and retraining the Institute's personnel and services.

It was particularly emphasized that the Institute should increase its contacts and relations with governments even more, in order to identify more closely with the concerns of the countries in the area of planning, so that its programmes could meet the changing needs of the governments and consider the progress that the planning teams of the countries had been making.

To that end, it was indicated that the role that ILPES had begun to play as the technical secretariat of the countries' planning agencies should be enhanced and that new forms of operation should be explored, which would allow for a greater exchange of experiences and a closer link between the Ministries on the one hand, and between the Ministries and the Institute on the other. It was stressed that consideration should be given to taking action similar to that carried out by CEMLA for the monetary and banking agencies of the countries, bearing in mind, however, that planning encompasses a larger number of topics and areas, thus rendering ILPES' work more complex.

Several participants suggested that the Institute, in order to maintain its leadership role, should incorporate new topics which were not dealt with by other agencies. In general terms, it was recommended that the topics should be comprehensive and not sectoral in nature since the sectoral areas were being dealt with by other United Nation bodies and by specialized institutions. The countries expressed concern for topics such as regional, urban, short and long-term planning, as well as planning implementation, decision-making and execution mechanisms, the co-ordination and definition of activities that should take place between the public sector and the private sector, and the role of public enterprises in a mixed economy.

Special mention was made of the fact that the expansion of the international bureaucracy and the proliferation of international bodies should be avoided. The existing agencies should, therefore, include new topics, depending on their comparative advantages and leave certain topics to be dealt with by the agencies which would inevitably be created. In reference to this concern, ILPES would involve itself with topics such as urban planning and the habitat but would gradually eliminate them as new international bodies were formed to deal with them.

Generally speaking, it was proposed that the Institute should not insist on covering topics which had already been successfully dealt with such as that of plans -- a book or abstract lines -- and that it should concern itself with specific problems of planning implementation and decision-making and execution mechanisms.

It was agreed that an evaluation of the programmes of ILPES should be made at the Conference of Ministers of Planning and on the basis of this a definition should be proposed of its functions, the kind of financing which would enable it in the long run to respond to the countries' requests.

Concerning the financial situation, the Director of ILPES gave a detailed account which made clear the difficult situation in which ILPES would find itself from 1 January 1977, when the contribution granted by UNDP for the last six months of the fourth phase (which would end in June 1977), would be reduced from 840 000 dollars to 400 000 dollars, bearing in mind that UNDP had originally allocated 800 000 dollars for the entire year. This drastic cutback combined with the reduction made during the year 1976 would force ILPES to retrench its professional staff from 28 to 12 persons, which would be below the critical minimum mass which could guarantee its effective operation.

The meeting was informed also about the new sources of financing. Foremost among them were the advisory assistance agreements shortly to be signed with the countries, the promises of voluntary support from those countries, the majority of which had responded positively to the request made in notes from the Chairman of the Technical Committee and the Executive Secretary of ECLAC; the agreements to be signed with countries outside of the region and the possible financing by the United Nations. The matter was being pursued by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

The financial situation in the medium and long term would therefore appear to be favourable if the recent support received by the Institute from numerous planning agencies of the region is also taken into account. That support had been expressed in meetings with Ministers in several countries and in communications sent to the Chairman of the Technical Committee, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC and the Director of ILPES. The level of demand for ILPES' services remained at a high level and it will be necessary to maintain an adequate staffing level to respond to it.

Several participants stated that the necessary bureaucratic proceedings were underway in their countries to include a contribution to the Institute in the 1977 budget. One participant indicated that he was not in a position to speak about the voluntary contribution since that depended on the competent agencies of his country which were currently studying it.

In view of the need to take urgent measures to avoid a traumatic situation in the near future, the following was agreed:

- a) To support the action taken by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to secure permanent financing for ILPES since it is a permanent agency of the United Nations. It was proposed that this request should be made for a total equivalent to 10 professional permanent posts and 10 local posts. To this end, the Ministers of Planning were requested to ask their colleagues for Foreign Affairs to give instructions to their missions to the United Nations to support the request both in the ACABQ and during the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.
- b) To request the UNDP authorities, through the appropriate official channels, to restore to ILPES the support and contribution previously agreed for the first half of 1977.
- c) To take the necessary steps to obtain from the Ministers of Finance of each country the inclusion of a contribution to ILPES, as stated in the notes previously circulated by the Chairman of the Technical Committee and the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs. It was suggested furthermore that the use of these new contributions should be programmed at the next Conference of Ministers of Planning.

The Subcommittee entrusted the Chairman of the Technical Committee with the task of despatching the necessary notes in accordance with the agreed measures. The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.

THIRD MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Panama City, Panama (21-22 April 1978)

Conclusions and Recommendations

The meeting reached conclusions and made recommendations both on the subjects that ILPES should deal with and on the different activities of the institution. A general framework was to be established, within which an effort should be made to include all activities and to forge a close link among them and explore new ways of linking them, with the attendant redefinition of the structure of ILPES.

The meeting noted with satisfaction the submission by the Executive Secretariat on the development of the new activities by ILPES and made special mention of the need to adapt the programme of work to the following recommendations:

1. Training

To strengthen national training activities and give high priority to ILPES' co-operation with the governments in the preparation and teaching of its national courses. Here special mention was made of the desirability of:

- a) Supporting the national courses by participating in the design and technical organization of subjects such as curriculum and study plans;
- b) Providing teachers from ILPES and ECLAC;
- c) Preparing and circulating the teaching material that was widely used in the courses, such as bibliographies, exercises and study cases;
- d) Promoting attendance by the officials of the countries of the region at national courses, as a form of horizontal co-operation.

To organize special courses on new topics of interest to the planning ministries and agencies. In this connection, it was recommended that training and operating activities should be carried out in the new areas in which the Institute can co-operate innovatively with the planning agencies. In particular, the following areas were noted:

- a) New planning techniques;
- b) Social policies (critical poverty, agricultural policies and social development);
- c) The environment;
- d) Relations between agricultural and industrial development;
- e) Economic integration and in particular the role of planning in the Caribbean region;
- f) Urban development and the effects of population concentration on the quality of life;
- g) Energy development;
- h) Population problems and rural and urban migration.

It was felt that these activities should be flexible and should be carried out on the basis of courses-seminars, encounters or round tables aimed at reaching highly qualified personnel holding positions of responsibility within the agencies.

With respect to the institution's regular courses it was felt that they should be retained but oriented to specifically to countries without an adequate national infrastructure. It was therefore agreed:

- a) To recommend that there should be a greater innovation in the topics of the courses both in terms of their approach and the actual subject matter covered;
- b) To encourage the rotation of the courses among different countries of the region;
- c) Through these courses to facilitate greater support for the countries that were relatively less developed economically;
- d) To give the courses a more pragmatic orientation by introducing the comparative analysis of the planning experiences in the countries and by inviting persons with experience in planning to make a presentation of the different national cases.

The general recommendations were:

- a) To ensure that the organization and the teaching of the courses were as flexible as possible, to enable them to adapt to the changing realities of the countries;
- b) To ensure that the courses responded as closely as possible to the national interests, particularly in the areas of competence of the governments;
- c) To try to ensure that the courses were conducted at a high technical level and were scientifically objective;
- d) To encourage co-ordination with the national and international training institutions, to avoid repetition and overlapping.

Finally, it was recommended to the governments that they communicate to the Institute their views on national training needs and priorities in the area of economic and social development and planning, so that ILPES could prepare a study indicating the needs and levels of human resources in the areas stated.

After the results of the study were known, ILPES would promote the integration of a system of training centres by fostering and co-ordinating co-operation among them.

2. Advisory assistance

- a) It was considered fundamental to use an integrated approach which included the other sectors of the Institute's activities since they could have obvious implications among themselves. In addition it was felt that the Institute should concentrate on activities in specific areas where the Institute had received requests from the countries because of its experience;
- b) With respect to the advisory assistance financed by the governments, it was believed that such assistance could be profitable and where possible could constitute a source of financing for ILPES. This role, however, should be fulfilled in harmony with the other specific functions within the comprehensive and flexible approach;
- c) In respect of the advisory assistance provided from the Institute's own resources, it was emphasized that such assistance should be concentrated on the areas where ILPES had a relative advantage, particularly because of its past experience or the availability of personnel trained in the subject. In this connection, mention was made of ILPES' co-operation potential deriving from its experience in long-

term economic and social development strategies in regional and agricultural planning;

- d) In order to implement the above recommendations satisfactorily it was deemed necessary to consult with the planning agencies of the region, so that they could offer or request advisory assistance, specifying the respective areas. ILPES would offer matching technical and financial resources. Furthermore, the advantage of using horizontal co-operation for advisory assistance of ILPES to the governments was also stated:
- e) It was also specially recommended that a service should be organized, which would make it possible to assist governments in organizing and hiring advisory assistance in planning;
- f) It was also recommended to the governments that, in using the resources applied to planning which they had decided to give as part of the indicative UNDP figure they should consider the possibility of spending most of it to finance activities which were useful to them, by taking advantage of ILPES' services since at the present time from 24% of UNDP resources in the region earmarked for planning, only a small portion was channelled through ILPES;
- g) As part of the overall concept described above, reference was made:
 - i) to the need to include new areas in ILPES' co-operation with the governments, which should cover areas where both ILPES and ECLAC had the installed intellectual capacity and which referred to new topics which could thus reach the planning agencies;
 - ii) for this, different procedures would be used such as permanent consultations with governments or the selection of areas by ILPES in consultation with them.

It was agreed that all activities concerning advisory services should be channelled and approved through the national planning agencies.

3. Co-operation and co-ordination among planning agencies:

- a) To promote discussion among planning agencies in respect of their specific experiences in both general and sectoral socioeconomic matters;
- b) To promote methodological discussions on how to tackle new subjects in the planning agencies (human settlements, environment, etc.);

- c) To publicize the progress made in the work and in planning research as widely as possible, by publishing the documents or a summary of the findings;
- d) To continue promoting horizontal co-operation not only among the countries but among groups of countries;
- e) To maintain the most complete information possible on the results of the different planning experiences in matters which are given priority by the planning agencies;
- f) To support the planning agencies in obtaining qualified Latin American staff or persons with the most up-to-date knowledge on planning, for the technical co-operation requirements in planning;
- g) To buttress and strengthen the concept of horizontal co-operation in planning, taking into consideration the existing recommendations and those which flow from the next conference of the United Nations on technical co-operation among developing countries, to be held in Buenos Aires.

4. Recommendations in respect of research

It was recommended that:

- a) The activities should aim primarily at strengthening the opportunities for innovation and training in advisory services;
- b) There should be encouragement to extend the knowledge of the emerging problems which were beginning to affect the countries of the region and which had been applied in the report;
- c) The national experiences on State planning and policies should be reviewed and an attempt made to obtain systematic comparisons to benefit the planning agencies;
- d) Research should be oriented to obtaining the conclusions that served as recommendations for policies within the planning process;
- e) Consideration should be given to the possibility of incorporating national techniques into the research conducted under the horizontal co-operation programmes.

FOURTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Santiago, Chile (14-15 February 1980)

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Technical Subcommittee considered the activities carried out by ILPES during 1979, the Sixth Phase of the Project financed by UNDP for the period 1980/1981 and the detailed programme of activities for 1980.

The Technical Subcommittee expressed its satisfaction at the results achieved and at the implementation of the recommendations by the Technical Committee of ILPES, and the Conferences of Ministers and Heads of Planning and of the resolutions of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

The Subcommittee further stated that the programming for the years 1980-1981 contained in the Sixth Phase of the Project financed by the UNDP also fitted in with the Bases and Guidelines set forth by the governments but that the Programme of Work for 1980 should be adjusted in line with the following recommendations:

As a general recommendation it was considered desirable that the action to be undertaken by governments under the Programme of Work of ILPES should be even more explicitly stated, both in respect of the activities to be carried out and their financing.

1. Training

It was considered desirable that:

- a) The topic of the planning of transport and communications should be included in training activities. A first study could therefore be conducted to promote a seminar for discussing and preparing a course on the subject.
- b) Closer links between the training activities of ILPES and the universities of Latin America should be considered.

- c) The national training activities should be strengthened and the foundations laid to permit them to be utilized by participants of other countries, thus furthering mutual co-operation among groups of countries of the region. Requests for assistance should be made to UNDP and to governments that are in a position to finance the participation of fellows from other countries in these training activities, using the indicative national figures as well as other resources.
- d) The importance of the interaction of ILPES experts with national planning agencies in the organization (both as regards the form and the content) of national training events in the field of planning, should be highlighted.
- e) Co-operation among national training centres should be strengthened.

2. Research

It was considered desirable that:

- a) There should be continued involvement in the subject of planning and social policies, and efforts should be made to link social policies with the issue of resource allocation, since there is likely to be heightened pressure in the future to gear them to promoting growth, to the detriment of the attention that should be paid to the most under-privileged groups.
- b) Research should also be carried out into the production of basic or minimum welfare goods, such as food, because while this issue is at the core of economic policy for achieving social progress it has not yet been accorded due consideration.
- c) The necessary measures should be taken to advise and inform the planning agencies in due course of the results of the research.
- d) Research on natural resources within the framework of planning should be incorporated in the plan of work.

3. Advisory assistance

It was considered desirable:

- a) Publicizing the results or findings of the advisory assistance missions (with the agreement of the respective governments) so that the experience can be utilized by the countries when they find themselves faced with similar situations, so as to obtain greater benefits for the region from national-level technical co-operation.

- b) In view of the experience acquired in short-term advisory assistance in planning, strengthening research and training on that subject and promoting co-operation and the exchange of experiences.
- c) Paying greater attention to advisory assistance at the regional and local levels, with particular emphasis on strengthening the capacity of the Institute to meet the new planning demands of local governments.
- d) Incorporating experts from planning agencies into advisory assistance missions, using horizontal co-operation mechanisms.

4. Co-operation

It was considered desirable:

- a) That ECLAC and UNDP should continue work, in close co-operation with the planning agencies, to establish horizontal co-operation machinery and submit a project for its operation and financing to the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning.
- b) To continue strengthening the publications programme and to prepare a project for presentation to the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning covering the organization, machinery and financial resources needed, in order to ensure that the publication and dissemination of the results of the activities of the Co-operation System and of ILPES, responds to the growing requirements of the countries of the region.
- c) To continue providing support to the planning agencies in setting up the Information System for Co-operation in Planning, and at the next meeting of Ministers and Heads of Planning to submit the bases and financial requirements for the regular operation of the System. It is also necessary to secure greater participation by the countries in defining the organization and scope of the System.
- d) That more technical encounters should be organized to discuss topics which are presented to the planning agencies as priority ones, and that preference should be given to the discussion of the following subjects: planning of natural resources, the environment and short-term planning, which should also be covered by the Research and Training Programmes.
- e) That preparation of a list of experts for horizontal co-operation activities should be initiated, with emphasis on those areas which are of the highest priority for the planning agencies.

5. Administration and finance

It was considered desirable to:

- a) Stress the considerable financial support that the United Nations Development Programme is providing and also the contributions by the United Nations to ILPES.
- b) Request an additional contribution from UNDP equivalent to the resources not utilized during the Fifth Phase.
- c) Prepare for the forthcoming Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning a detailed description of the priority activities that do not have sufficient financing and the proposals for obtaining the necessary resources.
- d) Thank the governments for their contributions to ILPES and urge them to increase this source of support, to enable the Intitute to meet the growing demands of the planning agencies.
- e) Highlight also the increase in bilateral contributions and in the resources obtained by ILPES through agreements for providing services.

Conclusions and recommendations of the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean

1. In discussing the subject of the organization of the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning, it was agreed:
 - a) To amend the preliminary annotated agenda by adding two more working hours each day, so as to have the greatest possible amount of time available for discussing the items.
 - b) To request the Secretariat to draft a document with proposals on the functioning of the System of Co-operation and Co-ordination among Planning Agencies, for submission to the plenary meetings at the technical level and to the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Planning.
 - c) To set the date of the meeting between 17 and 20 September, bearing in mind the prior commitments of Ministers and Heads of Planning during that period.
 - d) To request the countries to submit documents through the Secretariat on the agenda items of the conference and particularly on the state of planning.
 - e) To request the Secretariat to contact the planning agencies regarding the preparation of documents on the topics of Regional Planning and Planning and Science and Technology.

- f) To take note of the offers made by members of the Subcommittee to deal with the items:

Planning and Science and Technology: Peru, Brazil and Argentina.

Regional Planning: Mexico and Panama.

Design and Implementation of a Consultation and Community Participation System in the Preparation of the National Development Plan: The Case of Venezuela with the Sixth Plan (1981-1986): This presentation will be made by Venezuela (CORDIPLAN).

(See annotated agenda with the suggestions included in annex IV of the report of the Fourth Meeting of the Subcommittee).

Conclusions and recommendations of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Inter-American Planning Society

1. On considering the agenda item submitted by the Minister of Planning of Venezuela: Organization of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Inter-American Planning Society, to be held in Caracas, Venezuela, in October 1988, the Subcommittee agreed:
 - a) To give its full support to the holding of this meeting and to request the support of the planning agencies of the region;
 - b) To ask ILPES to give its full support and submit a paper on the present state of planning in the region.

FIFTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

San José, Costa Rica (29-30 November 1982)

Conclusions and Recommendations

At the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES, held in San José, Costa Rica, from 29 to 30 November 1982, the member governments, whose delegations were composed of representatives of the Ministries of Planning and planning organizations and observers from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, unanimously agreed as follows:

1. To take note of the document "ILPES: twenty-one years of activities, 1962-1982", to express their satisfaction for the excellent work done by the Institute in the countries of the region, and to recommend the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean to ratify this agreement. To this end, it was suggested that the Institute should circulate the above mentioned document among member countries with a statistical appendix giving the main figures involved.
2. To take note of the content of the document "ILPES: bases for a programme for the four-year period 1983-1986" and the areas of work proposed, recommending the Director to prepare a final and reorganized version in keeping with the views expressed at the meeting, complemented with a multiannual schedule indicating the priorities from year to year.
3. With respect to the economic and financial situation set forth by the Director of ILPES, it was recommended:
 - a) That member governments should establish a regular contribution to ILPES and that ILPES should submit a specific proposal in this connection to the Fourth Conference of Ministers, of which the governments should be advised sufficiently in advance;
 - b) That the Director of ILPES should activate and take the necessary measures for the implementation of this decision on financial co-operation from the countries within the parameters agreed upon by the meeting, prior to the Fourth Conference and also taking into account in the proposal put forward by the Institute the suggestions made by its different member countries;

- c) That governments should co-operate with the activities of ILPES by providing even more technical resources that could be used through the mechanism of horizontal co-operation.
4. To recommend that ILPES expand its activities in the Caribbean subregion, doing this with reference to the countries of the Caribbean subregion themselves.
 5. To approve, as amended at this meeting, the preliminary proposed agenda and organization of work of the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 11 to 12 April 1983.^{1/}
 6. To thank the Government of Costa Rica for its hospitality and for all its efforts to ensure the success of the Meeting.

^{1/} See annex V of the Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES. Revised proposals for the organization of the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 1983.

Note: Subsequent to the meeting of the Technical Subcommittee, and in response to a request from the Government of Argentina, consultations were held with the Officers of the meeting of the Technical Subcommittee and the dates of 9 and 10 May were finally set for the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

SIXTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Mexico City (28 and 29 November 1983)

The Sixth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES unanimously approves the following resolutions:

1. Takes note of the entry into operation of the regular system of complementary financing of ILPES activities adopted at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES, held on 10 May 1983 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Expresses its satisfaction at the collaboration of those countries which have signed the memorandum of understanding with ILPES or have pledged their contribution for 1984.

Exhorts those countries which have still not done so to decide at their earliest convenience on their voluntary contribution, and all member countries to make their 1984 contribution available as soon as possible.

2. Take note of the financial situation of ILPES for 1983 and of the prospects for 1984. In this respect, it:
 - a) Draws attention to the austerity efforts made by the head office of ILPES in the management of its resources;
 - b) Expresses its concern that in spite of the efforts made, there is still a substantial deficit for 1984 due to the as yet uncompensated cut in the contributions of the United Nations Development Programme;
 - c) Agrees that the United Nations Development Programme should be approached to reiterate the need to reinstate the resources needed to ensure the financing of the activities of ILPES at the average level maintained in 1982 so that the Institute can reach its objectives and carry out its functions;
 - d) Recommends that countries co-ordinated the planning activities included in their indicative planning figures (IPFs) and, if IPFs are available, that they be used to supplement the planning activities of ILPES;
 - e) Recommends that the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America should approach relevant United Nations bodies to increase the technical staff of ILPES covered by the regular United Nations budget;

- f) Requests the Director General of ILPES to convey in person to the Assistant Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and Director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America, the Subcommittee's appreciation for the support granted to the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning by the United Nations Development Programme over a period of 21 years. At the same time, it expresses its grave concern for the reduction in the contributions to the Institute and reiterates the need to maintain regular financial support.
3. Notes with approval the bases laid for providing impetus to horizontal co-operation and expresses its satisfaction with the valuable report prepared by the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. In this regard, it:
- a) Draws attention to the role of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning as a catalyst and liaison in the formulation and execution of the activities assigned to it;
 - b) Recommends that the planning bodies, with the support of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, take the action needed to strengthen the institutional and financial organization of horizontal co-operation on the lines proposed;
 - c) Urges the countries to promote and carry out concrete activities in the realm of co-operation in accordance with their priorities;
 - d) Requests the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning to explore with its member governments the possibility of decentralizing its horizontal co-operation activities in order to ensure their effectiveness. For such purposes, the Institute will formulate the mechanisms to render the system operational and propose them to the countries.
4. Notes with approval the outline of the report on progress in and obstacles to economic and social planning and policy in Latin America and the Caribbean (1982-1983), to be submitted by the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning to the Fifth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 1985). In this respect, it:
- a) Agrees to the method proposed for carrying the research out;
 - b) Proposes the incorporation of a substantive examination of the role played by planning in the region;
 - c) Recommends discussing the approaches which should be taken in the future with regard to the design of economic and social policy and to the monitoring of development objectives;

- d) Requests the planning bodies to provide the necessary support in preparing the base-line studies of each country.

With regard to the Fifth Conference of Ministers and Heads of State of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 1985), recommends that governments take that opportunity to exchange views on substantive matters relating to the role of planning in the region in the future, and suggest that representatives of ministries and bodies responsible for the execution of economic and social policies, in the monetary and financial realm, in particular, be invited to the conference in an observer capacity. Also draws attention to the need for representatives of ministries for Foreign Affairs to be present.

5. Notes with approval the programme of work for 1984 and the progress report for 1983, which are in line with the bases laid at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee (San José, Costa Rica) and at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee (Buenos Aires, Argentina).

Recommends that the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning should carry out a survey among the countries to confirm their technical co-operation requirements for 1984.

6. Notes with satisfaction that the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning will place greater emphasis on Central America and the Caribbean in the future, beginning this year, and urges it, in so far as its resources permit, to continue paying greater attention to these areas. In this respect, it:

- a) Requests the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning to implement a project to establish a subregional office of the Institute in Central America, including the relevant technical and financial studies, and to submit it to the Technical Subcommittee at its next meeting so that action approved at that meeting can be implemented;

- b) Requests the member countries to seek financial support from international or bilateral co-operation bodies, and in particular from the International Development Bank and the World Bank, independently of the official steps taken by the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning with regard to financing, in order to strengthen the Institute's activities in Central America and the Caribbean.

7. Suggests to the members of the Subcommittee that they propose that their governments, at the twentieth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America (Lima, Peru, 1984), jointly sponsor a draft resolution, an outline of which is contained in the annex to this resolution.

8. Expresses its satisfaction at the inclusion in meetings of the Subcommittee of a discussion on substantive matters relating to planning experiences, and draws attention to the important statement made by the representative of the Mexico Programming and Budget Office concerning the progress made in development planning.
9. Proposes that the seventh regular meeting of the Technical Subcommittee should be held in October or November 1984 and is pleased to accept the proposal made by the representative of Brazil that his country host the meeting, which will be held in the city of Brasilia.
10. Expresses gratitude for the hospitality offered by the Government of Mexico through the Programming and Budget Office and notes in particular the excellent way in which the meeting was organized.

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Brasilia, Brazil (3 and 4 December 1984)

The Seventh Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES unanimously approves the following Resolutions:

The Technical Subcommittee:

1. Notes with appreciation the Report on Activities of 1984 and approves the Bases of the Programme of Work for 1985 with the modifications introduced by the delegations and which figure in the present Report of the Rapporteur.
2. Notes the financial situation of ILPES for 1985 and the prospects for 1986. In this respect, it:
 - a) Recognizes with satisfaction the fulfillment by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC of the recommendation to propose to the United Nations an increase in the resources of ILPES in the regular budget of the United Nations.
 - b) Takes note of the proposal to add four professional posts to the permanent staff of ILPES, and requests the Chairman of the Technical Committee to invite the member governments of ILPES to support, in the appropriate organs of the United Nations, the approval of this increase in posts, which is crucial for the expansion of the professional critical mass of the Institution in 1986.
 - c) Reiterates its gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme which has supported ILPES since its creation, and requests the countries to negotiate with the UNDP Administrative Council a grant of resources to ILPES from 1986 onwards which is not less than the figure granted in 1984. In this respect, it calls upon ILPES to prepare the relevant Projects defining the activities to be financed by the UNDP, the results of which should be examined at the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES, which will be held in Mexico City in April 1985.
 - d) Requests the countries to agree with the UNDP on the utilization of part of their indicative planning figures, if available, to finance ILPES' activities in areas which have priority in the countries.

e) Thanks the member governments for their contributions to the New Institutional Project of ILPES, and requests the member governments which have not yet contributed to the New Institutional Project to give their most urgent consideration to making regular contributions to ILPES, in order to establish a minimum technical capacity which can respond to the requirements of the governments.

3. Approves the Proposed Agenda for the Fifth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico, 15-17 April, 1985) with the modifications that figure in the Report of the Rapporteur.

4. Approves, also with the modifications that figure in this Report, the technical bases of the Proposed Agenda for the Fifth Conference,

Requests ILPES to send these technical bases as soon as possible to all the Planning Agencies in the region, and

Invites the Secretariat of Programming and Budget of Mexico to intensify its contacts with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the region to ensure the best possible attendance at the Fifth Conference.

5. Takes note with satisfaction of the Report on the activities of ILPES in the field of horizontal co-operation and of the Results of the High-level Symposium on International Technical Co-operation (Mexico, 15-19 October, 1984).

6. As regards the change of name of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, the Subcommittee,

Considering that the Institute is a permanent United Nations organ which forms part of the ECLAC System;

Taking into account the recommendation adopted by the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee at its Seventh Session with regard to changing the name of the Commission to Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Resolution 455(XX) in this respect adopted at the Twentieth Session of the Commission;

Taking into account further the Resolution 1984/67 Paragraph I-1 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council which accepted this proposal and changed the name of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

Bearing in mind the activities in progress and the programmes of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning in the Caribbean countries, considering that this Institute constitutes with ECLAC the Technical Secretariat of the System of Planners of the Caribbean, which functions within the framework of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation

Committee (CDOC), and taking into account that it has been decided to set up the ECLAC/ILPES Unit for the Caribbean, which will begin to function in conjunction with the ECLAC Office for the Caribbean in Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago);

Recalling that the Technical Committee of ILPES, consisting of the Ministers and Heads of Planning of all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, is the largest organ of inter-governmental orientation of the Institute;

Recommends that the following proposals be submitted to the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES, which will be held on the occasion of the Fifth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, in Mexico in April 1985:

1. The proposal to change the name of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning to: Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning.
 2. The proposal to retain the acronym ILPES for the abbreviated denomination of the Institute, considering its generalized use in all languages and its recognition throughout the region.
 7. Takes note with satisfaction of the Report on new activities in the Caribbean and approves the orientations presented by ILPES.
 8. Notes with satisfaction the efforts being made by ILPES with the support of the ECLAC Office in Mexico, to expand its activities in the Central American Isthmus, recognizes in this respect that effective work is being done in the Subregion and requests ILPES and ECLAC and the member governments and regional and subregional agencies to continue their efforts to make possible an ILPES Office in the Subregion, and stresses at the same time the need to explore new forms of horizontal co-operation dedicated to the Subregion.
- Requests in particular ILPES and ECLAC to prepare, before the holding of the Fifth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning, the submission of various optional forms of procedure which would ensure the success of the efforts referred to above.
9. Expresses its great satisfaction at the fruitful exchange of ideas resulting from the excellent presentations of the planning experiences of Venezuela, the Caribbean and Brazil, and reiterates that this new mode of exchange of experiences on substantive topics within the framework of the Subcommittee is of prime importance, in order to foster still further co-operation in the Region in the area of the planning and co-ordination of public policies.

10. Emphasizes once again the very useful presence of observers from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Subcommittee.

11. Thanks the Planning Office of the Presidency of the Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil for their hospitality and expresses its appreciation for the excellent organization of the Meeting.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Bogota, Colombia (20 and 21 January 1986)

The Eighth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES, held on 20 and 21 January 1986 in Bogota, Colombia, unanimously approves the following resolutions:

1. Notes with approval the report on the activities of ILPES in 1985.
2. Approves the Programme of Work for 1986 and in particular:
 - a) Supports the continued concentration of activities in the fields of economic planning and policies; public sector planning and projects; social programmes and policies, and regional planning and policies, and also reiterates its support for the maintenance of the four priority core topics as guiding frameworks for interlinking the Institute's different activities and placing them in their due order: compatibilization of the short, medium and long-term decision-making processes; the implications for planning processes of the new form of insertion of the economies of the region into the international setting; the impact of the crisis in both its dimensions --on society and on the domestic space of the countries--, and the role of the State in Latin America and the Caribbean in the immediate future, viewed from the angle of the planning or co-ordination of public policies.
 - b) Suggests that within the core topic "Implications for planning processes of the new form of insertion of the economies of the region into the international setting" ILPES should consider:
 - i) An examination of the most important sources of information for estimating the future performance of the international economy;
 - ii) Study of the fundamental variables in the external setting which affect the planning and budgetary programming of the economies of the region, both as regards production and trade and as regards financial matters;
 - iii) Consideration by ILPES of the assumptions made by the developed economies in their estimates of these variables and the ways in which such assumptions could affect the region;
 - iv) Organization of a technical meeting to be attended by the member countries of the Subcommittee in August 1986 in order to consider the progress made in these activities, especially in the intergovernmental sphere.

- c) Highlights the important work carried out by ILPES during 1985 in the fields of advisory assistance, training and research.
- d) Takes note, with regard to the research programme planned for 1986, of the macroeconomic model proposed by ILPES and applied to various countries of the region. In this respect, it was recommended that it would be desirable to link this model mainly to the analysis of certain aspects of current macroeconomic policies, such as the factors of domestic inflation and the impact of the latter on the dynamics of relative prices. It was also considered necessary to carry out methodological studies on the dynamic comparative advantages of the region, for the purpose of long-term guidance in the formulation of development policies, and to study forms of concerted planning and programming of production and supply of goods and services for the satisfaction of the basic needs of the population, in the light of the exploratory efforts begun in some countries of the region.
- e) Accepts the follow up of the institutional organization of planning and of the instruments of decision making and administration used in the context of the regular activities of the Institute.
- f) Recommends greater emphasis on the study of public enterprises and their role within the State and, in particular, their importance in strategies involving new patterns of industrial development (and even of industrial reconversion) and in the overall public sector budget.
- g) Also recommends that under the programme in question work should continue on the design of regional policy proposals at the request of member countries, in view of the Institute's wide experience in regional planning.
- h) Expresses satisfaction at the measures aimed at setting afoot new activities in the area of municipal development planning, asks ILPES to support governments in this field and to link up with other bodies and/or projects already operating in this area.
- i) Recognizes the important contribution made by the Institute in the area of social policies and considers it desirable to strengthen its action in this field, in collaboration with specialized agencies, with emphasis on the programming of resources, social projects and the appraisal of public programmes.
- j) Recommends to the Institute that, with the support of national planning bodies, it should seek to establish links with the professionals who have participated in ILPES training activities.

- k) Supports the new publications programme of the Institute and recommends in particular that measures should be taken to intensify its regular communication with member governments in order to ensure that they gain a better knowledge of the benefits that can be obtained from the services offered.
 - l) Recommends that ILPES should establish early links with countries where new governments have taken office, in order to be at their disposal to fulfill requests for technical co-operation in the field of the planning and co-ordination of public policies.
 - m) Expresses its great satisfaction at the important work already undertaken by the recently established ILPES Unit for the Caribbean and endorses its programme of work and the lines suggested for the financing of its activities, such as contributions from governments, support for a subregional UNDP project for the Caribbean, specific financing from IDB and the World Bank, and agreements with bilateral co-operation bodies.
 - n) Requests the Director of ILPES to participate in or to send a representative to the next meeting of the CDCC, to be held in April 1986.
 - o) Reiterates the need to intensify the work of ILPES in the Central American countries and the need for ILPES to support the bodies which bring together Central American planners.
 - p) Recognizes the great efforts made by ILPES to link up with various international and bilateral co-operation bodies of non-member countries and expresses its great satisfaction at the support given by IDB, the new joint activities with EDI/World Bank, and the closer collaboration established with DTCD and CLAD.
 - q) Recommends support for the exchange of experiences and advisory assistance among government planning bodies within the programmes of technical co-operation among developing countries.
3. Approves the report of the Director on the execution and follow-up of the "New Institutional Project 1985-1986" and the bases for the 1987-1989 phase, and in particular:
- i) Expresses its satisfaction at the modernization of the management programme of the Institute and the intention to gradually adapt the technical organization to the programme of work;
 - ii) Reiterates that the countries should reaffirm and put into effect their financial contributions in order to place the Institute's budget on a normal basis within the framework of the "New Institutional Project";

- iii) Expresses its appreciation to the countries which have already made their contributions in accordance with the lines approved by governments at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES (Buenos Aires, 1983);
 - iv) Supports the measures designed to avoid the technical decapitalization of ILPES and reiterates its support for the minimum technical staff proposed in the "New Institutional Project";
 - v) Reiterates to United Nations bodies the need for them to approve new sources of financing to support the regular budget of the Institute in order to reaffirm its character as a permanent body with a stable budget;
 - vi) Once again expresses its gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its financial support to ILPES during 1986 and its permanent backing given through the network of Resident Representatives, and asks that ILPES continue to give support in the new phase of programming of UNDP so that it can work in such priority areas at the regional level as poverty, advanced technology and public policies, within the framework of the projects that member governments decide to support;
 - vii) Expresses its satisfaction at the greater support given by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to the Institute and asks him to continue his efforts to provide ILPES with more resources and greater freedom of action as a multilateral agency providing services;
 - viii) Requests the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to support, in particular, the expansion of the permanent staff of the Institute, in keeping with the austerity lines laid down in the "New Institutional Project".
4. Approves the proposal of ILPES with regard to the preliminary arrangements for the Sixth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, and in particular:
- i) Proposes that a central topic should be "The role of national planning bodies in a regional co-operation strategy to deal with the external crisis";
 - ii) Emphasizes the need to speed up the integration of the Latin American countries with those of the Caribbean, as a way of dealing with the present economic crisis;

- iii) Decides that the Institute should prepare detailed versions of the preparatory schemes of work in accordance with the proposal put forward and bearing in mind the discussions and suggestions made at the Eighth Meeting;
 - iv) Accepts the offer made by Cuba --which was selected by acclamation in this respect-- to serve as the host country of the Sixth Conference, to be held from 23 to 26 February 1987, and likewise accepts the CDCC proposal that a prior meeting of Ministers and Heads of Planning of the Caribbean should be held;
 - v) Expresses its satisfaction at the organizational arrangements proposed by the delegation of Cuba for the holding of the Conference.
5. Recognizes the Technical Subcommittee as a valuable instrument for providing substance guidance for the activities of ILPES and progressing in the process of co-operation and integration of the Latin American and Caribbean countries.
6. Expresses its satisfaction at the valuable exchange of experiences which has taken place in the Technical Subcommittee through the statements of Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Costa Rica, and suggests that ILPES should embark on the analysis of and research into the new methodological schemes being tried out in some countries of the region.
7. Reiterates its satisfaction at the valuable presence of participants from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Subcommittee, and of Peru as a special guest.
8. Expresses its gratitude to the National Planning Department of Colombia for the hospitality offered and lays emphasis on the excellent organization of the meeting, while also congratulating the Secretariat of the meeting for the support given by it.

NINTH MEETING OF TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF ILPES

Lima, Perú (1 - 2 December 1986)

The Ninth Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES, held in Lima, Perú, from 1 to 2 December 1986, unanimously adopts the following resolution:

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report on the activities of ILPES for the year 1986, highlighting the many activities carried out even in a situation of severe austerity.
2. Approves the outlines of the Programme of Work for 1987 and suggests that special consideration should be given to the following points:
 - a) To place greater emphasis on social development activities, productive employment and the generation of higher levels of income, and to strengthen the exchange of experiences in respect of social policies, especially those which contribute to eradicating poverty.
 - b) To lay greater emphasis on the links between planning and administrative management, institutional articulation of the public sector and the strengthening of community participation by recommending that the Institute continues its co-operation with other agencies in this area.
 - c) To highlight the study of the international context and consequently to follow closely developments in the international economic situation so as to prepare the region better as regards its relations in an increasingly complex world to support joint efforts by national planning agencies to keep abreast of and forecast events in the international economy.
 - d) To give renewed importance to the subject of the pre-investment and investment process by highlighting the aspects of science and technology, with a view to channeling resources to priority areas and eliminating social and regional disparities.
 - e) To support the initiatives taken by ILPES to obtain resources in order to permit it to strengthen its work in planning and social policies.
 - f) To recommend that the national planning agencies forward their comments to ILPES before the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Committee, so that the programme for 1987 can be suitably adjusted.

3. Draws attention to the holding of the International Seminar on New Orientations for Planning in the Market Economy and the great value of its conclusions and recommendations in the preparation of the new UNDP/ILPES project.
4. With respect to ILPES/UNDP Project RLA/86/029/A/01/52 "Elaboration and dissemination of new techniques in public policy planning and programming" it:
 - a) Highlights its support for the Project, which it considers to be well adapted to the needs of the countries and which fully reflects the guidelines established by the governmental forums that direct the activities of ILPES.
 - b) Expresses its appreciation to the Regional Office of UNDP for its approval of this Project, and agrees to transmit as soon as possible to the Regional Programmes Division of UNDP for Latin America and the Caribbean the agreement of all the countries present at this meeting of the Subcommittee in that respect.
 - c) Emphasizes that in the execution of this Project the active participation of the national planning agencies is vital for the creation of close co-operation in the development of the topics envisaged in the Project.
 - d) Stresses the need for the Technical Subcommittee to include in its agenda an analysis of the progress made in the Project to strengthen joint action by governments.
 - e) Underlines the need for the activities of ILPES and of the new regional project to be linked with those of other national or regional projects supported by UNDP and connected with ILPES activities.
5. With respect to the New Institutional Project 1987-1990:
 - a) Expresses its satisfaction at the execution of the recently concluded Phase, noting in particular the contributions made by the governments, which have contributed considerably to the development of the activities of ILPES in the last four years.
 - b) Urges those governments that have not already done so to give their financial support so that the first phase of the New Institutional Project can be put fully into operation.
 - c) Approves the outline for the new Phase 1987-1990 and the overall allocation of the resources assigned to governments, as proposed for detailed consideration at the Seventh Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES.

- d) Emphasizes the need for action to prevent erosion of the minimum critical mass of resources which enables ILPES to fulfill the many activities recommended by governments.
6. Taking into account the special characteristics of the economic and social development of the Central American Isthmus and the urgent need to strengthen the efforts in the fields of co-operation, reactivation and growth undertaken by the governments of the subregion, and also in response to the decision taken by the governmental forums which guide ILPES in respect of decentralization of its activities, the Technical Subcommittee has pleasure in supporting the offer by the Government of Costa Rica to provide the headquarters for the ILPES Unit for the Central American Isthmus. At the same time, it calls on all international and co-operation agencies which are working in the zone to lend their support to this initiative. It requests the other governments to give support for this proposal at the next meeting of the Technical Committee.
 7. Expresses its satisfaction at the activities carried out by the Joint ECLAC-ILPES Planning Unit for the Caribbean and reiterates the need to give it more resources in order to make its work of technical assistance to the countries of the subregion more effective. The Subcommittee also recommends that UNDP and bilateral agencies should support the initiatives proposed for 1987 and should collaborate by providing the necessary resources for strengthening the Unit's Programme of Work.
 8. Expresses its satisfaction at the programme to commemorate 25 years of existence of ILPES, an agency which is part of the patrimony of the region, and invites the national planning agencies to take part in the various technical encounters which will be prepared in this connection.
 9. Reiterates its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme for its continued support to the governments and to ILPES and highlights the valuable participation in the Subcommittee of the Director of the Regional Programmes Division. It thanks the network of Resident Representatives and pays tribute to the invaluable support given to ILPES activities. It recommends that ILPES' services be used, at the discretion of each government, in national UNDP programmes carried out under the direct management of the governments.
 10. The Subcommittee thanks the Department of Technical co-operation for Development, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank for their valuable co-operation and also expresses its appreciation to the institutions and non-member governments that give their support to ILPES' activities.
 11. It takes note of the request of the representative of Brazil, that Portuguese should be considered as a working language in the government forums of ILPES and requests this institution to consult with the appropriate authorities of the United Nations.

12. With respect to the Sixth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in La Havana, Cuba, from 23 to 26 March 1987; the Subcommittee:
- a) Expresses its satisfaction at the preparatory work and the promotion that has already been carried out by the Government of Cuba, which guarantee the full success of the meeting.
 - b) Approves the proposed agenda for the Conference and supports the technical outline submitted by ILPES for guiding the debates.
 - c) Highlights the need for a pragmatic and practical approach to analysing and reformulating the work of the national planning agencies in respect of the work of co-operation and integration in the region.
 - d) Emphasizes the efforts to promote and carry out an exchange of experiences in the area of social policies.
 - e) Invites all the national planning agencies to prepare and submit their opinions and national experiences on the central themes of the Conference.
 - f) Suggests that the necessary efforts should be made to guarantee operating in the region so that a balance-sheet of experiences can be drawn up and medium and long-term scenarios can be reformulated bearing in mind the dynamic trends of international trade.
 - g) Suggests that consideration be given to the question of the insertion of the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean into the world economic context, dealing with such aspects as structural change, industrial redeployment, economic predictions, and the effects of these elements associated with social aspects.
 - h) Suggests that an analysis should be made of efforts and viable options designed to ensure that co-operation and integration place greater emphasis on the role of science and technology in the development process.
13. Thanks the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for its backing and requests it to continue to give its support to the Institute both in processing its projects and in connection with the transfer of resources envisaged within the ECLAC system.
14. Expresses its great satisfaction at the valuable exchange of experiences that took place in the Subcommittee through the statements by Perú, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico and the interventions and comments made by the members of the Subcommittee.

15. Expresses its satisfaction at the valued presence of representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Subcommittee and of a special guest representing Argentina.
16. Thanks the National Planning Institute of Perú for the hospitality granted to the participants and the excellent support provided in order to ensure the success of the Meeting.

**RESOLUTION OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS
OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR PLANNING**

Caracas, Venezuela, (28-29 March 1988)

1. Whole-heartedly approves the report of activities of ILPES for 1987, notes with satisfaction that these activities have conformed to the guidelines of the member governments, and recognizes that the resources were properly utilized and that the quality and quantity of the work performed attest to the high productivity of ILPES.
2. Likewise approves the bases of the Programme of Work for 1988 and requests ILPES to incorporate the suggestions of the delegations which will appear in the report of the Rapporteur, recommending in particular that consideration be given to a greater concentration of efforts on those activities with regard to which the governments have emphasized their priorities.
3. Expresses its satisfaction at the auspicious start of the activities of the ILPES Office for Central America and Panama and expresses its agreement with its work for 1988 as contained in the programme of activities of the Institute.
4. Takes note of and fully supports the updating of the New Institutional Project 1987-1990. In this connection, in view of the serious situation regarding its own resources, it reiterates the urgent need for those governments that have not yet done so to regularize their contribution status in order to restore balance to the financial situation of the Institute and to guarantee the continuity of its efficient functioning.
5. Approves, in accordance with the terms of the reports submitted to this forum, the suggested efforts to obtaining fresh sources of financing to consolidate the functioning of the Institute in the medium term and, particularly, to help to maintain a stable technical core staff within the terms agreed upon in the New Institutional Project.
6. Recommends the institutionalization of an ordinary meeting between the Director General of the Institute and the Chairman of the Regional Council for Planning, for the purpose of ensuring the most effective implementation of the Institute's Programme of Work, at a date between the meetings of this forum.

7. Considers most useful and approves the proposal of the delegation of Uruguay, supported by the delegate of Cuba in his capacity as representative of the Chairman of SCCOPALC, that the Seventh Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning should consider as a key issue the role of national planning bodies in the strategies aimed at securing for Latin America and the Caribbean a better insertion in the international economy of the future, and requests the Institute to propose to the governments a detailed outline for dealing with this issue, to be discussed at the Eleventh Meeting of the Presiding Officers.
8. Expresses once again its gratitude to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC for the support given to the Institute and requests him to expand this support in order to make it possible to meet the new demands of the member governments and, in particular, to secure the formal materialization within the United Nations of the technical and organizational restructuring of the Institute approved at the last meeting of the Regional Council for Planning. Likewise, it expresses its agreement with the personnel policy of the Institute as described in the reports submitted to this forum.
9. Expresses its satisfaction at the approval by the governments and by UNDP of the Regional Project "Elaboration and Dissemination of new techniques in public policy planning and programming" endorses the recommendations of the First Tripartite Governments-UNDP-ECLAC/ILPES Meeting, held in Caracas, on 29 March 1988.
10. Accepts with grateful thanks the offer by the Government of Costa Rica that the city of San José should be the venue of the Eleventh Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning to be held late in 1988.
11. On the basis of the resolution of the Sixth Regional Council for Planning and on what has been approved at the present forum, decides to submit a draft resolution on ILPES to the twenty-second session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, which will include the report of this Tenth Meeting of the Presiding Officers.
12. Supports the efforts of the Institute to co-ordinate its activities with those of other bodies such as CLAD, PAHO, RIAL and UNITAR.
13. Expresses its appreciation to the Central Office for Planning and Co-ordination of the Office of the President of the Republic of Venezuela (CORDIPLAN) for the excellent organization of the Tenth Meeting of the Presiding Officers and for the hospitality received.

**ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL
COUNCIL FOR PLANNING**

San José, Costa Rica, (14-15 November 1988)

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/01

1. Approves with satisfaction the report on the ILPES activities for 1988 carried out so far and supports the progress of the three programmes of the New Institutional Strategy (modernization of management, improvement of technical work and the New Institutional Project) and expresses once again its appreciation of the appropriate use the Institute has made of its available technical and financial resources.
2. Also approves the initial lines of the 1989 work programme and requests ILPES to incorporate the proposals of the delegations, as registered in the report of the rapporteur, and recommends that the following observations be taken into account:
 - 2.1 With reference to advisory activities:
 - a) Expresses its satisfaction at the concentration of activities in investment programming and project banks, which are priorities for national planning bodies.
 - b) Requests the strengthening of this line of activity and recommends that the Institute present national and regional projects to international agencies in this connection.
 - 2.2 With reference to training activities:
 - a) Requests closer links between ILPES and governments, universities and training specialists for evaluating the present training needs in planning and public policy co-ordination, and approves the offer of a meeting with the Universidad Nacional de Brasilia (UNB), the results of which should be presented to the next Regional Council for Planning.
 - b) Urges the Institute, while making these consultations, to concentrate the resources made available specifically for training from UNDP/ILPES Project RLA/86/029 on activities in Central America and the Caribbean.

2.3 With respect to activities related to the public sector:

- a) Expresses its satisfaction at the valuable work carried out, especially as regards the links between planning and management; public sector financing; and the treatment of decentralized bodies and public enterprises.
- b) Considers that the activities in the areas of research and the promotion and organization of technical meetings are making a substantial contribution to the clarification of problems and the definition of alternative strategies for managing public sector action in pursuit of economic and social development goals.

2.4 With respect to activities in the field of social and planning policies:

- a) Expresses its satisfaction with the contributions the Institute is making to the rationalization of social policies and to methodologies for evaluating social projects.
- b) Gives its backing to activities for strengthening popular-level economic activity and social sector entities (co-operatives, microenterprises, etc.), as well as to the project in this field recently approved within the ECIAC system and presented for consideration to the Government of Italy.
- c) Recommends in addition, the establishment of contacts with other financing organizations interested in promoting this kind of activity (such as the Inter-American Development Bank), as well as with programmes being carried out by different member governments.

2.5 With respect to activities in the field of regional plans and policies:

- a) Considers it important to continue concentrating research and meetings on the topics of decentralization, deconcentration and regionalization, since many of the countries of the region attach priority importance to these processes.

2.6 Congratulates ILPES on the many publications produced and distributed in connection with the Eleventh Meeting of the Presiding Officers. Their quality shows the level of productivity achieved by the technical work of the Institute.

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/02

1. With reference to ILPES/UNDP Project RLA/86/029:

1.1 With respect to the activities already carried out:

- a) Expresses its satisfaction at the significant achievements of the ILPES/UNDP project since the last tripartite meeting held in Caracas, Venezuela, in March 1988.
- b) Recognizes the contribution the project is making to the improvement of public policy planning and co-ordination.
- c) Highlights the close collaboration of the project with national planning bodies and its relationship with regional and national projects of the United Nations and other institutions related to public policy planning and co-ordination.

1.2 With respect to the future prospects of the project:

- a) Expresses its concern that the resources allocated are insufficient for meeting the demands of the governments and considers that the necessary flexibility for meeting specific government requests, which cannot be identified with anticipation, should be incorporated in the project monitoring schemes.
- b) Respectfully requests the Administrator of UNDP to support a review of the project budget in order to restore the balance between resources and activities present in its original version.
- c) Requests the Director-General to arrange for ILPES to develop project ideas in consultation with the governments in order to ensure the continuation in ILPES of the new activities set in motion under the present project, after its termination in 1990.
- d) Recommends the development of parallel projects with the United Nations Development Programme in order to strengthen activities which are assigned priority by governments and to put more emphasis on assisting the Central American and English-speaking Caribbean countries.

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/03

With reference to the ILPES Office for Central America and Panama:

1. Expresses its satisfaction with the work carried out by the ILPES Office for Central America and Panama and approves the general lines of its work programme.
2. Requests the governments of the subregion, other Latin American and Caribbean governments, and governments outside the region, as well as bilateral and multilateral co-operation organizations, to:
 - a) Support the activities of the Office.
 - b) Co-operate in their execution.
 - c) Provide it with the necessary resources to guarantee the continuity of its work and enable it to help develop solid infrastructures for co-operation in ILPES activities among the countries of Central America and between them and the rest of the region.
3. Supports the project for the training of human resources for development in Central America, Panama and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean which has been presented for financing to the Government of The Netherlands, and appeals to that government to approve it.
4. Supports the project for strengthening information systems for planning public investment in Central American countries which is to be presented for consideration to the Government of Italy, and appeals to that government to support it.
5. Acknowledges with appreciation the great support given by the Government of Costa Rica for the installation and financing of the office in its first year of activity, and the permanent support given to ensure its effective functioning.

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/04

With regard to the New Institutional Project (document E.IX.04), the Eleventh Meeting of Presiding Officers approves the updated version put before it and with respect to this project:

1. Expresses its concern over the delay of some governments in paying their contributions to the Institute, thus seriously threatening the stability of its regular budget, and in this connection:
 - a) Instructs the Chairman of the Regional Council for Planning and its Presiding Officers to communicate this serious situation to governments and ask them to make an effort to bring up to date their agreed contributions to the New Institutional Project.
 - b) Requests the Presiding Officers to take steps in their own countries to facilitate the payment of these arrears of contributions to the Institute.
 - c) Requests the Director-General of ILPES to propose to the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning ways of dealing in particular with the lack of contributions from the English-speaking Caribbean countries.
 - d) Instructs the Director-General of ILPES to propose systems for supplementing the financing of the Institute's activities and to present such proposals at the Eighth Session of the Regional Council for Planning in Montevideo.
2. Recommends that, in order to increase the Institute's capacity to attend to the needs of the governments of the region, the United Nations Development Programme, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank and other organizations, should be approached with a view to obtaining their support for specific programmes and projects for which the Institute is the executing agency.

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/05

With reference to intergovernmental bodies specifically concerned with public policy planning and management:

1. Approves the preliminary draft agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the Regional Council for Planning, to be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in May 1989.
2. Requests ILPES to propose to the next meeting of the Regional Council for Planning a minimum set of rules for the composition and functioning of the Presiding Officers.
3. With respect to the agenda for the Seventh Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean:
 - a) Approves the preliminary draft.
 - b) Requests ILPES, jointly with the President of SCOOPALC and the host country of the Seventh Conference, to make the necessary arrangements and send out invitations so that the meeting can be successfully carried out within the framework of SCOOPALC.
4. Expresses its agreement with the central theme of the Conference: "Development, External Insertion and Planning", as well as with the proposals made by the Director-General of ILPES for the technical orientation of the work and with the suggestions put forward by the delegations to the Eleventh Meeting of the Presiding Officers for defining the approach to this theme.
5. Requests the Director-General of ILPES to make the necessary contacts with governments for preparing this meeting in such a way as to strengthen the exchange of experience within the framework of SCOOPALC.
6. Requests the Director-General of ILPES to consult with the Government of Spain about its offer to host in Madrid, in 1992, the Special Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Planning, as part of the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America.
7. Expresses its satisfaction at the full participation of representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the Eleventh Meeting of Presiding Officers, thus confirming a tradition established in November 1982.
8. Expresses its appreciation to the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica (MIDEPLAN) for the excellent organization of the Eleventh Meeting of Presiding Officers and for the hospitality received in the course of this meeting.

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/06

With respect to the inter-agency relations of ILPES:

1. Acknowledges with appreciation the significant financial support given by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to national projects and to governments and expresses its appreciation to the Bank for designating ILPES as executing agency.
2. Requests the support of IDB for establishing an electronic communications network (including facsimile facilities) connecting the national planning offices in order to expedite the functioning of SCOOPALC.
3. Acknowledges with appreciation the support given by the World Bank and its Economic Development Institute in their joint activities with ILPES.
4. Expresses its thanks for the support of non-member governments such as The Netherlands, France, Spain and Italy and urges them to continue supporting the work programme of the Institute.
5. Expresses its satisfaction with the close relations maintained by ILPES with such organizations as PAHO, UNESCO, UNICEF and others in the execution of joint activities.
6. Acknowledges with thanks the constant support for ILPES activities given by the network of Resident Representatives of the UNDP.
7. Expresses its thanks once again to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC for his constant support of the Institute, and requests him to give ILPES his fullest backing in the execution of its work programmes and in meeting the demands of member governments.

RESOLUTION M.D./XI/07

With respect to the ILPES Office for the Caribbean:

1. Expresses its satisfaction with the work achieved, which has been directed from ILPES headquarters because the post of co-ordinator is temporarily vacant.
2. Requests the member governments, governments from outside the region, and bilateral and multilateral co-operation bodies:
 - a) To support the activities of the Office.
 - b) To co-operate in their execution.
 - c) To provide it with the resources needed to guarantee the continuity of its work and to contribute to developing solid co-operation relations in ILPES activities among the countries of the subregion and between them and the rest of the region.

