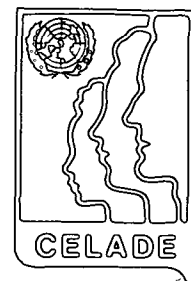


CENTRO LATINOAMERICANO DE DEMOGRAFIA



VII REUNION DEL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO

○ SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN WITH REGARD TO  
RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE  
GOVERNING BOARD AT ITS SIXTH MEETING

CD7/5  
Serie G, No. 54

Santiago de Chile  
Abril de 1974

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## ACTIONS TAKEN

(Note: The number of the paragraph refers to that containing the recommendation in the Report on the Sixth Meeting of the Board (CD7/4)).

1. Paragraph 16. Please refer to section III.4 of the Report on Activities (CD7/7) and the Work Programme (CD7/8), section III.3.
2. Paragraph 24. Please refer to section III.2 (last paragraph) of the Report on Activities (CD7/7).
3. Paragraph 36 and 37. The type of collaboration suggested should be made at the highest level of the United Nations organizations through a coordinated plan in which CELADE would have a specific function. The possibility of direct contact between FAO and CELADE would be reduced more to projects of limited scope. At the moment, CELADE's programme does not include research projects on the relationships between population and food.
4. Paragraph 44. Assistance similar to that offered Chile in the PESMIB Programme -mentioned in the Work Programme (CD7/8)- is expected to materialize for Costa Rica. The institution is disposed to render its collaboration in programmes of this type to other countries, dependent on receiving requests from them.
5. Paragraph 51. CELADE has been in contact with professionals working in Africa and Asia in research of the nature mentioned by Professor Tabah.
6. Paragraphs 63 and 67. The comments on the Report of the Review Mission on CELADE that Dr. Rodrigo Gutierrez sent to the UNDP and the members of the Mission are included as an annex. In addition, the UNDP Representative to the Board forwarded the observations made during the Sixth Meeting of the Governing Board of CELADE to the Programme's Headquarters.
7. Paragraph 75. Of the three fields mentioned by Mr. Ratinoff as having priority, CELADE has made advances in several aspects connected with the subject population and health. As for the development of studies relating to the rural area, a research project on the transfer of agricultural to the nonagricultural labor force should be mentioned, as referred to in the Report on Activities (CD7/7) and the Work Programme (CD7/8). In addition, CELADE/San Jose collaborates with the Central American Programme for the Social Sciences, whose programme includes the execution of studies on rural development in Central America. In the field of education and population, a study will be initiated in 1974 whose purpose is to investigate the influence of the rate of demographic growth, the trends toward metropolitanization, and the educational system (particularly the level of education reached by the population) on the labor force, as mentioned in the Work Programme (CD7/8). Likewise, preliminary contacts with UNESCO have been made which are expected to materialize eventually into some project.

8. Paragraph 101. On 16 May 1973, the request for financial assistance for the year 1974 was submitted to UNFPA, including for the period May-December 1974 several items that the UNDP would finance only until April of that year. This request was submitted to the UNDP Governing Council in its XVII session (14 January - 1 February 1974), which approved the corresponding budget for the year 1974 for a total amount of US\$ 1,181,080. A possible meeting of donors outside of the United Nations could be convened during 1974, when there is a clearer idea of how long CELADE will continue to function.
9. Paragraph 103. On 7 December 1973, a meeting was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, attended by the Executive Secretary of ECLA, the Executive Director of UNFPA, the Director of the Population Division of the United Nations, the Director of CELADE, and various officials of these organizations and of the Offices of Statistics and Technical Cooperation of the United Nations. On that occasion, the coordination of activities of ECLA and CELADE in the area of population and the establishment of a Joint ECLA/CELADE Unit were discussed, and the objectives and research programmes of the Unit outlined.
10. Paragraph 107. In order to implement this recommendation, it would be indispensable for CELADE to be forewarned of the trips that members of the Governing Board planned to take to the various countries. Otherwise, the suggested promotional activity will depend exclusively on the initiative of each member of the Board.
11. Resolution CD6/1. Regarding the Resolution adopted by the Governing Board in its Sixth Meeting, the Chairman of the Board personally carried to New York copies of said Resolution to be delivered to representatives of the Latin American countries in the Economic and Social Council, in order that they support actions tending to ensure both economically and administratively the continuation of CELADE. Likewise, on 7 May 1973, Mr. Enrique Iglesias sent letters to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the countries of the region, members of the Economic and Social Council, of the Governing Council of the UNDP, and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, with the purpose of requesting support from their respective government on the same issue.

A N N E X

COMMENTS ON THE REPORT OF THE REVIEW MISSION PRESENTED BY  
IRENE B. TAEUBER, WILLIAM L. VISSER, ROBERT O. CARLETON,  
AND ULLA OLIN, MARCH 1973

Dr. Rodrigo Gutiérrez

Clarification:

These comments are made because the undersigned does not fully support said report in terms of its organization, nor in some of the many conceptual affirmations expressed there, nor in its conclusions and final recommendations.

Nevertheless, it should be very clear that there is accord in general terms with the basic content of the report, which is considered to fit reality.

The divergences between the group that wrote the report and the undersigned arise from the following:

1. That there was no briefing with the rest of the members of the Mission, which could have united procedures, criteria, and possibly concepts.
2. That the report was published without previous consultation with the undersigned.
3. That there was no definition as to methodology of the evaluation that was proposed to be made nor qualitative or quantitative indicators that would permit better specification of the diagnosis.

General observations:

1. In the report, there does not exist a concrete narration that reflects the opinions expressed by the numerous persons interviewed in San Jose and San Salvador. Ministers and Vice-Ministers of State, Directors of National Offices of Statistics and Censuses, high officials in national planning offices, etc., were asked for their personal judgment of CELADE based on the experience accumulated in their past relations with the institution. In every case, they expressed a very favorable opinion of CELADE remaining as an institution dedicated to Latin American demographic research that would continue offering advisory services to the governments and in the training of demographers. Likewise, they expressed the desire that CELADE should maintain its activities in the area for a period of no less than ten years.

2. In the report, considerations and even affirmations in one sense or another are expressed on various aspects of the internal policy of different divisions of the United Nations, which was not a subject of official discussion by the Review Mission nor was it embraced in the terms of reference of the Mission.
3. The report repeatedly represents CELADE as having functions different from those that it actually fulfills, for example:
  - a) It says that "CELADE is an institution designed to transfer technology to the countries it serves".
  - b) It points out as a deficiency of the institution the inadequate "dissemination" of the information on population that it produces and of the understanding of "the aspects related to economic development of the Latin American countries".
  - c) It makes CELADE "responsible for translating the results of technical research into a common and comprehensible language".
4. The report makes recommendations not supported by the undersigned to resolve the problems that arise from interdisciplinary communication among CELADE's members, such as that it should provide "opportunities for advanced training in one or another of the social sciences to those staff members whose training is mainly demographic and in demography for those staff members whose training is mostly social science".
5. In paragraph 11, page 4, the extension of three years agreed to by the UNDP is mentioned, but the express request of the interested governments, who recommended an extension of five years, is not referred to.
6. In paragraph 15, page 6, the conclusion of the proposition is missing, which is that "CELADE should continue its efforts at the request of the high officials interviewed in the governments of El Salvador and Costa Rica for a sufficiently prolonged period, as they were satisfied with the work carried out by CELADE to the present and, in addition, recognized that the public institutions of these two countries working in this field were not prepared to assume the totality of the functions that had been fulfilled by CELADE".
7. In paragraph 30, page 11, the paragraph should be completed with an explanation of the expenditures, which originated in new projects and new demands that if left unexplained could mistakenly represent the accelerated growth that expenditures have experienced.
8. Likewise in paragraph 34, page 12, amounts are indicated without comment on the activities undertaken, the scientific production and the advisory services offered to the countries, or teaching effort carried out. The figures as they have been presented can give a false idea of the justification of the growth in expenditures of the institution.
9. Paragraph 57, page 19, contains a statement that does not reflect the feeling of the undersigned, who cannot support it.

10. In paragraph 69, page 22, the undersigned suggests that the entire following sentence be eliminated, as it is totally incomprehensible: "The institutions being assisted are Latin American and the people providing the assistance are also Latin American".

11. In part 2 of the report, page 31, very personal opinions of the authors of the report are unnecessarily mixed with collected information and with the recommendations made to resolve policy situations or definitions (for example, paragraphs 107, 108, 111).

12. In paragraph 121, five questions are asked that in themselves constitute peremptory recommendations but when analyzed critically seem unnecessary in order to determine future policies of the institution or to decide the financial and administrative location of CELADE from the point of view of the United Nations. Question 1, aside from compelling and especially complete investigation, defines no terms for calculating demands and acknowledges that it is unnecessary for CELADE's Governing Board to fix policies, as these are determined by the demands of the member countries. Question 2 suggests carrying out a resource survey for the training of statistics and demography at a regional level, which could not be separated from a study of human resources, professional and technical, in the area. The undersigned considers this study unnecessary given that CELADE's courses are very short term, for which the annual adjustment for admission of students can be done in common accord with the demands received by the countries of the region.

The third question starts from the principle that there exists an "imbalance" in the services that CELADE offers the region, which is false because what it has done is to satisfy the demands of the countries that by reason of their development have taken best advantage of CELADE's services.

Question 4 is not clearly formulated, as it appears to imply the fear that CELADE's professional staff is not capable of assuming greater responsibilities in the future.

The fifth question could be an operative recommendation. Finally, the undersigned wants to put on record the difficulty in being more precise in the observations on the report, as its format does not facilitate its reading.

And as a point intimately related to the report of the Review Mission, it should be recorded that the report would have been better, in the area related to Costa Rica and El Salvador, if the Resident Representatives of the United Nations had adequately organized the interviews with the high officials with whom it desired to speak. In El Salvador, the members of the Mission experienced disagreeable surprise at discovering that none of the persons interviewed had been requested an appointment in advance and that they were ignorant of the purpose of the Mission; in Costa Rica, the problem was not so serious due to the willingness of the public officials who were requested appointments to give them with little difficulty.

6 July, 1973.





## A D D E N D U M \*

### COMMENTS ON THE REPORT OF THE REVIEW MISSION

Gastón Ormeño T.

When the Report of the Review Mission was presented to the Sixth Meeting of the Governing Board of CELADE, the undersigned stated that he would not subscribe to said document as he had not participated in nor been consulted on its preparation.

The preceding did not necessarily mean that he disagreed with all the recommendations proposed therein, but that some of them need special comment.

As a way of synthesizing the observations, reference will be made exclusively to the "Recommendations" that appear in the Report of the Review Mission, preceded by comments of a general nature.

The undersigned participated in the Joint Review Mission in his capacity as member of CELADE's Governing Board and as representative of the Chilean government. However, it should be clarified, as stated in the Terms of Reference for the Mission, that the Chilean representative participated in the Mission's work only in Chile and Peru, which were the first countries visited.

That the Recommendations of the Report would indicate the Governments' evaluation of CELADE was of special interest, as the undersigned represented one of the signatory countries of the Project. In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Mission, one of the aspects that the Mission should attempt to evaluate was the opinion of the Governments receiving CELADE's assistance. Unfortunately, this opinion is not clearly expressed in the final Report of the Mission.

Paragraph 119 transcribes part of Resolution CD4/1 adopted at the Fourth Meeting of CELADE's Governing Board, which requests the UNDP Administrator "to exhaust all means within his power in order that CELADE should soon become a project of at least ten years' duration...". This Resolution, which on that occasion reflected the opinion of the countries signatory to the Project and was reaffirmed by the Governments during the Review Mission (at least, in the cases of Chile and Peru), is not made explicit in the current Report, an omission that the undersigned finds unfortunate.

In addition, the undersigned does not support the recommendations that appear in paragraphs 125, 126, and 127 of the Report of the Review Mission, which refer to the problems of interdisciplinary communication and the dissemination of information on population.

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\* Copy of Mr. Gastón Ormeño's comments were received at CELADE when document CD7/5 was already being reproduced. This is the reason why they appear as Addendum and that no reference to them are made in the text.

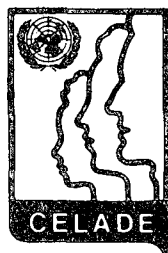
First, in order to resolve problems that arise in interdisciplinary projects, it is not necessary for a person with a given background to practically be trained in another discipline because, aside from the time consumed in such efforts, he will never be able to master it (unless he dedicated himself to it completely, which does not solve the problem either). There is a popular proverb in our countries that says, "apprentice in all, master of none", which can be applied to this case. In the development of an interdisciplinary project, problems of communication arise, but these should be resolved by other effective means and not by those suggested in the recommendation.

Second, CELADE publications use a language necessary to the presentation of its work which is comprehensible to any person with an average background and even more so to persons connected with research or teaching.

The other recommendations that appear in the Report of the Review Mission require no special comment other than that noted in the general observations.

Santiago, June 1973.





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