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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
REPORT OF THE SIXTH SESSION

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWENTIETH SESSION
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and technical aspects of coffee production which exert the greatest influence on economic development, and

(d) That the progress report on this study, which has been made to the sixth session of the Commission, indicates that the completed study will provide information of considerable value to the governments of countries interested in the production and consumption of coffee,

1. *Requests* the ECLA secretariat and FAO to make available, both to the interested governments, and to the Special Commission on Coffee of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, whatever information resulting from the studies on the coffee industry in which they are now engaged, they feel would be of interest; and

2. *Expresses* the hope that the Special Commission on Coffee of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council will endeavour to complete the study in which it is engaged in the shortest possible time, and make its results available to governments interested in the international trade in coffee, so that they may be in a position to judge whether, and the extent to which, it may be possible to adopt measures of international co-operation designed to stabilize world coffee markets, and the possible nature of such measures.

LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

*Resolution 91 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/400)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering:

(a) That, according to official statistics, production of goods of animal origin is expanding in Latin American countries at a slower rate than aggregate crop and livestock production,

(b) That in consequence of this slow rate of increase, an appreciable decline in *per capita* meat consumption has occurred during the last seven years in several countries, to the serious detriment of the dietary standards of their populations,

(c) That a greater encouragement of production of goods of animal origin would contribute decisively to a better balance between crop and livestock production, as well as between these two sectors and general economic development,

(d) That there is a lack of accurate and comprehensive information on the factors retarding the progress of stockbreeding and of production of goods of animal origin in the region,

(e) That the need to accelerate the development of the production of goods of animal origin in Latin America has been the object of special resolutions at a number of international meetings, particularly the third FAO meeting on Food and Agriculture Programmes and Prospects in Latin America, held at Buenos Aires in September 1954,

(f) That at the said meeting a recommendation was made to FAO that in co-operation with ECLA and other appropriate organizations, it should carry out a study of the possibilities of accelerating the development of stockbreeding and of the measures which should be adopted for this purpose, and

(g) That close and satisfactory collaboration and understanding exist between the ECLA secretariat and

FAO to undertake a joint study of Latin America's agricultural problems,

Resolves:

1. That the ECLA secretariat and FAO be requested to take appropriate steps to include in their joint work programme, with the highest possible priority, the study on the development of stockbreeding to which reference is made in the resolution adopted at the third meeting of FAO referred to above;

2. That this study include, *inter alia*, the following basic aspects:

(a) An analysis of the technical and economic factors which hinder livestock production and improved supplies of goods of animal origin in Latin America, and which thus obstruct better dietary standards;

(b) The possibilities and outlook for the development of the livestock industry in the Latin American countries; and

(c) The measures which should be adopted to promote the development of stockbreeding and the consumption of products of animal origin; and

3. That for those purposes typical areas be chosen which are representative of the different ecological and economic conditions in which stockbreeding activities are carried out in Latin America.

AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

*Resolution 92 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/401)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Noting with satisfaction the study of the selective expansion of agricultural production in Latin America and its relation to economic development (E/CN.12/378), submitted jointly by the secretariat of ECLA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and

Considering:

(a) That investment in agriculture has been very low in Latin America, particularly in relation to the income accruing from this activity,

(b) That the total of such investment is not clearly or precisely known, since much of it does not appear in official statistics,

(c) That the real opportunities for utilizing the investment resources available for agriculture are not precisely known,

(d) That the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has offered its collaboration in technical research designed to promote agricultural development in Latin America, and

(e) That it is of fundamental importance for the over-all economic development of Latin America that the rate of investment in agriculture be raised,

Recommends:

1. To member governments that, through their appropriate agencies, they initiate or intensify research and studies designed to determine (a) the quantity and quality of investments in agriculture; (b) the volume and use of income accruing from agricultural activities; (c) the possibility of increasing the rate of investment; and that they should supply this information to the secretariat of ECLA and to FAO; and

2. To the ECLA secretariat that, in conjunction with FAO, it begin a thorough investigation into the possibilities of raising the rate of investment in Latin America's agriculture and into a better use of available investment resources, and that in carrying out this research it seek the collaboration of the technical experts of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

RESEARCH IN THE AMAZON AREA

*Resolution 93 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/402)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering:

(a) The importance which the development of the great wealth of the Amazon Basin represents both for the group of nations which share it and for this continent, and the benefits for the welfare and progress of humanity to be derived from its exploitation,

(b) That the Amazon area is a zone which covers approximately half the territory of South America, and which possesses vast possibilities for economic development,

(c) That the immensity of this area requires joint and co-ordinated action for its exploitation by the countries concerned, and

(d) That the resolution adopted on 13 June 1949 at the second session of ECLA (E/CN.12/151) attached great importance to the study of this topic,

Recommends:

1. That the ECLA secretariat and FAO, with the collaboration of the specialized international agencies, carry out in so far as possible a joint preliminary study of the general Amazon area;

2. That on the basis of the foregoing study they draw up a programme of research designed to promote the exploitation and development of the resources of the Amazon Basin;

3. That the countries concerned:

(a) Exchange information, through the ECLA secretariat and FAO, on their experience and research in the area in question, and

(b) Co-operate fully in the carrying-out of the studies mentioned.

INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

*Resolution 94 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/403)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering:

(a) That the efficacy of the industrialization process and the feasibility of programmes directed towards that end suggest, in certain countries, the development of industries, not requiring a major investment effort, for the transformation of agricultural products, and

(b) That resolutions 67 (V) and 68 (V) of the Economic Commission for Latin America referred to the industrial transformation of bananas and hard fibres, respectively, and make specific recommendations on these subjects,

Recommends to the secretariat that, in addition to the studies on bananas and hard fibres, research be carried out, as far as its resources permit and in collaboration with other international bodies concerned, on the industrial transformation of certain agricultural products essential to the economies of the Latin American countries, bearing in mind, in view of the special situation of some countries, the desirability of adopting processes which do not involve a high density of capital per unit of product.

AGRICULTURAL SURPLUSES

*Resolution 95 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/404)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind:

(a) That the accumulation of agricultural surpluses is a current economic fact,

(b) That the disposal of a considerable part of such surpluses is being effected by their sale on foreign markets,

(c) That some of the countries exporting agricultural commodities have stated that the accumulation of surpluses and the procedure employed in disposing of them have, in some cases, caused disturbances in their normal trade patterns, and

(d) That such procedures could cause disturbances in the future by limiting sales possibilities for other traditional exporters, who are heavily dependent upon the exportation of foodstuffs and raw materials, and

Having regard to:

(a) The most recent resolutions adopted with reference to the problems and prospects of agricultural surpluses, the statements and intentions evidenced by the countries having those surpluses, and the efforts made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to reduce to a minimum the unfavourable effects of the agricultural surplus problem, and

(b) The "Principles of surplus disposal" recommended by FAO and already accepted by thirty-four countries, and the "Guide lines for dealing with agricultural surpluses" formulated by the Committee on Commodity Problems of the said organization at its twenty-third session,

Resolves:

1. To recommend to the governments of member countries, and by virtue of resolution 38/54 approved at the Meeting of Ministers of Finance of Economy at the Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, particularly to those forming part of the inter-American system:

(a) That in determining and adjusting their agricultural production and surplus disposal policies, they particularly bear in mind the repercussions which such policies may have on the trade of the countries of this hemisphere characterized by their dependence on exports of agricultural products; and

(b) That they strengthen the existing consultative procedure to make the greatest and most effective contribution possible to the satisfactory execution of an orderly agricultural surplus disposal policy, designed