



UNITED NATIONS

# **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

(15 May 1956 - 29 May 1957)

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 8**

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and the specialized agencies concerned with this subject, a Committee of Experts to examine the studies carried out and suggest any changes in the programmes that it may deem advisable.

27 May 1957.

*Resolution 128 (VII)*

PULP AND PAPER ADVISORY GROUP  
(E/CN.12/469)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering :*

(a) That the secretariat has presented a report on the activities of the Pulp and Paper Advisory Group for Latin America (E/CN.12/434);

(b) The desirability of obtaining reliable data on the proper prices of imported equipment for the pulp and paper industry, and bearing in mind the intensification of this activity foreseen for the region;

(c) The possibility that pulp and paper machinery may come to constitute an important item in the trade of Latin America,

*Decides :*

1. To recommend that the work of the Pulp and Paper Advisory Group be continued in the countries that request it;

2. To recommend to the secretariat that it take steps :

(a) To the end that the Pulp and Paper Advisory Group for Latin America organize standard budgets for investment in pulp and paper mills with a daily capacity of 50, 100 and 150 tons, in accordance with the main industrial processes and hypotheses, in sufficient detail for local investors to be able to evaluate their financial requirements and obtain guidance in their purchases of machinery;

(b) To the end that the Pulp and Paper Advisory Group for Latin America evaluate the possibilities of purchasing machinery in the countries of the region for the manufacture of pulp and paper, as well as of manufacturing specific heavy equipment.

27 May 1957.

*Resolution 129 (VII)*

SPECIAL MEETING ON THE MINING INDUSTRY  
(E/CN.12/470)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering :*

(a) That the mining industry is one of the most important in Latin America,

(b) That in many cases Latin America's mineral wealth cannot be opportunely and efficiently utilized for want of mineralogical studies and of the preliminary prospecting necessary for large-scale production when this is appropriate or feasible,

(c) That it is necessary to sponsor special meetings for the study and discussion of the particular problems of the mining industry, in view of the fact that they concern most of the Latin American countries, in the same way that special meetings have already been organized and held for the purpose of considering problems of other specialized industries,

*Decides :*

1. To recommend to the member Governments that they submit requests to the technical agencies of the United Nations or other agencies for studies to be carried out, in collaboration with the geological services of the countries concerned, on general and economic geology and on the determination of mineral reserves in Latin America, especially in countries where adequate surveys of this kind have not yet been made, with a view to increasing the production of such minerals as may contribute to economic development;

2. To recommend to the secretariat that, in collaboration with the Technical Assistance Administration and other interested agencies, it sponsor a special meeting on the mining industry in Latin America, for the purpose of studying, considering and recommending suitable measures for the improvement of this industry; and that to this end it prepare a provisional agenda and invite the interested Governments and private industry to carry out studies on the problems which will be discussed, and submit them before the meeting.

27 May 1957.

*Resolution 130 (VII)*

NUCLEAR ENERGY  
(E/CN.12/471)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Whereas :*

(a) Because of the scientific and technological progress achieved in recent years, nuclear energy has become, in some countries, a new source of large-scale energy,

(b) This source of energy, together with hydraulic energy and fuels, constitutes an additional means of producing electricity and other forms of energy on an industrial scale,

(c) There are great advantages to be derived from distinguishing, in regard to atomic energy matters, between the two following aspects : (i) general questions of national and international regulation, scientific research and uses which do not involve the large-scale production of energy, and (ii) the application of nuclear energy for industrial-scale energy production,

(d) In this last respect it is desirable that the application of nuclear energy be economically and technically co-ordinated with the general problem of each country's energy supplies from the various sources on which it draws,

(e) It is necessary in the Latin American countries for the industrial-scale generation of nuclear energy to be utilized economically and in conformity with the circumstances of each country,

*Decides :*

1. To call the attention of the Governments of the member countries to the desirability of systematically studying the possibilities of utilizing nuclear energy together with other methods of large-scale energy production;

2. To recommend to the Governments of the member countries that they consider the desirability of placing the study and application of nuclear energy for large-scale supply in the hands of the public or private entities responsible for the various aspects of energy supply;

3. To suggest to the member Governments that it would be desirable for national nuclear energy commissions, or corresponding bodies, to adopt appropriate measures in order to promote the study and large-scale application of nuclear energy by the entities responsible for the supply, or by the consumers, whether public or private;

4. To recommend to the secretariat that, as regards this subject, it keep in touch, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the International Atomic Energy Agency when it is established, with other competent agencies of the United Nations, and with agencies of the Organization of American States, and that it keep the Member Governments informed of those economic aspects of the problem which are of special importance for them.

27 May 1957.

*Resolution 131 (VII)*

UTILIZATION OF RIVERS AND LAKES  
(E/CN.12/472)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering :*

(a) That the utilization of the waters of lakes and rivers forming hydrographic basins common to several countries is a question of vital importance for the economic development of the countries concerned,

(b) That such utilization would often appear to be feasible on the basis of joint effort,

(c) That studies and projects for the satisfactory utilization of the waters of international rivers and lakes are feasible only when effective co-operation is established between the government agencies concerned with hydraulic problems,

*Recommends* to the secretariat that it approach the Governments of the Latin American countries to the end that the utilization of rivers and lakes situated in international hydrographic basins, for hydroelectric energy, irrigation, navigation and any other useful

purposes to which they may lend themselves, be effected on the basis of adequate planning undertaken by international technical commissions.

27 May 1957.

*Resolution 132 (VII)*

IMPORT SUBSTITUTION  
(E/CN.12/473)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Whereas :*

(a) The amount of foreign exchange at the disposal of a given country partly determines the degree to which its economy is vulnerable to external fluctuations and contingencies,

(b) One of the requisites for attaining the objectives of a development policy is to reduce vulnerability to external fluctuations, and this can, up to a point, be achieved by means of an intelligent import substitution policy,

(c) Criteria on which to base decisions must be available in order to achieve a substitution of imports consistent with the economic development programme and with the evaluation of short-term and long-term problems,

*Recommends* to the secretariat that it study a methodology for the examination and implementation of an import substitution policy, and other policies, including fiscal and monetary policies, which might reduce the external vulnerability of the Latin American countries.

27 May 1957.

*Resolution 133 (VII)*

STUDY OF LATIN AMERICAN TIMBER PRODUCTION AND  
CONSUMPTION TRENDS AND PROSPECTS  
(E/CN.12/474)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Having regard* to the note by the secretariat on a study on Latin American timber trends and prospects (E/CN.12/438);

*Considering :*

(a) That general economic development and higher living standards imply an increase in the consumption of timber products and entail a growing demand for such products, which is at present partially unsatisfied,

(b) The insufficiently utilized wealth constituted by the natural woodlands, the substantial earnings provided by carefully managed forest plantations and the part played by trees in protecting the soil against erosion,

(c) Whereas large-scale imports of forest products represent very high values in Latin America, even though it contains vast areas where the rate of forest growth is the highest in the world,