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Economic Commission for Latin America

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REPORT

Volume II

Note: The Summary of Debates adopted by the delegations at the last plenary meeting of the eighteenth session did not include an account of the statements made at it; this appears in paragraphs 548 to 563 of this report, and could not therefore be made available to the representatives. In keeping with established practice, any observations it is desired to make on the subject should be submitted within 30 days of the date of this report.

79-6-1451

401 (XVIII). PROGRAMME OF WORK 1979-1981 45/

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Having examined the draft programme of work of the ECLA system for the period 1979-1981, in all its various fields of activity, including the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning and the Latin American Demographic Centre,

Having introduced the modifications proposed by the representatives of the member Governments and the changes stemming from the resolutions adopted at the eighteenth session of the Commission,

Mindful that adoption of the programme of work calls for approval of the resources required to carry out the activities described therein,

1. Adopts the programme of work of the ECLA system for 1979-1981 with the amendments introduced in conformity with the resolutions and decisions of the Commission at its eighteenth session;
2. Calls on the Executive Secretary to submit suitable proposals to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to enable the programme of work thus adopted to be carried out;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report at the nineteenth session of ECLA on the implementation of this programme in the form in which it was adopted.

402 (XVIII). ECONOMIC INTEGRATION 30/

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind resolution 365 (XVII) on economic integration and co-operation, in which the Commission recognized the progress made in linking together the economic systems of the countries of Latin America, through the multilateral integration schemes of the Central American Common Market (CACM), the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA), the Cartagena Agreement and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and through the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC), the Organization of the Treaty on the River Plate Basin and other institutions and forms of economic co-operation,

Also bearing in mind the fact, noted in the same resolution, that despite those advances the economic potential of regional integration and co-operation has not yet been adequately exploited,

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<sup>45/</sup> For the detailed review of the programme of work, see paras. 328-444, 450-462, 469 and 470, and the final adoption of the work programme in para. 587 in vol. I of this report.

Considering that, in the face of the difficulties besetting the international economy and the uncertain prospects for a sustained vigorous rate of growth in Latin America's trade with the developed world, co-operation among Latin American countries, and between them and other developing regions, should play a fundamental role in facilitating the transformations in the structure of production which are essential for the process of economic development,

1. Reaffirms its decision to strengthen the existing integration processes and other forms of Latin American economic co-operation and the intention of the Governments of the region to assign all due importance in their national policies to means of strengthening the integration and co-operation processes;

2. Requests the ECLA secretariat to complete the preparatory work for the technical seminar on Latin American integration and co-operation and to convene the meeting as soon as possible;

3. Also requests that, in the technical preparations for the seminar, the Institute for Latin American Integration should work in co-ordination with ECLA, since the programmes of both institutions for 1979/1980 include various projects with potential interlinkages;

4. Further requests the secretariat to study the integration processes of the Latin American Free Trade Area, the Andean Group, the Central American Common Market and the Caribbean Community, and to strengthen its support to them and to the Latin American Economic System with the aim of recommending measures to ensure the joint development of those countries; this calls for the preparation of studies and the provision of advisory services to the Governments or secretariats at their express request;

5. Also requests the secretariat to continue to analyse other forms of co-operation both within the region and between Latin American countries and other developing countries with the aim of broadening and extending such arrangements in the fields of industry, agriculture, trade, technology and investment;

6. Reiterates its recommendations to Governments and economic integration and co-operation bodies that they should extend the fullest possible co-operation to the ECLA secretariat in connexion with the work assigned to it in the present resolution;

7. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to provide full support to the various integration schemes, and to the ECLA secretariat for the implementation of these tasks.