

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)

BIENNIAL REPORT

(12 May 1990 – 15 April 1992)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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UNITED NATIONS
Santiago, Chile, 1992

530(XXIV) COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
AND REGIONS

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries adopted at the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (Buenos Aires, September 1978) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Taking into account the decisions adopted at the seventh session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which met from 28 to 31 May 1991 at United Nations Headquarters, New York, and in particular decisions 7/2, 7/5 and 7/6 addressed to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system,

Recalling its resolution 508(XXIII) on cooperation among developing countries and regions,

1. Takes note of the report of activities of the ECLAC system in support of cooperation among developing countries and regions in the biennium 1990-1991, contained in the document entitled Activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support technical cooperation among developing countries and regions¹ submitted by the secretariat of the Commission to its twenty-fourth session;
2. Reaffirms the importance of cooperation among the developing countries of Latin America and the Caribbean at the regional and subregional levels as a means of promoting economic and social development and of contributing to the achievement of the objectives of changing production patterns with social equity, in accordance with the development priorities of each country;
3. Also reaffirms the importance of the role the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean must play in supporting the initiatives of and action by the countries of the region aimed at materializing cooperation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;
4. Emphasizes the need for the secretariat to continue and strengthen its efforts to promote and support cooperation among the countries of the region in sectors which they consider to be of interest and to give impetus to and bolster existing regional and subregional cooperation networks in these sectors;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary, in furtherance of the tasks referred to above and in accordance with the relevant mandates, to:
 - a) Strengthen the support provided by the ECLAC system to national government-designated focal points for technical cooperation among developing countries and regions, especially during the preparatory phases of technical cooperation projects, when Governments request such support, so that the activities carried out by the secretariat will make it easier to coordinate the supply of and demand for technical cooperation at the level of the developing

¹ LC/G.1711(SES.24/13).

countries in the region in sectors which lie within the purview of the ECLAC system and are considered by the countries to be of priority importance;

- b) Intensify joint activities by the subregional headquarters of ECLAC in Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago in the context of existing agreements, to support and promote cooperation between the Latin American and Caribbean countries;
- c) Intensify the incorporation of material directly related to the planning and execution of technical cooperation among developing countries into the regular training activities carried out by the ECLAC system;
- d) Intensify activities designed to provide technical support for cooperation networks and systems already in existence in the region in those sectors which Governments consider to be of priority importance for the attainment of their economic and social development objectives;
- e) Strengthen, within the present resource constraints, activities related to the dissemination of information on proposed projects and activities to be executed by the ECLAC system and showing unmistakable potential for the support and promotion of technical cooperation among developing countries at the regional, subregional and interregional levels;
- f) Continue and further expand activities aimed at identifying and incorporating operational forms of technical cooperation among developing countries in various sectors of the programme of work of the secretariat of the Commission, with special emphasis on those forms which permit, where appropriate, the participation of governmental and non-governmental agents of cooperation in both the social and the productive sectors;
- g) Continue to work in conjunction with forums and mechanisms for coordinating the activities of bodies and organizations operating in the region for the purpose of supporting, promoting or implementing projects leading to technical cooperation among developing countries, so as to avoid duplication of effort and make the most of the capabilities of regional bodies working in this field;
- h) Continue, in coordination with the United Nations Development Programme, to give support to the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and other competent bodies in conducting the regional programming exercises in technical cooperation among developing countries in sectors of priority importance to countries and within the purview of the ECLAC system;
- i) Continue to strengthen both cooperation with the UNCTAD secretariat in preparing programming exercises on external trade and future coordination of cooperation with UNCTAD to obtain additional resources from UNDP and other bilateral or multilateral contributors or sources, to enable all interested countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to participate;
- j) Strengthen the exchange of experience and promote the performance of an exercise in technical cooperation for development in the area of development with social equity, especially in the fields of employment, health, education, nutrition and social planning in an integrated framework, cooperating with other pertinent bodies;

- k) Continue to work with the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System and with the United Nations Development Programme, within the framework of their respective terms of reference, in carrying out activities in support of the national focal points for technical cooperation among developing countries, especially those connected with the annual meetings of directors of international technical cooperation;
- l) Step up joint action with the other regional commissions in connection with the formulation and execution of projects to promote technical and economic and social cooperation among countries of the various developing regions, in consultation and coordination with the relevant organizations of the United Nations system;
- m) Enter into consultations with the Economic Commission for Africa with a view to updating and studying the feasibility of the proposals relating to cooperation between the two regions in the realm of trade, which were adopted at the Joint Meeting of Governmental Experts from Africa and Latin America on Economic and Technical Cooperation held at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Abeba from 1 to 4 June 1982, pursuant to decision 7/11 taken by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. Also initiate similar consultations with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.