



**UNITED NATIONS**

# **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**(30 May 1957 - 8 April 1958)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL RECORDS: TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 4**

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tion of the 1960 census of the Americas and made a recommendation to that effect (see resolution 141 (AC.40)).

#### TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSION

181. The fact that the Commission had completed the first ten years of its existence was mentioned by all delegations during the discussions.

182. It was the unanimous view that ECLA's accomplishments during the past decade had proved its great value in throwing light on the economic problems of Latin America and in helping to find solutions to them.

183. Special emphasis was laid—with the appropriate expressions of thanks—on the decisive role which Chile had played in the establishment of ECLA, and the unflinching support which it had received from the other countries.

184. The Committee of the Whole felt that it was both needful and desirable to disseminate as widely as possible knowledge of the Commission's achievements during the first ten years of its existence. After recommending that Governments members of ECLA should co-operate with the United Nations in this task, the Committee requested the secretariat to take the necessary steps to publish at the earliest possible moment a volume summarizing those aspects of the Commission's work during the past decade which most clearly illustrated the principles by which it was guided in its pursuit of the economic betterment of Latin America (see resolution 142 (AC.40)).

#### OTHER MATTERS

185. The Committee of the Whole examined those resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and by the Economic and Social Council that were of interest to the Commission (E/CN.12/AC.40/9), considered General Assembly resolution 1161 (XII) on balanced and integrated economic and social progress, and took note of the statement by a senior member of the secretariat<sup>19</sup> indicating the scope of that resolution and the way in which the Department of Economic and Social Affairs intended to implement it in collaboration with the regional economic commissions.

186. In connexion with resolution 653 (XXIV) of the Economic and Social Council on sources of energy as a means of economic development, the Committee

<sup>19</sup> See E/CN.12/AC.40/SR.2.

was provided by the secretariat with information (E/CN.12/AC.40/11) to the effect that the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency had just endorsed a proposal to explore the possibility of establishing regional training centres, and that the requirements of Latin America had been given special prominence.

187. The Committee heard statements by the delegations of the three trade-union organizations represented at the sixth session. These delegations declared that their respective organizations wished to take a more active part in the work of the Commission, primarily in order to follow more closely the development of the regional market project.

188. These sentiments were echoed in a draft resolution, submitted by the representatives of two member States, which was adopted unanimously after the introduction of certain amendments (see resolution 146 (AC.40)).

189. During the discussion of the programme of work and priorities (E/CN.12/AC.40/8 and Corr. 1), which was adopted unanimously, one delegation requested that note should be taken of the fact that its Government approved the programme on the understanding that the work to be undertaken would not entail additional financial implications.

190. Two delegations underlined the importance attributed by their respective Governments to the project for a special meeting on the mining industry, which had been jointly recommended to the secretariat and Technical Assistance Administration in resolution 129 (VII) of the Commission, and urged that such a meeting should also consider trade and market questions relating to the mining industry.

191. One of the two above-mentioned representatives stressed that, under the terms of resolution 137 (VII), the consideration of general problems relating to economic development and programming techniques should take into account the need for over-all programming to be supplemented by sectorial and regional programming, and requested the secretariat to take note of this recommendation when undertaking such work.

192. At the closing meeting, a representative of one European delegation suggested that the Commission's Trade Committee should meet at an early date, since the world economic situation, which had deteriorated in 1958 as compared with 1957, might have serious repercussions on the efforts to liberalize trade and on payments.

### Part III

#### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AT ITS SIXTH SESSION

##### 140 (AC.40). Central American economic integration

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Bearing in mind* the activities carried out from May 1957 to April 1958 by the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee, set up by the Commission in 1952,

*Considering* that these activities have practical significance for the economic development and integration of the Central American countries, and that in addition

they pave the way for other projects relating to economic integration and complementation and to the promotion of inter-Latin American trade,

*Whereas* the Committee is scheduled to meet shortly at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to take note of the progress of the work and to consider what measures should be adopted to implement and further its programme more effectively,

*Considering* that economic integration, besides being valuable in itself, is also the basis for the achievement

of that higher spiritual union which is implicit in the historical origin and destiny of the Central American countries,

*Taking into account* the report by the secretariat<sup>20</sup> describing the co-operation rendered by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, as well as the assistance given to the Committee by the secretariat through its Mexico Office,

*Decides:*

1. To place on record the feeling of sympathy with which the delegations present view this movement towards Central American economic integration in furtherance of the ideal of Central American solidarity, and to take note with deep satisfaction of the activities carried out by the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee during the year 1957-1958 and of the work of the secretariat and those United Nations organs which provide technical assistance for the Central American Economic Integration Programme;

2. To congratulate the Committee on the progress achieved and to express the hope that its forthcoming session may be productive of decisions and measures which will increasingly strengthen the positive results of the Programme;

3. To congratulate the secretariat also on the advisory functions which it has performed and to extend these congratulations especially to the staff of the Mexico Office of ECLA and its Director, Mr. Víctor L. Urquidí, who has so efficiently carried out the work assigned to him, both in connexion with the required research and studies, and in association with the Governments members of the Committee.

7 April 1958.

#### 141 (AC.40). 1960 census of the Americas

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering* that, at its fourth session held at Rio de Janeiro in 1954, the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in its resolution 50/54 recommended to Governments that they take a census every ten years from 1950 onwards, and that they carry out analytical studies on the essential characteristics of population, housing and agricultural activities in their respective countries,

*Bearing in mind* the document entitled "1960 Census of the Americas",<sup>21</sup> in which the secretariat reports on the relevant project of the Inter-American Statistical Institute,

*Taking into account* the value to the countries concerned and to the Commission of the data that can be obtained from carefully organized censuses,

1. *Reiterates* to the Latin American countries that recommendation of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in the aforesaid resolution;

2. *Recommends* to the member Governments that they do everything in their power to co-operate in the Inter-American Statistical Institute's project for a 1960 census of the Americas.

7 April 1958.

<sup>20</sup> E/CN.12/AC.40/10.

<sup>21</sup> E/CN.12/AC.40/12.

#### 142 (AC.40). Tenth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Latin America

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Bearing in mind* that it is now ten years since the United Nations established this Commission, which has rendered such useful services to the Latin American Countries in the economic field,

*Emphasizing* the importance of its work for inter-Latin American economic co-operation,

*Considering* that it is needful and desirable that the activities of the Commission during the first ten years of its existence should be made as widely known as possible,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the United Nations for the establishment of this Commission, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary;

2. *Requests* the countries members of the Commission and all those taking part in its work that they continue to co-operate closely with the Commission in order to promote the more effective fulfilment of its aims and objectives;

3. *Requests* the countries members of the Commission that they collaborate with the United Nations in publicizing the Commission's activities;

4. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to take the necessary steps to publish, at the earliest opportunity and in whatever form it may deem most effective and appropriate, a volume containing a methodical and homogeneous account of all those aspects of the Commission's activities during the first decade of its existence which serve to indicate, together with the work achieved, the aims by which it is guided in its pursuit of the economic progress of Latin America.

7 April 1958.

#### 143 (AC.40). United Nations building in Santiago

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering* the generous and repeated offer of the Government of Chile to donate to the United Nations a plot of land for the erection of a building for its offices in Santiago,

*Taking into account* resolution 1224 (XII) concerning this offer, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1957,

*Having examined* the report by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the proposals for financing this building,<sup>22</sup>

1. *Reiterates its thanks* to the Government of Chile for its kind offer;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of General Assembly resolution 1224 (XII) and of the Secretary-General's report;

3. *Expresses the hope* that the Secretary-General will expedite the work he has undertaken in this connexion so that the project for the United Nations building in Santiago will soon become a reality.

7 April 1958.

#### 144 (AC.40). Technical assistance

*The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Bearing in mind* the studies entitled "Technical assistance activities in Latin America",<sup>23</sup> prepared by the

<sup>22</sup> E/CN.12/AC.40/6.

<sup>23</sup> E/CN.12/AC.40/5.