

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA ANNUAL REPORT

(16 May 1961 — 16 February 1962)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

UNITED NATIONS

New York

216 (AC.50). United Nations building in Santiago, Chile

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

Having noted the report of the secretariat regarding the United Nations building in Santiago (E/CN.12 AC.50/8),

Taking into account the relatively small budget for the project and the increased need for space resulting from the expanding activity in the region of the United Nations and the specialized agencies,

Considering the keen interest of the public and of Governments in ensuring that the project maintains standards of dignity and style befitting the region,

Noting the precedent of generous gifts by member States for other buildings of the United Nations and specialized agencies, as reported by the Secretary-General in document A/4535 of 11 October 1960,

Mindful of the importance of a well co-ordinated functional gift programme in enhancing the building both aesthetically and in respect of its usefulness,

Decides:

- 1. To establish an ad hoc committee comprising three representatives, appointed by the Committee of the Whole at its current session, to co-ordinate and promote the gift programme, in consultation with the secretariat of ECLA and the architect. The members of this committee will serve until May 1964;
- 2. To request the secretariat to provide the *ad hoc* committee and the member Governments with such information as they may require concerning specific functional gifts which would improve the building while preserving its unity;
- 3. To urge member Governments to respond generously to this appeal either by direct gifts or by enlisting the help of public institutions or private persons.

14 February 1962

217 (AC.50). Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions

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

Taking note of General Assembly resolutions 1518 (XV) and 1709 (XVI) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 793 (XXX) and 823 (XXXII) as well as the reports by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council (E/3522) and to the General Assembly (A/4911),

Bearing in mind specially paragraph 4 of resolution 1709 (XVI) which "urges the strengthening, without delay, of the secretariats of the regional economic com-

missions as executive arms of the Organization in the economic and social fields, including technical assistance operations, by means of an increasing delegation to the regional secretariats of substantive and operational functions and responsibilities and the provision of the requisite resources, including personnel, while maintaining the central substantive functions, including policy guidance and co-ordination..."

Bearing in mind also Economic Commission for Latin America resolution 210 (IX) together with the note by the Executive Secretary on decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions, adopted at the ninth session of the Commission,

Considering:

- (a) That the Governments of the member States concur in the opinion that advantages would accrue from utilizing the services of the Commission in the economic and social fields as frequently as possible and from the decentralization of United Nations technical assistance activities.
- (b) That the limited resources available for technical assistance projects in which the Governments of the member States are interested must be turned to the fullest possible account and that consequently the knowledge and experience accumulated by the Commission's secretariat should be drawn upon as fully as possible in the selection, execution and evaluation of technical assistance projects in order to ensure the maximum utilization of available resources.
- (c) That the secretariat of the Commission should be given the requisite resources to enable it to carry out such activities with the necessary efficiency,
- 1. Decides to take note with satisfaction of General Assembly resolutions 1518 (XV) and 1709 (XVI) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 793 (XXX) and 823 (XXXII);
- 2. Expresses its gratitude for the measures which the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have adopted to decentralize United Nations economic and social activities and to strengthen the regional economic commissions;
- 3. Expresses its appreciation of the views of the Secretary-General on the intensified participation of the regional economic commissions in the United Nations economic and social activities and on the need to increase their staff resources;
- 4. Recommends to the Secretary-General that he take the necessary measures to ensure that the Commission's secretariat has the requisite authority and sufficient technical personnel at the appropriate time to enable it to fulfil its functions efficiently with regard to the decentralization of economic and social activities and with regard to the services required of it by the Governments of member States in connexion with the selection, execution and evaluation of technical assistance projects.

16 February 1962