



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

ANNUAL REPORT

(9 April 1958 — 23 May 1959)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

NEW YORK

on the equalization of import duties, and to this end a draft Central American equalization agreement has been prepared and is under consideration by the Governments with a view to its signature,

Decides:

1. To take note of the report presented by the Central Banks Economic Co-operation Committee, and of document E/CN.12/517, and to congratulate the Committee and its member Governments on having signed the treaties setting up the Central American common market, inasmuch as it constitutes an event of supreme importance for the countries concerned, as well as on the practical and efficacious manner in which the work of integration is being carried out;

2. To express its great interest in the continuance and if possible the intensification of the Committee's work with a view to the economic integration of Central America, which hitherto it has been carrying out with the efficient co-operation of the ECLA secretariat;

3. To declare its appreciation of the help given to the Economic Co-operation Committee by the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme especially by TAO, the ILO and FAO and also to thank the OAS for its co-operation in certain fields;

4. To request the secretariat and the technical assistance agencies participating in the programme to continue co-operating as actively as possible in the Central American Economic Integration Programme.

22 May 1959

153 (VIII). Joint ECLA/TAO economic development training programme

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering, that in 1952 ECLA and the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations (TAO) jointly established an economic development training programme, with its headquarters at Santiago, Chile, with a view to the formation of personnel trained in the analysis and programming of economic development,

Considering that this training programme is an important means of disseminating ECLA's experiences with respect to economic development programming in the Latin American countries,

Considering that the Santiago training programme has so far trained ninety Latin American specialists and effectively contributed to the development of the respective countries,

Considering that, in spite of the above, the Latin American countries require for the analysis and programming of economic development that a greater number of specialists in different professional categories should be trained in economic development matters,

Considering that, in order to facilitate such training, it may be advisable to establish intensive economic development training courses in such areas as Central America and the Caribbean and other countries, in which fellows from these countries or areas might

participate and thereby take advantage of all the benefits that can be derived from courses of that type,

Resolve:

1. To move a vote of thanks to the ECLA secretariat for the praiseworthy work it has carried out through its training programme, and to express its gratitude to the United Nations technical assistance for its support.

2. To request the secretariat to study the possibility of expanding the programme with a view to initiating intensive training courses in economic development in countries or areas where such courses have not yet been held and to report thereon to the Committee of the Whole in 1960.

22 May 1959

154 (VIII). Statistics

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recognizing that appreciable progress has been made in Latin American statistical development in the last few years, on the one hand, because of the growing understanding of the importance of statistics as a factor on which to base intelligent decisions and formulate Government policy and, on the other, because of Government action and professional and inter-governmental activities of international organizations and services, among which the activities of international organizations and those relating to bilateral programmes warrant special mention,

Whereas the projects carried out by the different Governments with the collaboration of various international organizations — such as the population and agricultural censuses and the preparation of models for various statistics — are extremely useful, not only because of the valuable information they provide but also because they help to improve professional training and instruction in statistics at the national level,

Whereas, owing to the conditions in which such statistical development has taken place, shortcomings and omissions exist which cannot be underestimated and which require constant attention on the part of Governments and international organizations,

Whereas, in order to remedy these deficiencies and omissions, the following solutions, *inter alia*, might be suggested: (a) the provision of national statistical services with adequate administrative and financial resources to enable them to carry out their work efficiently; (b) the creation of an administrative career service for professional statisticians which would ensure the collaboration of trained personnel; (c) the co-ordination of national statistics in order to avoid duplication, reduce costs and improve their quality; and (e) the more intensive use of modern techniques,

Whereas, in relation to the priority that might be given to the different national statistics, it would be advisable to prepare, in every country, a co-ordinated programme which would include the statistics required for the preparation and checking of economic development plans,