



UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

(FOURTH SESSION)

(28 MAY 1951 — 16 JUNE 1951)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS : THIRTEENTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 8

NEW YORK

3. *Recommends* to the Governments of member States that they should study the serious problem of the way in which the land is now held, with a view to obtaining a better utilization of land, bearing in mind resolution 401 (V) of the General Assembly adopted at its 312th plenary session of 20 November 1950;

4. *Urges* member Governments to examine existing conditions of trade and distribution in products of agriculture and stock raising, in order to eliminate the intervention of those intermediaries which serve no social purpose other than that of increasing the price of those products;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of FAO to grant to Governments of member States adequate technical assistance for the integrated development of agriculture in the fulfilment of the relevant portions of the foregoing resolutions;

6. *Recommends* that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development pay effective and timely attention to agricultural development projects.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING CENTRE

16 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 7 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/251)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

1. *Notes* with satisfaction that the Government of Chile, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development have completed their arrangements to establish a Latin-American Training Centre on Agricultural Programme Planning at Santiago, Chile, in September 1951;

2. *Considers* that technical analysis of programmes of agricultural development and the determination of priorities among such programmes within the framework of national programmes of economic development are of particular importance to Latin-American countries; and therefore

3. *Requests* Governments to pay special attention to the facilities for the advanced training of their national experts by that training centre, and to send to the centre fully qualified and duly authorized persons, so that their special knowledge of the analysis of agricultural development programmes may be effectively integrated into and used by the national agencies concerned with planning and development.

REPORT ON FORESTS AND FOREST PRODUCTION IN LATIN AMERICA

17 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 7 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/250)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Having examined document E/CN.12/235, report on the importance of forests and forest production in the Latin-American economy;

Considering that forests cover more than 40 per cent of Latin America, an area which represents about one

quarter of the forests of the world, so that Latin America has a greater proportion of forest area than any other continent;

Considering that even though the present needs of Latin America as to the consumption of lumber are small and its forest resources, as has been noted, are abundant, the lumber industry in Latin America cannot satisfy those needs and that, on the contrary, the balance of trade in lumber is unfavourable, as is demonstrated by the fact that Latin-American lumber importations amount to 75 million dollars annually, whereas exportations amount to 63 million dollars annually;

Considering that within a short time the consumption of lumber could increase greatly for reasons of urgency such as the need to develop building to relieve the existing housing shortage;

Considering that the world's needs are constantly increasing, as is reflected by the shortage of sawn lumber, especially in Europe and the Far East, and by the world-wide inadequacy of the supply of wood pulp;

Considering that only by making the best possible use of new technical methods of processing and utilizing forest products can growing national and international needs be satisfied;

Taking into account that the exploitation of forest wealth would enable those countries whose economy is founded on only a few agricultural products or essential raw materials to diversify their production;

Considering that this programme for forest production, if it is to be rational, must be based upon :

(a) Full knowledge of forest wealth; and

(b) A forest conservation, forestry and management policy to maintain forests, to ensure continuous production, to exercise a favourable influence upon the climate and the water system, and to conserve the soil;

Considering that the consumption of wood for fuel, which is very considerable in some of the densely populated regions of Latin America, may cause complete, rapid and dangerous deforestation over large areas;

1. *Takes note* with satisfaction of the report on the importance of forests and forest production in the Latin-American economy (E/CN.12/235), which is a result of the joint work of ECLA and FAO (E/CN.12/299);

2. *Recommends* to the Executive Secretary that work such as this, which is the product of co-operation between specialized agencies and other international organisms, should be continued;

3. *Recommends* to the member Governments that, in preparing or carrying out their programmes of forest and lumber development, they should take into consideration the study contained in document E/CN.12/235;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of FAO to give to the member Governments which request it, adequate technical assistance for the purpose to which reference is made in the preceding paragraph;

5. *Recommends* to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development that it should pay due atten-