



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

ANNUAL REPORT

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

NEW YORK

191 (IX). Training of labour in economic and social development problems

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recognizing the need for labour forces to participate in the work of economic and social planning,

Recognizing the need to intensify dissemination of methods of analysis and evaluation of economic and social development problems,

Recommends:

1. To the secretariat of ECLA that it consider how to prepare, in collaboration with the ILO and with the pertinent national organizations, labour training and discussion courses on economic and social development problems, which could be given in the various countries concurrently with the intensive courses that are being organized with the co-operation of the Technical Assistance Programme;

2. To Governments that they ensure that labour forces are represented on their delegations to regional seminars on overall economic and social planning which deal with topics of direct interest to Latin American workers.

13 May 1961

192 (IX). Extension and improvement of education

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that both the average level and the guiding principles of general education and vocational training in Latin America are often limiting factors in relation to the economic and social development plans and aspirations of the countries of the region,

Considering that the funds allocated to the financing of national educational systems constitute a supremely valuable investment from the standpoint both of the individual and of society, and that they are at present quite inadequate to meet Latin America's educational needs.

Bearing in mind that in formulating economic and social development programmes, as well as those relating to educational development, it is essential to take into account the reciprocal interaction of the two above-mentioned factors, which necessitates the establishment of a permanent link between the agencies that assume the responsibility of planning action in these fields,

Recalling resolution 176 (AC. 45) of the Committee of the Whole, relating to UNESCO's proposal for the convening of an inter-American conference on education and economic and social development,

Notes with satisfaction that the said conference will be jointly sponsored by UNESCO, ECLA and OAS, with the co-operation of the ILO, FAO, WHO and UNICEF, and of various Latin American universities and research centres, and will be held at Santiago, Chile, from 4 to 16 December 1961,

Recommends:

1. That at the meeting in question the complex problems connected with the relation between economic

and social development and the structure and basic principles of educational systems be thoroughly studied, as also the integration of educational and national development plans;

2. That the Governments of Latin America increase their efforts to promote the extension and qualitative improvement of general education and vocational training, by means of integrated education plans closely linked with those relating to economic and social development, as advocated in UNESCO's major project on the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America, and that they bear in mind the requirements of the next few years in respect of numbers of professional and technical workers, their fields of specialization and their educational levels;

3. That budgets for education be increased sufficiently to permit the achievement of the foregoing aims, and that the appropriate international credit agencies give sympathetic consideration to requests for assistance in financing of educational projects, particularly the building of school premises;

4. That national economic and educational planning agencies adopt measures designed to establish the closest possible collaboration between them, for the common good of the studies, plans and objectives which they propose to develop or attain;

5. That UNESCO and ECLA establish, in conjunction with the other international agencies, systematic and permanent collaboration procedures, both at the regional level and in respect of the activities they carry out in individual countries through their technical assistance missions;

6. That the proposed Latin American institute for planning economic development give appropriate attention to educational planning.³⁴

13 May 1961

193 (IX). Teaching of economics in Latin America

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the countries of Latin America are interested in carrying out economic development policies on the basis of planning techniques and that for this purpose they will require specialized personnel,

Takes note with satisfaction of the action taken jointly by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the secretariat of ECLA and the Organization of American States to sponsor a Mission of economists to study the teaching of economics in the relevant faculties of Latin American universities, and of the report submitted by that Mission (E/CN.12/546/Rev.1),

Expresses its gratitude for the valuable help given to the Joint UNESCO/ECLA/OAS Mission, by the rectors of universities, deans of faculties, principals of schools of economics and educational authorities of the various countries of Latin America,

Recommends:

1. To the Governments members of the Commission

³⁴ See resolution 199 (IX).

that they provide the universities of Latin America with the facilities they need in their efforts to improve the teaching of economics, and that they give effect to the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint UNESCO/ECLA/OAS Mission ;

2. To the universities, and particularly to the faculties of economics, that they continue the efforts begun at the Second Latin American Meeting of Deans of Faculties of Economics, held at Rosario (Argentina) in October 1960, to improve curricula and teaching materials by introducing courses in the analysis and evaluation of economic development problems and planning ;

3. To international organizations, particularly UNESCO, OAS and the ECLA secretariat, that they increase to the greatest possible extent their aid to universities which so request in the following ways recommended by the Joint UNESCO/ECLA/OAS Mission :

(a) By granting fellowships to teaching staff to enable them to complete their studies in national or foreign universities or in international institutes of learning ;

(b) By helping to provide full-time teaching staff ;

(c) By encouraging the preparation of high-quality texts on economics that are closely related to the present economic and social development problems of Latin America ;

(d) By helping university libraries to enlarge their collections of books and texts on economics.

13 May 1961

194 (IX). Activities of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Cognizant of the report of the Central American Co-operation Committee (E/CN.12/552), covering the period September 1959 to December 1960, and the Note by the secretariat on the Central American Economic Integration Programme (E/CN.12/586), of which it takes note with satisfaction,

Considering that, in December 1960, the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua signed the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration, the Protocol to the Central American Agreement on the Equalization of Import Duties and Taxes, and the Agreement constituting the Central American Bank for Economic Integration,

Decides :

1. To congratulate the Committee on its encouragement of the activities relating to Central American economic integration, and the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua on the signature of the aforesaid agreements ;

2. To express the hope that, in due course, the Government of Costa Rica will decide to accede to membership in the common market ;

3. To express its gratitude to the secretariat of ECLA, the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations of the

United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation for the assistance they have afforded, and to request them to continue co-operating to the fullest possible extent with the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee.

13 May 1961

195 (IX). Economic development of British Honduras or Belize

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Whereas, by virtue of resolution 181 (IX), British Honduras or Belize has been accepted as an associate member,

Taking into account its geographical situation and economic activity,

Recommends :

1. That the secretariat should take the foregoing reasons into consideration in order to relate the economic studies on British Honduras or Belize to the Central American economic structure ;

2. That the secretariat, with the consent of the Governments concerned, consider the possible repercussions of closer co-operation among them with a view to British Honduras' or Belize's joining, if and when opportune, the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee.

13 May 1961

196 (IX). Statistics

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that each forward step in economic development requires improved and more accurate measures of the progress achieved and that the increasing tempo of development requires more current data for the day-to-day and year-to-year planning of economic and social programmes,

Taking into account the report of the Seminar on National Accounts, held at Rio de Janeiro in June 1959, and the progress made in the preparation of national accounts in recent years and the fundamental place these accounts have in economic and social planning,

Considering the urgent need for better information on the social aspects of economic development and the desirability of carrying out sample surveys on family living levels on the basis of censuses now being conducted,

Decides :

1. To recommend that each country carry out a technical evaluation of the basic statistical data now being collected and compiled and the methods utilized in estimating national accounts when important sectors of the economy are not adequately measured, and evaluate the principal economic aggregates such as national income, consumption and investment, taking into account the uses being made of them and the accuracy and promptness required for these uses ; ,