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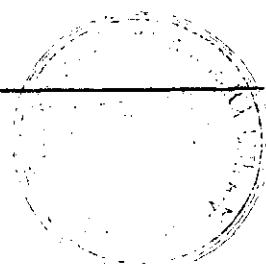
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C E P A L

Economic Commission for Latin America



TEXT OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CEPAL AT ITS
NINETEENTH SESSION */

*/ The resolutions will be numbered after the Report of the session has been edited.

81-5-1031

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A. SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE PLENARY

ADMISSION OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES AS AN ASSOCIATE
MEMBER OF CEPAL

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the desirability that the economic and cultural relations between all peoples in the Caribbean area and the Latin American continent should be strengthened,

Recalling the Terms of Reference of the Commission, as adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its sixth session, and in particular paragraph 3(a) thereof regarding the admission of associate members,

Bearing in mind that the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has communicated to the Commission, through the Executive Secretary of CEPAL, its desire that the Netherlands Antilles be admitted as an associate member of the Commission,

Welcomes the aforementioned request of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and

Decides to admit the Netherlands Antilles as an associate member and welcomes its participation in the work of the Commission.

context, the needs for international co-operation are amply justified.

"While it is quite true that the goals, objectives and policies of a regional character are not negotiable with the developed countries, it is none the less true that the Latin American countries hoped that, as far as international co-operation is concerned, the developed countries would propose new forms, capable of breaking out of the present stagnation of the international trade negotiations so as to tackle the basic problems being faced. This cannot be achieved, however, by denying the existence of such obvious facts as, for example, the asymmetrical structure of international financial and monetary relations and the resurgence of protectionism.

"The Latin American countries, as developing countries, repeat once again that they are always open for negotiation and anxious to participate in international co-operation. In order for these efforts to bear fruit, however, it is essential that the developed countries should accept the need for structural and institutional reforms in international economic relations, which presupposes in the first place the initiation of global negotiations. Only if these reforms are put into effect will it be possible to establish authentic and integral international co-operation."

Consideration and adoption of resolutions submitted directly to the plenary

Admission of the Netherlands Antilles as an associate member of the Commission

40. The Commission approved with satisfaction the admission of the Netherlands Antilles as an associate member of the Commission, proposed by the delegations of the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Jamaica, Netherlands, Suriname and Venezuela.^{3/}

Date and place of next session of the Commission

41. The Commission adopted the draft resolution submitted by Suriname regarding the date and place of the next session.^{4/}

^{3/} See the relevant resolution in section D.

^{4/} Ibid.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of its Terms of Reference and rules 1 and 2 of its Rules of Procedure,

Considering that at its nineteenth session the ~~Commission~~ was notified of the interest of Suriname to host its next session,

Decides to authorize the Executive Secretary to hold the necessary consultations with member States, so that a decision regarding the venue of the 20th session may be taken at the fifteenth session of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL, to be held in 1982.

B. SUBMITTED TO THE PLENARY BY COMMITTEE I

PHYSICAL INTEGRATION OF LATIN AMERICA THROUGH THE
HYDROGRAPHIC INTERCONNECTION OF THE ORINOCO,
AMAZON AND RIVER PLATE AND THE TRANS-
JUNGLE BORDER HIGHWAY OF THE
BOLIVARIAN NATIONS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the proposal regarding the physical integration of Latin America through the hydrographic interconnexion of the Orinoco, Amazon and River Plate and the Trans-Jungle Border Highway of the Bolivarian Nations put forward at the Meeting of Presidents of the Bolivarian Nations held in the city of Santa Marta, Colombia, and subsequently reiterated at the last General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS),

Bearing in mind the desire of the Organization of American States that its Secretary General should help to co-ordinate the efforts of the countries interested in the physical integration of Latin America,

1. Notes with satisfaction the joint initiatives of the countries interested in the objective of the physical integration of Latin America;

2. Decides to support the organization of an international meeting on the interconnexion of the Orinoco, Amazon and River Plate at which the interested countries will present the existing technical reports and the basic data necessary for preparing studies on the integration of the Orinoco, Amazon and River Plate in those parts which correspond to their respective countries;

3. Further decides that, with regard to the Trans-Jungle Border Highway, the interested countries should present the corresponding road construction plans at the above-mentioned meeting in order to make known the dates on which this great highway linking together the continent may be available.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEPRESSED AREAS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the Regional Plan of Action for the implementation of the new International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as arising from the nineteenth session of CEPAL,

Taking into account the need for concrete action to put this Strategy into effect,

Recalling that it is stated in the Strategy that concentrated efforts should be made to develop areas of interest to the economically less developed countries of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Likewise recalling the tendency to incorporate the interior of the continent into economic activity,

Decides to set up a specialized office of CEPAL in La Paz for the study and analysis of the problems of depressed areas, as Bolivia is at the very centre of the least developed area of the continent;

Requests the CEPAL Secretariat to spare no efforts to launch as rapidly as possible the activities of the programme for the study of the above-mentioned problems in the interim until the necessary extrabudgetary resources have been obtained;

Requests the United Nations Development Programme to assign special priority to this programme in the allocation of UNDP regional funds for the forthcoming biennium;

Calls up the organizations of the international financial system and the regional and subregional banks to associate themselves with the project and lend it their unstinting collaboration.

INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking into account that United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/56 proclaiming the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade provides that at the regional level the review and appraisal of the new International Development Strategy will be conducted by the respective regional commissions, which should carry out, as part of their regular activity, periodic reviews of major aspects of development in the evolving development experiences in their regions,

Bearing in mind CEPAL resolution 310(XIV) on the creation of CEGAN and resolution 419(PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of the Commission,

Noting that in the section of General Assembly resolution 35/56 dealing with the review and appraisal of the implementation of the new International Development Strategy it is stated that the regional commissions should prepare action programmes to support the efforts of developing countries in the implementation of the Strategy, and that in conjunction with the United Nations specialized agencies and multilateral development institutions they should improve United Nations assistance efforts and enhance their co-ordination in the context of the particular economic and social development needs of each region,

Reaffirming in particular paragraph 20 of resolution 32/197, "Structures for regional and interregional co-operation," which provides that the regional commissions "should exercise team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level,

Recognizing that the CEPAL system will bear a great responsibility during the 1980s and must substantially enhance its support for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as for regional and subregional integration and economic co-operation agencies, with a view to boosting the economic development of the region,

Likewise recognizing the growing breadth and diversity of the activities which the CEPAL system will have to undertake for the proper implementation of the Regional Programme of Action,

Reaffirming that it devolves upon the Commission to appraise the execution of the Regional Plan of Action, taking full account of the prior appraisal work done by CEGAN,

Noting that the Seventh Latin American Council of SELA decided that high-level government experts should meet at least twice yearly to identify co-operation projects of joint interest in priority economic areas,

Considering that at its fifth session the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) recommended to the present session of the Commission that the activities of CEGAN should be strengthened and broadened, as the basic body for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the new Strategy and Regional Programme of Action, for which purpose it should meet at least once a year and discuss other problems in addition to those entrusted to it under resolution 419 (PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL,

Taking into account the studies and activities which the CEPAL system has been requested to undertake by the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) at its fifth session,

1. Decides:

(a) That in carrying out its work the CEPAL system should assign top priority to the studies and action referred to in the Regional Programme of Action contained in resolution ...;

(b) That the CEPAL system should strengthen its links with Latin American agencies of regional and subregional integration and economic co-operation, lending them its full support;

(c) That CEGAN should meet at least once a year to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to it and to analyse other matters relating to the Regional Programme of Action;

(d) That the CEPAL system should carry out in good time the studies requested by CEGAN and suitably prepare the latter's meetings by means of prior consultations and the preparation of the necessary material concerning progress and obstacles in the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action;

(e) That representatives of the CEPAL Secretariat should meet annually with representatives of the secretariats of Latin American agencies of regional and subregional integration and economic co-operation for the co-ordination of studies, the obtention and use of economic data possessed by those agencies, and the provision of the necessary mutual support;

(f) That the CEPAL system, within the context of the Regional Plan of Action and in the form of the execution of studies, should furnish all necessary and possible support to the meetings of high-level government experts, referred to in Decision 101 of the Latin American Council of SELA, held within the framework of SELA;

2. Calls upon the United Nations system to provide CEPAL with all necessary support to enable the Commission to carry out the studies and responsibilities entrusted to it in the Regional Programme of Action, in resolution 419 (PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of the Commission and the General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 35/56. In this connexion, it decides to convene an extraordinary meeting of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL in early 1982.

ENERGY

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the serious effects which a shortage of certain sources of energy could have on the countries of the region, despite their present efforts to reduce and rationalize their energy consumption and avoid the wastage of non-renewable energy resources,

Further considering that such a shortage is already to be noted in different degrees and forms in many countries of Latin America; that the energy currently available is one of the factors which may significantly condition the development capacity of the societies of Latin America and the Caribbean; and that in addition to the shortage observed, the growing cost of energy could make it difficult to ensure the necessary supply of energy resources, above all in the context of growing world inflation,

Bearing in mind that the Latin American countries, with due respect for the principle of the full and permanent sovereignty of each State over their national resources and all their economic activities, have reiterated their desire to secure the rational utilization of their energy resources,

Taking account of the efforts of some countries of the region, within the limits of their possibilities, to help the less advanced oil-importing countries to obtain stable supplies and financing facilities,

Recognizing that the countries of Latin America are striving to find solutions which will enable them to make a gradual, progressive, integral, orderly and just transition from a system based principally on the use of

conventional energy sources to one which includes adequate use of non-conventional sources,

Recalling that the international community entrusted the United Nations General Assembly with the holding of a Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, with the object of formulating measures to promote joint action to make full use of the potential of these energy sources,

Taking account of the results and recommendations of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (held in Mexico City from 16 to 20 March 1981 under the auspices of CEPAL and OLADE) for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy,

1. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and endorses it;

2. Decides that:

(a) the CEPAL Secretariat, in close co-ordination with OLADE and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system, should continue to provide support to those countries of the region which request it in the identification of measures to relieve problems deriving from the energy shortage and in the formulation of policies and plans in this field;

(b) the CEPAL Secretariat should carry out similar co-ordinated studies so that the region can have timely and updated information on available energy resources and on regional and world supply and demand in the energy market, especially regarding alternative uses of energy sources as fuels or raw materials, technological and economic aspects, and the need for conservation;

(c) the CEPAL system should give full support to the Secretariat of OLADE in the formulation and execution of the Latin American Energy Co-operation Programme, which should include specific aspects such as financial machinery and other means for its implementation, and whose preparation was entrusted to the Organization by the Extraordinary Meeting of Ministers held in March 1981;

(d) the CEPAL system, in close co-ordination and collaboration with the Secretariat of OLADE, should carry out the support studies needed to enable the countries to initiate action to implement the Regional Plan of Action on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and the recommendations emerging from the Nairobi Conference, especially as regards ways of minimizing the cost of the changes needed to use new and renewable sources of energy with a view to the future development of the countries of the region;

3. Urges the countries of the region to send representatives of the highest level to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

STYLES OF DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SYSTEMS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recognizing that the member countries of the Commission have declared in General Assembly resolution 35/56 on the International Development Strategy that hunger and malnutrition must be eradicated as rapidly as possible, and by the end of this century at the latest, and that during the decade substantial progress must be made towards the self-reliance and security in food of the developing countries in order to secure an adequate nutritional level for all,

Recognizing also that the developing countries should continue to strengthen the formulation and implementation of development plans in the field of food and agriculture, within the context of national development priorities and programmes,

Further recognizing, that in the Regional Plan of Action for the 1980s emerging from the nineteenth session of CEPAL it is stated that the Latin American countries propose to attain, inter alia, the objective of promoting an equitable distribution of income and eradicating poverty situations as rapidly as possible, and that in particular it is essential to implement an integral strategy to eliminate hunger and malnutrition,

Noting that the Regional Programme of Action has established that agricultural strategies should tackle rural development problems in an integrated manner, dealing simultaneously with social aspects and production, marketing, processing, distribution and consumption problems, and that the solution of food problems provides a key economic policy element for solving problems of overall development, unemployment, underemployment, inflation and external disequilibrium,

Also noting the specialized agencies' efforts to tackle within their spheres of competence the problem of food security, and that the fullest use must be made of their experience and expertise,

Further noting national efforts to solve the food problem on a priority basis, and that those efforts at food security should be supplemented by the international agencies in a manner always in keeping with the needs of the region,

Considering:

(a) That there is broad agreement that the achievement of food security should be a priority development objective, understood as regular access by all members of society, whatever their socio-economic status or geographical location, to the necessary food for the full development of their biological potential;

(b) That the achievement of food security is a matter transcending the boundaries of individual sectors and involving the relationship among population, education, health, housing and the processes of primary production, storage, processing, distribution and access to essential consumer goods;

(c) That the task of achieving this objective is set in a context dominated by the need to shift towards the satisfaction of the food needs of the entire population with a higher calorie/protein index;

(d) That the diagnosis and prospective analysis of the relationship between food systems and styles of development provides a new angle from which to study CEPAL efforts in connexion with development problems, with emphasis to the ends of food security and self-reliance;

(e) That this topic may help to define and enhance a major area of intra-regional co-operation;

1. Requests the CEPAL Secretariat to study, as a major topic of the 1980s, the relationship between styles of development and food systems, with particular reference to the problems of modernizing or changing economic structures in the development process, particularly those arising out of the relationships among population, education, health, housing and agriculture and industry, with a view to developing suitable planning methodologies;

2. Instructs the CEPAL system systematically to compile and make use of the various relevant national experiences in the region. In this connexion, it recommends that the Secretariat should make special use of various countries of the region;

3. Decides to make use of the projects in this field in the 1982-1983 programme of activities and those included in the Medium-Term Plan;

4. Instructs the CEPAL system to pursue the efforts begun under the Food System Co-operation Agreement between Mexico and CEPAL in the study of this topic, while exploring the possibility of broader regional co-operation;

5. Invites, for the purpose of this co-operation, the specialized agencies of the United Nations System, particularly FAO and UNIDO, and SELA to participate in their respective spheres of competence in the study of the foregoing problems;

6. Decides that, in order to appraise the results and reorient action towards forms which the countries consider useful, the results of these efforts should be presented either at the annual meeting of CEGAN or, if the funds and facilities available so permit, at a special meeting of CEGAN.

AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND FOOD SECURITY

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering

(a) that the region experiences disequilibria in the food supply, with wide sectors of the population which suffer from hunger and malnutrition, and that overall it has lost its traditional position as a net exporter of agricultural products,

(b) that the present situation of the international food trade constitutes one of the factors of distortion for the food-producing developing countries, and that this not only affects growth possibilities but also, in the region's importer countries, has adverse repercussions on their economies, and ultimately on the food situation of their peoples,

(c) that redoubled efforts must be made through international co-operation to develop and take maximum advantage of the region's capacity for producing, processing and distributing basic foodstuffs,

(d) that the efforts made so far as regards regional food security have proved inadequate, and that it is necessary to strengthen the existing machinery and stimulate the formulation of national food policies which will make possible adequate complementarity and co-ordination in a regional food system,

(e) that the machinery for food distribution should be improved and rationalized at the world level so as not to contradict the basic objectives of increasing production,

Resolves:

(a) to urge the governments of the region to study in greater depth the co-ordination of their activities in international forums so as to achieve more favourable conditions for marketing their agricultural products through the elimination by the developed countries of tariff and non-tariff barriers, and the suppression of tariffs on products of interest to Latin America,

(b) to support the operation of regional information machinery on surpluses, shortages and prices which will make it possible to boost the food trade within the region and provide support for related activities, including those already initiated at the level of SELA,

(c) to promote at the level of the specialized regional bodies the necessary studies for achieving food security and measures which will permit its materialization and the participation of those developing countries which are also food producers.

PRESENTATION OF THE REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Convinced that it is necessary to make the fullest possible use of the work of the regional bodies responsible for promoting and supporting economic development,

Stressing the growing need of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to tap a larger amount of financial resources made available on the best possible terms,

Recognizing the need that the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), as the main regional finance agency, should participate more effectively in supporting efforts for regional integration and economic co-operation,

Taking into account the fact that the member countries of IDB are preparing studies to identify the Bank's role in the 1980s,

Requests the Executive Secretary of CEPAL to present the Regional Plan of Action for Latin America in the 1980s emerging from the nineteenth session of CEPAL to the Inter-American Development Bank so that it may be taken fully into account in the Bank's preparatory work aimed at defining the functions and policies which are to govern IDB's role in the 1980s.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ACCESS TO MARKETS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recalling that in United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/56 on the International Development Strategy it is recognized that accelerating the rate of production in the developing countries will call for the rapid expansion and diversification of their international trade,

Bearing in mind that in the developed countries there has been a recrudescence of protectionism in recent years in the most diverse forms, significantly affecting Latin American exports, and that the developing countries have given voice to their general dissatisfaction with the results of the Tokyo Round,

Considering that the application of the Regional Plan of Action in the 1980s will demand greater dynamism of the external sector of the Latin American countries, which should be promoted on the one hand by an ever-growing and more diversified flow of exportable goods, and on the other by increasing access to international markets,

Reaffirming what was said in UNCTAD resolution 131 (V) regarding protectionism and structural readjustment,

1. Instructs the CEPAL Secretariat to continue with the studies which it is carrying out under the terms of CEPAL resolution 385 (XVIII) and to consider among its priorities the preparation of studies in the field of international trade aimed at:

(a) Determining the cost to the Latin American countries of the protectionism practiced by the developed countries in terms of its impact on the growth targets which the region has set itself for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

(b) Appraising the practical effects on the various Latin American countries of the application of the different schemes of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and suggesting courses of action which might constitute effective tools of negotiation for improving the use of these versions;

(c) Carrying out the trade studies provided for in the Biennial Programme of Work 1982-1983 and the Medium-Term Plan 1984-1989, bearing in mind the amendments contained in the final report and the resolutions and decisions adopted at the nineteenth session, and also the studies referred to in the Regional Plan of Action;

2. Recommends to the CEPAL Secretariat that in carrying out the above mentioned studies it should take account of the work done in other international bodies such as UNCTAD and GATT;

3. Also recommends to the CEPAL Secretariat that it should advise Latin American governments, at their request, on the repercussions, utilization and application of the agreements emanating from the international trade negotiations, particularly those from the Tokyo Round, in consultation with GATT and in collaboration with UNCTAD.

Latin American Development Decade

REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind resolution 35/56 in which the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the Third Development Decade and CEPAL resolution 386 (XVIII) on contributions by CEPAL for the formulation of the New International Development Strategy for the 1980s,

Having considered the Regional Programme of Action proposed in the "Report of the fifth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN)" (E/CEPAL/G.1155), prepared pursuant to resolution 386 (XVIII), and the contributions included therein at the present (nineteenth) session,

Resolves

1. To reaffirm the common determination of member Governments to work individually and collectively to achieve the integral development to which the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean aspire, with the necessary persistence and continuity at the national, regional and international levels to create conditions of stability and wellbeing for all their peoples, ensuring them a standard of living compatible with human dignity;
2. To proclaim formally the 1980s as the "Latin American Development Decade" and solemnly adopt the Regional Programme of Action for the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade as annexed hereto.

C. SUBMITTED TO THE PLENARY BY COMMITTEE II

LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recalling that the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), originally proposed in CEPAL resolution 199 (IX) and established under resolution 220 (AC.52) of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL, was made by resolution 340 (AC.6) into a permanent United Nations body, with a separate identity within the CEPAL system,

Further recalling that ILPES, in accordance with CEPAL resolution 371 (XVII), has expanded its responsibilities to cover assistance to planning bodies in operating the System of Co-operation among Planning Bodies,

Stressing the results of the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning, held in Guatemala in November 1980, which provided further proof of the importance of the machinery to enable Latin American planners to promote mutual co-operation with a view to achieving higher levels of development in the region,

Recognizing that ILPES has fully complied with the guidelines for its activities set forth in paragraph 7 of resolution 397 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of the work of the ILPES Technical Committee and Sub-Committee in orienting the Institute's activities,

Recognizing that in the sphere of economic and social planning ILPES is playing an outstanding role in implementing technical co-operation among developing countries,

1. Notes with satisfaction the Report on the activities of ILPES in the period 1979-1981 and future prospects;1/

1/ E/CEPAL/G.1169.

2. Takes note of the resolutions of the Second Meeting of Caribbean Planning Experts, held in Kingston, Jamaica, from 29 May to 2 June 1980, and of the tasks that ILPES is carrying out in implementation of the corresponding recommendations, and urges governments and co-operation agencies to provide ILPES with the resources required for stepping up its action in the Caribbean;

3. Takes note with approval of the resolutions adopted at the Third Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Guatemala City in November 1980;

4. Endorses the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the ILPES Technical Committee, held in Guatemala on 29 November 1980, that:

(a) The important support that UNDP has given ILPES since its establishment should be acknowledged with thanks;

(b) UNDP should be requested to continue its financial support for the Institute so that the latter may continue to carry out its basic programmes;

(c) All necessary efforts should be undertaken at the level of each government of Latin America and the Caribbean in order to consolidate the financing of ILPES;

(d) The Chairman of the Technical Committee should be instructed to convene, as soon as possible, a meeting of the Technical Committee, which should give priority attention to the adoption of such measures as may be required in order to place ILPES on a stable and adequate financial footing;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of CEPAL, in conjunction with the Chairman of the Technical Committee of ILPES, to arrange with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) the support needed for the continuation of the activities of ILPES as from 1 January 1982;

6. Praises and expresses its appreciation for the contributions which some member governments of the Commission have made to the partial financing of the activities of the Institute and invites all Governments to establish regular contributions to sustain and expand the activities of the Institute, in line with such suggestions as the Technical Committee may make at its next meeting;

7. Reiterates its special gratitude to the Administrator of UNDP for the solid support made available to ILPES since the time of its establishment and exhorts him to continue providing such support after 1 January 1982;

8. Also expresses its sincere appreciation to the Governments of the Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany and to the International Development Research Centre of Canada for the generous voluntary contributions made during the past biennium in support of the training and documentation activities of ILPES and invites them to continue making contributions during the next biennium in order to strengthen some specific priority programmes;

9. Expresses its satisfaction with regard to the co-operation agreements which ILPES is entering into with some governments which have received support from the Inter-American Development Bank and note that this form of operation may eventually be of great significance in financing and expanding the activities of ILPES;

10. Notes with satisfaction the activities for promoting technical co-operation with Africa and recommends that they be intensified in future, using the experience accumulated by ILPES;

11. Recommends that the organization of periodic seminars of experts from planning offices of Latin America and the Caribbean be promoted so as to foster a constructive exchange of the ideas, research, studies and experience which are being developed in the various countries, thereby making it possible at the same time to orient specific aspects of the activities of ILPES related to training, advisory services, research and co-operation among planning bodies.

DECENTRALIZATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 33/202 of 29 January 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, particularly section IV of the annex to resolution 32/197 on the structures for regional and interregional co-operation, as well as General Assembly resolution 34/206 of 19 December 1979 on the implementation of section IV of the annex to resolution 32/197,

Also bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 for the regional commissions 1/, which was presented for consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session,

Further bearing in mind General Assembly decision 35/440 of 16 December 1980 on the implications of its resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 for the regional commissions, in which the General Assembly invited the regional commissions to consider further at their plenary sessions in 1981 the implications for their role and functions of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 in the light, inter alia, of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General, 2/ in particular paragraphs 76 to 79 thereof, and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session,

1/ Document A/35/546 of 23 August 1980.

2/ Ibid.

Recalling its consensus on the future role of CEPAL in the rationalization of the regional structures of the United Nations adopted at its fourteenth session; and its resolution 405 (XVIII) of 26 April 1979 on the decentralization of United Nations activities.

Further recalling that the question of decentralizing the economic and social activities of the United Nations to the regional commissions has been under consideration in the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly since the beginning of the 1960s, and that it has been pointed out in this connexion that many problems connected with economic and social development and co-operation could better be tackled in the geographical areas in which they arise,

Recognizing the need for more vigorous action to implement the provisions of section IV of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 so that, as far as CEPAL is concerned, the Commission may fully carry out its function, under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as the main general centre of economic and social development within the United Nations system for its respective region,

Stressing the need to delegate to the CEPAL Secretariat the necessary authority and resources to enable it effectively to carry out the new and additional responsibilities assigned to it by General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202,

Having studied the note of the Secretariat of the Commission entitled "Decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations: the new functions of the regional commissions in regional and interregional co-operation", 3/

1. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 for the regional commissions, 4/ particularly paragraphs 13 to 20 and 76 to 79 thereof;
2. Recognizes that the Commission's expanded and strengthened functions pursuant to the relevant provisions set forth in the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 include the following:

3/ See document E/CEPAL/G.1174 of 10 April 1981.

4/ Document A/35/546.

(a) consultative and policy-making functions with regard to economic and social activities at the regional level under the authority of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council;

(b) leadership function in the joint efforts of the United Nations system for the development of regional co-operation and co-ordination and priority-setting in the field of economic and social development, in keeping with the functions of the United Nations in this respect and taking due account of the functions of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectoral fields;

(c) involvement in decision-making concerning programme requirements and medium-term planning in respect of activities undertaken by the regional commissions and in the definition of objectives covered by the medium-term plan;

(d) the function of executing agency for intersectoral, subregional, regional and interregional projects, in accordance with the relevant provisions set forth in General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202, and for the promotion of co-operation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

(e) responsibility for the continuous exchange of information and experience among the various regional commissions, and identification of opportunities for economic co-operation, as a means of promoting interregional co-operation;

3. Urges the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, with due consideration for the observations contained in the report of the Secretary-General 5/ and in the framework of International Development Strategy for the 1980s, to take appropriate measures, as far as CEPAL is concerned, to enable the Commission to make a regional contribution to the world policy-making process of the competent bodies of the United Nations and to participate fully in the implementation at the regional level of the policy and programme decisions taken by those bodies at the world level, without prejudice to the specific functions incumbent upon them in their respective spheres of competence;

5/ Ibid.

4. Notes that CEPAL is already acting as executing agency for a number of regional projects funded by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 33/202;
5. Exhorts the competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue and further develop the practice of formalizing inter-agency agreements with CEPAL whereby the Commission may be associated with them not merely in the implementation of certain intersectoral, subregional, regional and interregional projects for which those bodies and organizations have the status of executing agencies in specific economic and social sectors, but also for country projects in specific areas in which the Secretariat of the Commission has great installed technical capacity and an adequate operational structure, in particular for projects in the spheres of economic and social planning and of demography and population;
6. Notes that in 1980 a permanent post in the sphere of social development and a post of water resources expert were redeployed from United Nations headquarters to the Secretariat of the Commission pursuant to the provisions of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197, paragraph 26;
7. Likewise notes the decision taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session to assign a temporary post to the Secretariat of the Commission in the field of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries;
8. Urges the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to ensure the allocation of sufficient budgetary resources to enable the Secretariat of the Commission to carry out the functions expanded and strengthened in the restructuring process, and, in particular, to approve the temporary post mentioned above on a permanent basis and to redeploy sufficient resources to strengthen the biennial and medium-term planning process of the Commission's Programme of Work;
9. Requests the Executive Secretary:
 - (a) in order to expand the co-ordination of activities and avoid duplication of effort in the economic and social sectors, to initiate and continue consultations with the competent organizations of the United Nations system and with organizations such as SELA, OLADE, ALADI, etc. which carry

out programmes in the region served by CEPAL, with a view to: (i) identifying areas in which it is necessary to strengthen the co-ordination and harmonization of programmes of interest to the governments of the region; and (ii) examining the possibility of establishing appropriate arrangements;

(b) to work out with the Secretary-General of the United Nations appropriate arrangements for the effective participation of the Commission in the planning of the United Nations medium-term programmes;

(c) likewise to work out with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with the competent bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system appropriate arrangements for: (i) the synchronization of the programming cycles and the harmonization of programme formats between CEPAL, on the one hand, and the United Nations and its system of global organizations, on the other; and (ii) the identification, as rapidly as possible, of ways and means of improving the distribution of the tasks and responsibilities of the Commission and of the competent global organizations of the United Nations system with a view to strengthening those research and analysis functions which can be carried out most effectively at the regional level;

10. Likewise requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at the next session of the Committee of the Whole on the implementation of the measures contained in this resolution, in the light of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council at their forthcoming sessions.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES IN THE CEPAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that General Assembly resolution 31/93 requests the Secretary-General "to take measures to involve more closely the sectoral, functional and regional programme-formulating organs in the planning and programming process",

Bearing in mind that the legislative organs of the United Nations system, in the face of the increased responsibilities assigned to the economic and social sector, adopted a series of resolutions and decisions - particularly resolution 32/197 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system - which decentralize functions to the regional commissions,

Also bearing in mind, that according to resolution 419 (PLEN.14) the holding of the sessions of the Commission in even instead of odd years will allow them to be brought into line with the biennial budget programming cycle introduced by the General Assembly,

Considering that the CEPAL Secretariat has been made responsible for new activities whose implementation is hindered by the present financial restrictions of the Organization, and that these financial restrictions are of a recurrent nature,

Reaffirming that it is a matter of fundamental interest for the governments to take the best possible advantage of the work programmes of the CEPAL system, considered globally,

Considering that the absence of explicit priorities in the implementation of programmes and projects diminishes their efficacy,

Resolves:

(a) to request the Executive Secretary to ensure that the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to be held in 1982 includes among its main agenda items the review of the planning and programming process of CEPAL;

(b) that the annual meetings of CEGAN held to appraise the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action should formulate suggestions regarding priorities for the consideration of the member governments of the Commission when adopting the programme of work.

DECENTRALIZATION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE LATIN AMERICAN
DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRE (CELADE)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolutions 150 (VII) and 571 (XIX), General Assembly resolutions 1838 (XVII), 2211 (XXI) and 2626 (XXV), and resolution 346 (AC.68) of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL, which express the permanent concern of the United Nations with regard to population matters and their connexion with economic and social development, together with CEPAL resolution 400 (XVIII) which describes the general objectives of the Latin American Regional Population Programme and refers to the need for "promotion of the decentralization of these activities to permit proper participation by the subregions",

Also bearing in mind the conclusions and resolution 419 (PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole on rationalization of the institutional structure and the pattern of meetings of the CEPAL system, and its resolution 421 (PLEN.14) on financing of the activities of the Latin American Demographic Centre,

Considering that the work done by CELADE in the field of population has won the recognition of governments on account of its value and importance for the efforts to promote economic and social development,

Taking account of the concern expressed by the member countries of the Commission as regards the need to ensure that CELADE is provided with stable financing in keeping with the nature and variety of the mandates entrusted to it as part of the Latin American Regional Population Programme,

Acknowledging the generous offer of the Government of Costa Rica to continue to support the CELADE office which operates in the city of San José, Costa Rica;

Acknowledging that the contributions to CELADE provided by UNFPA since 1972 have been the major financial support for the work of the Center and that continued support from the UNFPA will be necessary for the important work of CELADE in the field of demographic analysis.

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to make the necessary arrangements to secure the early strengthening and expansion of the activities carried on in the CELADE office in Costa Rica;
2. Recommends that the new activities undertaken as a result of the receipt of additional funds be implemented primarily in the San José Office of CELADE with the necessary personnel so as to strengthen the presence of the regional commission in Central America and the Caribbean within the context of activities relative to decentralization and consistent with the efficient pursuit of CELADE's work.
3. Recommends that in order to speed up the implementation of the Regional Population Programme in conformity with the mandates and objectives suggested at the First Meeting on Population of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN) held in Quito from 12 to 14 March 1979,*/ and adopted at the eighteenth session of the Commission, CEGAN should be entrusted with the responsibility of appraising the progress of the Centre's activities and proposing the necessary measures for the better implementation of its programme of work as adopted at the sessions of the Commission.
4. Calls upon the Executive Director of UNFPA to continue to provide CELADE with the necessary financial support, and also requests the member Governments of CEPAL which are in a position to do so to provide CELADE with more resources.

*/ See E/CEPAL/G.1072.

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES
OF CEPAL.

The Economic Commission for Latin America.

Bearing in mind sections 8 and 24 of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of CEPAL, together with the relevant mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council regarding the preparation and consideration of the programmes of work of all the bodies in the system,

Recalling resolution 419 (PLEN.14) of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL, in which it was decided that at its nineteenth session the Commission should decide on the new calendar of conferences and meetings of the entire CEPAL system with a view to implementing it, duly synchronized with the General Assembly's budget programming cycle, as from 1982 and taking into account the objectives and priorities established in the various work programmes and regional action programmes approved by member governments,

Having considered the draft programme of work for the different areas of activity of the CEPAL system for the period 1982-1983,^{1/} which covers also the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE),

Taking account of the adjustments to the programme proposed by representatives of member governments, as recorded in the final report of the nineteenth session, and the changes deriving from the resolution adopted at that session,

1. Approves the programme of work of the CEPAL system (including the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning and the Latin

^{1/} Document E/CEPAL/G.1162.

American Demographic Centre) for the period 1982-1983, with the adjustments reflected in the final report and taking account of the resolutions and decisions and Regional Programme of Action in the form in which they were adopted at the nineteenth session;

2. Recognizes that this programme constitutes the legislative authority of the Commission for the execution of these programmes and projects;

3. Takes note that the allocation of any additional resources which may be necessary for carrying out the activities described in this programme requires the prior approval of the pertinent bodies of the United Nations;

4. Also approves the final calendar of conferences of the CEPAL system as given in annex I of this resolution, with the observations and suggestions reflected in the final report of the nineteenth session;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the pertinent bodies of the United Nations such proposals as may be necessary to enable the programme of work and calendar of conferences thus approved to be carried out;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary to report to the twentieth session of CEPAL on the fulfilment of this resolution.

Annex I

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES FOR CEPAL FOR 1981 AND PROPOSED CALENDAR FOR SUBSEQUENT YEARS

Title	1981	1982	1983	1984
<p>CEPAL - Session</p> <p>Sessional committees</p>	<p>Nineteenth session Montevideo, 4-15 May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water resources Montevideo, 4-5 May - Human settlements Montevideo, 7-8 May - Co-operation between developing countries and regions Montevideo, 5 May 			<p>Twentieth session</p> <p>Water resources</p> <p>Human settlements</p> <p>Co-operation between developing countries and regions</p>
<p>CEPAL - Committee of the Whole</p>		Fifteenth session <u>a/</u>	Sixteenth session <u>a/</u>	
<p>Intergovernmental regional conferences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intergovernmental Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy Mexico City, 16-20 March - Meeting to Approve the Plan of Action for the Environmental Management of the Wider Caribbean Region Jamaica, 6-8 April - Latin American Preparatory Meeting for the World Assembly on Aging San José, December 			

a/ Dates and dates to be decided.

Title	1981	1982	1983	1984
Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America		Third conference a/		
Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN)	CEGAN - Fifth session Quito, 9-14 March	CEGAN - Sixth session a/	CEGAN - Seventh session a/	CEGAN - Eighth session a/
Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC)	Sixth session Granada, 5-10 November	Seventh session a/	Eighth session a/	Ninth session a/
Central American Economic Co-operation Committee		Twelfth session a/		

a/ Place and date to be decided.

ACCESS TO SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the efforts of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to obtain efficient and up-to-date economic and trade information in order to be in a position to strengthen their technical infrastructure for decision-making and for participating more effectively in international trade and in international economic negotiations,

Bearing in mind that much of this information exists and is available in the various parts of the CEPAL system and in the United Nations system in general,

Further bearing in mind the mandate of CEPAL to contribute to strengthening the external sector of the developing countries of the region,

1. Thanks the CEPAL Secretariat for the economic and trade information which it provides to member countries through its periodic reports and basic documents;

2. Requests the CEPAL Secretariat to undertake and submit a comprehensive study on the possibilities of broadening the economic and trade information updated for developing countries of the region which so request, in order to enable them to set up or further improve economic and trade information units to facilitate their policy decision-making and their more effective participation in international and bilateral negotiations. The study should cover, inter alia, the following elements:

(i) Operational machinery to provide the countries of the region with rapid and up-to-date economic and trade information;

- (ii) Information sources of the CEPAL system;
- (iii) Possibilities of using the information available in the United Nations system;
- (iv) Possibilities of using the economic and trade information available in existing intergovernmental bodies or institutions within the United Nations system and outside it, including IBRD, IMF, GATT, OECD, CMEA and the EEC, among others;
- (v) Possibilities of using information from the main commodity exchanges whose activities cover or include goods or products of the region;
- (vi) Mention of other possible information sources which might be relevant;
- (vii) Alternative cost estimates for the setting up of the various information systems proposed;

3. Requests the CEPAL Secretariat to submit the results of the study to member countries for discussion at the twentieth session of the Commission, and to submit a preliminary report on the information available from the study to the next session of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL.

DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM PLAN OF THE CEPAL SYSTEM
FOR THE PERIOD 1984-1989

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind that General Assembly resolution 31/93:

"requests the Secretary-General to take measures to involve more closely the sectoral, functional and regional programme-formulating organs in the planning and programming process; urges those organs to refrain from undertaking new activities not programmed in the Medium-Term Plan and the subsequent programme budget unless a pressing need of an unforeseeable nature arises as determined by the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure compliance with the planning and programme-budgeting procedure referred to above",

Also bearing in mind that, at its twentieth session, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, an inter-governmental body that advises the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, requested the Secretariat (A/35/38, paragraph 320) to draw the attention of the intergovernmental sectoral, functional and regional organs to the fact that they must consider the draft Medium-Term Plan before it is transmitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 31/93,

Having considered the draft Medium-Term Plan of the CEPAL system for the period 1984-1989, which also covers the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE),

Bearing in mind that the Secretariat will make the adjustments to that draft Plan proposed by the representatives of member countries and will incorporate in it the changes stemming from the resolutions adopted at the nineteenth session,

Decides to transmit the draft Medium-Term Plan of the CEPAL system for the period 1984-1989 to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination so that it can be incorporated into the United Nations Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989, to be submitted to the General Assembly for approval in 1982.

TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION BETWEEN
THE COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN AREA AND
THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind its resolution 365 (XVII) of 5 May 1977 on economic integration and co-operation, which points out that despite the considerable progress made in the integration of the economies of the countries of the region and in linking up their production system, full use has yet to be made of the economic potential of integration,

Also bearing in mind that in its resolution 402 (XVIII) of 26 April 1979 on economic integration, the Secretariat of the Commission is requested to study the integration processes of the region and to strengthen its support to them through the preparation of studies and the provision of advisory services to the governments or Secretariats of the integration processes at their express request,

Taking into account the progress that has been achieved by the subregional integration schemes and the forms of co-operation being worked out in the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee,

Mindful of the need to forge closer links of economic and technical co-operation between the countries and groups of countries of the Caribbean area and the other countries and groups of the region,

1. Urges the developing member countries of the Commission and the Secretariats of the relevant groups of countries of the region to intensify their efforts to identify specific possibilities of technical and economic co-operation which may be undertaken between the countries of the Caribbean and the other Latin American

countries with a view to developing new links of co-operation and solidarity among them or strengthening those which already exist;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

a) in collaboration with the Caribbean institutions charged with promoting co-operation and integration, to prepare a short, medium and long-term programme of work, including the undertaking of studies and operational activities designed to promote, at the request of interested governments, projects in specific areas with a view to mobilizing and strengthening technical and economic co-operation between the countries of the Caribbean area and the other countries of the region;

b) that the programme of work and studies be so oriented as to identify the main obstacles to greater co-operation, the potential areas of complementarities, mechanisms to foster trade and assist the process of co-operation among the integration and co-operation organizations and with the Latin American countries of the region not members of those organizations;

c) to take appropriate measures to promote co-operation between the Secretariats of inter-governmental organs of the Caribbean area and the rest of the region to facilitate the exchange of scientific and technical information, documentation and experience, as well as the identification of projects which can be undertaken jointly in areas of common interest;

d) to collaborate, at the request of the Secretariats of such integration bodies, in the preparation of joint mutual co-operation projects and in their financing when necessary.

D. SUBMITTED TO THE PLENARY BY THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

- (1) Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries
and Regions**
- (2) Committee on Water**
- (3) Committee on Human Settlements**

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, particularly paragraph 24 of the annex to that resolution which indicates the role of the regional commissions as regards subregional, regional and interregional economic co-operation among developing countries,

Also bearing in mind resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978 in which the General Assembly endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries adopted at the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries,

Convinced that technical and economic co-operation among developing countries constitutes a form of international co-operation which can contribute effectively to strengthening the links of solidarity between the countries of the region and to the search for suitable solutions to specific problems of economic and social development, with a view to achieving collective self-reliance and the establishment of the New International Economic Order,

Also convinced that the region's economic integration processes constitute very important mechanisms for economic co-operation among the countries of the region and that it is therefore essential to support and strengthen them, and at the same time to continue the search for new forms of mutual co-operation in this sphere so as to supplement and improve these processes,

Recalling that the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, in its recommendation 22 on the development and strengthening of interregional technical co-operation among developing countries, stresses in particular the assistance which the regional commissions should give to activities to strengthen technical co-operation among developing countries at the interregional level,

Taking into account the decisions contained in the report of the first High-Level Meeting 1/ on the review of technical co-operation among developing countries held in Geneva from 26 May to 2 June 1980, and particularly those referring to the role devolving on the regional commissions in fostering and supporting technical co-operation among developing countries,

Taking note of the agreements established between the Secretariats of CEPAL and the Latin American Economic System (SELA) with a view to achieving greater co-ordination between their respective programmes for the promotion and support of technical and economic co-operation among the countries of the region,

Taking note of decisions 84 and 108 on economic and technical co-operation among developing countries adopted by the seventh Latin American Council of SELA,

Also taking note of the activities of the Secretariat to secure the participation of CEPAL in the Joint UNDP/UNCTAD Programme to support technical and economic co-operation among developing countries in the spheres of trade and development,

Recognizing the need for the Secretariat of the Commission to intensify its efforts, in consultation and co-operation with the other regional commissions and with the competent organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in order to strengthen and increase technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and groups of countries from different geographical areas,

1/ Document TCDC/13 of 6 June 1980.

1. Takes note of the Secretariat's document on the action of the CEPAL system in fostering and supporting technical and economic co-operation among developing countries,^{2/} and particularly the Secretariat's initiative in mobilizing the CEPAL system internally in pursuit of the objectives of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions and the activities carried out at the regional level to foster and support mutual co-operation in specific sectors;
2. Likewise takes note of the implementation of the joint project of CEPAL and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on interregional technical and economic co-operation in the spheres of trade, the training of human resources and the development of science and technology, with a contribution from the United Nations Development Programme, which will culminate in a meeting between government representatives of countries of the two regions, programmed for late 1981, with the purpose of reviewing and agreeing upon specific projects for mutual co-operation in the interregional sphere;
3. Urges the secretariats of the groups of countries in the region to support member countries which so request in the adoption of measures leading to the formulation of policies aimed at intensifying mutual technical and economic co-operation;
4. Calls upon the governments of the developed member countries of the Commission to make contributions in order to strengthen and expand the activities of regional and interregional technical and economic co-operation which the Secretariat of the Commission is promoting;
5. Further calls upon the governments of the developing member countries of the Commission and the intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the region to lend full support to the activities which the Secretariat is promoting with a view to mobilizing and

^{2/} See document E/CEPAL/G.1167 of 9 March 1981.

strengthening technical and economic co-operation among the various geographical regions of the developing world, and to play an active part in those efforts;

6. Urges the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the other competent organizations of the United Nations system to give priority attention, within their respective mandates and spheres of competence, to the programmes and projects of the Secretariat of the Commission aimed at encouraging and supporting technical and economic co-operation at the interregional level in the economic and social sectors, and to participate actively in them;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) to consider, in close collaboration and consultation with the competent organizations of the United Nations system as well as with those competent regional organizations outside the United Nations, in particular SELA, which has the responsibility to carry out decision 108 adopted at its Seventh Latin American Council, what advisory services it could provide and what studies it could prepare in the light of the results stemming from the Second Regional Meeting in consultation and co-ordination of TCDC which will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 26 to 30 May 1981 as well as from the Second Meeting of the High-Level Committee on TCDC to be held also at United Nations Headquarters, from 1 to 8 June 1981;

(b) to review the operational activities for the support and promotion of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries implemented by the Secretariat during the past two years in order to identify obstacles which may have restricted the development of this co-operation and adopt within the Secretariat such measures as he may deem appropriate, and propose to member governments such measures as may help to overcome these obstacles, with special emphasis on new forms and mechanisms for this purpose;

(c) to identify, promote and disseminate new approaches, aimed at promoting regional co-operation and integration, with a view to the instrumentation of the programme of action for Latin America within the framework of the Third United Nations Development Decade;

(d) to strengthen the machinery established in the Secretariat and in the relevant offices located away from the headquarters of the Commission for the implementation of the work programme of the Secretariat regarding the promotion and support of technical and economic co-operation, and subregional and regional economic integration;

(e) to adjust the functions and activities of the CEPAL Montevideo Office, bearing in mind the entry into force of the 1980 Montevideo Treaty and in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), to the new forms and machinery of co-operation among developing countries provided for in that Treaty;

(f) to collaborate, at the request of governments, in establishing flexible links and machinery to facilitate contacts between the national focal points for technical and economic co-operation in the region and to collaborate also with the national government bodies of the countries of the region responsible for co-ordinating or carrying out TCDC projects and programmes;

(g) to identify, at the request of interested governments and groups of countries, and in collaboration with the competent bodies of the United Nations system, joint programmes and projects with other regional commissions which will contribute to expanding technical and economic co-operation among countries and groups of countries of different geographical areas of the developing world;

(h) to evaluate the experience and results of mutual co-operation projects and activities currently under way or in course of implementation in which the CEPAL system has been involved, and to

prepare a study on the opportunities and prospects for countries and groups of countries of the region to expand such co-operation in the economic and social sectors to which they attach priority or which are of interest to them;

(i) to collaborate with the SELA secretariat in drawing up a directory handbook describing the form and conditions of the co-operation which the national research and training centres of multinational scope are in a position to furnish in TCDC activities, and to assist such centres in the implementation of TCDC projects and programmes, so as to improve the use made of their own capacities;

(j) to take appropriate measures to strengthen and expand co-operation and co-ordination with the other regional commissions for the continuous exchange of information and experience and for promoting the initiation or strengthening of links between subregional and regional organizations of different geographical areas which have common interests and complementary capacities.

8. Expresses its recognition and gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of the Netherlands for the support which they are giving to the Secretariat of the Commission in its efforts to foster, mobilize and support technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions;

9. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the decided support and the contribution they are making to the strengthening of technical and economic co-operation between Africa and Latin America and between Asia and the Pacific and Latin America, respectively.

ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3177 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, 3241 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3442 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, 31/119 of 16 December 1976, 32/180 of 19 December 1977, 33/195 of 29 January 1979, and 34/202 of 19 December 1979, as well as resolution 127 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, on economic co-operation among developing countries,

Recalling also its resolutions 316 (XV) of 29 March 1973, 354 (XVI) of 13 May 1975, 363 (XVII) of 5 May 1977, and 387 (XVIII) of 26 April 1979, on economic and technical co-operation among developing countries and regions,

Taking note of the Report of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries held in Mexico City from 13 to 22 September 1976; the results of the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, Arusha, 12 to 16 February 1979; the Final Declaration of the Sixth Conference of Heads of State of the Non-Aligned Countries held in Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979; the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held at the United Nations in March 1980; the Report of the Meeting of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, Vienna, 3 to 7 June 1980; the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 (New York, September 1980) by which the Ministers endorse the Report of the Meeting of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group, as well as the conclusions and recommendations contained therein; and of decision 84 of the Seventh Latin American Council of SELA,

Noting that the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries will be held in Caracas from 13 to 19 May 1981, which will be of fundamental importance for those countries' development,

Expressing its satisfaction at the support and the special attention which the Secretariat of the Commission has given to economic co-operation at its latest sessions,

Reiterating the contents of paragraph 4 (f) of resolution 387 (XVIII) which requests the Executive Secretary of CEPAL "to include the subject of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries in the research work of the Secretariat and the agendas of the intergovernmental and specialized meetings convened by the Secretariat, whenever the subject of the research or of the meeting permits",

1. Stresses the importance of the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries to be held in Caracas between 13 and 19 May 1981 and its potential to arrive at appropriate forms, methods, projects and activities to substantially increase economic co-operation among developing countries;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to consider, in close collaboration and consultation with the competent organizations of the United Nations system as well as with those competent regional organizations outside the United Nations, in particular SELA, which has the responsibility to carry out decision 84 adopted at its Seventh Latin American Council, what advisory services it could provide and what studies it could prepare in the light of the results stemming from the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing countries.

SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY
AND SANITATION DECADE

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recognizing the vital importance for Latin America of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade recommended in paragraph 5 of the Mar del Plata Action Plan,^{1/}

Recalling the unique one-day special session of the United Nations General Assembly on 10 November 1980 to launch officially the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

Noting the statement on that occasion by the representative of Colombia on behalf of the states of the Latin American region that "Latin America has as one of its priorities the achievement of the goals of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade",

Noting further resolution (E/RES/1979/31) adopted by the Economic and Social Council in support of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, especially the establishment of the Interagency Steering Committee comprising the United Nations, UNICEF, UNDP, the ILO, FAO, WHO and the World Bank that has been set up with UNDP as chairman, to co-ordinate United Nations system support for the Decade,

Recalling the designation of the resident representative of UNDP to act as the focal point for co-operative action at the country level,

Bearing in mind resolution 25 entitled "International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade" adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace held in Copenhagen concerning the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

^{1/} Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12), chap. I.

Recognizing that the access to adequate supplies of clean water affects not merely health but general development including human productivity, crop cultivation, livestock production, small-scale industry and overall economic growth,

1. Calls upon governments that have not yet done so to establish ministerial-level National Action Committees and to proceed rapidly with the development of National Action Plans for the Decade;

2. Further calls upon governments to place a sufficient priority for the Decade among their overall development plans to ensure that adequate resources are made available to achieve their targets for the Decade;

3. Urges governments to work closely with the resident representative to assist them in carrying out their role as the focal point for co-operative action for the Decade;

4. Encourages that priority be given to providing water and sanitation for those in rural and urban slum areas;

5. Also encourages governments to emphasize the involvement of women in community participation and in designing and maintenance of water and sanitation systems;

6. Calls on governments to report on the progress they have made achieving the Decade's goals at the next CEPAL meeting.

PROGRAMME OF WORK IN THE FIELD OF WATER RESOURCES

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking account of the recommendations and resolutions adopted at the United Nations Water Conference which constitute the Mar del Plata Action Plan and subsequent resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Economic and Social Council,

Recalling CEPAL resolutions 409 (XVIII) on technical co-operation among developing countries in the field of water resources and 411 (XVIII) on organizational measures to promote the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan,

Considering the progress made in the last two years in the promotion of the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Latin America, including the establishment of a Water Resources Unit within the CEPAL Secretariat to act as a focal point,

Decides to reinforce the promotion of the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan at the regional level through a survey of the progress being made in the region;

Urges governments to co-operate for the successful execution of this survey;

Requests the Secretariat to report to the Committee on Water at the Twentieth Session of CEPAL as to the findings of the survey;

Also recommends to the CEPAL Secretariat that within the programme of work in this field it should:

(a) Maintain its efforts as regards the review and co-ordination of the relevant aspects of the regional activities of the international agencies;

(b) Carry out the necessary action to promote horizontal co-operation in the field of water resources and to identify suitable areas for such co-operation;

(c) Continue to support the activities of governments aimed at improving water resource management including the incorporation of the environmental dimension;

(d) Reinforce its efforts to support the activities of governments related to the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization and other regional bodies.

MEASURES TO PROMOTE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE
INTERNATIONAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION
DECADE IN LATIN AMERICA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind the recommendations and resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly which proclaim the period 1981-1990 as International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

Deeply concerned because, in spite of the progress made in drinking water supply and sanitation in Latin America in the last two decades, a large part of the region's population, especially in rural areas, still lacks reasonable access to a safe and adequate supply of drinking water or to suitable sanitation,

Recalling that operative paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 35/18 on proclamation of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade "calls upon the regional commissions to review periodically on the basis of national reports, the progress being made by the governments of their respective regions in establishing national targets and carrying out programmes to attain those targets",

Also recalling CEPAL resolution 411 (XVIII) on organizational measures to promote the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan,

1. Assigns the highest priority, within the efforts to implement the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Latin America, to the achievement of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, including the development of sound water resource use, which is a fundamental component of that Action Plan;

2. Urges the governments of the region, if they have not already done so, to establish the necessary intersectoral co-operation, to prepare the necessary policies, to set targets and to assign sufficient financial resources for achieving the objectives of the Decade not only in terms of

increasing the proportion of the population served but also as regards improving the quality of the services provided, highest priority being assigned to the satisfaction of the needs of the rural population;

3. Recommends to the CEPAL Secretariat that at the next session of the Commission emphasis be placed on the review, on the basis of country reports, of the progress made in the establishment and execution of national programmes to attain the targets set for the Decade;

4. Also recommends that the Secretariat should continue to encourage governments to set up the necessary national infrastructures to put into effect the rules for the conservation and management of water resources within an integrated overall water use framework;

5. Likewise recommends that the Secretariat should continue to urge governments to apply the conclusions of the First Latin American Seminar on Horizontal Co-operation for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, held in Santiago, Chile, in March 1981;

6. Further recommends the Secretariat to continue to promote horizontal co-operation in the area of river basin management;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to take the necessary measures to further the efforts being made by the international organizations, especially the Pan American Health Organization, in support of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the topic of human settlements has become one of the most important aspects of development in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, as it involves the essential elements that enable the quality of life to be raised,

Bearing in mind that, to varying extents, the governments of the region have carried out national policies and programmes aimed at improving the living conditions of the population, and that in particular experience in development matters has shown the need for regional co-operation as an element to assist the countries' own efforts,

Recognizing that in 1976 in Vancouver and Mexico City, in 1977 in Guatemala City, in 1978 in Mexico City, in 1979 in La Paz, and in 1979 and 1980 in Mexico City meetings have been held at which the discussions have made it clear that it is necessary to undertake programmes of co-operation in the field of human settlements, and programme lines and priorities have been set; and likewise recognizing that regional action in this field has been but sporadic in contrast with the problems and needs which far outstrip it,

Taking into account that the action undertaken in the field of human settlements by the United Nations system must be stepped up in order to contribute to achieving the countries' basic objectives in this field,

Noting that despite a series of mandates and recommendations formulated by governments on various occasions with a view to strengthening those programmes, the United Nations bodies with responsibilities in this field have not responded to them in terms of providing greater resources for carrying out such activities and giving them clear priority status, with the result

submitted at this first meeting of the Committee on Human Settlements;

(v) to intensify working contacts and generally speaking, CEPAL's presence in the countries by holding seminars of the type which have already taken place in Mexico, Cuba and Nicaragua and further expert meetings. Periodic visits to the countries of the region are also proposed with a view to making direct contact with local situations and discovering new opportunities for co-operation; and

(vi) to promote technical co-operation among developing countries in the region so as to make the most of the experience which has been built up in some countries and can be transmitted to others.

The model in mind is that of a small promotion unit similar to those existing in the Secretariat for water transnational corporations, and the environment. These units were formed in the latter two cases as a result of co-operation agreements with the Centre for Transnational Corporations and UNEP, respectively. The working groups are made up of from one to three CEPAL experts and three or four professionals provided by the counterpart body.

In the case of human settlements, the supplementary resources to set up a new joint unit should come from the HABITAT Centre. This unit should be in a position to foment and co-ordinate the implementation of projects financed by the different programmes of the United Nations system, and even more important, the member countries of the Commission themselves. The statement by the representative of Canada regarding his country's renewed interest in co-operating with CEPAL in developing joint projects in the field of human settlements is encouraging in this regard.

A scheme in which CEPAL could work, as the Economic Commission for Europe does, in close-co-operation with those countries of the region which have most capacity for taking part in the implementation of specific projects would certainly be a viable possibility in the present circumstances. It must be recognized that while a greater effort would be required on the part of the Secretariat to integrate human settlements into the perspective of its regular activities, an increase in the direct participation of the countries would also be necessary.

/Annex 2

that the Regional Programme for Human Settlements does not possess adequate resources for its execution,

Aware that by the breadth of its coverage (research, training and information) and its approach that Programme responds to the countries' concerns, although its specific activities meet only a very small part of the needs,

Considering that the HABITAT Centre of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements has not fully implemented General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 32/162 as regards the decentralization of its resources towards the regional commissions and the effective co-ordination of its activities with those of CEPAL in conformity with the recommendations and resolutions of the Commission's second, third and fourth sessions,

Recognizing that due attention has not been paid to the terms of resolution 32/162 on the policies and priorities adopted by governments in the field of human settlements,

Recognizing that in view of the present limits on United Nations budgetary growth the only source of regular resources is the decentralization of those resources referred to in General Assembly resolution 32/162,

Further recognizing that the implementation of such decentralization has been seriously impaired by the form in which resources earmarked for regional activities have been reallocated,

Considering that there is a clear need for greater co-ordination between the Executive Director of the HABITAT Centre and the Executive Secretary of CEPAL,

Aware of the urgent need for viable forms of economic co-operation to permit the achievement of concrete action of assistance in this field,

1. Urges the Executive Secretary of CEPAL to make the necessary arrangements with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre on Human Settlements (HABITAT) in order to secure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 32/162 and the various resolutions adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements and Latin American Conference on Human Settlements;

2. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to adopt measures to permit the strict execution of General Assembly resolution 32/162 and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Settlements in order to take proper care of the region's needs in the field of human settlements, and to report to the Plenary of the fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements on the results of the steps taken;
3. Decides to assign to the question of human settlements the specific attention and importance it requires within the activities of CEPAL;
4. Calls upon the Executive Secretary of CEPAL to take the necessary steps, on the basis of the decisions and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements and by CEPAL, to obtain the resources needed to permit the proper execution of the Regional Programme for Human Settlements;
5. Urges the Executive Secretary of CEPAL and the Executive Director of the HABITAT Centre to do everything possible to secure the best relations of co-operation and co-ordination in the field of human settlements;
6. Requests that it should be proposed at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, that the temporary assistance approved in 1981 for posts corresponding to the region should be maintained in 1982, and that the posts in question should be made permanent.