

# UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



GENERAL

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

THIRD SESSION

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Montevideo, Uruguay, 5 June 1950

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## 1. Opening Address

This is a Session of an organ of the United Nations and will therefore be opened by the Chairman, who will call upon the representative or representatives of the Uruguayan Government to deliver the address or addresses of welcome to the Commission. This will be followed by addresses by the Chairman, the representative of the Secretary-General, and the Executive Secretary.

## 2. Election of Officers

The rules of procedure provide for the election of a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. Upon his election, the Chairman will at once take over the conduct of the Session and upon completion of his remarks the First Meeting will probably be adjourned. The election of the Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur would then be the first order of business at the Second Meeting.

## 3. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda (Document E/CN.12/163)

The Agenda has been prepared by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman. During the discussion on the adoption of the Agenda the Chairman may wish to submit his report on credentials.

## 4. Economic Situation and Basic Economic Development Problems in Latin America

\* This document has been reproduced in New York from the original issued at Santiago.



Economic Survey of Latin America 1949 (Document E/CN.12/164)

The Survey has been prepared by the ECLA Research Centre and is organized around the central idea of economic development. It presents an analysis of the general problem of economic development of Latin America and an attempt is made to give a theoretical interpretation of the process of development. In addition, a study is presented of the long-term trends and problems of economic development in a limited number of countries, as a part of a research programme covering the twenty Latin American Republics. The rate of development in various branches of industry, mining and agriculture is analyzed in relation to population growth, the capacity to export and import, the rate of investment, and the need for capital investment.

The Survey is divided into three parts: Part I will deal with the current economic situation, with particular reference to the balance of payments position of Latin American countries as affected by recent trends in prices. This part will not be presented until the opening meeting of the Third Session in order that it may contain the latest available information. Part II presents an analysis of the general problem of development for the Latin American countries. A decreasing rate of exports (in relation to population growth), accompanied by an increasing rate of industrial development and increasing pressure on imports are examined as a factor of persistent disequilibrium. The conclusions and findings are based upon data collected and analyzed by the Secretariat. Part III consists of a series of studies of development in individual countries during the past twenty-five years. There are chapters on Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico and Uruguay. Data are presented for each of the countries showing the long-term trends in agriculture, industry and trade.

The Economic Survey also has a number of annexes which are special detailed studies of agriculture and industry in the above-mentioned countries, a study of mining in Latin America, and



a study on public finance in selected countries of Latin America  
United Nations Technical Assistance Programme

This paper gives a brief account of the present United Nations technical assistance programme for economic development and discusses the problem in relation to an expanded programme for technical assistance.

5. Foreign Trade Problems

Report of the Secretariat on Trade Trends and Policies in Latin America. (Document E/CN.12/165)

Executive Secretary's Note on Trade Studies and Meetings of Trade Experts. (Document E/CN.12/168)

In addition to the Economic Survey in which the role of trade in economic development is analyzed, the Secretariat has prepared a short report on trade trends and policies in Latin America. The first part of this paper describes briefly the significant changes that have taken place during 1948 and 1949 in the value and volume of imports and exports and in the geographic distribution of trade for the Latin American countries. The data presented in the statistical tables show imports and exports and the distribution of trade for the years 1928, 1938, 1948 and 1949. The second part of the report gives a brief account of trends in commercial policies in several Latin American countries in relation the problem of persistent disequilibrium which is analyzed in the Economic Survey. The section on trade policies thus attempts to define some of the basic policy issues which are facing the Latin American countries as a consequence of world trade disequilibrium and of their own inability to increase imports at a rate commensurate with the increase of national income.

6. Conditions Affecting Foreign Investments in Latin America

Economic and Legal Status of Foreign Investments in Selected Latin American Countries - Report by the Secretariat. (Documents E/CN.12/166, E/CN.12/166/Add.1 to E/CN.12/166/Add.10)



Background documents prepared by the United Nations Secretariat:

- a. International Capital Movements during the Inter-War Period, 1949 (United Nations Publications Sales No. 1949.II.D.2)
- b. Methods of Financing Economic Development of Under-developed Countries. (Document E/1614/Rev.1)

The Secretariat has prepared a series of studies on the economic and legal status of foreign investments for the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Each of the studies presents a brief history of the kinds, amounts and uses of foreign investments; their relative importance and economic significance with particular reference to economic development; government policy and legal provisions; foreign investments in particular industries; and recent developments affecting foreign investments.

7. Report of the ECLA-FAO Cooperative Unit on Agricultural Credit in Central American Countries. (Documents E/CN.12/167, E/CN.12/167/Add.1 to E/CN.12/167/Add.5)

This report is based upon a field survey of existing agricultural credit institutions and the needs and problems of agricultural credit in the Central American countries.

8. Report of the Secretariat on Situation and Prospects of Immigration in Selected Latin American Countries (Document E/CN.12/169)

This report is also based on a field study of immigration problems in Brazil, Chile and Venezuela. Each of the country studies presents a brief introductory chapter on economic problems affecting immigration; government policies; organization and set-up for carrying out such policies; recent immigration experience; plans for future immigration; and the needs of the countries for immigrants.

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