

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



GENERAL

E/CEPAL/1030
25 March 1977

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

C E P A L

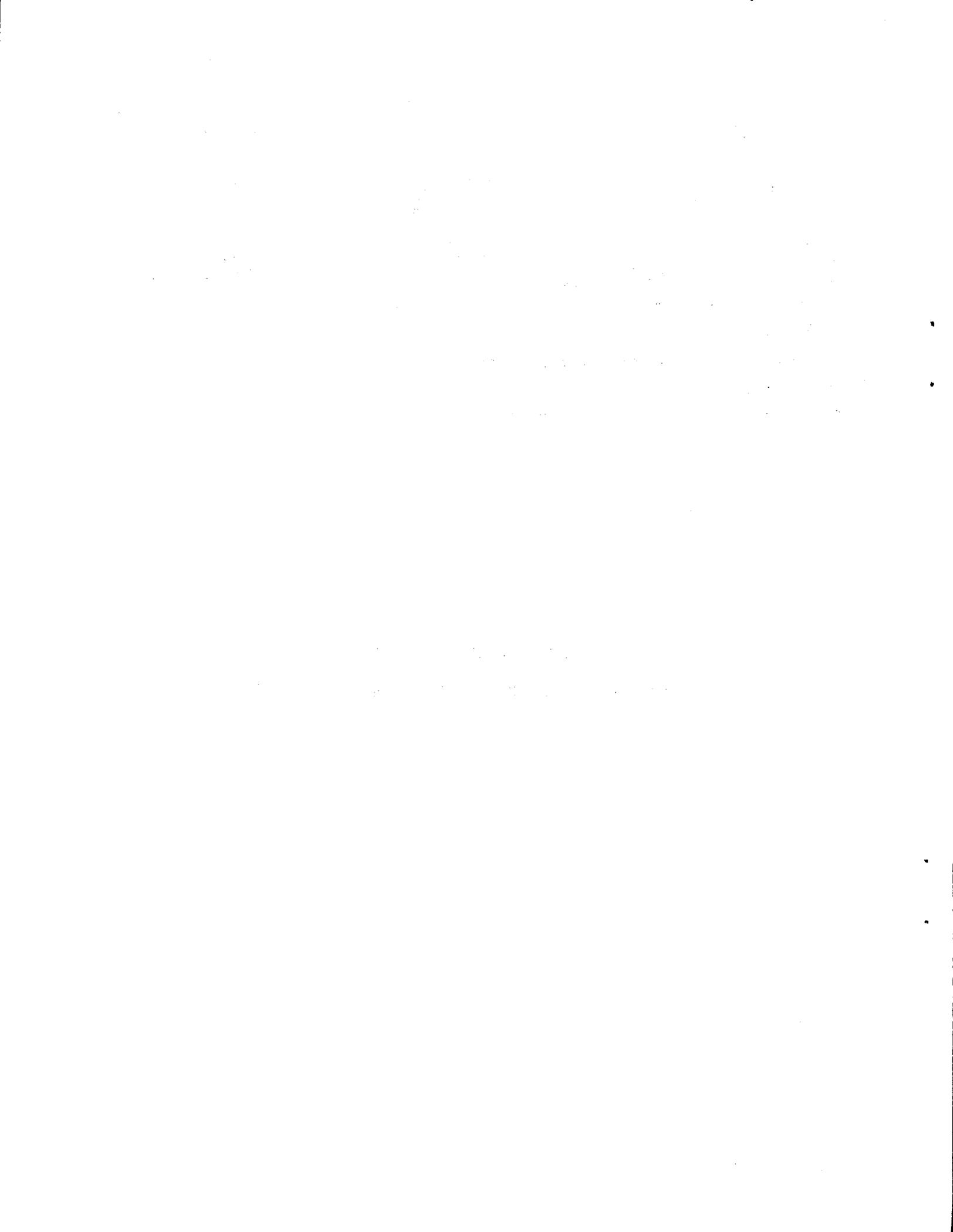
Economic Commission for Latin America

Seventeenth session

Guatemala City, Guatemala, 25 April - 5 May 1977

DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

Activities of the Commission from 7 May 1976



CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1	1
PART I WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 7 MAY 1977	2-330	1
A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES	2- 16	1
Committee on Central American Co-operation - Inter-Agency Commission ..	3	1
Third Session of the Inter-Agency Commission	4- 7	2
Fourth Session of the Inter-Agency Commission	8	3
Activities of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee	9- 14	3
The Committee of High-Level Government Experts	15- 16	4
B. OTHER ACTIVITIES	17-273	5
Activities of the Secretariat	17	5
Economic Development Division	18- 28	5
Social Development Division	29- 39	7
CEPAL/UNIDO Joint Industrial Development Division	40- 53	10
CEPAL/FAO Joint Agriculture Division ..	54- 62	13
Natural Resources and Environment Division	63- 75	14
Transport and Communications Division .	76- 97	17
International Trade and Development Division	98-113	22
Division of Statistics and Quantitative Analysis	114-149	25
Division of Operations	150-152	31
Economic Projections Centre	153-166	32
Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES)	167-184	34
Mexico Office	185-218	38
Washington Office	219-224	44

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
Rio de Janeiro Office	225-228	45
Montevideo Office	229-236	45
Port of Spain Office	237-255	47
Bogotá Office	256-263	53
Buenos Aires Office	264-273	54
C. LATIN AMERICAN DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRE (CELADE)	274-299	56
D. LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING	300-314	61
E. RELATIONS WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AND WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	315-330	65
Annex: Conferences and meetings sponsored or co-sponsored by CEPAL in 1976	-	71

INTRODUCTION

1. This twenty-eighth annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL) covers the period from 7 May 1976 to 24 April 1977. It is submitted to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its 63rd session 1/ in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Commission's terms of reference.

PART I

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 7 MAY 1976

A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

2. This section of the Report summarizes the activities of the Committee on Central American Economic Co-operation (including its Inter-Agency Commission), the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, and the Committee of High-Level Government Experts.

Committee on Central American Co-operation - Inter-Agency Commission

3. While the Committee itself did not schedule any meetings during the period under review, the Inter-Agency Commission for the implementation of the decisions taken by the tenth session of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee held its third and fourth sessions in pursuance of its mandate.

1/ For the twenty-seventh annual report of the Commission, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No 10 (E/5784).

Third Session of the Inter-Agency Commission

4. The third session of the Inter-Agency Commission was held in two separate stages: the first in Cancun, Mexico, in May 1976, in conjunction with the Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank, and the second in Guatemala City in June 1976. The following organizations were represented: Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty for Central American Economic Integration - SIECA; Central American Bank for Economic Integration - BCIE; Executive Secretariat of the Central American Monetary Council - CMCA; Central American Institute for Research and Industrial Technology - ICAITI; Central American Institute of Public Administration - ICAP; Central American and Panamanian Institute for Nutrition - INCAP.
5. The Economic Commission for Latin America was represented by the Director of the Mexico Subregional Office, which also acts as the Secretariat of the Committee on Central American Economic Co-operation and its subsidiary bodies.
6. At this session, the participants discussed the report presented by the Director of the CEPAL Mexico Subregional Office, covering the manner in which resolution 163 (X/CCE) "International Technical Co-operation" was being carried out. In addition, consideration was given to the work carried out in fulfilment of the other resolutions adopted during the tenth session of the Committee. Specifically, the participants took note of the report from the United Nations Development Programme to the effect that UNDP was no longer in a position to provide financial support for the limited number of projects previously agreed upon. The Commission therefore decided to explore the possibility of obtaining external financing from other sources such as the Canadian International Development Agency, the Swedish International Development Agency, the Federal Republic of Germany or the Netherlands.

/7. Those

7. Those present also discussed the responsibility of each institution in the execution of the various resolutions adopted at the tenth session.^{2/}

Fourth Session of the Inter-Agency Commission

8. On 4 March 1977 the fourth session of the Inter-Agency Commission was convened to examine the progress made in the intervening period. The Inter-Agency Commission also met in extraordinary session on two separate occasions in order to prepare a joint presentation for submission to the Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank to be held in San Salvador at the end of May 1977. Both of these special sessions were held in San Salvador, the first in August and the second in November 1976.

Activities of the Caribbean Development and
Co-operation Committee

9. The Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee was established in 1975, in accordance with CEPAL resolution 358 (XVI), "to act as a co-ordinating body for activities relating to development and co-operation and as a consultative organ of the Executive Secretary [of CEPAL]" on Caribbean matters. The first session, held from 31 October to 4 November 1975, determined that the CEPAL Subregional Office for the Caribbean would act as the secretariat of the CDCC and a programme of work including an order of priorities was established.

10. In the intervening period since its establishment, in accordance with the mandate, the first few months were devoted to obtaining additional human and material resources from United Nations Headquarters in order to enable the Subregional Office in Port of Spain to deal with the additional responsibilities entrusted to it. The approval of the Budgetary Committee of the General Assembly was obtained, and recruitment of suitable personnel was virtually completed during the period under review.

^{2/} The official report of the meeting is to be found in document E/CEPAL/CCE/377, dated June 1976.

11. Another important step was taken in June 1976 when an Interagency Meeting was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in order to establish the responsibility of each agency to carry out the work programme of the CDCC in their respective fields of competence.

Emphasis was placed on setting up an effective, highly operational programme involving the joint efforts of the agencies represented at the meeting.

12. The report of the meeting, which was written in such a way as to emphasize the operational side of the various projects, was then sent to each organization for its consideration. Among the projects discussed were several already under way such as the Subregional Documentation Centre, UNESCO/CEPAL projects to promote the elimination of language barriers, and others now already operational.^{3/}

13. Subsequently, a joint programming exercise involving the secretariats of UNEP and CEPAL, held in Santiago, Chile, in February 1977, discussed in detail several projects relating to environmental problems in the Caribbean area involving CDCC Member States.

14. Finally, the second session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee was held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, from 16 to 22 March 1977. The agenda of the meeting included consideration of the report of the Inter-Agency Meeting mentioned above, consideration of action taken by the secretariat since the first session of the CDCC, and the programme of activities established for the year ahead.

The Committee of High-Level Government Experts

15. A special session of the Committee of High Level Government Experts, limited to developing member countries of CEPAL, was convened from 9 to 15 March 1977 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The main focus of this meeting centred on the regional appraisal of the International Development Strategy and the establishment of a New

^{3/} See report of United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Co-ordination for Implementation of the Work Programme of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (E/CEPAL/CDCC/11).

International Economic Order. A document prepared by the secretariat entitled "The Economic and Social Development and External Relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024) was prepared for the consideration of the meeting.

16. The agenda prepared for this meeting also included consideration of the report prepared by the Executive Secretary of CEPAL on the question of human settlements and in particular on the institutional arrangements to deal with this problem. The conclusions and recommendations of this Committee, included in the regional appraisal, constitute one of the main points to be discussed at the seventeenth session.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Activities of the Secretariat

17. This and the following section deal with the activities of the secretariat not directly related to the work of the Commission's subsidiary bodies. The activities carried out are listed under the various secretariat Divisions, but this inevitably involves some risk of duplication since many activities involved work by several different Divisions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Economic Survey of Latin America, 1976

18. The preliminary version of the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1976 (E/CEPAL/1026) was prepared. This Survey describes the evolution of the Latin American economy during 1976. One of the main conclusions of the Survey is that the rate of economic growth in Latin America showed a marked increase in that year, although it failed to match rates recorded in the first half of the current decade.

/19. In

19. In approximately two-thirds of the 19 Latin American countries for which estimates are available, the upturn in economic growth was accompanied by a larger increase in the product in 1976 than in the previous year.

20. In addition, the overall economic picture of the region shows, with the obvious exception of a few countries, a marked improvement in the external sector mainly due to the more favourable performance of export. This led to a slight reduction in the deficit on current account, thereby reversing the sharp upward trend recorded in previous years.

21. However, inflation once again flared up in the region as a whole.

22. It may be noted that the Economic Survey for 1976 provides wider and more systematic coverage of the Latin American economies, particularly as regards the country notes.

Analysis of Latin American development 1950-1975

23. A study was prepared of the Latin American economy between 1950 and 1975, identifying the intermediate stages and the growth patterns of the main internal and external factors. Industrialization was given special attention. This study forms part of the secretariat document The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America (E/CEPAL/1024).

Inflation in Latin America

24. During the period under review CEPAL and the Central Bank of Venezuela organized a seminar on recent inflation in Latin America which was held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 29 November to 3 December 1976. The following documents were presented at the seminar: "La inflación reciente en América Latina" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.60/L.2); "La inflación argentina en los años setenta" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.60/L.3); "La inflación interna y las causas de la devaluación del peso mexicano" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.60/L.4); "Algunas determinantes de la inflación reciente en Colombia 1971-1976" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.60/L.5); "La reciente experiencia inflacionaria en Guatemala" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.60/L.6), and "La inflación reciente en Venezuela" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.60/L.7).

25. Two studies prepared by the Economic Development Division which also dealt with this subject were published in the CEPAL Cuadernos series: "Inflación en los países centrales" and "La inflación importada y América Latina 1972-1974".

Transnational corporations

26. Information was prepared for a study of the effects of transnational corporations on manufacturing industry in Latin America. The study in question is designed to serve as a background document for future studies on the effects of the activities of transnational corporations, and concentrates on the evaluation of the information available on the impact of transnational corporations in the countries of the region.

27. In addition, the impact of the second session of the ECOSOC Commission on Transnational Corporations was studied as regards the programme of work of the CEPAL Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations.

28. Work also continued on the following studies: (a) An evaluation of the international subcontracting activities of transnational corporations; (b) Industrial integration in the Andean countries and the present and future role of transnational corporations in that process; (c) The presence of transnational corporations and their impact on export commodities, and (d) Transnational corporations' trading and export commodities: a comparison of the impact on economic development in Latin America and South East Asia.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

29. On the basis of the concept of integrated development outlined in the International Development Strategy (IDS) and subsequently in the Quito and Chaguaramas Appraisals, the Social Development Division focused its attention on two broad topics: styles of development, and social change in Latin America.

30. Its projects were generally directed towards the interpretation, through a unified approach, of the development alternatives open to the region in the context of the processes of social change.

31. Among those projects, the studies now in progress include employment stratification, housing and urban services, women and their integration in development, the problems of employment, the dynamics of income distribution, rural social development, and the situation of the family in Latin America.

Styles of development

32. The aim of the studies in this field is to increase the understanding of development as a global process of interrelated societal changes; to devise and test methods for measuring the extent to which national variations in objectives and strategies of development are viable and compatible with human well-being; to design a more appropriate conceptual framework for the future evaluation of development trends in Latin America, and to make possible the provision of more realistic and complete advisory services to governments on the policy alternatives open to them and the place of economic and social programmes in general policy.

33. The Division revised two documents prepared for internal distribution: "The concrete utopias and their confrontation with the world of today" (CEPAL/DRAFT/DS/134), and "Poverty as a social phenomenon and as a central issue for development policy" (CEPAL/DRAFT/DS/133), while two other documents were prepared: "Latin America in the possible scenarios of détente" ^{4/} and "Las propuestas de un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional en perspectiva" (CEPAL/BORRADOR/DS/148). All of these examine various prospective aspects of Latin American development.

Social change in Latin America

34. A study was prepared entitled "Types of income concentration and political styles in Latin America" (CEPAL/DRAFT/DS/138) and after internal circulation was subsequently published in CEPAL Review No 2 (second half of 1976). In this study the different degrees of income concentration were linked with the different types of political systems.

^{4/} Later published in CEPAL Review No 2, Second half of 1976.

35. The Division's contribution to the secretariat document "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024) was completed.
36. During this period the document "La vivienda en América Latina: una visión de la pobreza crítica" (CEPAL/BORRADOR/DS/142) was circulated internally. This study shows the disproportionate allocation of public funds in the region to housing for the middle-income sectors, and the very limited impact of public programmes in reducing the deficit in housing for the poor.
37. The Division collaborated with the Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC) in the preparation of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ILO World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution and Social Progress, and the International Division of Labour, sponsored by the ILO and CEPAL and held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 3 to 7 May 1976. Subsequently, the Division further collaborated with PREALC in the preparation of the position to be adopted by the region in the World Conference on a wide range of topics related to employment policy.
38. The integration of women in development in Latin America is a relatively new issue which received a major stimulus from the World Conference on the subject (Mexico, June 1975) and which has generated intense activity in the Social Development Division. A work programme on the participation of women and their integration in development in Latin America was prepared and circulated among the United Nations specialized agencies. Officials of the Division attended two inter-agency meetings convened by the CEPAL secretariat for the purpose of implementing a joint inter-agency programme based on the World Plan of Action in respect of women (Santiago, December 1976). Pursuant to previous mandates and recommendations the secretariat convened a technical consultative meeting (Mexico, January 1977) which was attended by experts invited, in consultation with their governments, for the purpose of preparing a draft Regional Plan of Action to be considered at forthcoming regional meetings.

39. Two technical assistance missions to Ecuador were carried out in the period under review for the purpose of providing advisory services to the National Planning Board on its social programme and collaborating in the preparation of a draft study on rural social change.

CEPAL/UNIDO JOINT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The future of industrial development and the New
International Economic Order

40. Within the frame of reference provided by United Nations General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) relating to the establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation adopted at the Second General Conference of UNIDO and ratified by the General Assembly at its seventh special session, this Division prepared two studies relating to the past evolution of industry in Latin America and the outlook for the immediate future. These studies, entitled "El proceso de industrialización latinoamericano en el último cuarto de siglo" and "La industria latinoamericana durante el actual decenio y sus perspectivas" served as a basis for the preparation of the chapters on the industrial sector in the secretariat document entitled "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024).

Chemical industries

41. Work continued on the preparation of a study on the supply of fertilizers in Latin America.

Capital goods industries

42. A draft was completed for internal discussion on the situation, trends and medium-term prospects of the demand for capital goods in the region. For this purpose account was taken of the rapid development of this sector in some Latin American countries and of the possibilities existing in the region for expanding and diversifying the production of these goods.

43. In addition, talks were held with UNIDO to define the terms of collaboration of the Joint Division in the preparation of a series of consultative meetings at the government level on the capital goods sector in general and several specific branches of it. This series of meetings is scheduled to begin in 1978.

44. Furthermore, the possibility of collaborating with the Latin American Railways Association (ALAF) in a regional study on the manufacture of railway equipment in Latin America is under consideration.

Agroindustries

45. A draft was completed for internal discussion on the importance of agroindustrial activities in a regional strategy for balanced economic development and the potential of these activities for future growth.

46. Close contacts were maintained with UNIDO to define the terms of collaboration of the Joint Division in the organization at CEPAL headquarters of two regional preparatory meetings for the first consultative meetings on vegetable fats and oils and leather and leather manufactures, planned for June 1977.

47. A document on agroindustrial activities in Latin America is being prepared for these meetings in collaboration with the CEPAL/FAO Joint Agriculture Division. This document examines, in particular, the possibilities of international co-operation in order to increase the share of the products of these activities in world production by the year 2000.

Forest industries

48. Several reports were prepared on the development possibilities of the pulp and paper industry in several countries of the region, with special attention to the identification of new projects. These studies were carried out in collaboration with the FAO group on the planning and development of forest industries in Latin America, and form part of a programme being carried out at the world level by that organization and UNDP. In addition to their use in that programme, these reports, together with other background material which is being collected, will serve as a basis for a wider study which has already been started by the CEPAL/UNIDO Joint Industrial Development Division.

/Definition of

Definition of the work programme of the CEPAL/UNIDO Joint
Industrial Development Division

49. Talks have continued with UNIDO to define the work programme of the CEPAL/UNIDO Joint Division and the resources it will have at its disposal.

50. From 8 to 12 November, the Director of the Industrial Development Division attended a series of meetings in Vienna at which the work programme 1978-1979 for the UNIDO International Industrial Studies Centre was discussed and certain areas of interest were singled out for future collaboration. On the basis of these general guidelines a start has been made on the definition of specific projects.

Meetings and seminars

51. During this period several officials of the CEPAL/UNIDO Joint Industrial Development Division attended the following meetings as representatives of CEPAL: Second Latin American Congress on the Fertilizer Industry (Caracas, 23-26 August); Latin American Technical Congress on Pulp and Paper (Buenos Aires, 8-12 November), and the First Latin American Petrochemical Congress (San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, 14-20 November), organized by the Asociación para el Desarrollo de los Fertilizantes en América Latina (ADIFAL). In addition, one of the officials of the Division attended, as an observer, the sectoral meetings of LAFTA held in conjunction with the XIV Plenary Meeting of the Asociación Latinoamericana de la Industria Eléctrica y Electrónica (São Paulo, Brazil, 5-15 July 1976). The Joint Division also participated in the First Consultation Meeting on Fertilizer Industries (Vienna, 17-21 January 1977) and the First Consultation Meeting on Iron and Steel (Vienna, 7-11 February 1977).

Technical Co-operation

52. During the period under review a mission was undertaken to Argentina with a view to analysing the prospects for the development of the pulp and paper industry and several specific projects in this sector.

53. The Division also collaborated with the Government of Paraguay in the preparation of a technical assistance programme to be carried out by CEPAL and UNIDO.

CEPAL/FAO JOINT AGRICULTURE DIVISION

54. The sudden changes that have taken place at the international level in commodity markets and prices and in the supply and prices of inputs for agriculture have prompted the governments of the region to concern themselves more with the role that agriculture should play in the economic development of each country and to revise their agricultural policies with a view to adjusting their strategies and laying down new guidelines for their sectoral development programmes.

55. In view of the predominant role of the agricultural sector in the majority of the countries of the region and the interrelationships between that sector and other sectors of the economy, CEPAL has given high priority to the analysis of the effects of the international economic situation on agriculture in the countries of the region.

56. The CEPAL/FAO Joint Agriculture Division has endeavoured to assist the governments in this connexion. It has analysed the effects of the above situation on the region, particularly in the food sector, and the way in which it has been faced by Latin American agriculture.

57. In the first half of 1976 the Division's activities centred on the preparations for the CEPAL/FAO Latin American Food Conference, which was held at Lima from 26 to 29 April 1976. The documents prepared for this Conference and the Division's co-operation in connexion with other documents prepared by the FAO Regional Office and by consultants entailed a concentration of efforts and the fulfilment of a tight work schedule.

58. The resolutions adopted at the Conference and the content of the reports, which reproduced the main statements made by the countries on the subjects discussed, provided guidelines for the current activities of the CEPAL/FAO Joint Agriculture Division.

59. The Division also worked on an analysis of the main features of agricultural development in the past 25 years and the course it followed in the years 1970-1976. This analysis forms part of

/the secretariat

the secretariat document entitled "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024).

60. The document "La cooperación internacional en el ámbito de los productos básicos agrícolas: convenio sobre productos y asociaciones de productores" (CEPAL/BORRADOR/CEPAL/FAO/147) was prepared and distributed for comments. In addition to evaluating the progress of existing commodity agreements, this document explores what action could be taken by producers' associations to improve the prices of their respective commodities.

61. Contact was once again established with the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and with the Board of the Cartagena Agreement, which have expressed their desire that the Division should continue to collaborate with them in the implementation of their work programmes in the fields of food and agriculture. After the Third Regular Meeting of the Latin American Council, SELA will submit to CEPAL and FAO a detailed request for the Division's co-operation. The Board of the Cartagena Agreement has requested the Division's collaboration in carrying out the activities decided on by the Ministers of Agriculture of the Andean Group at their Second Meeting.

62. The Division advised and co-operated with the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in connexion with their work programmes in the agricultural sector, and advised the Government of Paraguay in a review of the problems encountered in the marketing of meat and other agro-industrial products.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

63. The Division's activities during the period under review have focussed mainly on the organization of the Regional Preparatory Meeting of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for the United Nations Water Conference, which was held at Lima, Peru, from 30 August to 3 September 1976.

64. A document entitled "The water resources of Latin America. Regional report" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.57/L.2) was prepared for this Meeting. The participating countries presented national reports offering a realistic evaluation of their water resources, so that the Conference can consider the countries' real needs.

65. After the Meeting, the report was reviewed and completed and then distributed to the countries of the region under the title of "Report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for the United Nations Water Conference" (E/CEPAL/1020).

66. This document contains the recommendations which the countries of the region presented in the form of "Action Proposals: The Lima Consensus on Water Problems" at the United Nations Water Conference, held from 14 to 25 March 1977 at Mar del Plata, Argentina.

Water, Development and the Environment
in Latin America (ADEMA)

67. The aim of this project is to improve the planning and management of water resources in Latin America, by attempting to reconcile the satisfaction of the needs of rapid economic development with the protection of the environment, one of the most important components of which is precisely water. UNEP is playing an important part in this project in a common effort to make some practical contributions and provide planners and decision-makers with some useful indications regarding the harmful consequences of certain approaches and the best action to take in order to achieve positive environmental effects through the future utilization of water resources in Latin America.

68. The Division prepared the report "Agua, desarrollo y medio ambiente" (E/CEPAL/L.148), which contains general recommendations together with the case studies that have been completed for Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela.

69. A meeting of experts which was held on this subject in March 1977 analysed the document and made some suggestions for completing and improving the report. A summarized version of the report entitled "Water, Development and the Environment in Latin America" (E/CEPAL/L.150) was presented at the United Nations Water Conference.

Economic aspects of energy in Latin America

70. The Division completed the energy section of the secretariat study entitled "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024).

71. Estimates were made of the global demand for energy and of the demand for electrical energy, on the basis of a study of the primary sources of supply.

72. An agreement was concluded between the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) and CEPAL which identifies some areas of co-operation between the two institutions and establishes general procedures and mechanisms for this purpose.

Mining in Latin America

73. The Division prepared a study and notes on the mining sector for the secretariat document entitled "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America".

74. Projections of consumption up to the year 2000 were prepared for the following mining products: copper, lead, zinc, aluminium, nickel, silver, sulphur, phosphates, fluorite and iron. A study was made of the region's production, and also of the volume of reserves and possible exports.

Environment

75. The report "El medio ambiente en América Latina" (E/CEPAL/1018) was distributed. This project also provided a considerable volume of information material for consultation in the secretariat: 3,000 cards containing summaries for the individual countries, reports by 13 consultants on 20 countries, and approximately 400 publications collected in the course of missions to various countries. These activities

/will be

will be followed up by the regular compilation of data and periodical reports on the state of the environment. A memorandum containing the agreement under which the CEPAL/UNEP Environment Unit is to be set up was signed in February 1977. Both institutions are now preparing a work programme for the next few years.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

76. In line with its programme of work, this Division has continued to collaborate with member Governments and international organizations which have so requested and to prepare studies of general interest on problems common to the whole of Latin America. The three main areas in which the Division is currently working are: (a) facilitation of transport in international trade; (b) bases for the improvement of transport planning; and (c) application of appropriate technology in Latin American transport.

Facilitation of transport in international trade

77. World attention is being increasingly focussed on the study and analysis of non-tariff barriers hampering international trade and transport. Thus, activities have been carried out in the region aimed at facilitating transport in the region's international trade.

78. The most important problems to be solved are those of the co-ordination and harmonization of the requirements applicable to international trade and transport and the simplification of procedures and documentation.

79. The Division is preparing a document on the establishment and promotion of international land transport services in the Andean subregion within the context of the agreement between CEPAL and the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) and with the collaboration of the Board of the Cartagena Agreement. This document has two addenda, the first concerning an inventory of infrastructure and projects for the central axis of the Andean trunk highway system, and the second

/- which

- which has already been circulated for comments - presenting an appraisal of the effect of restricting the maximum permissible weight per axle on the cost of road transport in the Andean subregion (CEPAL/BORRADOR/TRANS/145/Rev.1).

80. In connexion with the studies carried out by the Division on the carriage of goods to Bolivia through Chilean ports, talks have been held with the Bolivian and Chilean authorities regarding the implementation and operation of the Integrated Transport System (SIT) which is currently in use between Arica and La Paz. Moreover, at the request of the Bolivian institutions, draft tariff proposals were prepared for Arica with a view to providing Bolivian importers with information on the total cost of the movement of cargo between Arica and its destination in Bolivia.

81. The Division also participated in the Second Latin American Regional Meeting on a Convention on International Intermodal Transport, which was attended by representatives of 13 Latin American countries with the purpose of examining the present state of the negotiations in Geneva and establishing Latin America's position vis-à-vis the topics to be considered at the second session of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Group. The following documents were prepared for this Meeting: "Evolution of the Latin American position regarding the negotiations for a convention on international multimodal transport" (E/CEPAL/L.141); "Remarks on the provisional agenda of the Second Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting on the International Convention on Multimodal Transport" (E/CEPAL/L.145) and Add.1, "Reglas uniformes para un documento de transporte combinado", of the International Chamber of Commerce.

82. At the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Public Works and Transport of the Southern Cone of South America, CEPAL was requested to prepare a draft Latin American convention on the civil responsibility of land transport operators and a study on the standards to be met by multimodal transport operators in Latin America. In connexion with multimodal transport, CEPAL prepared the document entitled "El transporte multimodal internacional en

el cono sur y sus necesidades de apoyo institucional" (E/CEPAL/L.139), which was presented as a working document at the above-mentioned Meeting.

83. In this same field of facilitation, the Division has collaborated closely with the Latin American Railways Association (ALAF) and has completed a study entitled "An appraisal of the technical assistance received by Latin American railway companies" (E/CEPAL/1019).

84. Technical assistance has been provided to the countries of the region in the establishment of national groups for the facilitation of transport and promotion of the simplification and standardization of the procedures and documentation required in connexion with international transport and trade.

85. During this period, the Division has continued to prepare and circulate Boletín FAL on the facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America, which comes out every two months with information on, among other things, documents simplified and standardized in accordance with the rules established by the Economic Commission for Europe, which eliminate the need to make use of consular services, and new receipt and dispatch formalities in Latin American ports.

86. A meeting of the railway enterprises which are members of ALAF was held at CEPAL headquarters from 30 August to 3 September 1976 to consider the regulations for the implementation of the Multinational Rail Traffic Agreement (MULTILAF).

Bases for improving transport planning

87. In previous years, attention was centered on improving the production of information and the processing of statistical material on the transport sector. However, there is also an evident need to improve the transfer of information from the producers to the users, and vice-versa. Two modern instruments which may bring about significant improvements in the decision-making process in the

/transport sector

transport sector are: (a) system of information for the handling of decision-making; and (b) planning models which provide a strict methodology for such decision-making.

88. During the period under review the document entitled "Information Classification Manual for the Transport Sector" (E/CEPAL/1008/Rev.1) was prepared.

89. Within the framework of the joint project with the World Bank, the Division continued to collaborate with and provide assistance to member countries in establishing planning methodologies in specific areas of the transport sector; defining the information requirements for the planning systems desired by governments; and defining and evaluating the institutions which produce information and recommending means for channelling it to the planning centres.

90. In connexion with this project, studies were carried out with a view to preparing for the installation in CEPAL of the Integrated Scientific Information System (ISIS) for information retrieval. This information system is already producing results in the form of the printing of addresses by computer.

Application of appropriate technology in
Latin American transport

91. Within the context of the OAS/CEPAL agreement on maritime transport, working meetings were held with the Chilean Ministry of Transport regarding the possible establishment in Chile of the roll-on/roll-off system. The port code document and VOYCHAR (voyage charter) file were reviewed.

92. In addition, a revised version of the document entitled "Technical aspects of the unitization of cargo and the new maritime transport modes" (E/CEPAL/L.143) was prepared and presented at the Second Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting on a Convention on International Intermodal Transport.

/Other collaboration

Other collaboration activities with international agencies
and technical assistance provided to countries
of the region

93. At the request of SELA, a mission visited this institution's headquarters in Caracas where some subjects in the transport area were suggested for possible inclusion in the SELA work programme.

94. In addition, a technical assistance mission visited the Government of Ecuador in connexion with the study prepared by a consortium on the national railway company.

95. At the request of the Brazilian Training Centre for Economic Development, three talks were given on transport problems common to the Latin American countries and on international transport in Latin America. A reply to the questionnaire on urban transport was prepared for the Second Andean Meeting on Transport which was held in Caracas from 28 June to 1 July 1976.

96. At the request of the Government of Chile, the Division collaborated in the preparation of a proposed amendment to the Chilean merchant marine legislation. In response to a request for co-operation from ALAF, an analytical study was prepared of various options for establishing a unit of account which would facilitate accounting for transactions carried out under the Multinational Rail Traffic Agreement (MULTILAF). This study will be considered by the railway enterprises at a meeting to be held shortly at Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.

97. Technical assistance was provided to Brazil in connexion with transport planning in the State of Minas Gerais.

/INTERNATIONAL TRADE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

98. During the period under review the Division's activities focussed on the following subjects:

International economic relations

99. A study was prepared as Part Two of the secretariat document entitled "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America (E/CEPAL/1024). It examines the world setting in which Latin America's relations are developing; the principal changes occurring in the industrial centres and in the Latin American countries themselves and the problems of financing and external indebtedness; and the relations with the United States, the European Economic Community and other areas (Japan and the socialist countries), identifying in the first two cases the principal problems which exist. This is followed by a chapter in which Latin America's progress and prospects in economic integration are evaluated, and the study ends with a set of ideas for action covering some aspects of international trade policy, financing and external indebtedness, direct external investment, technology and integration.

100. In this same field of international relations, mention should also be made of the preparation of a preliminary (unpublished) report on Latin America's trade with the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), and the formulation of a project concerning research on economic relations with those countries, with the collaboration of the UNCTAD secretariat and support from UNDP. In addition, the secretariat of CEPAL was co-sponsor, in conjunction with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), of a seminar on the Japanese experience in export promotion, with the participation of government officials from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. This seminar, which was held in Tokyo from 8 to 19 November 1976, provided an opportunity to assess the possibilities for the expansion of reciprocal trade between Japan and the Latin American countries.

/Export Development

Export Development Programme

101. The studies on export promotion policies for non-traditional exports in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico were completed. These and other studies were discussed at a seminar held jointly by the CEPAL secretariat and the World Bank from 5 to 7 November 1976. The World Bank contributed studies on Korea, India, Israel and Yugoslavia. The seminar was attended by staff members of both these institutions and specially invited guests. The documents presented included: "Export promotion policies in developing countries" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.2); "Colombian export promotion policy" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.3); "Las exportaciones manufactureras argentinas" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.4); "Las exportaciones manufactureras en América Latina: experiencias y problemas" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.5); "Brazil: Development policy for exports of manufactures" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.7); "Export growth in the world environment: The case of Latin America" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.8); and "The export of manufactures in Mexico and its promotion policy" (ST/CEPAL/Conf.59/L.9).

102. A revised version of these documents is being prepared for subsequent publication.

Financing and external indebtedness of Latin America

103. In this field of activity the Division has concentrated on three broad areas: The balance of payments current account of the Latin American countries, capital movements and external indebtedness.

104. In connexion with the first of these areas the aim has been to analyse the behaviour of imports and exports of a sample number of countries in the region, in terms of variables such as the exchange rates, the level and rate of growth of the gross domestic product, international reserves and the unit values of imports or exports. A preliminary report is being prepared on the basis of the results obtained.

105. With respect to capital movements, an attempt has been made to explain the movements of non-compensatory capital, the official information available being supplemented by data which will permit unregistered movements of capital to be taken into account. A preliminary report has also been completed on this aspect of the work.

106. As regards external indebtedness, the information obtained from various sources has been consolidated to provide a more complete picture

/of the

of the external debt of the countries in the region. At the same time, the access to the various sources of financing and the different types of measures which could be adopted to improve and ensure such access have been analysed. The main conclusions reached are included in the secretariat document "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024).

107. Among the measures considered, mention should be made of the financial safety net. The Presidents of the Central Banks of Latin America, at their meeting in San Salvador in May 1976, decided to set up a special committee to study the financial co-operation of the Latin American countries, including the possible establishment of a safety net, and requested CEPAL to serve jointly with the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) as secretariat of the committee.

Regional and sub-regional economic integration

108. One of the important topics being studied by the secretariat is the economic policy options for Latin America's future development.

109. One of these options, which the Latin American governments have been promoting is based on a regional programme of economic co-operation in industry, trade and other areas that contribute towards integration.

110. An internal consultation meeting on economic integration was held from 10 to 12 January 1977 and helped to define the secretariat's programme of work in this connexion. The following internal documents were examined at the meeting: "Las condiciones cambiantes de la integración y su potencial y posibilidades de desarrollo"; "ALALC - Evaluación del proceso de integración"; "Objetivos e instrumentos de la integración y su relación con las condiciones estructurales de la zona integrada"; and "Las condiciones y perspectivas de la integración en Centroamérica".

111. A chapter on economic integration was prepared for inclusion in the secretariat document "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024).

112. Work proceeded on the study of the influence of the Latin American market on exports of manufactures.

113. The study of economic integration and co-operation policies and the specific possibilities of their future implementation is one of the areas in which the secretariat proposes to intensify and extent the scope of its activities with the collaboration of the integration agencies and the member countries of CEPAL.

DIVISION OF STATISTICS AND QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

National Accounts and related matters

114. The national accounts data base was updated, and the relevant series were analysed and systematized. The permanent data file on the public sector was also updated. Computer programmes were developed for processing estimates at constant prices of the gross domestic product by type of expenditure. The information available at the end of 1976 for preparing the customary preliminary estimates of the level of activity attained in the year was centralized.

115. Computer programmes were developed for processing the information contained in the input-output tables prepared by the countries of the region.

116. Co-ordination with the Permanent Group of Latin American Experts on Social Accounting continued, and the documents prepared recently in Peru and Colombia were distributed to them.

117. The Division was represented at the meetings of the Prices Group of the Twenty-sixth Seminar in the ECIEL Programme, held in Santiago, Chile, in August 1976 with the purpose of establishing co-ordination between the activities of this Group and the future development of the project on the real product and purchasing power parities to be carried out by CEPAL with IDB's collaboration.

Evaluation and analysis of Latin American data on
income distribution

118. Work proceeded on the joint CEPAL/IBRD project, with the inclusion, analysis and tabulation of new surveys on the basis of data used in the project.

119. The Division prepared a suitable data analysis method and an appropriate system of computation which are described in the internal document "Análisis de descomposición: una generalización del método de Theil". This method was applied to the available basic data in order to identify the factors associated with inequality; the results are given in an internal document on a breakdown of inequality of remuneration in the Latin American countries.

120. Work was carried out on determining poverty lines. For this purpose, basic consumption budgets were estimated for 10 countries of the region, in accordance with the procedures indicated in the internal document entitled "Un método para estimar presupuestos mínimos de alimentos para los países de América Latina". The results obtained appear in the document "Necesidades básicas y dimensión de la pobreza en América Latina".

121. Work also went ahead on the descriptive characterization of income distribution by levels and on the determination of urban poverty profiles.

122. The Division was represented at the meetings of the Income Distribution Group of the Twenty-sixth Seminar in the ECIEL Programme held at Santiago, Chile, in August 1976 to discuss methodological problems in the measurement and analysis of income distribution.

Estimation and analysis of income and employment distribution
in technological stratification models

123. A document was prepared for internal circulation on a system of stratification of manufacturing activities. It presents the results of the analysis of variance and its breakdown into factors, applied to the census data of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela.

124. The problems arising in connexion with the estimation of non-formal activities for inclusion in input-output tables were analysed. In the case of Mexico, the consistency between the data obtained from household budget surveys, national accounts estimates and the input-output table was also analysed with a view to the simultaneous use of all three sources.

External trade and the balance of payments

125. The methodology used to deflate balance-of-payments current account values by country was improved by using indexes of the unit values of goods, freight and insurance, and services. At the same time, a processing programme was prepared for the rapid direct extraction of the balance-of-payments tabulations containing the data required for

the Economic Survey of Latin America and other CEPAL studies directly from the magnetic tapes sent periodically by the International Monetary Fund with updated information from its data bank.

126. The time series (1928 to 1975) of the indexes of quantum and dollar unit value of imports and exports, the terms of trade and the purchasing power of exports were updated and the base year changed to 1970.

127. Work proceeded on the compilation and systematization of data on the direction of trade, by origin and destination; the use and application of various classification criteria for determining the composition of exports and imports; intra-regional trade; and Latin American exports of manufactures.

128. At the end of 1976, the conjunctural information available for the preparation of estimates of the balance of payments and the indicators of value, quantum and unit values of external trade for the region as a whole and the individual countries, which were included in the preliminary balance of the Latin American economy in 1976, was centralized.

129. Closer contact was maintained with the statistical offices of the countries of the region, LAFTA and SIECA, in order to obtain detailed up-to-date external trade data for transmission to the United Nations Statistical Office. Work proceeded, in collaboration with IDB, on the study of Latin American external trade statistics on the basis of detailed data from the national schedules, the systems of storage and retrieval of which enable them to be put to the many uses required for studies by CEPAL and other regional agencies.

Industrial statistics

130. The data files with the latest available information and that obtained directly from the countries through questionnaires on each sector were updated.

131. Work continued on the process of systematization of manufacturing production indexes of the Latin American countries, using the same base and a common classification, with a view to revising the index at

/the regional

the regional level. The consistency between these indexes and those prepared by the United Nations Statistical Office was also analysed.

132. A project for evaluating the coverage and reliability of Latin American industrial statistics was initiated, and an inventory was prepared of sources, methods and definitions.

133. Special industrial indicators were prepared for the agro-industry project, and industrial indicators were estimated for the years prior to 1960, this information being required for the IDS.

Demographic and social statistics

134. During the period under review, work proceeded on the organization of a data file on employment statistics, which will centralize the reliable data and estimates available in the region on the evolution of total and sectoral employment and unemployment. To that end, an agreement was concluded with the Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC), which will facilitate the analysis and selection of the information to be used for establishing the data base.

135. A permanent data file on household surveys was organized with the aim of maintaining an updated inventory of the household surveys carried out in Latin America and their technical characteristics and of storing the information obtained from those surveys in a rapidly retrievable manner. Codes were devised, the available material was classified, and the tabulations of some selected surveys were identified.

136. A project on social indicators within the framework of the Integrated System of Social and Demographic Statistics was launched with a view to evaluating the applicability of various indicators to the monitoring of social development in the countries of the region and to the design of programmes for the development of social statistics.

137. Work began, in conjunction with CELADE and with the collaboration of specialized institutions and individual experts, on an exercise of evaluation of the 1970 census experience, with the purpose of formulating guidelines for the implementation of the current world recommendations

/in the

in the censuses to be carried out in the region in the 1980s. The recommendations formulated will be integrated with the mechanisms of the Committee on the Improvement of National Statistics (COINS) and will be submitted for consideration at its next meeting.

138. During the period under review, social and employment indicators were prepared for the secretariat document entitled "The economic and social development and external relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024).

Dissemination of statistics

139. The Statistical Yearbook for Latin America, 1976 was prepared and sent for printing.

140. The Cuadernos estadísticos de la CEPAL Nos. 1 and 2, entitled "América Latina: Relación de precios del intercambio" and "Indicadores del desarrollo económico y social en América Latina", were published.

141. The publication "Statistics on Children and Youth in Latin America", which was prepared in the previous period in co-operation with UNICEF, was distributed.

Technical co-operation

142. Technical co-operation with the countries of the region in demographic statistics and related questions was provided through regional advisers in the following fields: sampling methods for demographic statistics, household surveys, computation methods and vital statistics. The regional adviser on computation methods provided technical assistance to the following countries: El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Uruguay, Argentina and Peru.

143. The regional adviser on household surveys provided advisory assistance in this field to: Haiti, Bolivia and Ecuador. He also gave a course at the Inter-American Statistical Training Centre (CIENES) in Santiago, Chile, on sampling in census enumeration and evaluation, and other uses of sampling in censuses.

144. The regional adviser on sampling for demographic statistics carried out technical assistance missions to the Dominican Republic, Peru, Argentina, Bolivia, Panama, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras

/and Ecuador.

and Ecuador. During 1976 he lectured at CIENES (Santiago, Chile), as part of the Basic Course on Sampling as Applied to Population Censuses, on sampling in census enumeration and evaluation and other uses of sampling in censuses.

145. The regional adviser on demographic statistics collaborated in his particular field with the following countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

146. The Chief of the Industrial Statistics Section furnished the Government of Paraguay with technical assistance in connexion with industrial statistics.

147. The regional advisers also prepared methodological documents on the following subjects: determination of the limit in the construction of strata; an estimator based on an additive model; some considerations on population censuses in Latin America in the 1970s; sample design and operational work of a pilot research project for evaluating three questionnaires on income; study of demographic characteristics in socio-economic household surveys; and a compilation of international norms and national practices used in Latin America in the 1970 population census.

Other activities

148. The Chief of the Division attended a meeting of the Statistical Co-ordination Committee composed of a representative of CEPAL, a representative of the United Nations Statistical Office, and a representative of the Inter-American Statistical Institute, which was held in New York from 28 to 31 October 1976; the Meeting of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations held at New Delhi from 4 to 17 November 1976; and the nineteenth session of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, also held at New Delhi from 8 to 19 November 1976.

149. The Division collaborated with CIENES and the National Statistical Institute of Chile by holding courses for the national census on statistical training organized by the Institute. It further collaborated with CIENES by holding a short course on income distribution measurement and analysis methods as part of the Centre's Course B for national statistical personnel.

DIVISION OF OPERATIONS

150. Within the framework of CEPAL's broad task of promoting the economic and social development of the Latin American countries and of providing assistance for the solution of priority problems in selected fields, the Division of Operations has been co-ordinating the secretariat's technical assistance and development co-operation activities in the period under review. The operational activities carried out by the Division, which derived, as a rule, from the programme of work approved by the Commission, have followed two main lines: (a) technical co-operation rendered to countries or groups of countries by means of studies prepared by the secretariat on specific economic and social problems or sectors of the economy; and (b) transfer and dissemination of the results of research carried out by the secretariat, by means of direct advisory services provided to countries or regional economic integration bodies or through regional or subregional technical meetings on specialized matters.

151. The two main lines of operational activities mentioned above are carried out with CEPAL's own resources and with financial support received from multilateral and bilateral sources and are designed to provide the means for facilitating and promoting co-operation among developing countries in the solution of common problems, in the exchange of experience and skills and in strengthening economic ties.

152. In pursuance of those two main lines of activities, the work of the Division during this period has been devoted to: (a) formulating regional and subregional programmes and projects for extra-budgetary financing, in co-ordination with the Programming Office and in consultation with the appropriate substantive unit of the secretariat, in the light of the priorities set out in the secretariat's programme of work; (b) negotiating the funding of these programmes and projects with multilateral and bilateral sources and carrying out the operational and management activities concerning the administration and implementation of the relevant programmes and projects; (c) co-ordinating the provision of advisory and technical assistance rendered by the secretariat to governments and regional integration bodies; (d) co-ordinating the

/activities of

activities of the secretariat concerning the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in Latin America and co-operation with developing countries of other geographical areas in close co-ordination with UNDP's Special Unit on TCDC and other United Nations bodies as required; (e) collaborating with UNDP in the organization of the Latin American Intergovernmental Meeting on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (Lima, Peru, 10-15 May 1976). On this occasion a document was prepared and circulated to the participants as a conference paper, entitled "CEPAL and the efforts of the United Nations system to promote horizontal technical co-operation"; (f) collaborating with UNDP in the launching of the Information Referral System (INRES) on TCDC. CEPAL identified regional organizations for registration in INRES and distributed to them the questionnaires provided by UNDP.

ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS CENTRE

Appraisal and projections of the Latin American development process

153. During the period under review the first results of the project "Latin American development: its appraisal and long-term prospects" (E/CEPAL/L.131) became available and are contained in three documents prepared by the Centre.
154. The Centre was engaged in two main activities: (a) the appraisal of the development process in the post-war period; (b) the medium- and long-term projections of the main features of the development process.
155. In the appraisal of the development process the Centre first co-ordinated the work of the participating Divisions. These Divisions (Social Development, Industry, Agriculture (CEPAL/FAO), Natural Resources and Environment, and Transport and Communications) produced documents that will be published separately.
156. The Centre participated in the definition of schemes and discussions relating to the fields covered by the respective chapters.

157. In addition, the Centre prepared a large amount of background information relating to the internal structures and external relations of the countries. The first stages of this work have been completed.

158. A document entitled "The Economic and Social Development of Latin America, 1970-1975" (E/CEPAL/L.144) was prepared for the meeting held by the Planning Committee in Santiago from 22 to 26 November 1976.

159. Another document entitled "The Economic and Social Development and External Relations of Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1024) was prepared for the CEGAN Conference held in Santo Domingo in March 1977 and for the biennial session of CEPAL to be held in Guatemala City. The first part was prepared by the Centre and includes a complete synthesis of the economic and social changes which have occurred in the last twenty-five years, with descriptions in greater detail for the last six years.

160. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3508 (XXX) a document was prepared for the Economic and Social Council entitled "Long-term Trends and Projections of Latin American Economic Development" (E/CEPAL/1027).

161. During the period under review new long- and medium-term projections were prepared. The figures, which are so far preliminary, cover several aspects of the economic process: (a) a global model for the main economic variables has been prepared and used for most of Latin American countries. It studies the main internal and external macroeconomic balances; (b) a sectoral model covering the principal economic sectors has been developed. It includes internal production and demand and imports and exports for these sectors. Only very preliminary results are as yet available; (c) a model for studying international trade flows between regions has been tested, and its results have been compared with those contained in the Leontieff model report; (d) an employment model that includes the prospects for productivity increases related both to technical progress and to income levels has been developed and used for most Latin American countries.

162. In all cases co-ordination work to make these models compatible has been carried out. Preliminary results for two scenarios mainly

/related to

related to external conditions of trade and finance were included in the document "The Economic and Social Development of Latin America, 1970-1975" (E/CEPAL/L.144) prepared for the Development Planning Committee.

163. More complete projections are included in the document "The Economic and Social Development of Latin America, 1970-1975".

164. This document also contains demographic projections prepared with the use of numerical experimentation models described in the following paragraphs.

Numerical experimentation models

165. During the period under review the models have been mainly used in the demographic projections.

166. These projections were prepared with the help of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE). The figures and theses are consistent with those of CELADE, but analyses of possible changes in historical trends have also been tested.

LATIN AMERICAN CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DOCUMENTATION (CLADES)

167. This Centre provides support for Latin American development activities through the systematization of basic bibliographical information in the economic and social fields and the establishment of mechanisms to transfer this information to researchers, private and public institutions and international agencies, promptly and at a reasonable cost.

168. In order to fulfill this objective, CLADES promotes and supports the creation of national documentation and information services, orienting the technology of these systems so as to make them compatible and to permit the transfer of bibliographical information at both intergovernmental and regional levels; it also co-ordinates the initiatives of the governments in these fields in order to avoid duplication of efforts and investment in equipment and systems which do not respond to the real needs of the region.

/Advisory services

Advisory services to national and regional organizations

169. Advisory services were provided to the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) in Quito, through the preparation of a diagnostic study and a proposal for the organization of an Energy Documentation Centre in the region and to the Instituto de Economía, Legislación y Administración del Agua (INEIA) in Mendoza, through a diagnosis of its information services.

170. The CEPAL Port of Spain Office was provided with assistance in the form of a study on the creation of a Documentation Centre designed to serve the countries of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, which is a joint undertaking between CEPAL and the governments of the Caribbean countries. A document was prepared for submission at the next CDCC meeting.

171. The Institute for Latin American Integration (INTAL), was aided through an exploratory investigation on INTAL's information systems with the purpose of designing a preliminary methodology for the diagnosis of the problem of dissemination of integration documentation. A joint co-operation programme in documentation techniques was also initiated. It includes the structuring of microthesaurus on integration and the organization of a technical seminar to exchange experience in the field of information and documentation.

Collaboration with the Divisions of CEPAL

172. Assistance was provided in the organization of the documentary sources of information and in the implementation of an information control and retrieval system in the Statistical Division, the CEPAL/FAO Joint Agriculture Division, the Documentation Centre of PAHO, and the Natural Resources and Environment Division.

173. In this last Division documentary support was provided in the field of the environment. CLADES collaborated in the revision of the bibliography included in the report "The Environment in Latin America" (E/CEPAL/1018) by standardizing the classification of the authors and titles of the works consulted. The preparation of a microthesaurus of the environment in Latin America is also in progress.

/External advisory

External advisory services

174. Assistance was provided and technical bibliographic material distributed to the library of the Department of Business Administration and Economics of the Valparaíso Campus of the University of Chile, to the Documentation Centre of the Corporación de Investigaciones Económicas para América Latina, to the Centro de Documentación Cooperativo, and to the Documentation Centre of the Fundación para el Desarrollo de América Latina (FUDAL).

Documentation and technical processes

175. The analysis of CEPAL/ILPES documents has been considered a top priority task. A careful review is being undertaken on the incorporation of new descriptors considered essential for the indexing of this material. The design of a new work-sheet for the entry of information into the computer and the preparation of a Manual of Instructions was also carried out.

176. The analysis of documents carried out under the previous information processing system was revised and adapted to the new computerized information retrieval system (ISIS) used by CEPAL.

177. After the bibliographic information of the CEPAL/ILPES documents was entered into the computer several tests were made on various patterns of information retrieval. The first computer print-out with bibliographic information including an index of descriptors is about to be produced.

178. Several bibliographies were prepared on various topics such as forecastings; 25 years of Bolivian agriculture; industrial development and technology transfer 1971-1975; and sub-contracting in industry.

179. Two important directories were prepared and are at present being revised: Directory of environment institutions in Latin America, and Directory of socio-economic institutions in Latin America.

CLADES/IDRC research projects on information systems
development in Latin America

180. The design of a methodology for the Inventory of economic and social documentation services in Latin America and the Caribbean was completed and the definitive format of the questionnaire was established after several consultations with regional specialists. This questionnaire was tested experimentally in a pilot inventory project in Chile.

181. During the period under review missions were undertaken to invite the countries to participate and to determine the national focal points for the implementation of the project. In this connexion visits were made to Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

182. The project is now being implemented in almost all of these countries, while the remainder are expected to initiate their participation during the first half of this year.

183. Preliminary consultations were held with various integration agencies in order to determine their involvement in the project for an inventory of less disseminated documentation produced by economic integration agencies in Latin America and the Caribbean. A pilot project was launched in INTAL which included two phases: (i) the design of a conceptual scheme for identifying the main components of its information systems and (ii) the initiation of a joint programme which will allow the production of an analytical bibliography on less disseminated documentation on Latin American integration, through the standardization of norms and vocabularies. During this period preliminary field work was also undertaken in JUNAC (Board of the Cartagena Agreement).

184. Finally, a revised conceptual scheme on the question of the dissemination of documentation was elaborated for testing in the different Divisions of CEPAL so as to improve the methodology before extending the project to other integration agencies.

MEXICO OFFICE

Economic development programme

185. During the period under review sectoral and global analyses of the economies of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama were prepared for inclusion in the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1976.

186. For this purpose the corresponding statistics published by the countries for the period were collected, and qualitative and other background information on conjunctural trends were directly collected in each of the countries.

187. In addition, work continued on the organization and analysis of statistical data for preparing the retrospective study on development in Central America in the period 1950-1975.

Central American economic integration

188. Work continued on the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee, and a proposal was prepared for some regional projects for presentation by the countries of the region to the Inter-American Development Bank for consideration at the next meeting of the Board of Governors. Arrangements were made with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration for the recruitment of consultants to collaborate with CEPAL in the formulation of several of these projects.

Planning and economic policy for development

Fiscal policy in Costa Rica

189. Work continued on the study on tax policy and economic development in Costa Rica, and a draft document on sales tax was revised in this connexion.

Courses on planning and economic policy in Costa Rica

190. Officials of this Office participated as lecturers on economic integration and fiscal policy in this course, which was sponsored by UNDP/ILPES/CEPAL/ICAP.

/Export of

Export of manufactures in Mexico and promotion policy

191. The document "La exportación de manufacturas en México y la política de promoción" was revised and updated, and a section was added which describes the impact of the float of the Mexican peso on export promotion policy.

192. The following documents were prepared: "Notas para el estudio económico de América Latina: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama y México" (CEPAL/MEX/76/1-7); "Notas sobre el proceso inflacionario, con particular referencia a la experiencia en Centroamérica" (CEPAL/MEX/76/9); "Notas preliminares acerca de la construcción de un modelo de corto plazo para Honduras" (CEPAL/MEX/76/Hond/1); "Notas explicativas sobre los propósitos y alcances del estudio de política tributaria y desarrollo económico de Costa Rica" (CEPAL/MEX/76/C.Rica/1); "Notas explicativas sobre contribuciones de mejoras" (CEPAL/MEX/76/C.Rica/2).

Technical co-operation

193. Advisory services were provided to the Government of Costa Rica in the field of capital gains taxation.

194. In Honduras courses were given on accounting systems for economic planning and on industrial policy.

195. In Panama advisory assistance was provided on national accounts and analysis of the current situation in that respect in the country.

Co-operation in the industrialization process in the Central American and other countries

196. A new version of the document on the establishment of a national network for the joint promotion of industrial projects was prepared. The document examines the desirability of establishing a Central American corporation in the public sector to promote the establishment of multinational enterprises in the region.

197. A study on the desirability of producing phosphoric acid and its associated products in the region was completed. The study suggests that the process should be initiated with the installation of a diammonium phosphate plant.

Technical co-operation

198. During the period under review advisory services were provided to the Secretariat of the National Economic Planning Council of Guatemala on the establishment of machinery for the implementation of industrial projects.

199. In El Salvador assistance was provided to the Industrial Planning Office of the Ministry of Economic Affairs on the guidelines of the industrial development plan for the period 1978-1982.

200. In Honduras assistance was provided to the Technical Secretariat of the Supreme Planning Board in the preparation of the Industrial Plan of Operations for 1977.

201. During the period under review the Mexico Office also participated in the International Seminar on Agro-Industrial Development sponsored by the Federación Mexicana de Organizaciones Agrícolas.

International trade and development programme

202. Collaboration continued with the Nacional Financiera de México in the preparation for that country of a programme on the development of capital goods, and the Office participated in the preparation of the document "El mercado de los bienes de capital en algunos países de América Latina".

203. Advisory assistance was provided to the Government of Guatemala, and in particular to the General Secretariat of the Economic Planning Council, in the field of regional economic integration.

/Natural resources

Natural resources and energy programme

Development of energy resources in Central America

204. Work continued normally on the collection and analysis of basic data for the use of planning models in the study on electrical interconnexion. A model was completed for the simulated operation of electricity power stations, entitled "Programa de operación simulado de una central hidroeléctrica" (CCE/SC.5/GRIE/IV/3/Rev.1), and the models developed by ENDESA in Chile were used to produce curves of the energy obtainable as a function of installed capacity.

205. During this period financing for the second phase of this study was obtained from the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Preparations for the Fourth Meeting of the Regional Group on Electrical Interconnexion

206. The institutional and economic aspects relating to electrical interconnexion were studied and reports were prepared on possible schemes of co-operation in the field of electricity and on the sharing of the costs and benefits of interconnexion. For this purpose the documents entitled "Distribución de costos y beneficios de la interconexión eléctrica" (E/CEPAL/CCE/SC.5/GRIE/IV/DI.2) and "Estudio de interconexión eléctrica en el istmo centroamericano: décimo informe sobre el avance de los trabajos" (SRNE/76/9/Rev.1) were distributed.

Regional energy development

207. Information was collected and analysed with a view to the preparation of statistics on energy consumption in the subregion for 1974, and the data were published in the document "Istmo Centroamericano: consumo de energía 1950, 1955, 1960 y 1965-1974" (E/CEPAL/CCE/SC.5/117).

/Development of

Development of water resources in Central America

208. Work continued normally on the study on the development of irrigation in the region for the period 1976-1985, and the national reports which describe current and proposed development in the sector were discussed with representatives of the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE).

209. The final versions of annexes on the present state of irrigation and on the economic analysis of irrigated farming contained in the document "El riego en El Salvador" (E/CEPAL/CCE/SC.5/110/Add.1) were completed.

Social development programme

Social development in Central America

210. With the collaboration of the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) a seminar on social programming in Central America was held in Guatemala City from 26 to 29 October 1976. The seminar was attended by delegates from all the Central American countries, and the document "Desarrollo y política social en Centroamérica" (CEPAL/MEX/76/11) was presented and discussed.

Social development in Cuba

211. A mission was undertaken to Cuba to define the details, scope, and bases for the implementation of this study.

212. Subsequently, a programme of work was drawn up for the collection of material and information by the Cuban working groups which have been set up for the study.

The markets in La Chontalpa (Mexico)

213. A first version of the study on this subject was completed on the basis of the information available. After comments had been received on the provisional text, the final version of the report "El mercado de trabajo en La Chontalpa" (CEPAL/MEX/76/16/Rev.1) (Restricted) was prepared.

/Transport and

Transport and tourism programme

Development of transport in Mexico and Central America

214. A corrigendum was prepared for the document which describes the Mexican experience in the construction of local roads by methods involving the intensive use of labour: "Análisis sobre la experiencia Mexicana en caminos de bajo costo" CEPAL/MEX/76/15/Rev.1).

Agriculture, forestry and fisheries programme

Agricultural policy in Mexico

215. For the purpose of obtaining information on the credit policy guidelines followed by agencies in this sector, talks were held with the Bank of Mexico, the Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior and the Financiera Nacional Azucarera and detailed information was obtained in this connexion.

Co-ordination of agricultural policies

216. A provisional document was prepared which studies the establishment of a Central American corporation for fishing and marketing tuna. This work involves an estimate of the optimum size of the corporation and the investment needed for its establishment.

Technical co-operation

217. Advisory assistance was provided to the Government of Honduras in connexion with the formulation of requests for financing for the development of rural settlements.

Science and technology programme

Scientific and technological policies in Latin America

218. During the period under review the plan of the document analysing the existing scientific and technological policies in Latin America was completed. This study will be carried out by the recently established Science and Technology Unit, which will receive assistance from CEPAL and a contribution from the Mexican Government.

WASHINGTON OFFICE

219. During the period under review, the Washington Office intensified its activities in the field of economic research and analysis in support of the central work programme of CEPAL headquarters. A study was designed to cover the activities of some international organizations based in Washington whose research and operational activities are of the greatest importance in Latin American economic and social development. These include the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and certain United States Government bodies.

220. In the context of the Latin American economic development and the CEPAL work programme, the objectives of the study are: (a) to monitor the activities of these agencies on a continuous, systematic and detailed basis; (b) to produce a twice-yearly paper that assembles, synthesizes, interprets and passes judgement upon the activities of the agencies, viewed separately and/or together.

221. In conjunction with the International and Development Division in Santiago, the Washington Office prepared a technical note on preliminary meetings with officials of the State Department, the Department of Trade and the Inter-American Development Bank regarding the proposed technical standards centre for Latin American imports.

222. During the period under review the Washington Office also represented CEPAL at the following meetings: First AAC Inter-Agency Meeting on Transnational Corporations, in New York; First CEPAL/IDB/OAS Inter-Agency Meeting, held in Washington; Seventeenth Ordinary Session of CEPCIES, in Washington; meeting on the financing of education in Latin America, held in Washington; international consultation on new forms of co-operation with Latin America, convened by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Ottawa; and the CEPCIES country review on Bolivia, held from 20-22 September at OAS Headquarters.

223. The Washington Office represented the CEPAL secretariat at many other intergovernmental meetings, particularly those related to the

/Inter-American

Inter-American organizations, and performed other liaison and representational functions at the request of the Office of the Executive Secretary.

224. During the period a CEPAL Cuaderno was prepared by a staff member of this Office, entitled "Canada and the Foreign Firm". The Cuaderno concentrates on three main questions, namely: (1) some of the main problems posed by the operations of foreign firms in Canada; (2) some of the solutions adopted or contemplated by the Canadian Government to resolve those problems; and (3) the possible relevance of some of these solutions for Latin America.

RIO DE JANEIRO OFFICE

225. Talks continued with the Government of Brazil on the renewal of the amplified IPEA/CEPAL agreement.

226. One of the clauses of this new agreement provides for the transfer of the CEPAL Rio de Janeiro Office to Brasilia. For this purpose officials of CEPAL headquarters visited Brasilia to complete the necessary arrangements for the implementation of the new amplified IPEA/CEPAL agreement and for effecting the transfer.

227. The following studies are planned for the next biennium within the framework of this agreement: research into regional inequalities in the Brazilian economy; a macroeconomic simulation model; a methodology and models for sectoral and regional planning; a study of cost alternatives of urban investments; and training of human resources.

228. Work continued on ongoing studies which included those on a national finance system for urban investments and on regional inequalities in Brazil, with the preparation of regional profiles.

MONTEVIDEO OFFICE

229. The Office continued its work of co-operation and liaison between the Executive Committee and secretariat of LAFTA and the CEPAL secretariat. During the period under review it maintained regular
/contacts and

contacts and exchange of information on matters of common interest and continued to supply elements which serve as mutual support for activities, facilitate co-operation, and ensure more efficient use of the resources of both institutions.

Integration within the LAFTA framework

230. Liaison and co-ordination activities with the Executive Committee and the Office of the Executive Secretary of LAFTA continued, as did the provision of technical assistance to the Association.

231. Statistical information was prepared and dispatched, and information material and documents for the period were selected and forwarded.

232. In addition, the Montevideo Office was represented at the meetings of the Standing Executive Committee and its working groups and at the meetings of the Heads of Missions.

233. The Montevideo Office represented CEPAL at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Contracting parties. The corresponding documents were collected and analysed and a report prepared on the results achieved.

234. An updated report was prepared on the present situation of the negotiations within LAFTA. Statistical information on LAFTA complementation agreements by industrial sector was collected and processed with the technical assistance and collaboration of the statistical unit of the Association.

Subregional integration

235. An updated report was prepared on the system of the River Plate basin, after the Eighth Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Brasilia from 7 to 9 December 1976.

Meetings

236. During the period under review the Montevideo Office represented CEPAL at the following meetings: the ninth meeting of National Director of Customs, at which the report of the eleventh meeting of experts on customs techniques was discussed; the meeting of Ministers of Public Works and Transport of the Southern Cone, and the second ordinary Assembly of the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission.

PORT OF SPAIN OFFICE

237. The new tasks that derive directly from the work programme of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) may be viewed as falling into three categories: (i) items mandated for immediate implementation but for which the supporting expertise has to be sought outside the Secretariat; (ii) the execution of studies for formulating possible co-operation activities of the Governments, and (iii) the co-ordination of inputs from the United Nations side in support of CDCC activities.

Implementation of the CDCC work programme

238. At the first session, the Committee spelt out the scope of operations to further Caribbean co-operation. The activities that have since been undertaken by the Port of Spain Office within the framework of those mandates are reported below according to the classification and order of the work programme.

(a) Technical co-operation among the Caribbean countries

239. First efforts were devoted to pursuing the means for implementing the CDCC decisions on promotion of collaboration among universities and other research institutions by way of a meeting of Rectors of Caribbean Universities. This initiative is to be implemented in close collaboration with the United Nations University.

240. The Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES) has effectively supported the efforts of the Office to establish an infrastructure that can stimulate intra-Caribbean technical co-operation and collaboration between academic centres and international organizations. After consultation with the relevant officials of UNESCO and the University of the West Indies (UWI), CLADES prepared document E/CEPAL/CDCC/16/Rev.1, Documentation Centre to serve the Countries of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee.

/(b) The

(b) The agricultural sector

241. A second issue of the Compendium of Agricultural Statistics for Caribbean Countries (E/CEPAL/CDCC/13) was released in August 1976. It is a revised and amplified version of the first issue and includes, for the first time, data on cultivated area and production collected directly from the relevant official sources. This issue includes statistics on fisheries, shows aggregates for the CDCC countries, and contains selected graphs. These data will serve as a basis for future studies on the demand for food and agricultural raw materials for agro-industries, within the broad framework of possibilities of specialization and complementation.

242. Besides preparing reference material in response to specific requests by Governments and intergovernmental institutions, the Office carried out a mail survey in the Caribbean countries to gather information on Associations of Agricultural Producers, Dealers and Exporters of the main agricultural and livestock products, with a view to devising mechanisms for bringing them closer together for concerted action at regional and extra-regional levels, as required by the CDCC mandate. As a result of the considerable response by the CARICOM countries, the information was compiled and circulated among them for comments and revision. The survey was then extended to embrace all the CDCC countries and the information collected forms part of the Preliminary Draft Directory of Associations of Producers, Dealers and Exporters of Agricultural and Livestock Products of the Caribbean Countries (E/CEPAL/CDCC/14).

(c) Social development

243. During the period under review, activities focussed on the social aspects of the promotion of agriculture, Montserrat being used as a test case for the enquiry and hypothesis. A preliminary report on Mobilization of Community Interest and Efforts for Agricultural Development in Montserrat has been completed but not yet discussed at the governmental level. In addition, two macro-sociological studies

/by consultants

by consultants on the characteristics of Caribbean societies, needed for the formulation of integrated policies, were revised. It is already evident that this research needs to be expanded.

244. As the first step towards the study of non-demographic aspects of the labour force, a paper on Methodological Proposals to Measure the Supply of Manpower on the Labour Market was circulated as a restricted document among Caribbean and CEPAL specialists. It is hoped that this will serve as a basis for manpower planning and for the study of the demand for labour force in different forms of economic organization.

(d) Education and culture

245. The discussions held with UNESCO have centred on the elaboration of a medium-term programme to supplement the programme of immediate action set out in the report of the Inter-Agency Meeting to co-ordinate the implementation of the Programme of Work of the CDCC (E/CEPAL/CDCC/11). A UNESCO Senior Regional Adviser has been seconded to the CDCC secretariat for a period of 3 months to develop this programme, and this secondment will be renewed periodically. It has also been possible to take advantage of the presence of UNESCO's Consultant on Museum Development and to formulate a project related to the promotion, strengthening and preservation of Caribbean cultures.

246. The UNESCO/CEPAL/UNDP regional project on education and development for Latin America and the Caribbean has been initiated in the CDCC area. Through this project a study on Education and Development in the English-speaking Caribbean has been contracted, while proposals are being finalized to meet requests from two CDCC member countries.

(e) Transport, communications and related services

247. Some support has been given to the CARICOM Secretariat in carrying forward the pilot project in Trinidad and Tobago to implement the CEPAL Proposals for Collection and Processing of Regional Port and Shipping Statistics (ECLA/POS/74/6). This support consisted of evaluating the results of a preliminary survey and amending the Ship Visit Report form so that the information contained could be used for planning purposes.

/(f) Regional

(f) Regional co-operation

248. Assistance was given to the Government of the Republic of Haiti in the preparation of the document entitled Dossier for Presentation to the Caribbean Community and Common Market. At the Office's request, the Government of Haiti sent three economists to the CDCC secretariat to complete this study. In addition, a preliminary evaluation was made of some of the implications for Haiti of accession to CARICOM, including a comparative study to appraise the effects on revenue of the adoption of the CARICOM Common External Tariff (CET). A summary of the findings of this analysis has been submitted to the Government of Haiti.

General economic development, statistics,
and advisory assistance

249. The Office contributed Country Notes to the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1976 in respect of Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the West Indies Associated States. A summary giving a brief view of general economic trends in the Caribbean Common Market Area was also prepared and the document Economic Activity - 1975 - Caribbean Community Countries (ECLA/POS/76/6; E/CEPAL/CDCC/15) was published.

250. The paper Amendments to the Standard External Trade Statistics Classification for the East Caribbean Common Market Countries (ECLA/POS/76/1) contains proposals arising from adjustments to the ECCM Common External Tariff. Specific assistance has been given to Governments in response to ad hoc requests. Thus, for example, the Government of Antigua was assisted with the preparation and publication of their second Abstract of Statistics and their 1975 External Trade Statistics Report. Similarly, the Office provided various governments with statistics on retail price indexes, external trade in petroleum and petroleum products, and other subjects.

251. In the general area of advisory assistance for development planning, the Regional Economic Adviser began preparation in May 1976 of an Agricultural Development Sectoral Plan for Grenada covering the period 1977-1981. The expert has been working in close collaboration with field staff in the Ministry of Agriculture, who have been providing
/basic data

basic data for plan preparation. Data collection is now complete and draft copies of some of the chapters have already been submitted to the Government. It is expected that the Plan will be finalized by May 1977. Similarly, the Government of Montserrat requested advice on a Draft Economic Development Plan for the period 1977-1981 which was already in process of preparation. The Regional Economic Adviser carried out the mission and his report has been submitted to the Montserrat Government.

Co-ordination with international and regional bodies

252. Fulfilment of the needs of the CDCC work programme has demanded a higher level of collaboration with United Nations bodies than was traditionally required. Most of the action taken has been directed towards identifying the contributions that the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies can make to supporting the initiatives of the CDCC. The definitive starting-point was the holding, under CEPAL auspices, of a United Nations inter-agency meeting to consider the co-ordination in implementing the CDCC work programme (New York Headquarters, 28-30 June 1976). Document E/CEPAL/CDCC/11 reflects the outcome of the deliberations of that meeting, as modified by the subsequent comments from the Agencies' headquarters.

253. An important point of focus in the collaboration with UNESCO has been the attempt to develop an integrated strategy to meet the CDCC priorities. A special UNESCO mission made possible discussions on the establishment of a network system of educational innovations, whereby experience from new developments in the formal educational systems in the region can be shared by the member countries. The presence of a UNESCO Senior Adviser in the CDCC secretariat permitted the formulation of basic programmes to stimulate intra-Caribbean technical co-operation. These programmes cover support of the Caribbean Documentation Centre, the removal of language barriers, the creation of two Councils - one for Science and Technology and the other for Economic and Social Development, a pre-feasibility study on communication for non-formal education, and a strategy for the promotion strengthening and preservation of Caribbean cultures.

254. In addition to the foregoing, there was continued support for the work of other bodies. A series of discussions were held with World Food Programme officials, for whom selected background data was collated on Antigua, Grenada, Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, in connexion with proposals for supplemental feeding projects in those countries. A staff member visited Antigua regarding the UNDP/ECCM statistics project and CEPAL/CDCC work programmes with special emphasis on the area of statistics.

Meetings and conferences

255. Meetings and conferences held during the period under review included the Preparatory Meeting for the Eighth Common Market Council Conference and Eighth Meeting of the CARICOM Council (Grenada, 22-25 April 1976); CARICOM Meeting of Ministers responsible for Transportation (Guyana, 29-30 April 1976); Meeting of Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Finance and Meeting of Board of Governors of the Caribbean Development Bank (St. Kitts, 8-13 May 1976); Eleventh West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference (Dominica, 19-24 May 1976) advisory assistance to the Government of Grenada on the formulation of the Economic Development Plan and Programme (13-29 May 1976; 6-19 July 1976; 12 September-2 October 1976); Inaugural Session of Seminar on Administration of Multinational Integration in Latin America (Barbados, 24 May 1976); CDB/CARICOM/CEPAL Team on Planning Assistance to LDC's (Barbados/St. Vincent/St. Lucia/Grenada, 10-25 June 1976); Working Party Meeting on Treatment of Processed Products under the Agricultural Marketing Protocol (AMP) and Final Meeting of the AMP Working Party on Price Fixing (Guyana, 27 June-2 July 1976); Inter-Agency meeting (New York, 28-30 June 1976); Fifteenth Meeting on the Agricultural Marketing Protocol (Guyana, 26-28 July 1976); Meeting of Officials on AMP Price Fixing for the November/April Trading Period (Guyana, 21 September 1976); CARICOM: Ninth Meeting of Common Market Council of Ministers (Guyana, 24-25 September 1976); assistance in preparation of development plan for Montserrat (Montserrat, 24-30 October 1976); meeting of ECCM Council of Ministers (St. Lucia, 18-19 November 1976); Preparatory meeting of officials and meeting of /Standing Committee

Standing Committee on Transport (Guyana, 17-19 November 1976); meeting of Regional Co-ordination Committee on the 1980 Population Census (Barbados, 22-23 November 1976); CARICOM: Meeting of Livestock Sub-Committee of Regional Agricultural Planners and Standing Committee of Ministers of Agriculture (Guyana, 21-26 November 1976); ECCM Seminar on Foreign Trade Statistics (Antigua, 24-30 November 1976); Monetary Studies Conference and Consultations with Caribbean Development Bank officials (Barbados, 1-3 December 1976).

BOGOTA OFFICE

256. During the period under review the Office continued its work on the analysis of the economies of the countries within its area.

257. It participated in the preparation of basic data and the analysis of main aspects of Colombian economic policy, and a draft note was prepared entitled "Evolución de la economía colombiana durante el primer semestre de 1976".

258. In addition, work was started on a study on the coffee economy of Colombia and the present economic situation. This study will mainly examine coffee policy with regard to its traditional features and the measures adopted recently as a result of the current economic situation.

259. Collaboration in the preparation of the Economic Survey for 1976 continued in the period through the contribution of the surveys on Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

260. The experience of these three countries in the field of economic development is so rich and reflects situations of such importance that CEPAL's research in this field should be expanded and deepened.

Collaboration with governments and with other bodies

261. At the request of the Minister of Planning of Venezuela, the Office collaborated with officials of CORDIPLAN on a mission to Colombia in obtaining information on human resources, employment, and migration. In addition, two notes were prepared on the subject and were sent to the Ministry of Planning of Venezuela together with the wealth of information obtained from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje of Colombia.

/262. The

262. The Office attended the talks held between the Minister of Planning of Venezuela, the Director of ILPES, and officials of CORDIPLAN at which the bases were laid for an ILPES programme, in which the Bogotá Office may participate, of co-operation with the Government of Venezuela on sectoral policies, regional development, and training in economic planning.

Seminars and meetings

263. During the period under review the Bogotá Office represented CEPAL at the following seminars and meetings: the seminar on the State and planning, held in Bogotá from 10 to 12 June; the meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee of ILPES, held in Bogotá on 11 September and attended by the Ministers of Planning of Panama, Venezuela and Colombia and representatives of the Planning Offices of Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador and Mexico; and the sixth General Assembly of the Council of Sea and Air Transport Users which was held in Bogotá from 29 to 30 September.

BUENOS AIRES OFFICE

Methods and techniques for the short-term information coverage, analysis and programming of economic development

264. During the period under review, the areas in which basic information was improved and expanded, using the methods developed in collaboration with officials of the Central Bank and the National Institute for Censuses (INDEC), covered the following subjects: national accounts, agricultural and industrial activities, investment, foreign trade and the balance of payments, the public sector, prices and wages, financial aspects, financial markets and international products, and the situation and outlook of the industrialized countries.

/Methods and

Methods and techniques for the medium- and long-term analysis and projections of the Argentine economy

265. Work on the improvement of the model and its use in reproducing the base period continued. In addition, tests were started on different long-term policies.

266. At the same time, work was undertaken to amplify the model in order to permit deeper analysis and extend it to other situations. There are plans to cover a great number of sectors and to use it in the analysis of regional development.

267. In connexion with this project a report entitled "A numerical experimentation model for analysing alternative long-term economic policies" describing the phases of the work concerning the model per se and the period chosen as the base, was completed for internal circulation.

Analysis of regional development

268. During the period under review the revised version of the study on "The regional distribution of agricultural activity" was completed. This document is being discussed internally within the Buenos Aires Office and is expected to be published in a few months' time.

IDB/CEPAL programme on research in the field of science and technology

269. The following lines of research have been developed: engineering firms; incorporation of technology by State enterprises; technology in the building sector; evaluation of research and development projects in the chemical and pharmaceutical fields; technology and industrial exports; the breaking down of the technological package in the steel industry; the state of technology with regard to petroleum; legal aspects of the incorporation of technology.

270. To assist in the implementation of these tasks, agreements have been reached with various public agencies in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela and with the Institute for Latin American Integration (INTAL).

/Joint CEPAL

Joint CEPAL/UNESCO project on education and development
in Latin America and the Caribbean

271. Agreements were reached with the Governments of Peru and Ecuador to carry out case studies in their respective countries.

272. Work began on the preparation of the studies "Industria y educación en Argentina", "Inserción de los profesionales argentinos en el mercado del empleo", "Evaluación financiera del sistema educativo argentino", and "Desarrollo y educación en Costa Rica".

273. These documents are undergoing a thorough review before their final publication, which will be considered by the Joint Board (comprised of representatives of UNDP, CEPAL, and UNESCO) responsible for managing the project and authorizing the publication of its documents.

C. LATIN AMERICAN DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRE (CELADE)

274. At its sixteenth session the Commission approved the Regional Population Programme contained in document E/CEPAL/1002, and entrusted its implementation to CELADE.

Basic population statistics

275. Technical assistance was provided in the design, processing and analysis of data from the national demographic surveys carried out or currently underway in Bolivia, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru, and in Posadas, Argentina. In addition, the Chilean National Planning Office was given advisory assistance in connexion with a demographic and economic survey covering several regions.

276. As part of the plan of co-operation in the World Fertility Survey, several missions were carried out to the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Colombia and Panama, with the specific purpose of providing technical advisory assistance in training personnel in the electronic processing and use of data.

277. At the request of the respective government bodies, the CELADE computer service processed census data for Chile (internal migration tabulations) and Haiti (regional tabulations), as well as data from demographic surveys carried out in Bolivia and Posadas, Argentina.

278. The CELADE Office in San José published a report with which it concluded its work on the experimental census conducted in Atenas, Costa Rica, in collaboration with the Statistics and Census Office of that country.

Review of population trends

279. In the period considered, the demographic situation in each country of the region in the period 1970-1975 was evaluated.

280. Satisfactory progress was made, in accordance with the work plans, in the research on the differences in child mortality by socio-economic groups, which at present covers 15 Latin American countries. Seven research fellowship-holders from six countries participated in the project.

281. A study was prepared on population trends in Latin America in the period 1950 to 2000, which will serve as an input in the retrospective and prospective development appraisal in course of preparation by the CEPAL secretariat.

282. CELADE's main technical assistance activities comprised: a preliminary study of population trends in the Department of Alto Paraná which will serve as a basis for a research project on migration and the redistribution of the population and employment, in which the Paraguay Technical Planning Office is interested; and population estimates and projections for various purposes for the Ministry of Education and the National Statistical Institute of Chile, the Ministry of Development Planning and Co-ordination of El Salvador, the Office of the International Labour Organisation at San José, Costa Rica, and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES).

283. Mention should also be made of CELADE's systematic work on the preparation of mortality, fertility and migration estimates, as well as up-to-date population projections at different levels of aggregation, the results of which are published twice a year in its Boletín Demográfico.

Interrelationship between population and development

284. The purpose of this programme is to gain a deeper insight into the interrelationships of demographic variables and economic and social factors in specific situations in the countries of the region.

285. With this end in view, a number of activities and basic studies were carried out, the most important results of which were presented in the relevant reports. In particular, two reports were published on the study of factors determining employment opportunities for women, initiated in 1975. The first analyses the degree of economic participation in four countries, according to income, education, employment and fertility; the second focuses on the economic participation of women as a key factor in the changes in fertility occurring in two countries of the region.

286. In addition, work was completed on the study of the displacement of agricultural labour in Brazil and Mexico, in which an attempt is made to link rural emigration in these countries with population growth and structural and technological factors.

287. Critical poverty in Latin America is the subject of a study begun in 1976. Its central aim is to investigate the relationship between the household income and reproduction and consumption patterns of the low-income groups, and the effects of changes in the level and distribution of income on those patterns. The stage that has now concluded comprised the preparation of the theoretical and operational aspects of the project, the compilation and systematization of available statistical data, and the design and start of experimental research.

288. The results of bibliographic research on policies governing the geographical redistribution of the population were collected and published in a working document. This is intended for purposes of consultation concerning the policy instruments that have been used in different national contexts throughout the world to promote urban and regional development or influence the pattern of spatial distribution of the population.

289. The migration of industrial manpower was given particular attention in the studies aimed at the construction of an economic-demographic internal migration model. In this respect, as an initial step, an economic sub-model of the demand for labour in manufacturing industry was designed and tested with data from Chile.

290. Lastly, a report was prepared on a research project concerning the needs and resources of metropolitan areas in Latin America. This involves identifying the problems arising as a result of the expansion of the requirements of those areas due to population growth, factors unrelated to those areas and factors inherent in the economic growth process. The final objective is to prepare various long-term projections on those needs.

Population policy

291. The study on development strategies and population policy in three countries (Brazil, Chile and Costa Rica) was for the second consecutive year the central research project in this field. At two meetings to co-ordinate the three country studies, held in August and December 1976, the progress reports on the work, which were presented in the form of theoretical-methodological analyses and preliminary analyses of the results obtained, were discussed and evaluated. The study will be completed in the first half of 1977 and will be published before the end of the year.

292. Technical co-operation was provided in this field in the form of two specific activities, in line with the recommendations formulated by the governments at the Second Latin American Meeting on Population convened by CEPAL (Mexico, 1975). First, the Introductory Course on the Design of Population Policy held in Mexico City in Co-ordination with the National Population Council (CONAPO) for central and federative states administration personnel with technical and managerial functions. Secondly, the First Exchange Meeting among Government Bodies Responsible for Population Policy held at San José, Costa Rica, with the participation of representatives of 14 countries of the region and six international agencies.

/Family planning

Family planning

293. One of the main activities in this field continued to be the provision of technical assistance to the Research and Evaluation Unit of the Programme for the Extension of Maternal and Child and Family Welfare Services (PESMIB), directed by the Chilean Ministry of Public Health, with financial support from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The most important contributions consist of the preparation of final studies on the fertility survey undertaken in line with the aforementioned Programme of a methodology and plan for the analysis of data as a basis for determining the effectiveness of the use of contraceptives, and of a coverage evaluation using information obtained through the system of service statistics of the Programme.

294. Technical advisory assistance was also given to the Co-ordinated Mother, Child and Family Welfare Programme of Bolivia in the supervision and improvement of its system of service statistics and in the analysis of the information produced by the system in the first half of the year.

295. The Family Planning and Sexual Education Programme of Costa Rica was also provided with technical assistance in connexion with a diagnostic study and in the evaluation of the Programme.

Documentation and information

296. A population documentation system for the collection of reports, articles, documents and, in general, any publications containing articles on population questions that have been written in Latin America or on this region since 1970 was introduced early in 1976. The service providing institutions and other users with information will start to operate in the second half of 1977. This service contemplates the publication of a six-monthly review containing summaries.

Education and training

297. As in previous years, the San José Office held the Basic Demographic Analysis Course and the Advanced Demographic Analysis Course of 10 and 12 months' duration, respectively. The Basic Course was attended by 26 students from 16 countries of the region, and the Advanced Course by eight professionals with previous training in demographic analysis.

298. CELADE participated in post-graduate university programmes on population, in the course for a Master's degree in economics and the course for a Master's degree in human nutrition (both in the Universidad de Chile) and in the course for a Master's degree in community health at the Universidad Católica de Chile.

299. In addition, CELADE held the following specialized courses and seminars:

- Course on Electronic Data Processing as Applied to Population Questions, the purpose of which was to provide training for personnel of statistical offices in the basic principles of computer programmes and of the operational systems for the processing of population censuses and surveys (Santiago, 23 August-10 December 1976);
- Seminar on Methods for Evaluating the Demographic Effects of Family Planning Programmes, for specialists from institutions interested in knowing the demographic effects of this kind of programme (Santiago, 18 October-12 November 1976);
- Population and regional development module, in the Regional Development Planning Course organized jointly by ILPES and CEPAL (Santiago, 2-6 August 1976);
- Seminar on Biostatistics of Human Reproduction, held at San José from 5 to 14 May 1976, under the direction of Dr. Henri Léridon, of the National Institute of Demographic Studies (INEDI), France.

D. LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL PLANNING

Advisory Services Programme

300. In view of the growing and diversified demand for the Institute's advisory services, the Advisory Services Programme has been compelled to establish new modes of action in order to expand the work of its basic team. Missions directed by permanent staff members and composed of consultants whose services have been contracted for short periods

/have made

have made it possible to increase the Institute's capacity for technical co-operation with the countries. Although one of the main advisory activities is still to meet the demand for technical assistance in connexion with long-term strategies and medium-term plans, there is a growing demand from the countries for advisory assistance in short-term programmes, the establishment of plan implementation and control systems, regional and urban planning, and the evaluation of economic plans and policies. In response to the requests formulated by governments, the Institute has provided the following countries with technical co-operation in the areas indicated:

301. In Bolivia, it collaborated with the Ministry of Planning and Co-ordination of the Office of the President of the Republic in the preparation of the 1976-1980 Economic and Social Development Plan. It has also started to provide advisory assistance in the preparation of the 1977 and 1978 Operational Plans.

302. In Venezuela, the Institute's technical co-operation was specifically directed at the evaluation of agricultural policy and, in particular, price policy, production financing and subsidies. In addition, industrial policy concerning intermediate and capital goods, and the establishment of instrumental policies for import substitution in respect of these goods, was analysed and ILPES collaborated in the analysis of spatial policy as set forth in the Fifth National Plan and other government documents.

303. In Ecuador, the Institute is co-operating with the National Economic Planning and Co-ordination Board (JUNAPLA) in the evaluation of the 1973-1977 Integrated Change and Development Plan. Its assistance takes the form of helping JUNAPLA to assess the impact of the additional petroleum resources on the country's economic development, production and social structure, level of employment and distribution of income. It also extended the scope of this analysis with the aim of interpreting the role which the agricultural sector and government action have played in the social field.

/304. In

304. In Chile, the Institute has co-operated with the National Planning Office (ODEPLAN) in the formulation of the 1977 Annual Plan, the 1977 Emergency Programme and the 1978-1981 Development Plan; with the Regional Planning and Co-ordination Office (SERPLAC); and with the Ministerial Sectoral Offices of the Fourth Region. It has also helped to prepare the methodology for the formulation of the medium-term regional plans which ODEPLAN will make available to the SERPLAC offices of the various regions of the country.

305. In Brazil, the Institute's technical co-operation is centred on the strengthening on the planning sub-systems at the State level and their links with the national system based in Brasilia. The States it assists are Minas Gerais, Bahia and Pernambuco. In the latter, it is engaged in experimental work in the field of urban planning in the metropolitan area of Recife, in order to gain a better understanding of the relationships which exist among the urban, regional and national variables in a specific situation in Latin America. In Minas Gerais, it is collaborating in the preparation of the plan for the implementation and follow-up of the Second Plan for Economic and Social Development 1976-1979. In the state of Bahia, its main activity is to support the preparation of a medium- and long-term economic and social development strategy and indicate the more important measures which should be taken in the short term.

Training Programme

306. Under this Programme, the Institute carried out the following activities: Seventh Regional Development Planning Course, Santiago, Chile (33 participants); Planning and Economic Policy Course, Tegucigalpa, Honduras (36 participants); and Planning and Economic Policy Course, San José, Costa Rica (28 participants). It also co-operated in the organization of the following courses, to which it also contributed teaching staff: Second Course in Regional Development Planning, Brasilia, Brazil (28 participants), in conjunction with the Training Centre for Economic Development (CENDEC); Advanced Course in Regional and Urban Development Planning (38 participants) and

/Agricultural Development

Agricultural Development Planning Course (34 participants), Mexico, in conjunction with Project MEX/73-004; Course in Environmental Management in Development, Madrid, Spain (30 participants), in conjunction with the International Centre for Training in Environmental Sciences for Spanish-Speaking Countries (CIFCA).

307. The Institute also participated in the organization and teaching activities of the following courses: Post-graduate Course in Integral Regional Development Planning, of the Centre for Colonization Studies (CEC), Rehovoth, Israel; Inter-American Seminar on Regional Development, of the Italo-Latin American Institute (IILA), Cochabamba, Bolivia; Course in Territorial Organization, of the Training Centre of the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos y Puentes, Madrid, Spain; Eighth Agricultural Planning Course, of FAO, Rome, Italy; and in the Seminar on Training in Regional Planning, of the Institute for Social Studies (ISS), The Hague, Netherlands. It also collaborated with the latter institution in the Project for Inter-institutional Co-operation for Education and Research in Regional Development Planning, whose immediate goal was to set up the First ILPES/ISS Continuous Course.

308. ILPES has also been engaged in the preparation of the following activities for 1977; Eighth Regional Development Planning Course and First Continuous Course on Regional Planning of ILPES/Institute for Social Studies of The Hague 1977/1978 (for participants from Latin America and the Caribbean); Basic Course in Planning and Economic Policy, in Santiago, Chile; Course in Planning and Economic Policy (for participants from Latin America and the Caribbean); Planning and Economic Policy, specializing in Industrial Planning and Agricultural Planning, La Paz, Bolivia; Regional Development Planning, Quito, Ecuador; Planning and Economic Policy, Guatemala City, Guatemala; Industrial and Agricultural Planning, San Salvador, El Salvador.

309. Joint activities were also prepared in conjunction with Project MEX/73-004, with the Centre for Development Training (CENDEC) in Brasilia and with the Centre for Colonization Studies (CEC), in Rehovoth, Israel.

Research Programme

310. The Institute completed the study entitled La planificación del desarrollo agropecuario: un enfoque para América Latina, currently being published by Editorial Siglo XXI.

311. The same firm published Teoría, acción social y desarrollo en América Latina.

312. Cuaderno Nº 24, La corrección monetaria. Cuatro estudios was published in 1976. It contains an analysis of Latin American experience in this field.

313. In the framework of the project on the State and Planning, the Seminar on the State and Planning and on Urban Planning was held in Bogotá in June 1976. The Seminar, at which papers were presented on Chile, Brazil and Colombia, was attended by specialists from a number of countries. In addition, an internal seminar was held in Santiago in January 1977, at which the preliminary studies on the State and Planning in Peru and Uruguay and on housing and price policies in Chile were examined.

314. A preliminary discussion paper was prepared on poverty in Latin America, which gave rise to three internal seminars on the question.

E. RELATIONS WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AND WITH
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

United Nations Centre on Transnational Enterprises

315. A very satisfactory working agreement has been reached between CEPAL and the Centre, which is located at United Nations Headquarters in New York. A joint unit has been established in Santiago to carry out a series of studies in a field which is of increasing importance to the Latin American region. A number of studies and reports have been prepared, and are described in the section on the Economic Development Division.

/Inter-American Development

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Organization
of American States (OAS)

316. An important new step was taken in the promotion of interagency co-ordination when the chief executives of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank and CEPAL met in November 1976 in Washington, D.C.

317. This meeting was considered so valuable that it has been agreed to hold meetings of this type at regular intervals, attended by the chief executives of these three agencies and also possibly the Administrator of UNDP and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA). The next meeting was convened for May 1977 to discuss, among other questions, the seventeenth session of CEPAL, the IDB Annual Meeting, and the OAS Council Meeting to be held in Grenada.

Organization of American States (OAS)

318. The relations between CEPAL and the OAS were further strengthened by a visit to CEPAL headquarters made by the Secretary-General of the OAS during the course of the OAS Annual Meeting held in Santiago in June 1976. The joint project in the field of maritime transport, under which an OAS expert has been assigned to work at CEPAL headquarters, took over responsibility for the bi-monthly Boletín de Facilitación del Comercio y del Transporte en América Latina.

Latin American Economic System (SELA)

319. A very satisfactory working agreement was reached between CEPAL and the Latin American Economic System (SELA), covering projects in a number of areas related to the work programme of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

320. Documents prepared by the CEPAL secretariat were distributed at the SELA Meeting held in Caracas and served as a preparation for the UNCTAD IV Conference held in Nairobi.

United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT)

321. Subsequent to the United Nations Vancouver Conference on Human Settlements, a Latin American Regional Meeting on Human Settlements was convened in Mexico in September 1976. This Meeting provided useful action guidelines for the group of Latin American countries at the last General Assembly, particularly as regards institutional arrangements.

Participation of Women in Development

322. In collaboration with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs at Headquarters, CEPAL convened an expert group meeting at the Mexico Sub-regional Office in January 1977 in order to work out a preliminary plan of action for Latin America.

Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA)

323. The section of the present report covering the activities of the Montevideo Sub-regional Office of CEPAL contains a detailed report on the co-operation between CEPAL and LAFTA.

Central American Common Market

324. The section of this report dealing with the activities of the Mexico Sub-regional Office gives a detailed report of the co-operation between CEPAL and the Central American Common Market.

Caribbean Common Market

325. The section of this report covering the activities of the Port of Spain Sub-regional Office provides detailed information on co-operation between CEPAL and the Caribbean Common Market.

Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative
Organization (IMCO)

326. The Secretary-General of IMCO visited CEPAL headquarters in November 1976, thus giving new impetus to the co-operation already existing in matters concerned with maritime transport and particularly with respect to the Committee on facilitation. CEPAL will work closely with the IMCO marine pollution adviser for Latin America who is based in Chile.

CEPAL/UNEP/Secretariat of the United Nations
Desertification Conference

327. As an important step in the preparations for the United Nations Desertification Conference to be held in Nairobi from 29 August to 9 September 1977, considerable importance was given to the organization of regional preparatory meetings for the countries of the various geographical areas of the world. The Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas, organized jointly by the Secretariat of the Desertification Conference and the Secretariat of UNEP was held at CEPAL headquarters in Santiago in February 1977. At this Conference the Latin American governments adopted several resolutions and amendments to the proposed Plan of Action to combat desertification.

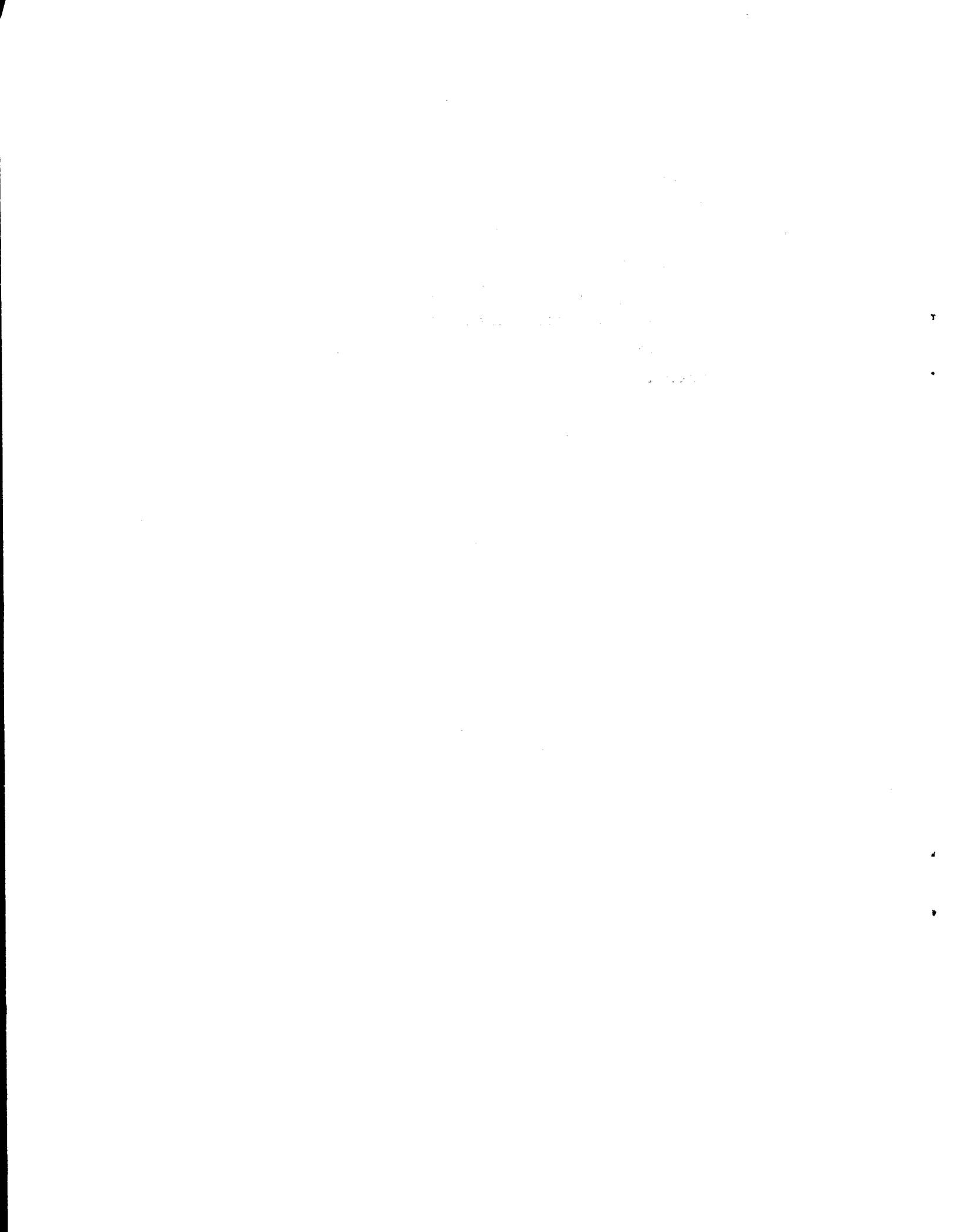
Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE)

328. The Executive Secretaries of CEPAL and OLADE signed an agreement providing for co-operation in a number of areas between the two organizations. This collaboration has taken place in the fields of the exchange of information and documentation, the preparation of joint studies and projects, the evaluation of alternative strategies in the energy field, and active participation in the training of personnel and preparation of meetings.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

329. Co-operation between CEPAL and UNEP increased significantly during the period under consideration. In February 1977 the Executive Director of UNEP visited Santiago and participated in a Joint Programming Exercise to examine concrete projects to be undertaken jointly by both organizations. At the conclusion of this meeting, a memorandum of understanding was signed by the heads of the two organizations, calling for the establishment of a joint unit to be located at CEPAL to deal with environmental questions and problems in the Latin American region.

330. CEPAL organized a regional preparatory Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean for the United Nations Water Conference. This meeting, which was held in Lima, Peru, from 30 August to 3 September 1976, and in which CEPAL collaborated with the Secretariat of the Water Conference and also enjoyed the support of UNEP helped the CEPAL member States to establish the position subsequently put forward by them at the United Nations Water Conference held at Mar del Plata, Argentina from 14 to 25 March 1977.



Annex

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS
SPONSORED OR CO-SPONSORED BY CEPAL IN 1976

Title	Place and date	Sponsoring agency
Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ILO World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution and Social Progress, and the International Division of Labour	Cartagena, Colombia 3-7 May 1976	CEPAL/ILO/ PREALC
Latin American Intergovernmental Meeting on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	Lima, Peru 10-15 May 1976	CEPAL/UNDP
Second Meeting on the Water Development and Environment Project	Santiago, Chile 24-28 May 1976	CEPAL/UNEP
Meeting of railway enterprises members of ALAF to consider the regulations for the Multinational Rail Transport Agreement	Santiago, Chile 30 August- 3 September 1976	CEPAL/ALAF
Regional Preparatory Meeting of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for the United Nations Water Conference	Lima, Peru 30 August- 3 September 1976	CEPAL/United Nations
Latin American Regional Conference on Human Settlements	Mexico City 13-17 September 1976	CEPAL/UNEP
Seminar on Export Promotion Policy	Santiago, Chile 5-7 November 1976	CEPAL/IBRD
Round-Table Meeting - Latin America and the New International Economic Order	Santiago, Chile 19 November 1976	CEPAL/CIEPLAN
Working Group of the Committee for Development Planning	Santiago, Chile 22-26 November 1976	CEPAL/United Nations
Seminar on recent inflation in Latin America	Caracas, Venezuela 24 November- 3 December 1976	CEPAL/Central Bank of Venezuela

Title	Place and date	Sponsoring agency
Meeting of the Joint Inter-Agency Programme for the Integration of Women in Development	Santiago, Chile 2 December 1976	CEPAL/United Nations
Seminar on the BACHU planning Model	Santiago, Chile 6-10 December 1976	PREALC/UNFPA/ CEPAL
Seminar on the economy of the oceans	Santiago, Chile 15-17 December 1976	CEPAL/UNEP
United Nations Conference on Desertification. Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Americas	Santiago, Chile 23-25 February 1977	CEPAL/UNEP
Meeting of Experts on the Water, Development and Environment Project	Santiago, Chile 7-11 March 1977	CEPAL/UNEP
Third Meeting of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic 9-15 March 1977	CEPAL
Meeting of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC)	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic 16-22 March 1977	CEPAL
Inter-agency meeting on the work programme of the CDCC	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic 23 March 1977	CEPAL
Conference of Planning Ministers and Directors of Latin America and the Caribbean	Caracas, Venezuela 13-16 April 1977	CEPAL/ILPES

