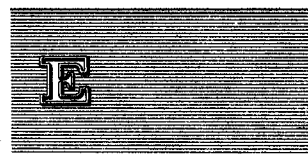


# ***UNITED NATIONS***

## **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**



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Economic Commission for Latin America

Twentieth session

Lima, Peru, 29 March-6 April 1984

DRAFT REPORT \*/

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\*/ Observations on this draft report must reach the Secretary of the Commission before 29 June 1984.

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## A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

### Place and date of the session

1. The twentieth session of the Commission was held in Lima, Peru, from 29 March to 6 April 1984, and in its course six plenary meetings were held (Nos. 218 to 223). This session was distinguished by the visit of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

### Attendance

2. The session was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America: Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

3. Representatives of an Associate Member of ECLA, the Netherlands Antilles, also participated.

4. In accordance with paragraph 6 of the Terms of Reference of the Commission, observers from the following United Nations member States which are not members of ECLA were present in a consultative capacity: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Philippines, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia.

5. The session was also attended in a consultative capacity by observers from the following States which are not members of the United Nations: Holy See, Republic of Korea, and Switzerland.

6. The United Nations Secretariat was represented by officials of the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Regional Commissions Liaison Unit, Department of Public Information, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS).

7. Representatives of the following organizations of the United Nations system attended the session: United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and United Nations Capital Development Fund.

/8. The

8. The following United Nations specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organisation (ILO) and its Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and its World Food Programme, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO) and Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), and UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre (ITC).

9. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Latin American Export Bank (BLADEX), Commission of the European Communities, Intergovernmental Committee for Migrations (CIM), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), Andean Development Corporation (CAF), Ibero-American Co-operation Institute (ICI), Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Co-operation (IICA), Italian-Latin American Institute (IILA), Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC), Organization of American States (OAS), and the Latin American Economic System (SELA), together with its Action Committee on Marine and Fresh Water Products (CAPMAD/SELA).

10. The following non-governmental organizations granted consultative status by the Economic and Social Council were also present: Category I: World Federation of Trade Unions, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, World Confederation of Labour, International Council of Women, National Council of Women of Peru, Women's International Democratic Federation, International Planned Parenthood Federation, and League of Red Cross Societies. Category II: AFS International/Intercultural Programmes, Inc., World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, World Young Women's Christian Association, International Cargo Handling Co-ordination Association, Latin American Association of Promotional Organizations, Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE), Caritas Internationalis, Baha'i International Community, International Federation of University Women, World Scout Bureau, Inter-American Statistical Institute, Catholic Relief Services-United States Catholic Conference, Inter-American Planning Society, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. List: Latin American Industrialists' Association (AILA), American Association for the Advancement of Science (INTERSCIENCE Association), Latin American Food Industry Association (ALICA), Confederation of Latin American Tourism Organizations (COTAL), South American Indian Council (CISA), Latin American Social Science Council (CLACSO), Latin American Pharmaceutical Industry Federation, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, and the Population Institute.

11. Other non-governmental organizations which attended the meeting were: Chilean Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (ASONG), Inter-American and Iberian Public Budget Association (ASIP), Latin American Railways Association, River Plate Financial Fund (FONPLATA), United Nations Latin American Institute for Crime Prevention (ILANUD).

/Credentials



### Credentials

12. Pursuant to rule 15 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the Credentials Committee reported that it had examined the credentials of the delegations as submitted to the Executive Secretary, and had found them in order.

### Opening ceremony

13. At the opening ceremony, held at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 4 April, Mr. Filiberto Ginzo Gil, Minister of Industry and Energy of Uruguay, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the previous session, said that the seriousness of the economic crisis hindered the fulfilment of the goals and objectives of the IDS, while the slow reactivation noted in some industrialized countries was not sufficient to solve the crisis. The developing countries were overwhelmed by the weight of the debt service, the protectionism of the developed countries, the deterioration of the terms of trade, and high interest rates.

14. Against this background, he stressed the importance of the Latin American Economic Conference, at which emphasis had been placed on the link between the external debt and foreign trade, and paid tribute to the collaboration given by ECLA in the preparation of the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action. That Plan set out the basic criteria for dealing with the crisis: it was now necessary to put them into practice, with the support of all the countries of the region, in order to seek solutions which would make it possible to achieve adequate economic and social development.

15. The Secretary-General of the United Nations said that, speaking on his own native Peruvian soil, he cherished the hope that Latin America might be able to embark on a grass-roots effort to reconstruct its societies and its relations with the world, that ECLA might find formulas to enable the countries of the region to rebuild, by their own efforts, their capacity to gain access to development, and that the governments might dedicate themselves to reviving the idea and practical expression of Latin American union. The Quito Plan of Action had represented a first step; the second step was to be taken at the current session of ECLA, which was taking place at a time when the economy was going through its most difficult period since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

16. At the present time of great uncertainties, the co-operation promoted by the United Nations had been based on the concept of international solidarity, and there could be no question about its achievements, despite the deterioration of efforts of a multilateral nature. It was important to continue mobilizing the will of all sectors in order to make possible a sustained and steady advance towards a new international economic order aimed at the solution of the structural problems which had for so long been awaiting suitable responses from the international community.

17. Turning to the problem of the external debt, he said it was worth asking if the moment had not come to adopt a more global criterion -one taking a longer-term perspective and favouring solutions based on growth and on a more equitable

/distribution between

distribution between creditor and debtor countries of the burden involved in such solutions.

18. He was personally committed to the work of the regional commissions and was convinced that regional action had renewed importance in the present circumstances, not only because of the potential for mutual co-operation but also because in the case of political controversies at that level it was usually much easier to find ways of achieving a concerted effort.

19. He then remarked that developments on the trade and financial fronts had obliged the Latin American countries to put into effect drastic adjustment policies which had had a sharp recessive impact. Nevertheless, there were no grounds for an attitude of extreme pessimism, as Latin America had resources for facing the crisis. The main task which Latin Americans had before them was to promote recovery, and for that they had to face up, clearly and openly, to the consequences of the enormous interdependence between nations, seeking to impart vitality to the institutions where the great political and economic questions of the world were discussed, and to expand their functions.

20. As far as the United Nations was concerned, he observed that there was some reluctance to make use of the available machinery. In his view, the problems which existed in the system should be approached in a constructive spirit and through consultation; to do otherwise would be to open the way to a process which could lead eventually to an insoluble division of interests in international relations. Mankind was faced with global problems which called for global solutions; the international community, however, still insisted on using inappropriate bilateral instruments. It seemed paradoxical that, at a time when the interdependence among all the peoples of the world had become so accentuated, the spirit of multilateral co-operation should be in danger of deterioration. It was necessary to restore confidence in international co-operation, and that co-operation should be expressed mainly through the resumption of the North-South dialogue.

21. Ever since it became independent, the region had anxiously pursued the fundamental objectives of building up a civil society in which there was full participation, unrestricted respect for the human person and dignity, and consolidation of the economic and social progress of its peoples. It should now reaffirm its adherence to those ideals. Finally, he said that he had every confidence that the region would be able to build a society based on justice and progress: in the last analysis, that was the great political task of the present era, in which the leaders and peoples of the region were called upon to participate now as never before.

22. The Constitutional President of Peru, Fernando Belaúnde Terry, said that the formula for solving the current economic crisis could be summarized in the phrase "austerity without recession", since it was no longer possible to continue reducing fiscal expenditure without seriously affecting works of social priority.

23. Although Latin America lacked financial resources, it had a great surplus of labour that should be utilized in projects that could take advantage of it. What was important was not so much to achieve equilibrium in the balance of payments as to achieve a balance between the labour force and jobs or between food and consumers.

24. He said that the recommendations made by the International Monetary Fund for overcoming the current economic situation could prove to be inoperative and even harmful if they were not accompanied by a reactivation which would give impetus to the economic and social development process so necessary to the region.

25. He expressed his firm support for the activities carried out by ECLA in relation to renegotiating the external debt service and obtaining better terms in the sphere of international trade; those efforts had culminated in the Latin American Economic Conference, at which the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action had been adopted.

26. The work carried out by the agencies of the United Nations system in studying and carrying out projects of national or regional interest was highly commendable; however, those projects must be adapted to the present circumstances and should be regrouped in order to wage a collective campaign for reactivation. Finally, for their mutual benefit, the countries of the region should pay the service on the debt in order to avoid causing the collapse of the developed countries, but such payments should not represent an excessively high percentage of their exports.

#### Election of Officers

27. At the 218th meeting, held on 29 March 1984, the following Officers were elected in accordance with the proposals of the Meeting of Heads of Delegations held earlier that day:

Chairman: Peru  
First Vice-Chairman: Argentina  
Second Vice-Chairman: Trinidad and Tobago  
Third Vice-Chairman: Nicaragua  
Rapporteur: Spain

#### Committees

28. Six committees, open to all the delegations taking part, were established to discuss the various items of the agenda. Four of them were statutory sessional committees set up pursuant to decisions previously adopted by ECLA.

29. Committee I considered the implementation of the International Development Strategy and the prospects of Latin America and the Caribbean for the rest of the decade in the light of the current economic crisis (agenda item 3) and

/internal adjustment

internal adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt (agenda item 4). The following Officers were elected in order to guide the Committee's work:

Chairman: Uruguay  
First Vice-Chairman: Guyana  
Second Vice-Chairman: Panama  
Rapporteur: Ecuador

30. Committee II reviewed the meetings of auxiliary bodies and regional meetings sponsored by ECLA in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations (agenda item 9) and other activities of the ECLA system since the nineteenth session, and programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 1986-1987 (agenda item 10). The following Officers guided the Committee's work:

Chairman: Chile  
First Vice-Chairman: Belize  
Second Vice-Chairman: United States  
Rapporteur: Venezuela

31. The four statutory sessional committees were the following:

a) The Committee on Water, which was responsible for agenda item 6, and whose Officers were the following:

Chairman: Colombia  
First Vice-Chairman: Netherlands Antilles  
Second Vice-Chairman: Paraguay  
Rapporteur: Honduras

b) The Committee on Human Settlements, which dealt with agenda item 7, and whose Officers were as follows:

Chairman: Mexico  
First Vice-Chairman: Haiti  
Second Vice-Chairman: United Kingdom  
Rapporteur: Costa Rica

c) The Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions, which examined agenda item 5, and whose work was directed by the following Officers:

Chairman: Jamaica  
First Vice-Chairman: Guatemala  
Second Vice-Chairman: Dominican Republic  
Rapporteur: Bolivia

/d) The

d) The Committee on Population, which reviewed the preparations for the International Conference on Population, 1984 (agenda item 8), and which was directed by the following Officers:

Chairman: Cuba

First Vice-Chairman: St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Second Vice-Chairman: France

Rapporteur: Brazil

Documentation

32. The documents presented by the Secretariat at the twentieth session of the Commission are listed in document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.27.

B. AGENDA

33. At its first plenary meeting, the Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of Officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the twentieth session
3. Implementation of the International Development Strategy and the prospects of Latin America and the Caribbean for the rest of the decade in the light of the current economic crisis
4. Internal adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt
5. Co-operation among developing countries and regions
6. Water
7. Human settlements
8. Preparations for the International Conference on Population (Mexico City, August 1984)
9. Meeting of auxiliary bodies, and regional meetings sponsored by ECLA in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations
  - a) Sixth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: appraisal of the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action and the International Development Strategy (New York, 6 December 1982)
  - b) Seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (Port of Spain, 19-25 January 1983)

/c) Third

- c) Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 8-10 August 1983)
- d) Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Youth Year (San José, 3-7 October 1983)
- e) Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, held within the seventh session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (Havana, 16-19 November 1983)
- f) Eighth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: appraisal of the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action and the International Development Strategy (Montevideo, 18-20 January 1984)
- g) Ninth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: Science and Technology for Development (Montevideo, 23-24 January 1984)
- 10. Other activities of the ECLA system since the nineteenth session, and programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 1986-1987:
  - a) ECLA
    - i) Activities of the Secretariat since May 1981
    - ii) Draft programme of work of the ECLA system for the biennium 1986-1987
    - iii) Calendar of conferences for the period 1984-1986
  - b) Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)
    - i) Activities of CELADE since May 1981
    - ii) Future activities of CELADE
  - c) Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)
    - i) Activities of ILPES since May 1981
    - ii) Future activities of ILPES
- 11. Amendment of paragraph 3 a) of the Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Latin America in order to include Portugal as a member of the Commission
- 12. Admission of the British Virgin Islands and United States Virgin Islands as associate members of ECLA
- 13. Place and date of the 21st session of ECLA
- 14. Consideration and approval of the report of the twentieth session of ECLA.

## C. SUMMARY OF DEBATES

### Committee I

34. Committee I met on 2, 3 and 4 April to consider agenda item 3, "Implementation of the International Development Strategy and the prospects of Latin America and the Caribbean for the rest of the decade in the light of the current economic crisis" and agenda item 4, "Internal adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt".

35. The proceedings of the Committee were presided over by the following Officers:

Chairman: Uruguay

First Vice-Chairman: Guyana

Second Vice-Chairman: Panama

Rapporteur: Ecuador.

36. With regard to agenda item 3, the Committee had before it, as working documents, the "Draft report of the eighth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis (Montevideo, Uruguay, 18-23 January 1984)" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.26 and Corr.1) and "The crisis in Latin America: present situation and future outlook" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.25). It also had at its disposal several reference documents.

37. With regard to agenda item 4, the working document was "Adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.17), together with two reference documents.

38. At the beginning of the Committee's proceedings, the Executive Secretary of ECLA stressed the importance of the topics to be dealt with by it and, repeating a proposal originally made by the Secretariat at the eighth session of CEGAN, suggested that the delegations should adopt a new procedure for appraising the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action, whereby Committee I would consider the appraisal of the implementation of the IDS presented by the Latin American Group, based on the document prepared at the eighth session of CEGAN. This consideration would be effected through a technical debate in which all member countries of the Commission could express their views and comments. The Report of Committee I would contain the appraisal of the Regional Programme of Action prepared by the Latin American and Caribbean countries, together with a summary of the debates and the comments of various delegations, and would be submitted to the Plenary of ECLA.

39. The Executive Secretary's suggested procedure was accepted by the participants. It is therefore understood that this report of Committee I includes the "Appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for

/Latin America

Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis", together with the Introduction to that appraisal presented by the Latin American Group \*/ and a summary of the debates.

40. The Committee also approved two draft resolutions, on long-term development policies for Latin America and on adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt, for presentation to the Plenary.\*\*/ The draft resolution on adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt was approved by the Committee by 18 votes in favour, 1 against, and 5 abstentions. Those voting in favour were Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela. The United States voted against the resolution, while Canada, France, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom abstained.

41. When the draft resolution on long-term development policies for Latin America was approved by the Committee for presentation to the Plenary, the Argentine delegation offered its country as the venue for the meeting to discuss the studies which the Secretariat was instructed to prepare in connection with that resolution.

Implementation of the International Development Strategy and the prospects  
of Latin America and the Caribbean for the rest of the decade  
in the light of the current economic crisis  
(agenda item 3)

42. The Deputy Executive Secretary for Economic and Social Development of ECLA introduced the document entitled "The crisis in Latin America: present situation and future outlook" (E/CEPAL/CEGAN.8/L.2). He began by pointing out some important features of the crisis, such as its unprecedented extension and seriousness, the influence of domestic and external elements in causing it, and the difficulty of finding solutions. In the context of the long-term development of Latin America and the Caribbean, it might be wondered how the crisis had first begun and how the adjustment policies had been arrived at.

43. With regard to the external economic relations of Latin America and the Caribbean, he highlighted the sharp drop in prices on the international commodities market and the growth and diversification of protectionism in the main developed areas. He also discussed the economic relations of the region with some specific areas such as the European Economic Community (EEC), the United States and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA).

44. With regard to the prospects for Latin American and Caribbean development during the rest of the decade, he stated that if current economic trends continued and adjustment policies similar to the present ones continued to be applied,

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\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.26 and Corr.1, and Conference Room Paper I/1 and Corr.1.

\*\*/ Conference Room Papers I/2 and I/3.



economic and social problems would worsen, investment and the degree of autonomy of national decisions would decrease, the region would be more in debt than it currently was, and even by 1990 the region would only have regained its per capita product of 1980. On the contrary, if export performance improved, interest rates went down, and debt repayment periods lengthened, then the problem of the external bottleneck of Latin America and the Caribbean would become manageable. Finally, he referred briefly to the background, results and prospects of the international negotiations and called for a strengthening of regional integration and co-operation.

45. The Rapporteur of CEGAN presented a summary of the document "Appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis" (E/CEPAL/CEGAN.8/L.3),<sup>\*/</sup> noting that the Regional Programme of Action was based on an analysis of the situation of Latin American and Caribbean development which emphasized the deep structural imbalance of the world economy, the decrease in the growth rate and the extremely inequitable distribution of income. Prospects for the 1980s were unpromising and indicated extreme vulnerability for the majority of the countries. The most important manifestations of the current crisis took the form of a persistent external imbalance; that situation was being aggravated by the enormous burden of the external debt, the acceleration of inflation, a continued decrease in production and production capacity, a serious increase in unemployment, and the economic and social marginalization of new social groups. The economic and financial crisis was creating uncertainty with regard to the outcome of events and the policies which should be adopted to deal with them. Negotiations and agreements regarding external indebtedness and debt service payments had not succeeded in stabilizing the situation.

46. Furthermore, the crisis had intensified the deterioration of social conditions in Latin America, and without economic growth social tensions worsened, resistance to change became stronger, and ultimately more harm was done to the interests of the great masses of the population, which were the most disadvantaged, while powerful forces of social instability were encouraged.

47. He stated that the external debt was one of the most dramatic manifestations of the current crisis, and it was essential to solve this problem if a way was to be found out of the economic difficulties. Since some developed countries' policies involving higher interest rates were one of the main obstacles to overcoming the serious economic situation, Latin America and the Caribbean should demand that the developed countries maintain stable and low interest rates.

48. With regard to international co-operation, it appeared to have taken a step back, in view of the failure of the developed countries to fulfil the commitments adopted in international forums and their lack of political will to progress

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<sup>\*/</sup> This document was circulated at the twentieth session under the symbol E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.26.

towards the establishment of a New International Economic Order and the concertation of global negotiations. The control exercised by the industrialized countries over the United Nations specialized agencies had seriously impeded co-operation in the area of trade and financing.

49. He went on to say that the Regional Programme of Action had defined a set of measures for action designed to achieve its objectives. In most cases those measures continued to have full applicability and validity. However, the current deterioration of the world economy and of international economic relations made it advisable to propose a new set of measures for meeting the current crisis. It was therefore essential to alter the framework in which the region's external negotiations took place. In order to do so, current policies should be adapted in such a way that economies could function despite the higher relative scarcity of imported products, the domestic market could be reactivated and restructured, and the physical and industrial infrastructure could be preserved.

50. With regard to intra-regional trade, he noted that the report proposed some measures for increasing trade in goods and services, including Latin American regional tariff preferences, trade negotiations for arriving at agreements among countries or groups of countries, State purchases, and the use of joint purchasing power. He also referred to the adoption by CEGAN of the recommendations of the Quito Latin American Economic Conference on the need to consolidate regional food security, to intensify co-operation in the field of energy, and to promote co-operation with countries in special situations. He also emphasized the importance of the basic criteria adopted in the Quito Plan of Action with regard to the external debt, especially with reference to the fixing of reasonable limits for debt servicing in relation to exports, so as not to compromise the development possibilities of the countries of the region.

51. The delegation of Suriname, after expressing its appreciation and support for the CEGAN report, briefly described the development objectives set by its Government with regard to the well-being of the population, mentioning in that respect its efforts to raise the level of employment, take fuller advantage over the country's natural resources, and increase the gross domestic product. It also stressed the importance attached by its Government to mutually beneficial relations with other nations, especially those of the region. It drew attention to the adverse effects of two external factors on the economy of Suriname: first, the global economic recession, which, among other things, had brought about a decrease in the prices of bauxite and its derivatives, and secondly, the discontinuation of capital inflows, which had been based on a bilateral treaty. Finally, the delegation expressed its Government's desire to bring about closer relations with the Latin American and Caribbean region, which on this occasion was reflected in its participation in the current session of ECLA.

52. The delegation of Argentina observed that the policies contained in the International Development Strategy were not enough, of themselves, for reversing the process of economic decadence of the region. It pointed out that the problem of development was not restricted to the dependence on the central countries nor to the adjustment systems. In so far as the current situation was concerned,

/the problem

the problem was not a separate matter affecting each individual country but rather involved the whole structure of existing international economic relations: it was necessary to internationalize, not nationalize, the adjustment problems. All of the known criteria regarding economic growth and mechanisms for adjustment had so far been applied: now new and different ones must be sought. Such new criteria should not be implemented at the level of the individual economies, but must involve a change in the international machinery so that the developed countries, which had absorbed a significant portion of the surplus of the developing countries, should now help to solve the problems of the world economy. Although a formal solution could be found to the refinancing problem, the individual countries' development problems would still remain, and new means should therefore be sought to alter the conditions which had shaped the situation currently being faced by Latin America and the Caribbean.

53. The delegation of Bolivia pointed out that the very size of the crisis underscored the need for ECLA to undertake an individualized study on new alternative development models, bearing in mind the consequences generated by the models implemented during the last decade. In that connection, there was a need to redimension the domestic market and safeguard the income of the poorest sectors of society. The Bolivian delegation was also of the view that increasing intra-Latin American exports would not be enough to overcome the difficulties of indebtedness and international trade, since the current crisis and the adjustment process had tended to reduce demand in the region.

54. The United States delegation referred first of all to the International Development Strategy, noting that although it supported it in general terms it still maintained the reservations expressed at the time of its adoption as regards its excessive emphasis on external factors, its failure to give sufficient consideration to the importance of domestic initiative in the progress of countries and the unrealistic nature of the targets fixed. The economic policies being implemented by the United States were now generating an economic recovery from which the developing countries could benefit by promoting private enterprise and taking advantage of open market conditions. As regards the appraisal made in the CEGAN report, the United States delegation applauded the call for political pluralism and an end to regional arms races, as well as the support given to the Contadora Group. It also endorsed the increase in co-operation among the Latin American countries, especially in the areas of food security and energy, the treatment given to financial and trade matters, which contributed to the fruitful dialogue being held within the aegis of the OAS, and the application of more flexible and realistic criteria regarding the external debt. Negative aspects of that appraisal, however, were the fact that exclusive responsibility for the economic problems of Latin America and the Caribbean was attributed to the industrialized countries, while little was said of the policies which, in the delegation's view, should be put into effect to ensure greater progress in the future, such as promotion of private investment, restriction of State spending, maintenance of a realistic exchange rate, and opening-up to multilateral trade. With regard to the last point, it should be noted that the favouring of intra-regional trade should not mean discriminating against the United States. In conclusion the delegation reiterated its Government's willingness to keep up a dialogue with the countries of the region.

55. The delegation of Brazil stated that its Government considered that the ECLA document "Adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.17), as well as the report of the eighth session of CEGAN containing the appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean in the light of the international economic crisis, were acceptable and represented the consensus of the Latin American and Caribbean countries. The latter document followed the same line of reasoning as the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action, for which the delegation reiterated its country's support. Brazil had taken all of the steps that were necessary and possible, both internally and in the area of intra-regional co-operation, to face up to the current economic crisis. That crisis had not been brought about by the developing countries, but it was they who had been most adversely affected by it. The development of exports, indicated as the way in which the countries could overcome that crisis, was seriously impaired by the imposition of protectionist measures by the developed countries: an attitude which was incomprehensible in view of the economic and commercial recovery being experienced by those countries. In conclusion, the Brazilian delegation said that only through co-operation between the developing and the developed countries would it be possible to find a solution to the existing situation; there must be dialogue and negotiation in order to secure, as a first priority, the reappraisal of the international financial and commercial systems and of the links between trade and finance, as brought out in the Quito document.

56. The United Kingdom delegation welcomed the opportunity to review the implementation of the IDS, noting that this was one of many reviews being carried out at the global, regional and sectoral levels. The United Kingdom delegation would endeavour to contribute to the appraisal exercise undertaken by the Committee at a later stage: the fact that it was not making any general observations now did not mean that it was in agreement with the document in its entirety.

57. Committee I then examined the "Appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis",\*/ along with an introduction proposed by the Latin American Group.\*\*/. This gave rise to a debate which is summarized below.

58. With respect to chapter I, on the appraisal of the current economic and social situation of Latin America and the Caribbean, the United Kingdom delegation said that world trade had improved in 1983 and that the prospects for growth during 1984 and 1985 were good. The international trade system was neither obsolete nor in crisis, although it had undergone certain tensions. With regard to the need for overall solutions, the United Kingdom delegation said it agreed that the economies of the countries were becoming increasingly interdependent, but added that there were no easy solutions to that situation: the best way in

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\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.26, Part II, and Corr.1.

\*\*/ Conference Room Paper I/1 and Corr.1.

which the United Kingdom and other industrialized countries could contribute to the reactivation process was to achieve stable, secure and non-inflationary growth. With respect to the global negotiations, the Government of the United Kingdom was prepared to undertake them provided, however, that the necessary preparations were made to ensure their success. With regard to the New International Economic Order, international co-operation had not regressed, nor had it come to a standstill. The United Kingdom delegation further stated that although the negotiations were necessarily slow in their progress, they represented the only means by which true agreement among countries could be achieved.

59. When the Committee considered chapter II, on the general appraisal of the implementation of the Regional Programme of Action, the United States delegation, referring to paragraphs 53 and 54, concerning payments of profits and interest to the developed countries, noted that a great deal of attention had been paid to indebtedness as a means of transferring capital, without placing equal emphasis on direct investment, which must be very much taken into account as a capital support for the development of the countries. The United States delegation also remarked that paragraphs 106 and 107 in chapter II did not adequately reflect the role played by trade as a source of economic reactivation. In those paragraphs, the crisis of international trade was considered only as an element that adversely affected the interests of the developing countries but not as one that had also affected the developed countries. The United States delegation stressed the role of world trade in development, noting that the recovery of the developed countries offered unlimited potentialities for exports from the developing countries. In that regard, the CEGAN appraisal was excessively pessimistic. With regard to the Generalized System of Preferences, the delegation said that the provisions relating to cumulative origin and competitive need did not represent a conspiracy against the developing countries but rather were an attempt to distribute more evenly the actual benefits of the system. With regard to the statement that the allocation of US\$ 350 million for emergency assistance under the Caribbean Basin Initiative was inadequate, the United States delegation said that that was the amount the United States was able to provide in light of the current economic situation.

60. The United Kingdom delegation said that it could not accept the statement contained in paragraph 99 regarding the alleged adoption of unilateral coercive economic measures against the Argentine Republic in violation of international legal rules. The measures that had been adopted fell within the framework of the Treaty of Rome.

61. The delegation of Argentina said it agreed with the terms of paragraph 99, inasmuch as the measures adopted violated the practices and rules of international trade.

62. The delegation of Mexico expressed its disagreement with the interpretation given by the delegations of developed countries to trade issues. It endorsed the statements made in paragraphs 106 and 107 and stressed that the application of criteria of graduation and of coercive economic measures was unacceptable.

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63. In the Committee's consideration of chapter III, on policies and measures for action, the United States delegation said that the document was of great interest. It did not, however, understand the first part of paragraph 110, which stated that the recovery of economic growth that had been evident in the United States economy was not based on a self-sustained increase in investment, employment and industrial productivity and competitiveness, since there were no indicators that suggested any danger, while there were many signs of growth. The United Kingdom delegation also expressed its disagreement with that paragraph. It stated that it did understand the concern expressed by the Latin American countries with regard to protectionism and said that the United Kingdom Government fully intended to reduce such measures and had made some progress in that regard, including the steps taken as a result of the ministerial meeting of GATT and UNCTAD VI.

64. With respect to paragraph 155, regarding the need to prevent the United Nations system from being weakened by a lack of political or financial support for its activities, the United States delegation said that there was no direct relationship between financial support and organizational effectiveness and that the United Nations agencies should be more aware of their inadequacies.

65. The delegation of Argentina referred to the United Kingdom delegation's statement to the effect that the developed countries were trying to achieve non-inflationary growth and to apply stabilization policies. In that regard, the Argentine delegation pointed out that the developed countries had reduced their rates of inflation, but that, to a large extent, that had been made possible by the drop in the prices of raw materials imported from the developing countries. With regard to international co-operation in the field of finance, there was a contrast between the rise in oil prices and the rise in interest rates: in the first case, the international financial system had quickly devised mechanisms for helping the countries affected, many of them developed ones, but in the second case no similar solutions had been devised to help the developing countries affected by the increases. That represented a lack of fairness in the way the international financial agencies operated, and should be studied in detail.

66. The delegation of Mexico endorsed the statement made by the delegation of Argentina, pointing out that there was no comparison between the effects achieved and the amount of resources applied in each case. With regard to the reference to the United Nations system, the Mexican delegation said that the resources granted to the United Nations were not sufficient to enable it to carry out the tasks entrusted to it.

67. The United Kingdom delegation, referring to paragraphs 173 and 174, said it could not endorse the arguments set forth therein and reiterated its support for the role played by the IMF, which should not be undermined. It saw no need for issuing new Special Drawing Rights at that stage. Finally, it said that the United Kingdom was in favour of a selective increase in the capital of the World Bank and was prepared to participate in that increase when the time came.

Internal adjustment policies and renegotiation of the  
external debt (agenda item 4)

68. The Director of the Economic Development Division introduced the Secretariat document entitled "Adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.17). In his presentation he first mentioned the many and exceptional manifestations of the profound and prolonged economic crisis that Latin America had experienced over the last three years, as well as its main causes. Among the latter, he stressed the importance of external factors, especially the sharp drop in the net inflow of capital, the increase in the cost of external credit and the deterioration of the terms of trade. He then analysed the bases, characteristics and limitations of the adjustment policies that had been applied in order to reduce the serious external disequilibrium experienced by the region in 1981. While noting that those policies had made it possible to reduce rapidly the deficit on current account and to bring about a remarkable turnaround in the trade balance, he pointed out that those results had been achieved solely through a drastic reduction of imports. That in turn had made the adjustment a decidedly recessive one and had helped to accentuate the decline of economic activity and employment. Consequently, if that trend was to be reversed and the economic growth process resumed, it would be essential to increase both the value of exports and the net external financing received by the region; that, in turn, could call for significant changes to be made on the international economic scene. In addition, domestic policies that were more disaggregated, selective and pragmatic would be required in order to ensure that the adjustment would be a more positive one.

69. Moreover, the crisis of the external sector had forced most of the Latin American countries to undertake the renegotiation of their external debt with a view to rescheduling their amortization payments and partially refinancing their interest payments. Those processes had been characterized by a very uneven distribution of costs and benefits. The banks had benefited from substantial increases in their fees and commissions, from the extension of State guarantees to commitments previously contracted by the private sector which had not enjoyed those guarantees, and from the adoption, on the part of debtor countries, of adjustment programmes agreed on with the International Monetary Fund. The Latin American countries, on the other hand, had not only been faced with the deterioration of the terms pertaining to the cost and maturities of their debts, but had also had to engage in almost constant renegotiations. In order for those renegotiations to help truly to alleviate the external restrictions -which at present seriously limited the possibilities for recovery and growth- it would be essential to increase the share of interest payments that were financed with new loans, to reduce the surcharges and commissions charged by the banks, to reschedule maturities over a longer period of years, and to extend the overall terms and grace periods agreed on with the banks for the repayment of the loans.

70. The delegation of the Netherlands congratulated the Secretariat on the document presented on the subject, describing it as a profound, clear and

/balanced analysis.



balanced analysis. The delegation laid special emphasis on the link established by the document between the debt renegotiation process and the countries' adjustment policies and stated that both elements were determinants of the economic recovery of Latin America and the Caribbean. The Latin American crisis was more one of liquidity than of solvency, and against a background of world economic recovery it appeared more manageable. Another positive element was the fact that the document did not consider more radical propositions to be appropriate, such as a debt moratorium or debtors' cartels, concentrating instead on the possibility of refinancing under more favourable terms, although the delegation's opinion was that the banks would probably be reluctant to grant such refinancing on the terms sought. Perhaps the IMF could take steps to reinstitute a flow of funds toward the region. Finally, the Netherlands delegation warned that there was still a risk of non-fulfilment of commitments assumed, and such a failure to meet obligations could have serious implications for the recovery of the world economy.

71. The United Kingdom delegation also congratulated the Secretariat on the document presented, which was a very useful source of reference, as it dealt in depth with all aspects of the theme. The delegation was aware that it had been extremely painful for Latin America and the Caribbean to make the necessary adjustments and that these had given rise to heavy social pressures. It recognized the efforts that had been made by the countries of the region to fulfill their commitments, and also the desirability of creditors and debtors working together to solve the problem of indebtedness. The efforts that had been made in that regard by the governments of the developed countries and private banks were worthy of note; the success of those efforts would depend on the results of the adjustment policies implemented by the countries. The United Kingdom delegation stressed its country's role in supporting international financial institutions, and also emphasized that the discipline imposed by the IMF was necessary in order to ensure the continued flow of financial resources to the countries, although it felt that the Fund's terms should take into account the particular conditions in each country. The adjustment policies had clearly been successful in the developed countries. The delegation concluded by stating that the Government of the United Kingdom had considered with interest the proposals made by the recent Latin American Economic Conference held in Quito.

72. The delegation of Honduras joined in the congratulations extended to ECLA on the document presented. It did not, however, share the opinions expressed therein on the need to raise the real exchange rate, in view of the economic conditions affecting Honduras and the nature of its exports, which were subject to quota systems. It called upon the World Bank and the International Development Association (IDA) to think twice about the adoption of conditionality criteria similar to those employed by the IMF.

73. The delegation of Canada expressed its country's concern at the problem of indebtedness of the developing countries of the region. While the adjustment strategy appeared to have been effective thus far, and the recovery of the industrialized countries was a promising sign, it was likely that the difficulties

/would continue



would continue and there would be a great need to strengthen international co-operation in the future. The Canadian delegation supported the adjustment efforts being made by the developing countries and emphasized how important it was that those efforts should be backed up by the necessary external financial support. That support could come from commercial banks, but greater emphasis would have to be given to medium and long-term financing. The role to be played by direct private investment, the World Bank and the IMF in the recovery process deserved to be stressed, but any proposed solution to the problem of indebtedness would have to take into account the interest of the creditors, as well as that of the debtors. Finally, it noted that it considered the document presented on the subject by the ECLA Secretariat to be very useful.

74. The delegation of France stressed some points connected with the Latin American economic crisis and the possibilities of solving it in a spirit of mutual co-operation, bearing in mind the differences between countries. Governments, international financial institutions and commercial banks had all made an effort to arrive at effective solutions. The adjustment policies had yielded heartening results but had a high social, human and economic cost, while they also had a financial cost for the creditor countries. As regards the renegotiation of the debt, the French delegation considered that the operations should be the outcome of negotiations between debtors and creditors, conducted on a case-by-case basis, with an attempt being made to secure a greater degree of co-ordination between the various types of assistance granted by the creditors. The action taken should be aimed at the central issues, such as the ratio between interest rates and growth rates. Furthermore, internal adjustment policies should be implemented to reorient the development strategy in favour of investment and exports without prejudice to the maintenance of financial support from the international community.

75. The delegation of Colombia congratulated the Secretariat on its treatment of the subject and encouraged it to pursue its work along those same lines. ECLA was the most appropriate forum for that purpose. Colombia had followed a very cautious policy with regard to its external indebtedness and thus its position was relatively less critical than that of the other Latin American countries. That could be attributed to its awareness of the vulnerability of its economy and to its experience in handling poverty. Colombia's adjustment had been made on two fronts, i.e., controlling inflation and giving the national currency a real value. It had thus been able to recover its competitive capacity and overcome the negative cycle. Nevertheless, it had also been affected by protectionist measures and the decline of its markets, which made international co-operation all the more necessary. The delegation of Colombia reiterated that ECLA was the appropriate forum for the countries of the region to deal with the issue.

76. The delegation of Cuba, after congratulating the ECLA Secretariat on the document presented, stressed that the economic crisis was mainly due to external factors such as the increases in interest rates and in the prices of imports, as well as the deterioration of the prices of exports and the contraction of financial flows. Transnationalization had also had a negative effect, particularly as regarded transfers of capital. As far as the renegotiation of the debt was

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concerned, the matter could no longer be viewed with the conventional approach; rather, it was necessary to take into account the real possibilities of the countries, i.e., both their capacity to pay and their ability to apply domestic adjustment policies. The recessive economic process in Latin America was linked to the lack of internal structural changes. With regard to future measures, the Cuban delegation said that the transnational corporations must be prevented from sending abroad the foreign exchange which the region needed. In addition, the State must play a decisive role in ensuring that national purposes were served rather than the purposes of domestic or foreign special-interest groups, and the developed countries must understand that adequate economic resources were absolutely essential for the economic recovery of the region.

77. The delegation of Chile expressed its appreciation to the ECLA Secretariat for the document presented, which it considered to be very suitable for its purposes. With regard to the topic under discussion, the delegation emphasized the need for financing to strengthen the region's exports and called on the developed countries to open up their markets, avoiding the use of protectionist measures which, among other damaging effects, hindered the generation of resources for the payment of the Latin American countries' debt. It also pointed to the need for the countries of the region themselves to open up their markets, in the spirit of the Quito Declaration. With respect to the role of the IMF, it said that the Fund often played an important role and that the problems of conditionality usually arose from a lack of IMF resources; in that regard, it appealed to the developed countries to increase those resources. The Chilean delegation also suggested that the IMF should monitor the economic policies of the developed countries and impose certain conditions on them, in order to avoid the negative effects of those policies on the developing countries; in that regard, it referred to the United States fiscal deficit.

78. The delegation of Mexico congratulated the Secretariat for the document it had presented and reiterated its support and appreciation for ECLA as the appropriate body for providing advisory services on the subject. ECLA should pursue that line of work, placing greater emphasis on proposing viable and pragmatic solutions. The source of Latin America's problems should be sought not only in its indebtedness and in the need for an adjustment, but also in the unfair structure of international economic relations. With regard to the international scene, it remarked that the region's vulnerability to high interest rates and other factors beyond its control had become obvious. It drew attention to the negative effects of protectionism and stressed the fact that in the last few years the region had become a net exporter of capital. With regard to the specific situation of Mexico, the delegation would have preferred to see it focused differently in the document, which seemed to indicate that the conditions obtained in the renegotiation of its external debt were the best to which the countries of the region could aspire. It stressed the importance of regional co-operation and the need for a greater flow of trade between the countries, for the facilitation of payments, and for the strengthening of economic integration. Nevertheless, international co-operation was also essential to the recovery of the region. Turning again to the Secretariat document, the Mexican delegation

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pointed out that fundamentally four agents were involved in the problem of the debt, i.e., the debtor government, the creditor government, the private banks and the international financial agencies. Finally, it stressed the urgency of the need to share the responsibility for seeking a solution to the problem and also to seek alternative solutions.

79. The delegation of Costa Rica, after stating that it fully endorsed the congratulations to ECLA on the document presented, referred to an aspect that was particularly important to the Central American countries, i.e., the need for the developed countries to change their policies with respect to the exports of the Latin American countries and, in particular, for the industrialized countries to change their position in the international financial agencies and in their own agencies, in order to finance and facilitate trade among developing countries. In that regard, it mentioned the difficulties of the Central American Common Market, which had not been able to maintain its dynamism because of a lack of financing. The developed countries could not demand strict reciprocity in trade with the developing countries because the latter had to apply policies that did not permit complete openness. In conclusion, the Costa Rican delegation stressed that the aforementioned points were of fundamental importance and that changes must be made in the treatment the debtor countries received with regard to the interest rates, repayment terms and grace periods granted in the context of the renegotiation of the debt.

80. The delegation of Uruguay also praised the document presented, going on to say that its country's situation was currently being affected by the fact that it was a net importer of energy, while its main agricultural and industrial export products were being harmed by protectionism. It also stated that intra-regional trade was extremely important to Uruguay in view of the relative smallness of its domestic market.

81. In the discussion of the way in which the Central American economies had approached the adjustment to the new circumstances prevailing in their economies since 1979, the Secretariat gave a brief account of the rapid and marked deterioration which those economies had experienced since that year, and the way in which each of them had reacted to this phenomenon. Despite the fact that the majority of the countries had had access to a level of external financing that was close to that of past trends, the contraction of their economies because of the drop in import capacity -magnified by the political events in the region- had been spectacular.

82. According to the Secretariat, the main lessons of the Central American experience as regards the efforts made by the countries to adjust to the new circumstances were the following: in the first place, the vulnerability of the economies had increased considerably, in view of their great dependence not only on external trade but also on financial flows from abroad. One sign of this was provided by the fact that many initiatives had been conceived by various international agents to mobilize external co-operation towards Central America, although the governments of the region had not necessarily been consulted on their content. In the second place, the acute scarcity of foreign exchange

faced by each country had weakened the multilateral payments clearing mechanisms of reciprocal trade, for which reason the Central American integration process had also been adversely affected by the adjustment policies. In the third place, the conduct of economic policy during recent years had emphasized the short term, at the expense of medium- and long-term reactivation. In that respect the few achievements recorded had been limited to the financial sphere, but no progress at all had been observed in reactivating production and exports. Finally, the cost of the adjustment had been relatively greater for these small agricultural exporting economies than for other countries of the region, so that their relative position had probably deteriorated.

83. The delegation of Honduras, referring to the analysis of the situation of Central America, indicated that the behaviour of that subregion's economies was quite different from those of South America. With regard to the specific case of Honduras, it indicated that there had been a delay in applying adjustment policies, noting the lack of experience of the Central American countries in this field. It did not agree with the Secretariat's criterion regarding the need for adjustments in the exchange rate, since its country was principally an agricultural exporting economy whose products were subject to quotas and whose imports were of such decisive importance for its development that any measure whatsoever relating to the exchange rate would entail an enormous social cost. It noted that the international financial bodies were imposing the same type of conditions as the IMF. In conclusion, it requested advisory assistance on economic policy from the ECLA Secretariat.

84. The delegation of Nicaragua said that the document demonstrated the importance of political factors in the economy of the region. It pointed out in that connection that the considerable financial flows from the developed countries towards the Central American region were not intended for productive activities but military aid. It also observed that the economic policies of the United States Government not only affected the Nicaraguan economy but were a positive act of aggression against the country. Examples which could be mentioned in that connection were the vetos exercised in international financial bodies against concessionary loans and the unilateral reduction of Nicaragua's sugar quota by 90%, in violation of GATT norms. As a result, it was hard not to be skeptical concerning the statements of those who considered free trade to be the solution of the countries' problems.

85. The delegation of Peru expressed its appreciation of the work done by the Secretariat in analysing and studying the issue of external sector disequilibria. The decision to include the question of adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt as a specific agenda item for the session was a wise one, in view of the importance of those matters to the development of the societies and economies of the region. It was also appropriate that the item should have been included because the problem had assumed such proportions that the positions of the Latin American and Caribbean countries were coming closer and closer together; indeed, the ideological and political differences of the countries had attenuated and some agreements had been reached, as had been

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evident in recent international fora. There was no precedent for the current world economic situation, which represented a challenge to economic policy formulations and called for non-conventional measures and solutions for dealing with the crisis. The Secretariat should be encouraged to continue its search for non-conventional measures and solutions. Finally, the Peruvian delegation stressed the need to examine the topics of export promotion and the consequences of changes in exchange policy.

86. The United States delegation acknowledged the precarious economic situation of the region, which was due to both internal policies and external financial relations, and noted its social and political consequences. Co-operation from all the parties involved was essential in order to find an adjustment strategy which would minimize the social costs. That strategy should include the following elements: a) the debtor countries should maintain their adjustment policies; b) they should receive strong support from the IMF; c) they should receive emergency aid and loans from governments; d) they should receive prudent lending from the commercial banking system; e) open markets and recovery in the industrialized countries must be sought. There were some encouraging signs of reactivation in the industrialized countries, with an increase in savings, which would reduce interest rates. It must be stressed that the United States economy was an open one, as a result of which its trade balance with Latin America was currently running a deficit. In order to increase the export potential of the developing countries of the hemisphere, it was necessary to maintain competitive exchange rates, free trade in industrial inputs, realistic price structures and sound fiscal and monetary policies. In the area of finance, it should be recalled that the United States had allocated large sums of money to make possible proper renegotiation of the debt and facilitate the adjustment process in the region, although it had to be acknowledged that full normality had not yet been reached. Some countries had managed to reschedule their commitments; the United States was opposed to any drastic measure that would oblige the industrialized countries to pay out large quantities of resources. The countries of Latin America would be in a position to receive new financing only if they adopted suitable adjustment policies. Finally, in view of the seriousness of the situation, the United States was prepared to implement policies involving greater flexibility with regard to the functioning of the international financial system.

Observations and reservations on the draft resolution on adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt \*/

87. The delegation of Spain expressed its disappointment at the fact that it had not been possible, in the debate in Committee I and in the context of the contact group that had been created to work on the text of the draft resolution on adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt, to bring together the positions of the member countries. In a final effort to achieve that agreement, it had recommended that the vote on the resolution should be postponed for a few hours in order that high-level consultations might be held with a view to avoiding a vote and smooting over the differences that were preventing the member countries from approving the draft resolution by consensus. Spain fully supported the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action and was prepared, by any means at its disposal,

\*/ Conference Room Paper I/2.

to make every possible effort to work for a solution to the serious problems affecting the Latin American and Caribbean region. The Spanish delegation supported many of the elements contained in the draft resolution, such as those relating to the dismantling of protectionism, the reduction of interest rates, and financial machinery allowing for more favourable conditions for renegotiating the debt. However, there were imbalances in the wording of the draft resolution. Those could be overcome by taking account, in a more balanced way of the impact of the crisis not only on the Latin American and Caribbean region but also on countries at an intermediate level of development, such as Spain, which were also seriously affected by the world crisis.

88. The Netherlands delegation, explaining its abstention with regard to the resolution on adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt, said that the resolution presented an unbalanced picture of the items under consideration. Too much emphasis was placed on the position of the developed countries and on external factors.

89. In explaining its negative vote, the United States delegation said that it had worked very hard to reach a compromise during the Committee I and Working Group meetings, the aim being to arrive at a resolution that could be supported by all and as such carry greater weight. It found the draft resolution put forward by the Latin American Group unbalanced for various reasons. Firstly, any successful strategy to deal with the external debt problem must consider internal adjustment measures as one of the primary and most important aspects. Secondly, it felt that the calls for reductions in protectionism in developed countries made in the resolution should be joined by similar opposition to protectionist measures in developing countries. The United States was concerned about the rising tide of protectionism all around and felt that co-operation from the international community was needed to fight this critical problem. Thirdly, it could not accept the concept of co-responsibility of developed country governments with relation to the debt problem since the co-responsibility question was mainly concerned with the private banking sector and the developing countries that contracted the debt. It pointed out that the United States was concerned about the situation and did accept that it had an important role to play, and reiterated United States confidence in the international financial system. Finally, it felt that the text of the resolution gave too much emphasis to external causes and to the alleged impact of the developed countries' monetary and fiscal policies on interest rates.

90. The United Kingdom delegation expressed its deep disappointment with the way the discussion had turned out. It had hoped that the efforts in the Working Group could have yielded positive results, and it also regretted that the vote had been held at such short notice. Explaining its country's abstention, it said that there was no difficulty with the operative clauses of the resolution proposed by the Latin American Group, which could have remained substantially unchanged. It could not support, however, the wording and interpretation

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reflected in the preambular part of the document, which it considered unbalanced. The United Kingdom had supported the spirit of the Quito Declaration and had been hopeful of reaching a consensus resolution. It felt that the study called for in the resolution as adopted could not be objective, since the preambular paragraphs prejudged the results of it. The United Kingdom remained committed to the need for all countries to carry out internal adjustment measures to deal with their debt problem and for this to be supported by renewed co-operative efforts from the international community.

91. In explaining its vote, the French delegation expressed its regret that in spite of all the efforts made by the representatives of developed countries, especially in the Working Group, it had not proved possible to find a solution acceptable to all. Even more lamentable, without doubt, was the fact that that failure had occurred even though there was consensus among all the delegations regarding the essential part of the draft resolution, i.e., the recommendations in operative paragraph 3. The differences had arisen only in respect of the preambular part, but there had been no opportunity whatever to amend its text. There were grounds for wondering if that meant that some of the countries which supported that resolution considered that more importance should be attached to the views expressed in the preamble than to the plan of action set forth in the operative part. If so, it was a great pity. The French delegation, for its part, could not accept the drafting of the preambular part of the draft resolution as it stood, since it considered that it did not reflect the reality of the economic and financial crisis currently affecting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. In its opinion, the text did not faithfully reflect the spirit and content of the Quito Declaration either, although it purported to refer to it. That Declaration was undoubtedly of much greater worth, and more inclined to dialogue than to confrontation between debtors and creditors. In short, the proposed draft resolution contained an imperfect and biased interpretation to which France could not subscribe.

92. At its last meeting, Committee I approved the above report for submission to the Plenary of the Commission.

/Committee II

Committee II

93. Committee II met from 2 to 5 April. It reviewed the topics "Meetings of auxiliary bodies and regional meetings sponsored by ECLA in preparation for United Nations world conferences: conclusions and recommendations" and "Other activities of the ECLA system since the nineteenth session and draft programme of work of the Commission for the biennium 1986-1987" (agenda items 9 and 10). It concluded its work by approving seven draft resolutions for consideration by the Plenary of the Commission.\*/

94. At the opening of the Committee's proceedings, the Executive Secretary of ECLA summarized the activities of the Secretariat since May 1981 and described the results of the principal meetings of auxiliary bodies of ECLA and regional meetings sponsored by ECLA in preparation for United Nations world conferences, highlighting some of their main recommendations and conclusions (item 10 (a) (i) of the agenda).

95. The Officers of the Committee were as follows:

Chairman: Chile

First Vice-Chairman: Belize

Second Vice-Chairman: United States

Rapporteur: Venezuela

Meetings of auxiliary bodies and regional meetings sponsored by  
ECLA in preparation for United Nations world conferences:  
conclusions and recommendations (agenda item 9)

96. In examining this item, Committee II had before it the following working documents: "List of meetings sponsored by ECLA since May 1981" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.21); "Report of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, held within the seventh session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (Havana, Cuba, 16-19 November 1983)", contained in document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.19; "Draft report of the eighth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis (Montevideo, Uruguay, 18-23 January 1984)", contained in document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.26, and "Report of the ninth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: science and technology for development (Montevideo, Uruguay, 23-24 January 1984)", contained in document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.20.

97. With respect to the regional preparations for the International Conference on Population, several delegations expressed the desire that the relevant conclusions of the Caribbean Meeting on Population, to be held in St. Lucia in April/May 1984 under the auspices of CARICOM, should be duly taken into account in the regional preparations for the International Conference on Population.

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\*/ Conference Room Papers II/1, II/3/Rev.1, II/4, II/5, II/6, II/7 and II/8.



98. The participants took note with satisfaction of the conclusions and recommendations of the meetings mentioned in item 9 of the agenda, some of which were the subject of specific resolutions at the twentieth session.

Other activities of the ECLA system since the nineteenth session  
and draft programme of work of the ECLA system for the  
biennium 1986-1987 (agenda item 10)

99. The Committee approved the document entitled "Report on the work of the Commission since May 1981" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.14) and its annex entitled "Report on the work of the Commission since May 1981. ECLA activities in connection with natural disasters in Latin America" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.14/Add.1).

100. The Committee also considered the "Regional Plan of Action for Latin America and the Caribbean for the International Youth Year" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.22), which had been approved in October 1983 by the member countries of the Commission.\*

101. The Secretariat then reported on the action taken in the United Nations, with the active participation of ECLA, on the decentralization of its activities in pursuance of resolution 448 (PLEN.16).

102. A description followed of the general aspects of the draft programme of work of the ECLA system, 1986-1987 (document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.7), with emphasis on the way its contents were organized and the criteria used in the determination of its programmes, subprogrammes and programme elements.

103. It was noted that this time the draft programme of work did not include the activities to be carried out by the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, because the eighth session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC), at which the Caribbean countries were to define the programme of work of the Subregional Headquarters for the same period, had not yet been held.

104. Two delegations proposed that a meeting of the Committee of the Whole should be held in 1984 to deal, inter alia, with the programme of work to be defined at the eighth session of the CDCC, so that it could be included in the draft programme of work of the ECLA system, 1986-1987, and submitted to the appropriate United Nations planning and budgetary bodies.

105. One delegation expressed concern at the total amount and distribution of the human resources shown in the draft programme of work, since it considered that the magnitude of such resources had been gradually losing weight compared with other regional commissions and it felt that trend should be corrected. This suggestion enjoyed the approval of the participants. It was also noted that such action should not lead to bigger financial contributions by the countries of the region to the United Nations regular budget.

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\* / See the "Report of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Youth Year" (E/CEPAL/G.1285).

106. There was consensus in emphasizing that the allocation of human resources to each of the programmes in the draft programme of work for the period 1986-1987 should have a sufficient degree of flexibility to make it possible to absorb new requirements by governments and to take care of unforeseen situations which might necessitate a reorientation of activities in the programme of work.

107. It was decided that in the introduction to the document "Draft programme of work of the ECLA system, 1986-1987" express mention should be made of the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action prepared by the Latin American Economic Conference in January 1984, as one of the main guiding elements of the activities described in the draft programme of work.

108. The United States delegation stated that the budgetary policy of its country vis-à-vis the international organizations, as announced in the Message by the President for the financial year 1984, was one of zero net growth. It added that it supported the views expressed by several delegations to the effect that the proposed draft programme of work should provide for some degree of flexibility so that any new activities which arose could be carried out with the existing resources. With regard to the budget proposed by ECLA for the biennium 1986-1987, the United States Government felt that when it was considered by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985 it should be examined bearing in mind the general commitment of the United States to zero real growth and maximum absorption of inflation and currency fluctuation costs.

109. It was pointed out that the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean was rather small and consequently the scope of its activities was limited. In view of this it was recommended that in those areas in which there was no expertise in that Office, the work programme of the Commission should be extended explicitly to include the Caribbean countries.

110. The Committee then went on to analyse the various programmes included in the draft programme of work for 1986-1987.

#### Programme 10: Development issues and policies

111. There was a broad consensus on the importance of accelerating studies of a conjunctural nature and enlarging the universe of short-term indicators in order to arrive at a more exhaustive analysis of the economic situation of the countries of the region. In that way, the Secretariat could keep the countries permanently informed regarding their economic processes and important common problems.

112. The delegations also agreed that several of the studies encompassed by programme 10 should also include, with as much accuracy as possible, the experiences of the medium-sized and small countries, especially those of the Caribbean.

/113. The

113. The Secretariat was urged to give special attention to co-ordinating the contents of the studies envisaged in this programme, while at the same time establishing closer relations with other international, regional and national bodies which carry out research and studies in the field of economic policy, for the purpose of making the best possible use of their experience and enriching its own activities in the field while avoiding duplication of effort.

114. The Secretariat took note of those observations and reported on the progress which had been made in that respect.

115. The Committee approved programme 10 but postponed consideration of subprogramme 10.6, "Economic and social planning services for the countries of Latin America" until the programme of work of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) was considered.

#### Programme 11: Energy

116. Several delegations agreed on the need to co-ordinate and link ECLA activities in this field with those of other organizations working on the same topic. There was a consensus that the Secretariat should be requested further to strengthen its relations with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) in order to rationalize as much as possible the region's efforts in that area.

117. The Committee also felt that the Secretariat should, in so far as possible, shorten the schedules of implementation of several of the activities programmed, in order to respond as quickly as possible to many of the current energy problems.

118. One delegation said that the programme element relating to the study of new and renewable sources of energy appeared to be adequate, although many of the problems affecting the economies of the Latin American countries were connected with conventional and widely-used energy resources. It also expressed satisfaction with the activities relating to the changes that had occurred in the international energy markets, although it observed that that type of study should be extended to technological changes in that sector.

119. There was consensus that programme 11 should include some topics of immediate interest to the countries such as energy import substitution at the regional level, and a study on the specific features of the different types of fuels, in order to facilitate regional fuel exchange.

120. The ECLA Secretariat took note of the observations made and stated that co-ordination between it and bodies such as the Regional Electricity Integration Commission (CIER), OLADE and the IDB was already being carried out in several areas of common interest.

/121. The

121. The Committee approved the programme.

Programme 12: Environment

122. The delegations were agreed that the programme appeared to be slightly ambitious in comparison to the human resources assigned to it. They mentioned the need to broaden some of its aspects through studies which would include ecological zones of areas common to several countries, and requested the elaboration of methodologies which would make it possible to include the topic of the environment as one of the variables of economic development planning.

123. One delegation stated that it would be desirable to organize seminars, workshops or other types of meetings whose results could be incorporated into studies of a more comprehensive nature, and that the governments involved should be consulted previously for the purpose of better defining the topics to be dealt with in those studies and their orientation.

124. The Secretariat took express note of these suggestions.

125. The Committee approved the contents of the programme.

Programme 13: Food and agriculture

126. Several delegations stated that the Secretariat should step up co-ordination of its activities with those of the Action Committee of the Regional Food System (CASAR) of SELA and with the efforts being made by the Andean Group in the field of food security.

127. Another delegation stressed that it was important that the activities of the programme on food and agriculture should provide for the possibility of meeting urgent needs which arise in this respect as a result of natural disasters.

128. The delegation of a Caribbean country expressed interest in seeing the activities of this programme expanded to serve the countries of that subregion.

129. Another delegation felt that, in analysing the problems addressed by this programme, methodologies should be used which encompassed not only the production of food, but also its distribution and marketing, the structure of consumption, prices and, in general, the effects of food subsidy policies. It also stressed the need to take up the topic of the potential for agroindustrial development.

130. The Secretariat explained the nature of its machinery for co-ordinating its activities with other national, regional and international institutions and described some of the methodological aspects employed to deal with these problems.

131. The Committee approved the programme.

/Programme 14:

Programme 14: Human settlements

132. In reviewing this programme, the Committee had before it the report of the Sessional Committee on Human Settlements, which met during the twentieth session.\*/  
133. The delegation of a Caribbean country expressed the Caribbean countries' interest in seeing the activities of this programme expanded to include that subregion.

134. Another delegation emphasized once again the viewpoint already expressed in connection with other programmes, i.e., the need to co-ordinate the Secretariat's activities with those of other institutions, especially, in this case, with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

135. The Committee approved the programme.

Programme 15: Industrial development

136. A number of delegations expressed the view that the Secretariat should co-ordinate elements of this programme with some elements of Programme 10, "Development issues and policies", particularly with respect to the inclusion of industrial and State enterprises in a single type of study.

137. There was also consensus that studies in the industrial field should seek to define policies and strategies in order to orient the governments' actions as regards their industrial policy. The utilization of idle capacity and other measures intended to bring about the reconversion of this sector were cited as examples.

138. Various delegations felt that the macro-economic sectoral studies should be broadened to include micro-economic factors and to cover specific products which could be the subject of import substitution or be exported within the region or to other areas. Emphasis was placed, in that respect, on re-orienting the work being done under the capital goods project.

139. In the same connection, one delegation expressed the view of the small and industrially less developed countries that the studies conducted under this programme should deal increasingly with those products or subsectors which offered the best possibilities of development.

140. The Secretariat took note of the concerns and observations of the different delegations, pointing out that in some instances efforts along those lines had already been made.

141. The Committee approved the programme.

\*/ See paragraphs 244 to 262 below.

Programme 16: International trade and development finance

142. One delegation suggested that the activities planned as part of subprogramme 16.2, "Economic relations between Latin America and other regions", should be closely co-ordinated with the activities of SELA, and that subprogramme 16.3, "The international monetary system and external financing", should be modified to reflect the conclusions reached by Committee I concerning domestic adjustment policies and the process of renegotiating the external debt (agenda item 4). Another delegation proposed that a new programme element should be included on economic co-operation between Latin America and the Caribbean.
143. With respect to programme element 16.4.3, "Latin America's relations with developing areas and countries", a third delegation felt that studies should be conducted on a country basis and on specific sectors, and that guidelines should be laid down to orient such studies within the framework of South-South co-operation. With regard to programme element 16.4.4, "Support to the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)", the delegation remarked that attempts to achieve integration had always been based on tariff preferences, whereas this should not be the only means employed. It therefore suggested that the Secretariat should work closely with ALADI in analysing other alternatives, such as tender competitions and State purchasing. In view of the importance of this question, it expressed interest in seeing the subject brought forward to the 1984-1985 biennium, rather than waiting until 1986-1987.
144. Several delegations observed that the activities planned under programme element 16.4.5 covered only three of the five Andean Pact countries and that they duplicated the work carried out by the Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC). There was consensus that this programme element should be reformulated in consultation with the members of the Andean Group and the Board of the Cartagena Agreement, within the framework of the agreement signed between the latter and ECLA. It was considered that in the reformulation of the programme element importance should be attached to the issue of border integration.
145. Another delegation suggested that programme element 16.4.6 should explicitly provide for the co-ordination of activities with the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA) of SELA, and other subregional bodies.
146. One delegation observed that the activities planned under programme elements 16.1.2 and 16.3.3 should be adequately co-ordinated, and that within the latter element the objectives agreed upon in the Quito Plan of Action as regards financial support machinery for intra-regional trade should be brought to fruition.
147. The Secretariat took note of all the suggestions received and stated that the necessary steps would be taken to modify Programme 16.
148. The Committee approved the programme.

/Programme 17:

Programme 17: Natural resources

149. In reviewing this programme, the delegations had before them the report of the Sessional Committee on Water.\*/

150. A number of delegations were agreed that an integral approach should be taken to the subject of natural resources and that the analysis of such resources should include aspects related to their capacity to sustain the population.

151. In this regard, one delegation specifically suggested that this programme should include the factor of soil, along with water resources, forestation and the problems of natural and human-induced erosion.

152. Some delegations felt that the presentation of the programme was marked by some dispersion in dealing with the aspects of natural resources, and expressed the need for the co-ordination among them to be made more explicit in such areas as erosion and soil types and uses in both arid and humid zones.

153. Finally, another delegation expressed its desire that the activities of this programme should be extended to include the countries of the Caribbean.

154. The Secretariat took note of the observations made and pointed out that soil resources were studied by FAO, with which there was close collaboration. It drew attention to the fact that soil resources were dealt with in the studies conducted on the management of high river basins, but said that it had no objection to giving these studies a more in-depth character, using an integral approach such as that described.

155. The Committee approved the programme.

Programme 18: Population (CELADE)

156. In describing the activities carried out during the 1981-1983 period, the Director of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) stated that emphasis had been placed on developing closer ties with the countries, with a view to making better use of available resources and that to this end agreements specifying activities and time periods for their performance had been signed with national bodies. He also said that, despite the reduction in available resources, concrete initiatives had been taken to strengthen the San José Office of CELADE and to serve the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean, particularly in the fields of training, the processing of census data and international migration. He then gave a brief summary of the CELADE programme of work for the 1986-1987 biennium, in which he referred to the main lines of action of the subprogrammes on demographic statistics and population estimates, population and development, training, documentation services and data processing, and publications. In outlining this set of activities, the Director stated that a margin of flexibility had been provided for in order to be able to accommodate unforeseen activities which might result from the International Conference on Population.

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\*/ See paragraphs 225 to 235 below.

157. In the course of the following debate, one delegation requested that while continuing with the current lines of activity, the work related to the incorporation of demographic variables in development planning and training should be strengthened, for which purpose efforts should be made to utilize the human resources available in the region more intensively.

158. Another delegation, in referring to the assistance provided by CELADE to the Ministry of Planning of its country, underscored the importance of training and the desirability of studying the relationships between population, natural resources and technology. It also drew attention to the contribution which such studies could make to a reformulation of the concepts relating to the development process.

159. A third delegation, in discussing the activities in the field of demographic statistics and estimates of population trends, raised the possibility of using the household as the unit of analysis.

160. All the representatives of English-speaking Caribbean countries stated that, in their opinion, the activities currently carried out or planned by CELADE for that subregion were insufficient, and requested that the tasks included in the various components of the programme of work should be extended to include their countries. They particularly expressed an interest in receiving technical assistance in the field of population and development, bearing in mind the characteristics of the countries of the subregion, and felt that the various training activities carried out by CELADE should be conducted there in English as well. They also felt that the Master's Degree Programme should be established in the University of the West Indies system for the benefit of the English-speaking countries. They further expressed the view that the series on population trends relating to the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean should be prepared in the same degree of detail as those relating to the countries of Latin America. These concerns were shared by some non-English-speaking countries.

161. Several delegations pointed to the need to strengthen the San José Office of CELADE for the purpose of better serving the needs of the countries of the subregions.

162. One delegation recommended that ways and means should be studied of allowing available information to be utilized as an input in the design, programming and appraisal of population policies, and that guidelines should be established for the incorporation of demographic variables into regional development plans.

163. The same delegation suggested that seminars and workshops should be held for the purpose of exchanging experiences in the design of population policies, the strengthening of specific training programmes, and advisory services and support for the establishment of programmes of instruction and research on population in the universities.

164. One



164. One delegation referred to the activities aimed at assessing the demographic effects of family planning programmes and urged that the social and economic effects of these programmes should also be studied, especially those deriving from sterilization, which it said was a widespread practice in its country.

165. Another delegation, after pointing out that the programme of work made no express reference to the International Conference on Population, said that a margin of flexibility should be maintained with respect to the activities planned in order that they might be adapted to activities connected with the preparation and results of that meeting.

166. In relation to sources of demographic information, one delegation referred to the desirability of making use of civil registers and vital statistics and promoting their improvement, although the delegation recognized that that task was the responsibility of other international bodies.

167. Another delegation, commenting on the agreement between CELADE and the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (CIM), observed that international migratory movements were of special importance in its country. It recommended that a study on such population shifts should be conducted.

168. The Secretary took due note of the suggestions received and reported on the possibilities for responding to them.

169. The Committee approved the Programme of Work of CELADE.

#### Programme 20: Science and technology

170. There was consensus among the delegations that the human resources assigned to this programme were extremely limited. It was suggested that it would be desirable to increase them, but at the same time it was recognized that the topic of technology was also dealt with in other Secretariat programmes. It was therefore proposed that an annex should be prepared listing all activities carried out by the Secretariat in the field of science and technology, in order to provide a more precise appraisal of its importance in the work as a whole.

171. One delegation observed that the topic of science and technology in development planning, which was extremely important in the design of economic and social policies, was lacking in this programme.

172. Another delegation pointed out the need to extend the range of technological topics considered in this programme, as described in the report of the ninth session of CEGAN (Montevideo, January 1984).

173. The Secretariat took note of the comments and indicated that it would be possible to prepare the annex requested. Extending the range of technological topics covered, as suggested, would be possible if the extra-budgetary resources currently being negotiated were obtained.

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174. The Committee approved the programme.

Programme 21: Social development and humanitarian affairs

175. One delegation requested the Secretariat to co-ordinate the majority of the subprogrammes of this programme with those of programme 18, "Population", carried out by CELADE.

176. The Secretariat took note of this request, pointing out that this co-ordinated work was already being carried out to a large extent.

177. The Committee approved the programme.

Programme 22: Statistics

178. One delegation indicated interest in receiving technical advisory assistance in the various fields of economic and social statistics, and proposed that the exchange of experience among the countries of the region should be intensified in order to better meet the technical problems encountered.

179. The Secretariat reported to the Committee on the fulfilment of resolution 437(XIX) through the presentation of document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.28, "Access to information sources on Latin American foreign trade statistics".

180. The Committee approved the programme.

Programme 23: Transnational corporations

181. One delegation expressed its desire that the comparative study mentioned in programme element 23.2.3, "Financial transfers and the transnational banks", already carried out in respect of four countries of the region, should be moved forward to 1985.

182. Another delegation wished its country to be the subject of one of the case studies under this programme element.

183. Reference was made to the importance of this programme and the Secretariat was requested to make a special effort to back up its activities with appropriate resources.

184. The Secretariat stated that all possible efforts would be made to bring forward this comparative study and to include the additional case study requested.

185. The Committee approved the programme.

/Programme 24:

Programme 24: Transport

186. One delegation requested that statistical information on regional transport and transport between Latin America and third countries should be increased. It also suggested that account should be taken of ALADI norms for the simplification of transport documentation and requested that the study of new technologies should include appraisal of the operation of multi-purpose ships.

187. The Secretariat took note of these observations.

188. The Committee approved the programme.

Subprogramme 10.6: Economic and social planning services for the countries of Latin America (ILPES)

189. The Director of ILPES reported that the Institute had fulfilled the mandates it had been given at the nineteenth session of ECLA (Montevideo, 1981) within the financial restrictions which had affected it. In 1982, seven countries represented at the fifth session of the Technical Subcommittee (San José, Costa Rica) had approved a new programme of activities which had been ratified officially at the fifth session of the Technical Committee (Buenos Aires, May 1983).

190. The new orientation of the Institute's work was marked by the need to renew the practice of planning in the region, both conceptually and operationally, and to link it closely both to the objective problems faced by the countries and to the short-term decision-making process, which was conditioned by external restrictions and by the short-term priorities imposed by development.

191. Four priority lines had been established for the Institute, i.e., the articulation of short-term policies with medium and long-term policies; the effect on national planning systems of the re-insertion of the regional economy in the international economic order following the current crisis; the impact of the crisis on spatial and social dimensions within the countries, and the re-examination of the role of governments in the 1980s, particularly in the social field.

192. The way in which the Institute had been working justified taking an optimistic view of its capacity for carrying out these priority activities; it was important to remember that, in addition to its installed capacity, it had the ability to mobilize specialists within the region, as well as to call on the services of technical staff of other international agencies, particularly ECLA itself and CELADE.

193. The new institutional project which had been approved unanimously in May 1983 had established innovative bases of support for the triennium 1984-1986. The main characteristic of that project, from the financial standpoint, was that it provided for direct support from governments equivalent to 40% of the Institute's regular budget. The fact that the governments had agreed to that support was evidence of their acceptance of the Institute as a multilateral mechanism for co-operation in the area of development planning and policies.

/194. Finally,

194. Finally, the Director of ILPES said that the new framework of priorities was explicitly taken into account in each of the Institute's four main programmes, i.e., advisory services, training, research, and horizontal co-operation. After giving a detailed report on future activities under those programmes, he expressed his appreciation for the support provided by the governments, UNDP and ECLA.

195. Several delegations expressed their satisfaction at the statement made by the Director of ILPES and at the work which the Institute had carried out over the last two decades. One delegation expressed satisfaction at the fact that, contrary to what had been the case in the past, the Institute's new programme of work attached greater importance to the Caribbean countries.

196. It was pointed out that ILPES' activities had to be decentralized in order to comply with the mandates of the Third Meeting of Heads of Planning of the Caribbean and that training activities, which would have to be adapted to the particular situation of that subregion, were especially important.

197. With regard to the programme of work, one delegation said that the concepts of planning should be revised in the light of the crisis being faced by the economies of the region; a key point would be to establish forward-looking alternative scenarios, with special attention being given to integration. Finally, that delegation proposed that account should be taken of the need to make the long-term development strategies of the various countries compatible with each other.

198. Another delegation said the measures being taken by ILPES to avoid duplication with other agencies were adequate and endorsed the view expressed by a Caribbean delegation to the effect that ILPES should pay greater attention to that subregion.

199. A third delegation noted that the ILPES programme of work covered a wide range of subjects in the area of planning and stressed the importance of the decentralized public sector and policies for improving the management of social programmes in all sectors, including municipalities. It also stressed the need for establishing priorities in view of the limited availability of resources.

200. One delegation commented that ILPES was undoubtedly at a new stage in its development and said that the priorities set in its programme of work reflected the needs of the planning ministries and bodies. It was, however, concerned at the fact that ILPES did not have the budgetary support it needed in order to carry out all its duties; the ECLA system should make an effort to transfer more technical resources to ILPES. Moreover, since development strategies should be linked to planning, ECLA's activities in that area should be co-ordinated even more closely with those of ILPES. The delegation in question stressed the importance of avoiding duplication with the work of other bodies and mentioned the need for co-ordinating ILPES' work with that of SELA, within the context of the Quito Plan of Action. Finally, it recommended that ILPES should stress the link between science and technology and planning and remarked that the governments of the region were particularly interested in receiving information on the international situation, particularly with regard to the developed economies.

/201. Another

201. Another participant introduced a draft resolution, sponsored by five delegations, in support of the new programme of work of ILPES. He said that the draft resolution reflected the recommendations of the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning and of the fifth session of the Technical Committee of ILPES (Buenos Aires, 1983), as well as the agreements reached at the sixth session of the Technical Subcommittee of ILPES (Mexico City, November 1983).

202. One delegation requested that ILPES avoid duplicating studies on the recession and the international situation that were also carried out by other institutions. With regard to the public sector, it recommended that training in the area of planning should take into account the views of national and international agencies regarding the management of monetary and financial information. It stressed the need for the goals of the plan to be linked with short-term goals and endorsed ILPES' proposals regarding the treatment it planned to give to the decentralized public sector.

203. Another delegation said that the country it represented strongly supported ILPES' activities and confirmed its Government's decision to contribute to its financing. It pointed out that the meetings of planners in the Caribbean should be carried out before the Conferences of Ministers and Heads of Planning. It confirmed its country's offer to carry out courses and seminars and the willingness of its national experts to participate in the activities of ILPES. In so doing, it wished to co-operate with the effort to decentralize the activities of ILPES and to promote greater participation by the countries in the Institute's activities.

204. The Director of ILPES expressed his appreciation at the support offered by the delegations that had spoken and thanked them for their comments, which would help supplement and enrich the Institute's programme of work.

205. The Committee approved the subprogramme.

#### Calendar of conferences

206. The Secretariat introduced the document entitled "Proposed calendar of intergovernmental conferences of ECLA for the period 1984-1986" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.15), referring to the statutory meetings of the Commission and its auxiliary bodies and then to the new mandates which had been received. With regard to the statutory meetings, it was proposed at the request of some delegations to add a session of the ECLA Committee of the Whole (seventeenth session), which would be held in New York in mid-1984 and would deal with the CDCC programme of work for the 1986-1987 biennium and with the rationalization of the Commission's calendar of meetings. With the addition of that meeting, and taking account of what had been said about the need to provide the Executive Secretary with a certain amount of flexibility, the calendar of statutory meetings of the Commission and of its auxiliary bodies was approved as given in the document under review.

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207. The Committee then went on to consider section III of the document mentioned above, entitled "New Mandates".

i) Regional preparations for the forthcoming World Conference to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

208. The delegation of Cuba repeated its offer to provide a venue for this meeting in November 1984. One delegation asked that the meeting be held closer to the date of the World Conference scheduled for July 1985 at Nairobi. Following a discussion in which a number of delegations took part, it was agreed that at the seventeenth session of the Committee of the Whole, and taking into account the offer made by Cuba, a decision would be taken on the date in the light of the progress made in the studies carried out by the governments and the Secretariat in preparation for the Conference.

ii) Industrialization

209. In its introduction, the Secretariat referred to the mandate given to SELA by its member States to hold a regional preparatory meeting for the Fourth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and in order to avoid duplication it was proposed that ECLA should hold a technical meeting from 7 to 10 May 1984 with a view to that conference.

210. The United States delegation noted that in its view the regional preparatory meetings for United Nations world conferences should be held within the United Nations system, and expressed its government's disappointment that the convening of a regional preparatory meeting outside the United Nations system was an unfortunate precedent. Finally, in view of the fact that no government had offered a venue, it was agreed to hold a Latin American technical meeting on the subject at ECLA headquarters.

iii) Interregional consultation on developmental social welfare programmes and policies

211. With regard to this meeting, a number of delegations remarked upon the rather unclear mandate given by the Economic and Social Council and said it would be a good idea to postpone the meeting to the period 1986-1987. One delegation, however, stressed the importance of the subject. It was agreed to re-examine the matter at the next meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

iv) Regional meeting on youth

212. The delegation of Spain repeated its government's offer to host this meeting.

213. In reply to a question posed by one delegation as to whether it had been officially agreed to hold the meeting, the Secretariat explained that the holding of the meeting had been unanimously endorsed at the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Youth Year (San José, 3-7 October 1983), since youth had become a priority item. In reply to another question, the Secretariat confirmed that the cost of holding the meeting at ECLA headquarters was approximately US\$ 25 000 and that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/140, the host country for meetings away from headquarters would bear the additional cost which this change involved.

214. It was agreed to include this meeting in the calendar of conferences of ECLA for 1985, with Spain as its venue, and the Executive Secretary of ECLA was requested to see that the funds needed for that purpose were obtained. Several delegations asked the Executive Secretary to try to obtain extrabudgetary resources to ensure that the smaller countries could participate, since otherwise they might not be able to attend. The Spanish delegation expressed its satisfaction at the decision to accept its offer.

215. The delegation of the United States asked that its reservation be placed on record in the report, since the general policy of its government was to insist that existing budgetary resources be redeployed in support of additional activities and to oppose the holding of any meeting which required resources in addition to those approved in the budget for the 1984-1985 biennium.

216. At its last meeting, Committee II approved the present report of its proceedings for submission to the Plenary of the Commission.

#### Sessional committees

##### a) Committee on Water

217. The Sessional Committee on Water met on 29 and 30 March 1984.

218. The following Officers were elected to preside over the work of the Committee:

Chairman: Colombia

First Vice-Chairman: Netherlands Antilles

Second Vice-Chairman: Paraguay

Rapporteur: Honduras

219. At its first meeting the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of Officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report on activities carried out since the nineteenth session of the Commission
4. Statements by governments on progress in the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan at the regional level
5. Programme of work of the ECLA Secretariat for the 1984-1985 biennium and proposals for 1986-1987
6. Other business
7. Adoption of the report

220. At the same meeting, the Committee on Water decided, within the framework of the agenda adopted, to centre its debates on the following points: i) progress in the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan at the regional level; ii) progress towards achievement of the goals of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade in the period 1980-1983; and iii) the water resources of Latin America and their utilization.

Report on activities carried out since the nineteenth session of the Commission (item 3 of the agenda)

221. The Secretariat presented a summary of the activities carried out since the second session of the Commission (Montevideo, 1981).

222. Several delegations made comments on the work carried out by the Secretariat on the subject of water, particularly as regards the co-ordination of activities with United Nations agencies.

223. Some delegations regretted that the report contained in document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.6 had not been received in good time and that, because of its nature, they had not had time to study it thoroughly. In view of this, the Secretariat informed the delegations that their governments could make comments on and additions to the document up to 30 June 1984.

224. One delegation asked what were the sources of the information contained in document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.4. The Secretariat explained that the information had been taken from reports of the Pan-American Health Organization, which had been prepared on the basis of official data supplied by the governments.

Statements by governments on progress in the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan at the regional level (item 4 of the agenda)

225. Several delegations made statements on the progress achieved by their countries in the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan. One delegation presented and distributed a National Appraisal Report for the period 1981-1984 on the activities carried out in its country in implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan. The delegations also expressed their views on the future work of ECLA, which would include priority areas considered to be especially important and relevant to the work of the Committee on Water.

226. One delegation offered its country's collaboration in support of the workshop on co-operation in water resource administration, economics and planning; the programme on the development and management of high mountain watersheds in Latin America, and the preparation of a regional programme of assistance to countries in connection with information systems for water resource planning and management.

/Another delegation



Another delegation noted the importance of concentrating efforts in the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan on those aspects that were most crucial for development, particularly agriculture, drinking water supply and the encouragement of regional co-operation within Latin America and the Caribbean in order to strengthen technical and scientific exchange in the area of water resources. In addition, emphasis was placed on the importance of activities pertaining to the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. In this regard, it was stressed that there was a need for new approaches to this question -specifically in the area of low-cost technology- and for decentralized administration; in addition, it was important to encourage community participation and to maintain the existing drinking water supplies properly. It was also pointed out that more Decade-related activities should be carried out in rural areas.

227. One participant stressed the need to strengthen research by promoting horizontal co-operation and seeking new technologies suited to the actual economic and social conditions of the Latin American countries and aimed at the extension of drinking water supply to the highest degree feasible and at the protection of the environment.

228. There was consensus on the desirability, in the implementation of the ECLA work programme in the area of water resources for the biennia 1984-1985 and 1986-1987, that special account should be taken on country requests for assistance in drawing up and putting underway national projects and programmes in the area of water resource development, as well as the promotion of activities aimed at obtaining financing from countries and international agencies to support the implementation of such projects and programmes.

229. Emphasis was placed on the need to make a special effort to deal with phenomena arising from natural disasters, especially floods and droughts. One delegation proposed that the Secretariat should study the possibility of including in its programme of work a study on the unusual behaviour of the water resources of the region in the period 1982-1984 and the national and regional measures adopted with a view to achieving greater knowledge, control and defence capacity to deal with such behaviour. In the preparation of this study aimed at securing greater knowledge of the situation, the Secretariat should act in close consultation and co-ordination with interested governments and with the appropriate regional and international bodies. It was also suggested that an order of priorities should be established for regional projects in the field of water resources and that the activities of international agencies should be co-ordinated in order to present alternative solutions.

Programme of work of the ECLA Secretariat for the 1984-1985 biennium and for 1986-1987 (item 5 of the agenda)

230. With regard to the programme of work, the Secretariat reported to the Committee on the programme for 1984-1985 that had been approved by the Committee of the Whole at its sixteenth session.

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231. In brief, the execution of the following tasks was approved:

i) Follow-up on the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan. In addition to the preparation of a report for presentation to the Committee on Water at the 21st session in 1986, the main activity under this programme element will be the undertaking by the regional advisor of missions, at the request of governments, to provide assistance in the implementation of the Action Plan in the areas of policies, planning and rational use of water resources. Contributions will also be made to reports prepared for the Committee on Natural Resources of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

ii) Horizontal co-operation in the field of water resources. Support for horizontal co-operation activities in connection with the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade will continue and efforts will be made to extend and increase the effectiveness of the existing network of national co-ordination centres. The planned workshop on water resource administration should provide a firm basis for undertaking the development of horizontal co-operation in this area. As a contribution to these efforts, the Secretariat will undertake a comparative survey of experience in water resource administration and planning in Latin America.

iii) Support for the co-ordination of activities on water resources at the regional level. The activities in this area of the work programme will consist of the preparation of reports on the work of United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations in the field of water resources in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, periodic meetings will be held of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Water Resources in Latin America and several staff members will attend the meetings of the ACC Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Water.

iv) Promotion of achievement of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. The Secretariat will continue to inform governments on the progress made towards achievement of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. In addition, specific studies will be undertaken on important social and economic parameters related to the achievement of those objectives, such as information on the provision of services to the scattered rural population and on water pricing policies. Contributions will be made to the Inter-Agency Steering Committee for the Decade and to the reports prepared for the General Assembly, while ECLA will also participate in the activities of the Pan-American Health Organization and the Inter-American Association of Sanitary Engineers (AIDIS). Advisory missions will be undertaken at the request of governments.

v) Water resource management in high mountain watersheds. With the generous financial assistance of the Government of Italy, a technical report will be prepared evaluating the difficulties and experiences in the management of mountain watersheds in Latin America. On the basis of an analysis of the experience of the countries of the region, prepared in consultation with a group of government experts, it is intended to prepare a set of recommendations for the application of improved techniques.

/vi) Water

vi) Water resource development in Central America. With the direct involvement of Central American governments and interregional agencies engaged in the planning, management or productive use of water resources, the preparation of a series of technical publications on the planning and execution of multi-purpose water resource development projects is envisaged. Emphasis will be placed on development of river basins, with particular reference to irrigation, drainage and drinking water supplies. As a first stage, special studies will be made in two selected river basins in this period. There is a possibility that additional river basins will be studied in subsequent years.

232. With regard to the work programme for the biennium 1986-1987, the Secretariat proposed the following activities:

- a) Follow-up on the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan;
- b) Support for the co-ordination of activities on water resources at the regional level;
- c) Horizontal co-operation in the field of water resources;
- d) Promotion of the achievement of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade;
- e) Encouragement of water resource development in Central America.

233. In the light of these proposals, several delegations suggested that work on the programme element "Water resource management in high mountain watersheds" should be continued during the biennium 1986-1987.

234. There was consensus among the delegations that support for the activities entrusted to the Secretariat of ECLA in the area of water resources should be continued through active involvement.

235. At its last meeting, the Committee approved by consensus a draft resolution on activities in the area of water resources.\*/ It also approved this report of its proceedings, including the work programme, for transmittal to Committee II and submission to the Plenary of the Commission.

b) Committee on Human Settlements

236. The Sessional Committee on Human Settlements, established under ECLA resolutions 387(XVIII) and 419 (PLEN.14), met on 29 and 30 March 1984.

237. The following Officers were elected to preside over the Committee's debates:

Chairman: Mexico

First Vice-Chairman: Haiti

Second Vice-Chairman: United Kingdom

Rapporteur: Costa Rica.

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\*/ Conference Room Paper AG/4/Rev.1.

238. As its first meeting, the Committee adopted the following agenda for its work:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report on ECLA activities in the field of human settlements since the nineteenth session
  - a) Human settlements: policies and main features
  - b) Activities of the Secretariat since the nineteenth session
3. The regional human settlements programme, 1986-1987
4. Training in the field of human settlements
  - a) Present situation
  - b) Proposals for regional action
5. Consideration and approval of the report.

239. The delegations had before them the following documents: "ECLA activities in the field of human settlements in Latin America" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.5), "Draft programme of work of the ECLA system, 1986-1987" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.7), "Urbanization, urban growth and settlement concentration in Latin America. A general overview" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.9), "Training in the field of human settlements: analysis of the present situation and proposals for a regional programme of action" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.11), "Outlook for municipal planning in Latin America" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.12), "Dynamics and structure of the human settlement process in Latin America and the Caribbean. The main critical areas" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.13).

240. At the beginning of the meeting, statements were made by the Executive Secretary of ECLA, Enrique V. Iglesias, and the Deputy Minister of Urban Development of Mexico, Francisco Covarrubias, in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Iglesias noted that human settlements was a relatively new field in ECLA activities, to which, however, special importance had been attached in view of its close connection with the social and economic development of the countries of the region. In that context, it was hoped that a closer relation would be achieved between the work of ECLA and the needs of the member countries.

241. Mr. Covarrubias said that the features of the urbanization process of Latin America were different from those of other regions, so that a regional view was needed, to orient the action of the countries and of international bodies in that field. The concept of development should be understood to mean not only economic growth, but also social change.

242. The Secretariat then presented the report on ECLA activities in the field of human settlements since the nineteenth session (agenda item 2).

243. One delegation observed that ECLA approached the topic of human settlements from the dual perspective of their specificity as a reflection of national development processes and of the quality of the habitat. Governments had to be sensitized as to the importance of the local or community levels, so that they would give them sufficient autonomy and resources to attain adequate technical standards, and a regional manner of thinking on local matters should be developed.

Human settlements had formerly been considered as only a problem of urban planning, whereas they had now come to be considered as part of a set of development planning activities carried out by local governments. Finally, the topic of human settlements was currently understood to be not only an urban or ecological problem but also a social and political one. It was a social problem because a substantial part of the work had to be concentrated on community participation, and a political one since it basically concerned the town, municipality or community and there must be political will to give those entities the necessary autonomy.

244. The Secretariat introduced the programme of work for 1986-1987 in the field of human settlements (agenda item 3).

245. The Committee approved this proposed programme of work, for submission to Committee II and subsequent adoption by the Plenary of the twentieth session, with the recommendation that it should include the suggestions made by the various delegations.

246. One delegation said that the programme was a sound one, noting that its cornerstones were economic and technical co-operation and the training of human resources. With regard to the former, it was essential that the countries of the region should share their technological advances, while, with respect to the latter, the delegation highlighted its own country's experience in the field of training.

247. One delegation observed that the problems of human settlements in Latin America had some aspects in common, but also others which were specific to each country. The first subprogramme of the ECLA programme of work in the field of human settlements emphasized appropriate technologies and the provision of services: aspects which were important but which should be based on a coherent organic structure. In the speaker's own country, that structure was a weak one, made up of scattered organizations. It was therefore advisable to include or strengthen assistance in the area of planning for the co-ordinated management of human settlements.

248. Another delegation stated that its country agreed with the points of view expressed in the Secretariat documents. Regarding the programme of work, additional attention should be given to the decentralization of decisions and actions away from the national government. Finally, with regard to the problem of makeshift human settlements, attention should be paid to new settlements, either spontaneous or planned, which arose in rural areas as a result of the process of settling new territory.

249. Another delegation expressed its support for the transfer of resources from the global to the regional level in the field of human settlements and stated that in Latin America such resources should be channelled through ECLA.

/250. One

250. One participant expressed the opinion that importance should be attached to the development of methodologies for the appraisal of social benefits, since that was an aspect which had not been sufficiently incorporated into the technical appraisal of projects.

251. The Secretariat reported that neither the programme nor the proposals and amendments to it had additional financial implications for the regular budget of ECLA.

252. After presenting the document "Training in the field of human settlements: analysis of the present situation and proposals for a regional programme of action" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.11), the Secretariat reviewed the situation of Latin America in that field and the needs for change, mentioning the main features of the objectives of university training, medium-level training and general education regarding the habitat, which could be the guidelines for a regional programme.

253. During the Committee's debates, a draft resolution on human settlements was presented which was examined by a working group open to all the delegations.\*/

254. At its last meeting, the Committee approved the draft resolution mentioned above and the present report of its proceedings for presentation to the Plenary of the Commission.

c) Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions

255. The Sessional Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions met on 28 and 29 March 1984.

256. At its opening meeting it elected the following Officers to preside over the discussions:

Chairman: Jamaica

First Vice-Chairman: Guatemala

Second Vice-Chairman: Dominican Republic

Rapporteur: Bolivia

257. The Secretariat presented the working paper entitled "Co-operation among developing countries and regions within the ECLA system" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.10), noting that it had been prepared in compliance with ECLA resolution 387(XVIII), to report on the activities carried out by the Secretariat of the Commission to promote intra-regional and interregional co-operation since the nineteenth session, and that it described the conceptual and normative framework within which ECLA carried out its activities to promote and support technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and regions at all levels and in all the relevant sectors. A description then followed of the activities carried out for this purpose in the aforementioned period, and finally details were given of some of the criteria for evaluating the results achieved, with suggestions concerning possibilities for future activities to promote and support co-operation among developing countries and regions.

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\*/ Conference Room Paper AH/2.

258. The Secretariat also presented the reference document entitled "Caribbean/Latin American co-operation" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.29), drafted in compliance with ECLA resolution 440(XIX). The representative of the Secretariat noted that this document covered the results of a primary phase of activities designed to strengthen technical and economic co-operation between the Caribbean countries and the other countries in the region. The document had an annex in which preliminary proposals for action were made with a view to the preparation and initiation of a short-, medium- and long-term programme for promoting co-operation between the Caribbean countries and the other countries in the region.

259. Finally, the Secretariat distributed the reference document entitled "Africa and Latin America: Prospects for interregional co-operation" (E/CEPAL/G.1198), prepared within the framework of the joint project carried out by ECLA and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), with UNDP support, to encourage co-operation among countries of the two regions in the fields of interregional trade, science and technology, and manpower development. This document contained the proposals for appropriate action adopted at the joint meeting of governmental experts from Africa and Latin America convened by ECLA and ECA and held at ECA headquarters at Addis Ababa from 1 to 4 June 1982.

260. The Committee considered document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.10 submitted by the Secretariat and indicated its satisfaction with the activities carried out by the latter since the nineteenth session of the Commission, which had been designed to provide impetus for and promote technical and economic co-operation among the developing countries of the region and between them and the developing countries of other geographical areas in specific sectors covered in its programme of work.

261. There was consensus among the delegations on the growing importance for the region of technical and economic co-operation among the developing countries and on the need to take full advantage of the potential contribution which co-operation among developing countries and regions could make to overcoming the critical economic situation which the countries of the region were experiencing.

262. There was also consensus that, in the context of the acute economic difficulties besetting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, it was necessary to redouble the efforts made to intensify co-operation among the countries of the region in the field of intra-regional trade and to seek a way of reducing the amount of foreign currency used in commercial transactions. The criteria and proposals contained in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Latin American Economic Conference held at Quito in January 1984 were especially borne in mind in the discussions.

263. A number of delegations drew particular attention to the contribution which co-operation among developing countries and regions was called upon to make in the implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action adopted by the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Caracas from 13 to 19 May 1981.

/264. Attention

264. Attention was also drawn to the need for and advisability of intensifying co-ordination among the relevant regional bodies in order to make the fullest use of the capacity and potential for co-operation existing in the region, by promoting effective complementarity in the activities they carried out in these fields in conformity with their respective areas of work.

265. Several delegations laid stress on the significant role played by ECLA in giving impetus to technical and economic co-operation between the countries of the region and countries in other developing regions, especially those of Africa.

266. Reference was made to the need to move ahead in carrying out technical and economic co-operation activities by using an imaginative approach which could be continually brought into harmony with the new realities and challenges facing the countries of the region in the attainment of their economic and social development targets. To this end, the few resources available should be redirected toward those priority areas in which the potential for co-operation could be developed to its fullest. At the same time the desirability of striving for a form of co-operation involving true solidarity rather than mere reciprocity was suggested.

267. At its final meeting, after a fruitful debate, the Committee approved a draft resolution on technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and another resolution on co-operation between the countries of the Caribbean area and the other countries of the region.\*/ As regards the former resolution, however, some of the delegations stated that they could only accept the penultimate paragraph after consultation with their governments, and another delegation said that it would transmit its government's decision during the final stage of the session.

d) Sessional Committee on Population

268. The Sessional Committee on Population met on 5 and 6 April 1984.

269. At its opening meeting it elected the following Officers to preside over its proceedings:

Chairman: Cuba

First Vice-Chairman: St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Second Vice-Chairman: France

Rapporteur: Brazil.

270. The Committee adopted the following agenda:

i) Report on the preparatory activities for the international Conference on Population, 1984;

ii) Consideration of the report of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, held within the seventh session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (Havana, 16-19 November 1983).

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\*/ Conference Room Paper CPD/2 and CPD/3.



271. For the discussions on the first item of the agenda, the Secretariat distributed the document "Report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population, 1984" (E/1984/28 and E/1984/28/Add.1). This Preparatory Committee completed its discussions at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on 17 March 1984. For the discussions on the second item of the agenda, the Secretariat distributed the document "Report of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, held within the seventh session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.19).

272. With regard to the first item on the agenda, the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population made a statement describing the progress of the preparatory work for the Conference and highlighting the importance of the contribution which the regional commissions could make to its success. He added that the delegations of the countries participating in the work of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference had made valuable contributions to the work of the Committee and had approved 85 recommendations which would be submitted for consideration by the Conference when it met in Mexico City in August 1984.

273. Several delegations thanked the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population for the information provided by him on the activities being carried out under his guidance and expressed their appreciation of the work done in order to ensure the success of the Conference.

274. Since the Report of the Preparatory Committee (E/1984/28 and E/1984/28/Add.1) had recently been sent to the governments of the United Nations member countries, the Sessional Committee considered it unnecessary to analyse it at the present meeting, in view of the fact that the countries of the region had taken part in the work of the Preparatory Committee and that there was very little time available to deal with the matter in depth. It also noted that the work of the Preparatory Committee had been satisfactory.

275. With regard to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), the delegates expressed their appreciation of the contribution it had been making to population activities in countries of the region. The Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population thanked the delegations for their recognition of the Fund's work.

276. The Director of CELADE gave a description of the state of population policies in Latin America, fundamentally on the basis of the information collected through the fifth demographic survey carried out by the United Nations Secretariat. He went on to highlight the most salient aspects as regards the adoption of population policies, the degree of definition of goals and objectives, and the way such policies fitted into the development plans and strategies of the countries of the region.

277. He also stressed the importance of a regional approach which took account of the characteristics of the region and of the countries belonging to it. He emphasized the need to intensify the integration of the population variable into the process of economic and social development planning.

/278. The

278. The representative of Mexico, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, presented the report of that meeting, distributed by the Secretariat under the symbol E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.19, and highlighted the most important aspects of resolution 3, "Latin American proposal to the International Conference on Population", adopted at that meeting.

279. When the discussions were opened on the second item of the agenda, the Chairman proposed, and the Committee agreed, that document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.19 should not be discussed, since it was known to reflect the position of Latin America and the Caribbean with respect to the International Conference on Population, 1984. Any observation which the various delegations might wish to make on that document would be taken into account in the Committee's report.

280. One delegation said that a meeting on population convened by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) would be held in St. Lucia at the end of April 1984 and it felt that the meeting of the Committee of the Whole of ECLA which was to be held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, at the end of June 1984 should be informed by the member countries of CARICOM regarding the conclusions of the St. Lucia meeting. Another delegation expressed agreement with that proposal and added that the report of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population did not take sufficient account of some points which that delegation considered to be important, such as the topic of international migrations in the English-speaking Caribbean. It also expressed its desire that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities should expand its assistance to population activities in the English-speaking Caribbean and that the Fund should be strengthened and given more support to that end.

281. The Committee took note of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population, 1984 (E/1984/28 and E/1984/28/Add.1) and approved by consensus the report of the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for that Conference (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.19). The Committee also approved a draft resolution on strengthening of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

282. The representative of France said that his country had taken various measures to ensure that it would play a good part in the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico City in August 1984. Many of the topics now being studied in his country in the field of population were in line with the views stated by the participants in the Preparatory Committee for that Conference. Furthermore, France supported the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and shared the views expressed by the other delegations regarding the Fund. As regards the draft resolution on strengthening of that Fund, however, he asked that his delegation's reservation be placed on record concerning the mentioning in that draft resolution of a recommendation of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference before the International Conference on Population, scheduled for August 1984, had actually been held.

283. At its last meeting the Committee approved the present report of its proceedings for submission to the Plenary of the Commission.

/Plenary meetings

Plenary meetings

284. At the opening of the technical phase of the twentieth session, the Executive Secretary of ECLA thanked the Government of Peru for its generous hospitality and expressed his appreciation to the distinguished delegations participating in the meeting. He recalled the historic role which the Commission had been called on to play as the forum which had given rise to the great commitments of the region: co-operation and integration.

285. The twentieth session had before it two major tasks: a) to review the strategy approved at previous sessions in the light of the current critical situation; and b) to find a way to deal with the recession, to which end the countries of the region would have to make drastic adjustments. Another major objective of the Commission was to strengthen regional co-operation.

286. Finally, he stressed that the current session was not an isolated event but rather was one more in a series of recent international meetings held for similar purposes: the Latin American Economic Conference, held at Quito in January 1984; the deliberations on the renegotiation of the external debt carried out in the Organization of American States between Latin America and the United States, and the recent meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank at Punta del Este.

287. Mr. Carlos de Provença Rosa, Director of the Economic Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Brazil, speaking on behalf of all the delegations present, thanked the Government and people of Peru for their hospitality. He expressed his satisfaction with the documentation prepared by the Secretariat and congratulated the Officers on their election.

288. Mr. Ignacio Basombrío, Head of the National Planning Institute of Peru, serving as Chairman of the technical phase of the session, thanked the participants for choosing him to lead that stage of the Commission's work and said that although the current crisis did indeed present certain dangers, it also offered great opportunities for the region to find solutions and to achieve progress, inasmuch as, by involving the entire society, it challenged it to constant and fruitful reflection. At its current session, the Commission did not presume to discover absolute truths; it merely sought to provide partial answers to some of the great questions of the moment or to raise new questions concerning existing problems. The region could not feel fully satisfied with what had been accomplished to date. The countries' domestic savings capacity had been reduced, forcing them to depend on external indebtedness, a seemingly easy mechanism for financing development but one which was very costly in the long run. In order to determine what mistakes had been made in the past, the region should undertake a critical review from the technical, political and social viewpoints. With unity among the countries of the region and a serious internal effort on their part, and with the understanding and support of the developed countries, Latin America could certainly emerge triumphant from the current crisis.

/289. After

289. After stressing the importance of some of the items to be dealt with at the current session, particularly those directly related to the improvement of the quality of life for all the inhabitants of the region (e.g., human settlements and the environment), he declared the twentieth session open.

290. The work of the Commission was carried out in the six committees established, which subsequently submitted their reports to the Commission at its plenary meetings.\*/

291. Initiating the general debate, the Executive Secretary of ECLA, Mr. Enrique V. Iglesias, gave a presentation in which he supplemented the information contained in the documents prepared by the Commission for the current session and made some general remarks about the subjects considered at the meeting. He recalled that three years ago, on a similar occasion, the basic elements of the International Development Strategy and of what had been termed the Regional Programme of Action for Latin America had been analysed. At that time, the forecasts had been optimistic, but even as far back as 1981 the first signs of one of the most severe crises ever experienced by the region had already become apparent. He then briefly analysed the internal and external causes of the crisis, the outlook and long-term implications of the adjustment, and the lessons to be learned from the past.

292. He said that the crisis had been due, inter alia, to domestic development strategies, combined with the financial permissiveness which had encouraged borrowing and to sudden changes in the international economic situation. He emphasized that, although it was true that the crisis had been partly provoked by internal causes, it had been precipitated and exacerbated by factors beyond the control of the region, and it clearly could not be overcome without incurring social costs. The region had faced up to the situation very responsibly and had made a determined internal effort. Nevertheless, it must be acknowledged that the conditions which would have justified the hopes placed in an adjustment process based on the hypothesis of a reactivation of the international economy had not been realized. The document which had emerged from the meeting recently held at Quito had underscored the need for changes in the terms for renegotiating the debt.

293. With respect to international trade, he stated that, although it had been the source of problems, it could also contribute to their solution. He urged the delegates to look beyond the immediate effects of the crisis, observing that this was the aim of the work done by ECLA. There were changing external factors which would have to be taken into account. He remarked that no paradigms existed for the current situation, but there were a number of considerations, including those changing external elements, which must be borne in mind in order to deal with the crisis. In future, the pivotal factors would be the mobilization of internal efforts, the need to improve domestic markets while taking the international market into consideration, and a redefinition of external relations with a view to the regional market in accordance with a strategy which would assign priority to the social sector.

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\*/ See paragraphs 34 to 283 above.

He warned that it would be a mistake to lapse into destructive pessimism, and characterized the 1980s as representing an opportunity for Latin America to react to events. The important point was to realize that things would not be as they had been before and that a pragmatic attitude, based on experience, was required.

294. The Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) then addressed the meeting. He stated that in Latin America and the Caribbean, the awareness of the importance of the subject of population stemmed from the awareness which existed of development-related issues. He mentioned some population problems faced by the region which fell within the sphere of the topics to be considered at the forthcoming 1984 International Conference on Population. He recommended that support should be provided for the work carried out by the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) in the field of population.

295. The Minister of Industry and Commerce of Paraguay explained that his country's balance-of-payments deficit had not been caused by the servicing of the external debt but rather by the growing deficit on its balance of trade with the region. He therefore considered it necessary to reformulate the policies relating to Latin American economic integration so as to rectify the situation; this would involve, for example, redirecting a portion of State purchasing power towards intra-regional trade and promoting co-operation in the manufacture and procurement of capital goods in the region.

296. He noted that the recessionary crisis in Paraguay had begun as early as 1973, when the inordinate rise in oil prices had seriously affected the country, since it was a net hydrocarbon importer. However, the construction of large hydroelectric dams would not only allow the country to move towards self-sufficiency in energy, but would also provide it with suitable technology and highly skilled personnel which could benefit the other Latin American countries. Lastly, he stressed that the main factor in the spectacular economic growth achieved during the past decade had been the intensive development of agro-industry, to such a point that the country had attained food self-sufficiency.

297. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) said he was very pleased to have the opportunity to participate in the work of the current session of ECLA and briefly reviewed the relations between the two regional commissions. He stressed the role which Latin America had played in developing the concepts of ECDC and TCDC, and expressed his conviction that it was incumbent upon ECLA and ECA to dynamize the process of South-South co-operation and to support the efforts made by the member countries to pass beyond rhetoric and move on to reality. He spoke of the aspiration of the countries of his region to establish an African economic community and common market, noting that the first step in this direction had been the creation of three major economic groupings. Finally, he mentioned the serious effects of the current economic and social crisis on the African countries and expressed his hope that, in a true spirit of solidarity and South-South co-operation, the member countries of ECLA would extend all the help they could to this region.

298. The Deputy Director-General of ILO expressed concern about the possible social impact of the application of recessionary economic policies and advocated a broad-based social compact among workers, employers and governments with a view to establishing a consensual mandate in order to control the situation. He went on to say that the adjustment policies being applied had prompted an increase in under-employment, a considerable rise in open unemployment, a decrease in wages and a rapid expansion of the informal urban sector, all of which had given rise to great social agitation and protest movements in the region. Lastly, he asserted that only through the institutionalized consultation of the social actors could a consensus be reached in order to seek stable solutions which would safeguard pluralism, the orderly change of government, and respect for human dignity.

299. The United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator summarized the nature of his Office's terms of reference, functions and modes of operation, as well as the aid which it had provided recently to countries of the region. He also reviewed some of the programmes carried out by the Office in those countries concerning pre-disaster planning. He explained that its terms of reference covered not only disaster relief but also the prevention of and preparations for dealing with such disasters. He underlined the fact that its main responsibility was to co-ordinate the emergency aid provided by organizations of the United Nations system and bilateral contributors. Finally, he called for support for the joint activities undertaken by the organizations of the system in order to obtain the fullest benefit from the resources available.

300. The Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) sent the meeting a message in which he stressed the Institute's desire to maintain and strengthen co-operation with ECLA through seminars whose aim would be to identify the most pressing problems relating to training and research in the region with a view to designing programmes which would later permit the interregional exchange of information on experiences in this field.

301. The observer of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) referred to the results achieved by CMEA and its member countries in its 35 years of activity. That activity was directed towards the mobilization of its members' national material and financial resources, the expansion of bilateral and multilateral co-operation, and economic integration with a view to attaining the objectives of economic and social growth. The experience accumulated by the CMEA countries showed that it was possible, within the space of a single generation, to solve such complex problems as dynamic growth of the economy, the elimination of hunger and misery, and the need to guarantee the population full employment and free medical attention and education. She went on to refer to the questions of the development of trade, economic, scientific and technical relations between the CMEA countries and the developing nations, including those of Latin America, and the promotion of co-operation between the secretariats of CMEA and ECLA. Finally, she said that CMEA would place at the disposal of ECLA 22 fellowships to institutes of higher and specialized secondary education in CMEA member countries.

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302. The representative of Colombia stated that Latin America was beginning to witness the anxiously awaited political changes, which were emerging together with the expression of a willingness to combine efforts and to act in a unity of purpose and goals. Its capacity to work jointly to solve the serious problems of the area had been strengthened, but its institutional contacts with the rest of the world (South and North) needed reinforcement. He recommended that Latin America should recapture for itself the economic forum of the OAS and recalled that on a number of occasions President Belisario Betancur had proposed that a Latin American monetary fund be created, which could give the region's countries financial assistance in coping with their balance-of-payments problems. In his opinion, it would be worth while for ECLA to perform a study aimed at enlarging the scope of operation of already existing mechanisms, such as the Andean Reserve Fund.

303. He touched upon critical situations in Central America which had sparked off unprecedented violence and the political efforts of the Contadora Group, which had not lost sight of the need for a substantial change in the economic conditions in that zone. In this connection he expressed his satisfaction at the support given by the Latin American countries to the Action Committee in Support of the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA), an instrument which constituted the region's answer to Central America's pressing need for more fruitful assistance.

304. The speaker concluded by enumerating several steps that had been taken by Colombia to face up to the present crisis, measures which he summarized in a single brief phrase -self-imposed austerity- and which, in any case, were better than those which the IMF and the creditor banks were later to apply to the countries of the region.

305. The representative of the Dominican Republic said that his government had for the past few years undoubtedly taken a leading position in mechanisms addressed at finding solutions to the serious problems which affected the region, and had participated actively in various inter-governmental forums. It had also offered Santo Domingo as the site for the preparatory meeting for the Latin American Economic Conference, the most important political and economic meeting that had been held in Latin America and the Caribbean to date. The Declaration signed on that occasion constituted a commitment to reassert the brotherhood and solidarity of the peoples of the region and to work jointly toward urgently needed solutions.

306. He underscored the heavy burden constituted by the external debt service and the scanty capital resources left by it to finance the countries' growth and development. Most of the governments had been compelled to implement policies of adjustment and stabilization to alleviate the external imbalance and hold back inflation, in compliance with the guidelines laid down by the International Monetary Fund. The results had been an economic recession and the reduction of employment, as well as of the people's standard of living, which could have been avoided had the adjustment been made in a more gradual and flexible way. Although the debt service was a sacred obligation to the countries of the region the time was fast approaching when all they would have available to deal with it was the poverty of their peoples, a fact which the creditor countries should keep in mind when laying down their conditions. He concluded by stating that the Dominican Republic supported any decisions adopted by ECLA and the rest of the regional and subregional bodies which might contribute to finding a way out of the crisis.

307. The representative of France, speaking on behalf of the ten member States of the European Economic Community, stated that undoubtedly the most important problem looming up was that of the external debt, which continued to balloon although its rate of growth had slowed down since 1982. This issue needed to be tackled in a spirit of understanding and co-operation, not of reciprocal confrontation or accusation. The crisis called for a variety of both domestic and external solutions: on the one hand, the adjustment policies held the danger of probable adverse social consequences; on the other, the debt restructuring operations called for a high financial outlay and exerted pressure on the balances of payments of the industrialized countries. Collaboration between debtors and creditors, public or private, was an absolute necessity.

308. The existing situation was serious and required the adoption of drastic and painful measures which had to comply with the terms laid down in the international commitments assumed by the countries. Fortunately, Latin America possessed the material resources -especially manpower- which would enable it to emerge triumphantly from the crisis. In that connection, he cited regional co-operation and the role played by ECLA in furthering technical and economic co-operation among the developing countries. The EEC, which had closely followed the course of the Latin American Economic Conference and ECLA's participation in the preparations for that Conference, was willing to hold serious conversations with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in an effort to promote regional co-operation and to collaborate, to the best of its ability, in helping to overcome the region's economic crisis. He recalled that the strengthening of the links of co-operation between the Community and Latin America had led last December to the signing of an agreement with the Andean Pact, to be added to those already existing with Mexico and with Brazil. Ways of increasing its collaboration with the Central American countries was a matter currently under study.

309. Subsequently, speaking on behalf of France, he stated that his country attached great importance to reinforcing co-operation among developing countries. He underscored the relationship of close collaboration existing between the countries of Latin America and those of the Caribbean, and considered that encouragement should be given to the effort to establish a body to co-ordinate development in Central America. Only a week earlier the Inter-American Development Bank had held its annual meeting of governors, at which France had been represented, in an encouraging climate of harmony. His country intended to give renewed support to ECLA's activities and to maintain a policy of close co-operation with the Latin American and Caribbean countries, to which France was linked by a long-standing tradition of friendship. France would also continue to provide backing to regional or subregional development projects and would furnish technical or other assistance to projects carried out under the aegis of ECLA, CELADE and ILPES. He concluded by stressing his government's policy of close co-operation with the developing countries and the active involvement of France in the negotiation of the coffee, cocoa and tropical forest agreements, which were of essential importance to many of the developing countries.

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310. The Economic Advisor of the Office of the President of the Republic of Bolivia said that in view of the current economic situation, a rehabilitation and development plan in which two areas of the economy were identified had been formulated in his country. The first of those areas, which was of priority importance and included the production of commodities, essential consumer items and articles in general use and export goods, was receiving the greatest possible support from those aspects of the economic policy which related to investments, credits, foreign currency, taxes and assistance. The other area, which complemented the first one, included financial and commercial intermediation activities and was responsible for generating its own momentum.

311. With regard to the external sector, he referred to economic complementarity with the River Plate Basin and the Andean Group and, at the political level, to the consolidation and enhancement of democracy. He said that the external debt should be renegotiated on terms which did not jeopardize democracy in his country, so that it was necessary to obtain new payment periods, longer periods of grace, better interest rates and new loans.

312. The representative of Mexico stated that it had been necessary to undertake radical measures of economic reorganization and structural changes in order to tackle the crisis. Emphasis was given, in the former category, to austerity measures and those taken to secure greater productivity from government spending, increased fiscal revenue, a reduction to moderate levels of profits and wages and salaries, encouragement of domestic saving and the implementation of a new exchange rate and foreign trade scheme. Outstanding among the structural changes were the reorganization of the public administration and the redefining of fiscal spending and investment priorities, an enlargement of the scope of tax reform, promotion of an increase in employment, in the supply of goods available to the poorest sectors of society, and in the output of the production system, and the restructuring of the financial system. A new planning law had been enacted as well, which incorporated as its key element the participation of the people and made it possible to regulate, clearly define and conceptualize the planning process.

313. He said that the changes made had had several significant initial results: i.e., a drop in inflation, the production of a current-account surplus, an increase in non-petroleum exports, and greater availability of foreign currency. The decline in production had also been checked and the rate of open unemployment had not risen any further. Finally, he said, only through active international co-operation would it be possible to solve the problems stemming from external financing and the renegotiation of the foreign debt.

314. The representative of the United States said that all the States in the hemisphere suffered from economic dislocations and that the United States supported the aspirations of other nations to attain economic growth. The help that could come from increased private economic activity and from self-help was more important than any help the Government of the United States could give and an orderly adjustment would be less painful and less disruptive than the abrupt reordering that would follow if debtors carried through with threats to topple the established system.

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315. His government endorsed the International Development Strategy but had problems with some of its specific prescriptions. It felt that external financing was over-emphasized and that domestic financial policy was downplayed. It recognized that some obstacles to economic development, such as financial disequilibrium, apparent lack of employment opportunities, inadequate sharing of the benefits of development and various barriers to intra-regional trade might exist in Latin America and the Caribbean. To overcome those obstacles, the United States supported efforts to effect economic stabilization in the near term, basic structural reforms and long-term development programmes.

316. The issue of the day was the resolution of the debt crisis, which must come from co-operative action on the part of the debtor nations, the creditor nations, the major commercial banks and the international financial institutions. The basic elements in the strategy adopted by the United States were continued economic adjustment by debtor countries, support for the adjustment process by strengthening the International Monetary Fund, short-term infusions of liquidity by creditor governments, continued commercial bank financing and, within the industrialized countries, a facilitation of economic recovery and support for open markets.

317. The nations were slowly beginning to emerge from the crisis. Non-inflationary recovery in the industrial world now seemed to be fully established; there were indications of strengthened real GNP growth during 1984; the deterioration in the trade balance of the United States had improved trade prospects for non-OPEC developing countries; reschedulings of private and public debt with private financial institutions had progressed, and Latin American exports to the United States were on the rise.

318. The President of the Ibero-American Co-operation Institute (ICI) was of the opinion that the only possible way out of the current crisis would be to implement an active, systematic, widespread and effective policy of international co-operation. In that context, Spain's future membership in the EEC should not worry the Latin American countries because of any possible adverse effect it might have on their exports, for that country intended to pursue as one of its lines of negotiation with the EEC the maximum safeguarding of its important trade relations with the region. In the area of the ongoing collaboration between the ICI and ECLA, he mentioned that specific studies were being carried out with a view to assessing the trade, financial and technological relations existing between Spain and the Latin American region, while democracy and youth-oriented cultural activities were also being organized.

319. The representative of Cuba said that the effects of the crisis that had been unleashed basically by the recession existing in the capitalistic world had been intensified in the case of his country by the persistent economic blockade to which it was being subjected. He reiterated the need for the establishment of a new international economic order to change the existing situation and expressed his government's support for the agreements signed at the regional meetings that had been held with regard to the issue, especially the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action.

320. He went on to condemn the adjustment policies that had been imposed on most of the region's countries by the IMF for the renegotiation of their foreign debt, which had resulted in larger balance-of-payments deficits, a worsening of the terms of trade, a rise in consumer prices and an increase in their foreign debt. Consequently, he called upon the countries of the region to strengthen their links of co-operation and integration in order to enhance their negotiating power and find effective formulas for achieving true economic and social development.

321. The observer from UNICEF reminded the meeting that the heaviest burden of the economic recession had fallen on the sector least capable of bearing it, namely, children, while social programmes in the areas of health and education had been the most penalized because they were not considered profitable. With only meagre resources, however, it would be possible to secure excellent results in the short term if only there was the political will to undertake such activities. She called upon the countries to concentrate their efforts on primary health care and basic education. With the active participation of the community and of the mass communication media, programmes of mass vaccination and of treatment of infant diarrhea (the region's number one cause of death) could be conducted and the necessary basic education could be provided to raise the level of schooling in the region.

322. The delegation of El Salvador said that the ECLA session was taking place during an economic crisis which was endangering the region's capacity for development and its stability, and which heightened the importance of interregional links. It urged all the member countries of the Commission to promote global negotiations, and said that the crisis was even more serious in El Salvador, as several indicators in ECLA documents had shown. Given the state of social emergency caused by that situation in its country, the delegation requested that the agenda of the next session of the ECLA Committee of the Whole, to be held in New York, should include El Salvador's plea to be considered as if it were a relatively less developed country, so that it could be given treatment similar to that accorded to the countries appearing on the list contained in General Assembly resolution 2786(XXVI). To that end, it cited precedents issued by the Committee of the Whole at its meetings of September 1979 and December 1982. Finally, it repeated its deep conviction that solutions to the current international crisis could only be found through effective measures of solidarity and understanding among nations.

323. The delegation of the Soviet Union stressed the importance of peace, as well as the relationship between peace, disarmament and development. In that connection, it called for an end to the nuclear arms race and supported the designation of Latin America as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, mentioning General Assembly resolution 38/188 on disarmament in that respect. The Soviet delegation laid emphasis on the conclusions of the Quito Latin American Economic Conference, in which reference was made to peace and the need to solve the problems of the Central American area by negotiation, and reaffirmed the Soviet Union's commitment to the restructuring of international economic relations, which, as they stood at present, permitted the developed countries to transfer the burden of their economic problems to the developing countries.

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324. It made reference in that respect to the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, the New International Economic Order, the IDS, and the process of review and appraisal of the latter's implementation. After expressing its support for the positive outcome of UNCTAD VI and the preparations for the Sixth General Conference of UNIDO, the delegation said that the Soviet Union promoted co-operation and economic and trade links among all nations and condemned the use of economic measures as instruments of political pressure. The delegation said that the steady development of the Soviet economy, because of its centrally planned nature, had a stabilizing influence on the world economy; it highlighted Soviet trade with Latin America, which represented a substantial transfer of resources to the latter region and was carried out through intergovernmental agreements. It emphasized its willingness to collaborate with the work of ECLA, which was clearly reflected, for example, in the work done in connection with the CMEA.

325. The representative of Canada stressed the urgency of undertaking realistic projects designed to alleviate the problems of economic recession, debt crisis and continuing political turmoil. The debt problem was a serious one which could persist for a number of years, and would require continued co-operation among debtor States, creditor Governments, banks and international institutions. The documents prepared for the session had been very useful, and would continue to serve as a basis for constructive discussion in other international forums. His delegation had been particularly interested in the discussions concerning the integration of women into the economic and social development of the region, the International Youth Year and the Second World Population Conference. His government was paying more attention to the role of women in the development process and supported efforts of other countries to increase the participation of women in all aspects of their societies.

326. With regard to the International Youth Year, he said his government would soon be announcing a national programme which would include financial assistance to youth organizations and a national information clearing house on International Youth Year activities. Referring to youth unemployment, he said that the perceptions of future employees and employers were key factors in the creation of better understanding of youth everywhere, including the indigenous, the disabled and disadvantaged.

327. Concerning population he said his government looked forward to a highly successful conference in Mexico in August 1984 and attached great importance to the role played by the regional commissions in formulating mutually supported recommendations of a balanced and constructive nature.

328. The observer from the European Economic Community described the role played by the Community in the efforts to overcome the economic crisis. In the Community there had been a slight recovery of economic activity in 1983 and the stabilization policies undertaken throughout its member countries were expected to bear fruit in 1984. The recovery was however still not very strong. In the present conditions it was not surprising that the member States of the Community had been subject to protectionist pressures, which they had, however, successfully resisted. The

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Community had decided to accelerate the tariff reductions resulting from the Tokyo Round and had spared no efforts with respect to aid to the developing countries. Foreign trade represented over 12% of the Community's gross domestic product, and there had been a marked tendency for the share of trade with countries outside the Community to rise. He noted that the Community absorbed 37% of all exports from developing countries to industrialized countries, that during the 1980s there had been a constant rise, in absolute values, in exports from Latin America to the Community, and that in addition the preference arrangements of the Community, unlike those of the other industrial countries, covered all manufactures without exception. The Community's trade balance with Latin America traditionally showed a deficit, and that deficit had increased dramatically in 1982 and had become even larger in 1983. The Community was also the world's largest importer of agricultural commodities and, in 1982, 53% of the value of those imports had come from developing countries.

329. With regard to the Quito Declaration, he said that the Community had declared itself ready to examine the question of trade measures accompanying the debt renegotiation process. The Community was convinced that new approaches to co-operation between it and the Latin American countries were possible and that they should be embarked upon for the good of all.

330. The representative of the United Kingdom said that the current session of the Economic Commission for Latin America was particularly important because the region was just emerging from the worst recession since the 1930s. Consideration of the implementation of the International Development Strategy gave the participants an opportunity for an exchange of views, but it was important to guard against unrealistic expectations as to what could be achieved.

331. The greatest challenge facing the region was the debt crisis, but so far that crisis had been contained. In some important cases, trade balances had moved into surplus, and no economy in the region had moved from a state of scarce liquidity to one of insolvency. There were, however, no grounds for satisfaction either. His government was aware that many countries had undertaken adjustment measures, that their output had declined and that real standards of living had been eroded. It took the view that debtors and creditors must work together to solve debt problems. It understood the concerns of Quito and would examine them in greater detail during the next few months. It was essential for the Latin American countries to meet their obligations, and the United Kingdom, as a creditor country, had played a significant role by guaranteeing bridging finance in some special cases. It had participated fully in the Paris Club negotiations and supported the key role played by the IMF.

332. The United Kingdom firmly believed that the discipline demanded by the IMF was crucial for every debtor country, since it created conditions in which commercial banks would continue to lend. British banks had assisted debtor countries, but the latter's prospects depended on the success of their own adjustment policies. The developing countries were not alone in having to undertake painful adjustment measures; industrialized countries also suffered from negative rates of growth and from unemployment. However, the results of seeking sound economies were already beginning to show.

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333. The representative of Guatemala underlined the contribution that ECLA had made to transforming the concept of integration into a development model, a way of life, and a solution to Central America's struggle for survival. Integration had been and would continue to be a logical alternative for surmounting the problems shared by the countries in facing the current crisis. He went on to say that Guatemala possessed a proven vocation for integration and a deep-rooted feeling of Latin American brotherhood which had led it to extend its active support to the efforts made by ECLA to ensure the success of the Latin American Economic Conference and the Quito Plan of Action. His delegation was confident that the Commission would maintain a vigilant attitude vis-à-vis the crisis and would lay down guidelines which, together with the measures actively taken by each of the region's countries, would eventually lead to the sought-after economic recovery.
334. The representative of Chile emphasized the role that ECLA had been called upon to play as a body devoted to study, analysis, and the promotion of co-operation and dialogue in dealing with the current economic crisis. He outlined the main stages of his country's recent economic evolution and underscored what he described as the unprecedented progress made between 1976 and 1980, followed by some deterioration in the last three years, as highlighted by a number of phenomena, the most disquieting of which were unemployment, the decline in exports and the drop in reserves, all of which he considered to have been externally induced. Despite the many efforts made by his government to overcome the crisis, recovery was proceeding very slowly.
335. His country was confident of ECLA's effective collaboration in areas such as the review of the most suitable mechanisms for augmenting the efficiency of the production sectors, technological development, the creation of systems for attracting foreign capital to supplement domestic savings, and diversification and expansion of the export structure. Finally, he said that because of its capacity to bring together the countries of the region, ECLA should continue to work jointly with other bodies to secure a consensus on formulas which would make it possible to tackle the region's serious problem of indebtedness, while keeping in mind Latin America's enormous potential for development.
336. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that his Government had followed the Latin American Economic Conference with great interest and noted with appreciation the efforts of the Latin American States, as expressed in the Quito documents, to combat their economic problems as a group. It was his belief that efforts should not be directed towards ascribing responsibility for debt problems but rather towards establishing a dialogue among all those concerned since, in order to achieve an orderly readjustment while avoiding social disruption, the debtor countries needed new credits which could only be obtained by showing their willingness to fulfill the payment obligations established in the reschedulings of their external debts and to introduce the necessary adjustments in their economies. It was his opinion that, as part of the world economic recovery, the region's export prospects and terms of trade would improve. For its part, his Government would collaborate by opposing protectionist tendencies.

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337. He stressed the interest of the Government and of investors in his country in the continuance of good economic relations with the region, and underscored the traditionally high level of direct investments by private German companies. In recent years the imports of the Federal Republic of Germany from Latin America and the Caribbean had greatly increased, whereas its exports to the region had declined considerably; his country could therefore be said to have contributed to the export surpluses of Latin America and the Caribbean.

338. He went on to observe that his Government's bilateral co-operation with Latin America and the Caribbean was increasing in volume. With respect to ECLA projects, in 1983 attention had been focused on trade, energy and infrastructure, and over one million German marks had been contributed; in 1984, there were plans to provide German funds for activities related to rational energy use and environmental improvement. He felt that the region's vast potential for increasing its agricultural and industrial productivity was cause for optimism about the future, and observed that the Federal Republic of Germany was prepared to continue giving its active support to ECLA development activities.

339. The representative of Ecuador presented a brief analysis of the problems which had been encountered by his country and of the measures taken to combat them. Additional factors to be dealt with in 1983 had been the adverse effects of the worst of economic and financial crises, as well as major floods which had destroyed a large part of the roadway infrastructure and had caused heavy losses of exportable products and basic consumer goods, thus forcing the country to make additional food imports. This situation had led to a dramatic rise in inflation to 48.4%, and a 3.5% reduction in the gross domestic product. In the external sector, the decline in agricultural and manufactured exports had been alarming, and it was only because of the increase in oil exports that the drop in the other sectors had been offset. Import restrictions had become necessary which only allowed for purchases of essential goods (capital goods and inputs for agriculture and industry). The severity of the crisis forced the Government to implement a strict economic and social stabilization programme which involved a harsh adjustment of the economy and a great national sacrifice; this programme included the elimination of subsidies, the promulgation of a stringent law to control public spending and the initiation of a programme for a gradual adjustment of the value of the sucre.

340. He stressed that, at the international level, the Latin American Economic Conference at Quito had marked out a course of solidarity and unity for the region, and underlined the imperative need to strengthen the Latin American integration process on a more real and operative basis by increasing intra-regional trade and by seeking new mechanisms, especially in the area of finance, for overcoming the crisis in convertible currencies that was affecting almost all the countries of the region. He reaffirmed the proposal made by Ecuador at the Latin American Economic Conference regarding the issuance of bonds both to facilitate the payment of the external debt over the long term and to encourage the expansion of regional trade, and requested the co-operation of ECLA in conducting studies concerning this and other similar mechanisms.

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341. After advising the attending delegations that the President of Ecuador had already officially transmitted the findings of the Quito Conference to all the Heads of Government of the world and to the authorities of international agencies and financial institutions, he expressed the gratitude of the Government of Ecuador for the support which ECLA had offered at all stages of the Conference and underscored the interest demonstrated by the developed countries in analysing the subjects dealt with in the Quito documents.

342. The representative of Czechoslovakia said that his Government supported the efforts of the developing countries -and notably those of the member countries of ECLA- to restructure international economic relations on a fair and democratic basis. The maintenance of peace and the transfer of the funds now spent on arms to economic development activities could lay the foundations for building the New International Economic Order. His country considered the enormous increase in the debt of the developing countries as well as the arms race and its consequences to be examples of the imperialist system's negative influence on current international relations. He condemned the abuse of coercive economic measures such as embargoes, blockades, sanctions and politically-motivated discrimination, as well as the disastrous effects of the unchecked activities of international monopolies in the economies of the developing countries.

343. He applauded the establishment of relations between the Andean Pact and CMEA secretariats, inasmuch as integration helped to reinforce the economic independence of the less developed countries within the neo-colonial organization of international economic relations. He stated that, as a member of CMEA, Czechoslovakia looked forward to greater co-operation with ECLA in the future and observed that a good starting point would be the CANEXPO 84 exposition, to be held in Mexico City.

344. The representative of Jamaica directed the participants' attention to the large number of programmes contained in the Commission's programme of work whose implementation would, in part, be contingent upon the acquisition of extrabudgetary resources. He urged all the countries, and particularly those which had traditionally been major contributors, to bear in mind the ongoing role of the United Nations system in promoting development. In reference to the external debt and the current economic crisis, he praised the Secretariat for the fact that, rather than suggesting additional negotiations, it had developed a series of support programmes to assist the various governments in reorienting their economies to tackle the new situations created by the restructuring of the world economy. He also spoke highly of the Secretariat's proposal to conduct a study and, subsequently, to hold round table discussions for the purpose of increasing economic relations with the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, and expressed the hope that those initiatives might be carried out before the time scheduled for that purpose, which was the 1986-1987 biennium.

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345. He concluded by stating that the development of the Latin American region should be seen within the framework of the development of all subregions and all countries, and called for a unanimous decision to change the name of the Commission to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

346. The Director of the CEPAL Review, Dr. Raúl Prebisch, said that the serious crisis facing mankind was characterized by the inflation which had begun in the United States -the main dynamic centre of the system- and which had overflowed into the rest of the world. The dollars which had left the United States were now being returned to it, but this was the result of a governmental policy applied by that country to raise interest rates, which was sure to have adverse consequences.

347. The 1970s had been a decade of prosperity which had not, however, extended down to the lower strata. In addition to this phenomenon of social exclusion, competition among upper-level groups had led to a different type of inflation, which was structural in nature. The concentration of income in the small group privileged with a disproportionate share in the fruits of Technical progress had been compounded by the increasing consumption of the labour force as well as civil and military State spending. The rate of increase in expenditure on consumption always tended to exceed that of capital formation. In order for the system to grow, capital formation was indispensable, and this could only take place in the presence of a passive labour force and a laissez-faire State. If the labour force acquired union and political power and the State did not shirk its duties, the system tended towards a dynamic imbalance between the tendency to consume and capital formation which inexorably led to inflation. How was inflation to be curbed? Although a restrictive policy might accomplish this, it would only do so at an enormous social cost, since unemployment would supervene and the labour force, which was the weakest component of the system, would have to bear most of the burden of the crisis. It was the duty of economists to seek new formulas; a form of macroeconomic regulation other than monetary regulations was needed to rectify the tendency towards a dynamic imbalance.

348. The tendency to make the weakest part of the system shoulder the costs of adjustment was also present at the international level, and some theoreticians proposed a reduction in imports. Although it was possible to curb inflation in this way, the question -once again- was: at what cost? Talks concerning the restructuring of the debt were useful, but this course of action could not be followed indefinitely. The extension of time periods and the reduction of interest rates were problems within the purview of the governments which had allowed the private banks to carry out international operations without any regulation whatsoever, their only guide being the profit motive -and this led to inflation. A series of instances of irresponsibility had converged. What was lacking was a political decision of interest to all, both North and South, and it was slow in coming.

349. Thirty years ago, ECLA had begun to formulate the New International Economic Order in order to correct the international imbalance. A great deal of water had passed under the bridge since that time and some ideas had lost their cogency, and it was therefore necessary to have no misgivings about changing them. The same ideas about economic development were still being ruminated over as 100 years ago: capitalism or anti-capitalism. The best aspects of these ideas should be used, but it must be borne in mind that the position of the centres was distinct from that of the periphery, in that the latter exhibited major structural differences. Lastly, in speaking of the proposal to change the name of ECLA, he said that it was a name which had taken on meaning in its own right and voiced his desire that, just as the name of a country is not changed because its population increases, the name of the Commission should remain unaltered.

350. The observer for the Syrian Arab Republic stated that his country was fully aware of the serious economic problems afflicting the countries of the region as part of the broader economic crisis facing all developing countries as a result of the greater protectionism in many industrialized economies, high international interest rates and difficulties related to external financing policies. In the opinion of his Government, the crisis made it necessary to establish a new basis for international economic relations which would be of equal benefit to the developed and developing countries. It also strongly supported the move towards technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and eagerly welcomed co-operation between the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Western Asia.

351. The delegation of Argentina described the critical stage being experienced by the region and remarked that the permissiveness of the private banking system in the international order and the reduced operating capacity of international financial agencies had resulted in a widespread inability to confront and resolve the situation, which was aggravated by the application of unrealistic adjustment criteria. In his country, the application of unrestricted policies to open up the economy, uncontrolled borrowing and an overvaluation of the currency had resulted in a disastrous economic situation. He emphasized that high interest rates were the result of monetary policies applied by the central countries in order to reduce inflation by absorbing capital from the world financial system, and also indicated that no developing country was in a position to pay interest at rates far higher than its productivity levels.

352. With respect to the negotiations aimed at resolving the problems of the Argentine external debt, the speaker drew attention to the support provided by Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela, as well as the co-operation of the United States, which seemed to indicate the beginning of a change in the approach being taken to the debt problem along the lines of the Quito Declaration. It was also stressed that the factor which would lead to a real solution of the external debt problem was a change in international trade conditions that would reduce protectionism, permit free access to markets and make it possible to conclude agreements for improving the prices of the raw materials exported by developing countries. New circumstances made it imperative to replace outmoded approaches

/-according to

-according to which reducing a society's level of consumption was the means to be used for increasing investment and solving debt problems- with a new orthodoxy based on the maintenance and gradual growth of the consumption of the developing countries in order to increase production and trade, and thereby carry the recovery forward. Lastly, he observed that the international solidarity shown with regard to the Republic of Argentina stemmed from his country's return to democracy, liberty and the basic rights of man, as had been voiced by the President of the nation.

353. The delegation of Poland said that the world economic situation, which was marked by a recession involving great social costs and by tense international economic relations, had prevented the achievement of a structural adjustment and the creation of the conditions needed for an equitable international distribution of labour. Although there were some signs of a recovery, they were uncertain in the light of the restrictive economic policies applied by the countries playing a major role in world trade. The delegation went on to refer to the politically-motivated discrimination and sanctions which had affected its country's economy, and underlined the need to create appropriate mechanisms and instruments for overcoming the difficulties hindering reciprocal economic co-operation between Poland and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, citing specific examples where such co-operation had been fruitful. Finally, it pointed up the need for the political will and the measures required to restructure current international economic relations, and spoke of the Polish initiative contained in United Nations General Assembly resolution 38/196, which was designed to bolster confidence in international economic relations.

Consideration and adoption by the Commission of the reports and draft resolutions submitted by the Committees

a) Committee I

354. The Commission adopted the report of Committee I \*/ and took note of two draft resolutions submitted by the Committee for its consideration, the first concerning long-term development policies for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the second dealing with adjustment policies and the renegotiation of the external debt.

355. It then adopted resolution 457(XX) on long-term development policies for Latin America and the Caribbean.\*\*/

356. In connection with the draft resolution on adjustment policies and the renegotiation of the external debt, the Secretariat said that, barring any indications to the contrary, the observations made in Committee I would be considered as ratified in the plenary.\*\*\*/

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\*/ See paragraphs 34-92 above.

\*\*/ All the resolutions adopted at the twentieth session appear in part D of this report. See the listing on page 81.

\*\*\*/ See paragraphs 67-91 above.

357. Resolution 458(XX) on adjustment policies and the renegotiation of the external debt was adopted by a vote of 18 in favour and 1 against with 5 abstentions. The countries voting in favour of the resolution were: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela. The United States voted against the resolution. Canada, France, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom abstained.

358. In explaining the grounds for its vote against the resolution, the United States delegation asked that the following statement be placed on record:

"The United States Government, as a responsible member of the international community and deeply concerned about the external debt problems of Latin America and other developing nations, has adopted a positive and helpful approach by providing emergency loans to certain member countries of ECLA when it was needed and has developed a five-point strategy for dealing with the debt problem, as reflected in the report of Committee I.\*/"

"The United States delegation was flexible and worked very hard to search for a compromise in Committee I and the Working Group to achieve a resolution that could be supported by all the delegations.

"The present resolution is unbalanced because internal adjustment measures must be an important part of any strategy to deal with the debt problem.

"Protectionism in both developing and developed nations should be resisted; a one-sided approach is untenable and only leads to greater pressures for developed country protectionism.

"The United States Government cannot accept co-responsibility for debts contracted between private commercial banks and developing country governments. However, this does not mean we are unconcerned about them or ignore their impact.

"The United States is committed to the international financial system but we are very concerned about the Latin American and Caribbean debt problem. The United States is prepared to monitor the performance of the system and be flexible in the application of the debt strategy where necessary. For that reason we looked for real dialogue, compromise and co-operation at this twentieth session of ECLA."

359. The Governments of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and France, all members of the European Economic Community, regretted that they were unable to support the resolution concerning adjustment policies and the renegotiation of the external debt despite the fact that in general they approved of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of that resolution. They requested that the following explanations of their position be placed on record:

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\*/ See paragraph 86 above.

- "1. In the opinion of our governments, the appraisal contained in the resolution concerning the crisis affecting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean is not an objective analysis of the situation in so far as it attributes too great an importance to external factors and passes over the no less decisive role of internal factors.
- "2. With due regard for the oftentimes very painful social consequences of adjustment policies, our governments believe that the fact should be underlined that such measures are essential for the recovery of the Latin American and Caribbean countries affected by the crisis.
- "3. While convinced of the need to continue combating protectionism, as urged by the resolution, our governments do not, however, agree that this is solely the task of the developed countries.
- "4. Finally, we believe that the violent criticism of the developed countries contained in the preamble to this resolution is unacceptable to our governments and is even less justified inasmuch as they have unceasingly contributed in an active manner, to the full extent of their ability, to the efforts made by the international community on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean countries ever since the onset of the crisis."

b) Committee II

360. The Commission adopted the report of Committee II \*/ and considered seven draft resolutions proposed by this Committee.

361. On this basis, the Commission adopted resolutions 464(XX) concerning activities of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, 467(XX) on the new programme of work and support for the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), 468(XX) on the integration of women into development, and 469(XX) on a regional system for Latin American and Caribbean foreign trade statistics.

362. It also adopted resolution 466(XX) concerning the strengthening of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE). With respect to this resolution, one delegation felt that it would be premature to specify mechanisms for establishing a fund of additional resources for CELADE, since a more in-depth review of the analysis and studies conducted for that purpose was needed.

363. After being informed of a letter from the Government of Suriname to the Executive Secretary informing him that Suriname found it necessary to withdraw its offer to host the 21st session of ECLA, the Commission adopted resolution 471(XX) regarding the place and date of the next session.

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\*/ See paragraphs 93-216 above.

364. It also adopted resolution 465(XX) on the programme of work and calendar of conferences of ECLA by a vote of 22 in favour and 1 against (United States).\*/

365. The delegation of the United States explained the reasons for its vote; it supported the programme of work but, reiterating what had been said in that connection in Committee II, it found it necessary to vote against the resolution because one of the meetings included in the calendar of conferences would involve additional funding over and above that approved in the budget for the 1984-1985 biennium.

c) Sessional committee

i) Committee on Water

366. The Commission adopted the report of the Committee on Water \*\*/and considered the draft resolution proposed by this Committee, adopting it as resolution 461(XX) on activities in the field of water resources.

ii) Committee on Human Settlements

367. The Commission adopted the report of the Committee on Human Settlements \*\*\*/and considered a draft resolution proposed by this Committee, adopting it as resolution 462(XX) on ECLA activities in the field of human settlements.

iii) Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions

368. The Commission adopted the report of the Committee on Co-operation among Developing Countries and Regions \*\*\*\*/ and considered two draft resolutions proposed by this Committee.

369. On this basis, it adopted resolution 460(XX) on technical and economic co-operation between the countries of the Caribbean and the other countries of the region, and resolution 459(XX) on economic co-operation among developing countries.

370. Upon voting in favour of the latter resolution, the representative of Canada said that, as had been stated in the Committee when the subject was being considered, he wished to make an interpretative statement. His delegation reiterated its wholehearted support for the principle of economic co-operation among developing countries and recognized the contribution it could make to supplementing North-South co-operation and increasing the self-reliance of the developing countries. It also favoured the important role played by ECLA and the other regional commissions in promoting economic co-operation among developing countries, and believed that

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\*/ See the analysis of the subject conducted by Committee II in paragraphs 206-215 above, particularly the last paragraph.

\*\*/ See paragraphs 217-235 above.

\*\*\*/ See paragraphs 236-254 above.

\*\*\*\*/ See paragraphs 255-267 above.

the member States should provide support to the regional commissions in assuming those responsibilities effectively. However, it had difficulty with the notion that the ECLA Secretariat required additional extrabudgetary contributions from the developed member countries of the Commission in order to meet its responsibilities in that regard.

371. At its most recent session the General Assembly had adopted a regular budget of near-zero growth in real terms which provided ECLA with nearly US\$ 47 million for the 1984-1985 biennium -more than any other regional commission. His delegation believed that if the existing provision for co-operation among developing countries -which was by its very nature the primary concern of the developing countries themselves- was insufficient, there was considerable scope for redeployment within the overall resources available -a concept which had been advanced by a number of developing member countries of the Commission at various times during the conference.

372. The representative of the United Kingdom said that his delegation did not intend to oppose the resolution, but when the issue had been raised in the Committee, it had said it would wish to clarify its position in the Plenary. In that context he reiterated his Government's commitment to the pursuit of economic and technical co-operation. However, like the delegation of Canada, his delegation could not accept operative paragraphs 5 and 6 of the resolution and wished to place on record its reservations in that respect. It considered that it would be more appropriate for ECLA to consider the possibility of redeploying additional funds to co-operation activities among developing countries within the resources available. That would, of course, require savings elsewhere. Finally, his delegation did not consider it appropriate for ECLA to appeal to non-members of the Commission.

373. The representative of the United States said that his delegation shared the viewpoints just expressed.

d) Committee on Population

374. The Commission adopted the report of the Committee on Population \*/ and, based on a draft resolution proposed by this Committee, adopted resolution 463(XX) on strengthening the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

375. The representative of the United Kingdom observed that his delegation supported the resolution in general, but would like it to be reflected in the record that his Government has given strong support to the UNFPA and that its voluntary contributions had maintained their real value over the years. The total expenditures by the United Kingdom on population-related activities had risen by 45% between 1981 and 1982. With respect to the UNFPA in particular, the United Kingdom had pledged £ 3 million for 1984 at the United Nations Pledging Conference (November 1983). He added that while his Government would seriously consider the appeal for increased contributions to the Fund contained in paragraph 2 of resolution 463(XX), it could not at this stage commit itself to further contributions.

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\*/ See paragraphs 268-283 above.

Consideration and adoption of resolutions submitted directly to the plenary of the Commission

Admission of Portugal as a member of the Commission

376. The Secretariat reported that the Executive Secretary had received the following message from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Mr. Jaime Gama: "Mr. Executive Secretary: the Government of Portugal has followed with the greatest interest the action taken by the Economic Commission for Latin America to promote the economic and social development of the countries of the region. The Government of Portugal believes that following the activities of the Commission more closely will open up new vistas for the co-operation already taking place between Portugal and the member countries. It is in this context that I have the honour of submitting to you a formal request by the Government of Portugal for admission as a full member of the Economic Commission for Latin America. The Government of Portugal hopes that its request will be favourably received so that this initiative may help to make the traditionally friendly relations which happily exist between Portugal and its fellow countries of Latin America even closer."

377. The Commission adopted with great satisfaction resolution 452(XX) recommending to the Economic and Social Council that Portugal be admitted as an associate member of the Commission.

378. The delegation of Portugal, on behalf of its Government, thanked the member countries of the Commission for their support which, in its judgement, reflected a community of ideas and a common cultural heritage. The delegation then spoke of its Government's eagerness to collaborate actively and on an ongoing basis in the future with the other members of the Commission in attempting to overcome the adverse effects of the international economic crisis by means of a dynamic dialogue devoted to furthering harmonious co-existence.

Admission of the British Virgin Islands as an associate member of the Commission \*/

379. The representative of the United Kingdom submitted a request for the admission of the British Virgin Islands as an associate member of the Commission.

380. The Commission thereupon adopted by acclamation resolution 453(XX), by which the British Virgin Islands was admitted as an associate member of ECLA.

381. The representative of the British Virgin Islands expressed appreciation for that decision and gave a brief overview of the Territory's present situation in which mention was made of some of the problems it faced due to its great geographic dispersion in relation to its small land area and population as well as to the precarious position of its economy, which relied heavily on tourism and especially on tourism from the United States. The representative voiced the conviction that the Territory would benefit greatly from its incorporation as an associate member of ECLA.

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\*/ In dealing with this subject, the Commission had before it document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.16.



382. Following the adoption of resolution 453(XX), the delegation of Argentina, which supported that resolution, made reference to the ongoing work of the United Nations to speed up the process of decolonization, which was the basis for article 3 of the Terms of Reference of ECLA and which had given rise to numerous General Assembly resolutions. The delegation observed that "the objective of the status of associate membership is that it should be reserved exclusively for those non-autonomous territories which are apt to achieve their independence through the application of the people's right to self-determination", and noted that each territory should be considered individually without making any prejudgements as to the principle applicable to each one. In this regard, the delegation stated:

"In those cases where a population settled in a non-autonomous territory is not internationally recognized as having a right to self-determination, or where there is an issue predating the consideration of the subject of decolonization -such as a dispute over sovereignty whose continuance jeopardizes the principle of the right to territorial integrity- it is not possible to attribute to that territory the benefits provided for in article 3, as cited above.

"The objective criteria establishing whether a non-autonomous territory does or does not have the right to be admitted as an associate member of ECLA are set forth in the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly in the consideration of each individual case.

"Bearing this distinction in mind, we should like to refer to the "Malvinas Question", a colonial situation in which the frame of reference is a dispute over sovereignty between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland which began 151 years ago with the illegitimate occupation of the Islands without, at any time, the consent of the Argentine Republic.

"The United Nations General Assembly has stated that the peaceful resolution of this dispute over sovereignty between the two States is the specific means for putting an end to this colonial situation and has ruled out the application of the right to free determination in this special and particular case.

"The delegation of Argentina has wholeheartedly supported the admission of the Virgin Islands as an associate member of ECLA, thereby ensuring the fulfilment of the General Assembly resolutions, so that these non-autonomous territories in particular may soon enjoy the benefits of the process of decolonization.

"With this same purpose, the Government of the Argentine Republic, through its delegation, once again calls for the fulfilment of General Assembly resolutions 2065(XX), 3160(XXVIII), 31/49 and 38/12 for the achievement of a definitive solution to the "Malvinas Question".

/"Inspired by

"Inspired by its devotion to peace, democracy and decolonization, the Argentine Government claims its sovereign rights over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and calls upon the Latin American community to carry forward the process of decolonizing the continent with due respect for the particular aspects of each case".

383. The delegation of the United Kingdom observed that the present meeting was not the appropriate forum for debating the subject raised by the delegation of Argentina.

384. The delegation of Spain made the following statement:

"Clearly, the delegation of Spain has obviously not opposed the adoption by consensus of the draft resolution relating to the admission of the British Virgin Islands as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

"The delegation of Spain would, however, like it to be placed on record that its lack of opposition to the above-mentioned draft resolution does not predetermine the position to be taken by Spanish delegations on proposals of like nature which may be made in this or other forums in respect of territories to which a territorial claim has been made, within the United Nations, and with respect to which the United Nations has maintained and continues to maintain the doctrine that territorial integrity takes priority over the principle of the self-determination of peoples".

Admission of the United States Virgin Islands as an associate member of the Commission \*/

385. The representative of the United States submitted a request for the admission of the United States Virgin Islands as an associate member of ECLA. The Commission approved this request in its adoption by acclamation of resolution 454(XX).

386. The representative of the United States Virgin Islands thanked the member countries of ECLA for supporting its admission as an associate member of the Commission. This step had been taken on the recommendation of an advisory committee of the Governor in response to repeated indications of the willingness of the United Nations to have non-autonomous territories join in the tasks of the Organization and of its specialized agencies. In the representative's opinion, not only could the Territory benefit from the social and economic programmes of ECLA, but it could also make a contribution to investment and infrastructure development projects, as well as in such areas as the management of water resources, new energy sources and agricultural production. The United States Virgin Islands was particularly interested in integrating its achievements with respect to agricultural extension and economic development programmes, as well as its new hospital services and recently constructed container port, with the tasks and activities of this nature being carried out in the rest of the region. Finally, the representative expressed satisfaction with the fact that this Territory would begin to assume responsibilities within the ECLA system.

\*/ The Commission had document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.16 before it during its consideration of this subject.

ECLA Name Change

387. The Commission adopted resolution 455(XX) regarding a change in the name of ECLA, which recommends to the Economic and Social Council that it approve the designation of "Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean" as the new name of the Commission.

388. After the adoption of this resolution, the delegation of Peru requested that, in tribute to Dr. Raúl Prebisch as an individual and as a figure of unequalled status whose thinking had served as an inspiration for ECLA since its inception, the Secretariat be authorized to continue using the acronym "CEPAL" to refer to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Spanish. This request was well received and it was so decided by consensus.

389. The delegation of Jamaica said that, in a spirit of consensus and co-operation, it had not objected to retaining the Spanish-language acronym of "CEPAL", but that it had been instructed to state that such consensual agreement by its Government was subject to the proposal being consistent with the administrative principles and practices of the United Nations.

Action affecting the free trade and economic development of Central America

390. The Commission adopted resolution 470(XX) on this subject.

391. The delegation of Nicaragua asked that the following text be placed on record:

"The current economic situation of Central America is of such severity that it justifies the special efforts called for in the resolution. There is, however, a special situation affecting Nicaragua to which our delegation wishes to draw attention. Nicaragua is at present the only country in Central America which must face ongoing external aggression from the current administration of the United States of America. This aggression, which is carried out by hired mercenary elements financed and directed by the government Central Intelligence Agency, has brought death and suffering to thousands of Nicaraguans, and the economic damage to our country already exceeds one billion dollars.

"At this moment an act of State terrorism is being carried out which our delegation is denouncing in this forum; that act is the mining of the major ports of Nicaragua. Thus far nine merchant and fishing vessels have been damaged by sea mines which have caused personal injury to Nicaraguan and other crewmen as well as serious damages to property. There are only a few countries in the world which can obtain such devices and which also possess the highly specialized technical means for transporting and placing the mines. Neither any irregular force nor any of the Central American countries could have the capacity for taking such action.

/"In open

"In open violation of our territorial seas, the United States has maintained war fleets very close to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Nicaragua which are indeed capable of performing these acts of destruction and terrorism, and Nicaragua therefore points to the United States as the party responsible for the mining of its ports.

"Our delegation is confident that censure by ECLA will give pause to those wishing to draw Central America into a conflagration, to close our ports and to blockade our economy.

"Finally, our delegation wishes to state here and now in this forum that the Government of Nicaragua has become aware that the CIA is making plans to mine other Central American ports as well and to attribute these actions to Nicaragua.

"Nicaragua has embarked upon a process of consolidating its democratic institutions which will culminate in general elections next November. This process will continue despite all aggression, but would be more readily attained if peace were achieved in Central America."

#### Regional Programme of Action

392. The Commission adopted resolution 456(XX), Regional Programme of Action.

#### Other decisions

393. Amendment to the Terms of Reference of ECLA. At the twentieth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America, the States members present at the plenary meeting unanimously resolved to request the Economic and Social Council to amend the Spanish-language and French-language versions of the Terms of Reference of ECLA by replacing the expression "la región de las Antillas" with "la región del Caribe", and "la région des Antilles" with "la région des Caraïbes", respectively, in paragraph 3 a).

#### Closing meeting

394. The Executive Secretary of ECLA thanked the Government of Peru for the support it had provided for the twentieth session of ECLA and praised the spirit of co-operation and constructive dialogue which had marked the deliberations. As specific achievements of the session, he cited the establishment of a point of encounter for the collective consideration of the region's economic problems and the strengthening of specific courses of joint action for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean regarding such important issues as the implementation of the International Development Strategy and ways to confront external debt problems. He observed that the work accomplished at the session had shown that the countries of the region were well aware of the nature of the crisis and of the need to address it from the standpoint of co-responsibility. In connection with the external debt,

/he highlighted

he highlighted the countries' demonstrated intention to meet their commitments, and noted that the spirit of collective solidarity which had been evidenced at the regional level greatly contributed to the solution of the problem. He recalled that the President of Peru had advanced the idea of austerity without recession as an objective for the region and that the United Nations Secretary-General had advocated internal solutions accompanied by external co-operation at all levels. He applauded the change of the Commission's name, observing that it corresponded to the increasing membership of Caribbean countries, and stressed the role of ECLA in developing concepts aimed at overcoming the current critical stage being experienced by the region.

395. On behalf of the delegations present, the Under-Secretary of Planning and Development of Mexico, Mr. Rogelio Montemayor S., expressed appreciation for the hospitality of the host country and then went on to underscore the historical importance of ECLA in the development of the region and its present contribution to the analysis of the problems afflicting the countries today, at a time marked by the great challenges posed by an unstable and adverse international situation. He emphasized that the current crisis offered the countries an opportunity to change and to overcome the obstacles which had faced the development process, while noting that, in order for this to occur, a better international context would be required. He expressed his confidence in the recovery of the Latin American and Caribbean nations, thanks to the decisiveness, perseverance and spirit of solidarity which prevailed in the region, as well as to a greater international effort. He cited specific examples of co-operation among the countries, such as the meeting at Quito, the establishment of the Action Committee for the Support of the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA), the support provided by countries of the region for the renegotiation of the debt of one member State, and the activities of the Contadora Group. In closing, he recalled that during a recent trip to countries of the region, the President of Mexico had said that the contemporary times provided an opportunity for up-dating valid ideals inherited from the past, and that unified and convergent regional action could make the following words of the Liberator a reality: "Our true homeland is America".

396. The Head of the National Planning Institute of Peru and Chairman of the twentieth session of the Commission, Dr. Ignacio Basombrio Zender, stated that the session had served as an important forum for analysing the region's economic, financial, social and infrastructure problems. He remarked upon the high level of the participants and of the work completed in the technical groups which, in conjunction with the presence of delegations from highly industrialized countries and co-operative agencies, had helped to establish a position which provided guidance on a number of issues. One such subject which he mentioned in particular was the appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy in the region, while another was internal adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt. He also referred to co-operation among developing countries,

/the development

the development of water resources, and issues relating to human settlements and population. He underscored the fact that there had been a candid exchange of ideas on both the Committees and the plenary meetings which had made it possible to take a constructive and optimistic view of the future and of the region's possibilities despite the prevailing situation. Finally, on behalf of the Government of Peru, he said that the twentieth session had served as a qualified technical forum whose work had been highly successful. After thanking the Secretariat of ECLA for the work which had been accomplished and Dr. Raúl Prebisch for his as always instructive address, he declared the session closed.

/D. RESOLUTIONS

D. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN  
AMERICA AT ITS TWENTIETH SESSION

- 452(XX) Admission of Portugal as a member of ECLA
- 453(XX) Admission of the British Virgin Islands as an associate member of ECLA
- 454(XX) Admission of the United States Virgin Islands as an associate member of ECLA
- 455(XX) Change of name of ECLA
- 456(XX) Regional Programme of Action
- 457(XX) Long-term development policies for Latin America
- 458(XX) Adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt
- 459(XX) Technical and economic co-operation among developing countries
- 460(XX) Technical and economic co-operation between the countries of the Caribbean area and the other countries of the region
- 461(XX) Activities in the field of water resources
- 462(XX) ECLA activities in the area of human settlements
- 463(XX) Strengthening of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities
- 464(XX) Activities of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee
- 465(XX) Programme of work and calendar of conferences of ECLA
- 466(XX) Strengthening of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)
- 467(XX) New programme of work and support for the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)
- 468(XX) Integration of women into development
- 469(XX) Regional system of foreign trade statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean
- 470(XX) Actions affecting the freedom of trade and economic development of Central America
- 471(XX) Place and date of next session.

452(XX) ADMISSION OF PORTUGAL AS A MEMBER OF ECLA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the Commission was set up by Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI), on the basis of the participation of all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, plus those which have had special relations of a historical, cultural, geographical or economic nature,

Bearing in mind, furthermore, that in this spirit the Terms of Reference of the Commission, as adopted by the Economic and Social Council, provide that membership of the Commission shall be open to Members of the United Nations in North, Central and South America and in the Caribbean area, and to France, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom,

Considering in particular that the Latin American and Caribbean countries require the increasing economic co-operation of the developed nations which belong to ECLA, as well as their understanding and support for the proposals of all the developing countries for the implementation of the new international economic order,

Bearing in mind that the Government of Portugal has communicated to the Commission, through the Executive Secretary of ECLA, its desire that Portugal should be admitted as a full member of the Commission,

Also considering that the historical, cultural and economic links -an essential requirement for the admission of new members to the Commission to receive consideration- between Portugal and the Latin American countries have been particularly close and continuous throughout the history of the region and have grown stronger in recent years,

Mindful that the desire has been expressed within ECLA that membership should be restricted to the Latin American and Caribbean areas, on the basis of the thesis of decolonization and self-reliance,

Recognizing, however, that Portugal has been supporting in good measure the efforts of the developing countries to alter the existing international order, and trusting that this attitude will continue and be intensified in a fruitful manner if Portugal is incorporated in the technical work of the Secretariat,

Taking into account in particular that within ECLA the Latin American countries have given special priority and support to the undertaking of concrete activities and projects to further Latin American co-operation and integration, through machinery for the optimal use of their resources on behalf of their countries,



1. Welcomes the request of the Government of Portugal for the admission of that country as a member of the Commission;

2. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of the above preambular considerations, that it approve the admission of Portugal as a member of the Commission and authorize to this effect the amendment of paragraph 3 (a) of the Terms of Reference of the Commission by the insertion of the word "Portugal", between the words "the Netherlands" and the word "Spain" in that paragraph.

223rd meeting  
6 April 1984

453(XX) ADMISSION OF THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS AS  
AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF ECLA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

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

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

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 566(VI), 647(VII), 744(VIII) and 1539(XV) which recommended the direct participation of non-self-governing territories in the work of the United Nations and invited the Administering Powers to progressively increase their participation in the work of the technical organs of the United Nations, and to propose them for participation in the work of the regional commissions,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 38/44 which noted with satisfaction the request of the British Virgin Islands, through the Administering Power, for associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America,

Noting that, by letter of 9 December 1983, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland informed the Executive Secretary of the Commission of the application of the British Virgin Islands for associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America,

1. Welcomes the aforementioned application of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

2. Decides to admit the British Virgin Islands as an associate member of ECLA and welcomes its participation in the work of the Commission.

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454(XX) ADMISSION OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS AS  
AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF ECLA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

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

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

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 566(VI), 647(VII), 744(VIII) and 1539(XV) which recommended the direct participation of non-self-governing territories in the work of the United Nations and invited the Administering Powers to progressively increase their participation in the work of the technical organs of the United Nations, and to propose them for participation in the work of the regional commissions,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 38/48 which noted with satisfaction the recommendation of the Virgin Islands Status Commission that the territory should become an associate member of ECLA and called upon the Administering Power to facilitate the application of the territory for such membership in ECLA and its subsidiary bodies,

Noting that, by letter of 3 October 1983, the Government of the United States of America informed the Executive Secretary of the Commission of the application of the United States Virgin Islands for associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America,

1. Welcomes the aforementioned application of the Government of the United States of America;
2. Decides to admit the United States Virgin Islands as an associate member of ECLA and welcomes its participation in the work of the Commission;
3. Calls upon the Administering Power, taking into account the freely expressed wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands, to take all necessary steps to expedite the process of decolonization in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration, as well as all other relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly.

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455(XX) CHANGE OF NAME OF ECLA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Having noted the recommendation of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee at its seventh session that the name of the Commission should be changed to the Economic Commission For Latin America and the Caribbean,

Conscious that in the past two decades many new States from the Caribbean have become members of the Commission,

Recognizing the consequent desirability of more explicit integration of the Caribbean in the Commission,

1. Agrees that the name of the Commission should henceforth be the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;
2. Recommends accordingly that the Economic and Social Council should approve the designation, "The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean" as the new name of the Commission.\*/

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\*/ When this resolution was adopted, it was decided to authorize the Secretariat to continue to use "CEPAL" as the Spanish acronym for the Commission.

456(XX) REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that at its nineteenth session (Montevideo, 1981), ECLA adopted a Regional Programme of Action designed to implement in the regional sphere the recommendations and proposals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Bearing in mind United Nations General Assembly resolution 37/202, which requests the regional commissions to carry out in 1984 a review of the implementation of the International Development Strategy in their respective regions,

Having reviewed the document entitled "The crisis in Latin America: present situation and future outlook",\*/ prepared by the Secretariat, which contains analyses and background information designed to facilitate such a review,

Also having reviewed the "Draft report of the eighth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis",\*\*/ issued by the meeting convened by the Secretariat in pursuance of ECLA resolution 310(XIV) and the Regional Programme of Action, as well as the introduction submitted by the Latin American Group for incorporation into this appraisal,\*\*\*/

1. Notes with satisfaction the contribution of the Secretariat to the first regional review of the Regional Programme of Action, contained in document E/CEPAL/G.1294;

2. Approves the report on the review and appraisal of the regional implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean (document E/CEPAL/G.1307), which contains the review carried out by the Latin American and Caribbean countries and a summary of the debates on the implementation of the International Development Strategy and the prospects of Latin America and the Caribbean for the rest of the decade in the light of the present economic crisis, together with the observations of the member countries of the Commission;

3. Resolves to request the Executive Secretary to transmit both documents to the Committee on the Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, established by General Assembly resolution 37/202, and to the Economic and Social Council.

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\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.25, also bearing the symbol E/CEPAL/G.1294.

\*\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.26 and Corr.1.

\*\*\*/ Conference Room Paper I/1 and Corr.1.

457(XX) LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT POLICIES FOR LATIN AMERICA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that, in addition to debating the severe problems currently affecting the Latin American economy and society and the policies required to deal with them in the short and medium term, it is necessary to examine the major long-term problems of Latin American development,

Recognizing that, given the changes taking place in the world economy, there is a need to examine the options open to the countries of the region with respect to their position in the international economy,

Also recognizing that it is necessary to consider the domestic structural and social changes required in order to achieve dynamic and equitable development, as stated in the documents of the Latin American Economic Conference (Quito, 9-13 January 1984),

Recalling the contributions which ECLA has traditionally made to the formulation of new inspiring ideas which have played an important role in Latin American development policies, as well as in the promotion of regional co-operation machinery,

1. Decides that one of the main topics which should be considered at the session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLA to be held in 1985 is the examination of those pivotal aspects of long-term economic and social development policy which could serve as sources of inspiration for meeting the challenges posed to the countries of the region by the changes in the international economy;

2. Instructs the Secretariat to carry out the necessary consultations and technical studies in preparation for this meeting and, in this respect, to work in co-ordination with regional and international bodies engaged in the analysis of this subject.

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458(XX) ADJUSTMENT POLICIES AND RENEGOTIATION  
OF THE EXTERNAL DEBT

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering:

- a) The profound and prolonged economic crisis now affecting the countries of the region, which jeopardizes their development capacity and stability, and the costly and ongoing adjustment effort carried on with a view to reducing these countries' external imbalance, all of which makes it a matter of urgency for them to resume their processes of economic and social development;
- b) The decisive role played in the origin, intensity and duration of the current crisis by the international recession, the deterioration of the terms of trade, the excessively burdensome terms and conditions of external credit and the sharp drop in the net inflow of capital, all of which factors impose severe limitations on the options open to the countries of the region for tackling the crisis adequately;
- c) The high social, political and economic cost for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean of the processes of domestic adjustment and of renegotiation of their external debt carried out during the past two years and the totally unfair and inequitable manner in which these countries have had to bear the sacrifices involved in these processes;
- d) The limitations, and in some cases the ineffectiveness, displayed by the adjustment and stabilization policies, especially from the standpoint of their adverse effects on the levels of economic activity, employment, and the real income and living standards of the great mass of the population;
- e) The fact that the solutions to the problem of indebtedness cannot continue to be made subject to the criteria and forms used so far with respect to the developing countries, since the renegotiation of these debts calls for objective analyses which take account, when dealing with maturities, periods of grace and interest rates, of the real possibilities of the countries of the region, if the execution of the necessary internal adjustments is not to compromise the countries' future economic and social development;
- f) The urgent need of the countries of the region to be able to rely on an adequate and growing net inflow of new public and private resources through the granting of additional trade and financial credits, as well as facilities for access to the markets of the developed countries and the elimination of the growing protectionist practices of the latter, all the foregoing being essential components which must be dealt with in an integrated manner if the external debt renegotiation processes are to ensure the economic and social development of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean;

g) The full corroboration of the aspects referred to above in, among other documents presented by the ECLA Secretariat, the "Economic Survey of Latin America, 1983: Advance Summary";\*/

h) The decisions of the Latin American Economic Conference contained in the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action and the agreement reached at the Preparatory Meeting of the Latin American Group for the Sixth Session of UNCTAD, held at Cartagena, Colombia;

1. Takes note of the report entitled "Adjustment policies and renegotiation of the external debt" \*\*/ submitted by the Secretariat of ECLA at this session;

2. Reaffirms that the serious economic problems of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, aggravated by the processes of adjustment and renegotiation of their external debt, have been caused mainly by external factors which are beyond their control, inasmuch as these problems have been brought about by the economic policies of some developed countries, which have led to a constant deterioration of the terms of trade, a decline in trade, an excessive increase in interest rates and an abrupt reversal of capital flows, as a result of which the countries of the region have become net exporters of capital: a situation which is untenable, unfair and irrational. In this context, it must be stressed that the responsibility for the external indebtedness problems of the countries must be shared both by the debtor countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and by the developed countries, the international private banks and the multilateral financial agencies. Consequently, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean hold that the governments of the developed member countries of ECLA should assume an attitude of co-responsibility in all aspects connected with the solution of the external debt problem and that they should participate as a matter of urgency in the adoption of measures to deal with the crisis;

3. Entrusts the Secretariat of ECLA, in close consultation with the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, with the task of carrying out an ongoing follow-up and appraisal of the implications which their external debt service and their adjustment programmes have in this regard for the countries of the region. It likewise requests the ECLA Secretariat to carry out as a matter of priority, and with due attention to the particular characteristics of each country, studies aimed at identifying:

a) the trends, limitations and alternatives of the Latin American and Caribbean countries as regards their domestic adjustment processes, in order to provide elements of judgement, of regional scope, that would make it possible to link their efforts at renegotiating their external debt with their development strategies;

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\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.30.

\*\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.17.



b) adjustment policies which seek to increase production and employment levels, provide for the equitable distribution of the costs and benefits of these policies among the different social groups, and ensure that they are systematically and harmoniously integrated with economic and social development strategies, while also serving to reduce inflation;

c) suitable formulas for determining the extent to which export income can be committed to the service of the external debt, within percentage ranges which allow the countries to maintain reasonable levels of development of domestic production activities, bearing in mind the evolution of the terms of trade;

d) within the general context of external indebtedness, the problems faced by the Latin American and Caribbean countries in gaining access for their exports to the markets of the developed countries (particularly those which are members of ECLA), and suggesting effective solutions, with special attention to the growing protectionism of those countries;

4. Instructs the Secretariat, in all activities it carries out in future pursuant to this resolution, to establish suitable co-ordination with the other regional and international bodies.

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459(XX) TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recalling that the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, assigns the regional commissions with, inter alia, the task of providing assistance for activities to strengthen technical co-operation among developing countries at both the regional and the interregional level,

Mindful of the Programme of Action adopted at the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries held at Caracas from 13 to 19 May 1981 and of the appraisal of the implementation of that Programme made at the second session of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee of the Group of 77 on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Tunis from 5 to 10 September 1983,

Also mindful of the decisions taken at the second and third sessions of the High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries convened by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 to 8 June 1981 and from 31 May to 8 June 1983, respectively, in particular those which refer to the role of the regional commissions in promoting and supporting technical co-operation among developing countries,

Recalling ECLA resolutions 438(XIX) on technical co-operation among developing countries and 439(XIX) on economic co-operation among developing countries, both adopted on 15 May 1981,

Taking into account resolution 1983/66 of the Economic and Social Council in which the regional commissions are instructed that, in co-ordination with the relevant bodies in the United Nations system, they should intensify their consultations with a view to preparing joint programmes aimed at strengthening, in the short and medium term, technical and economic co-operation among developing countries at different geographical areas,

Bearing in mind Decision 174 on Regional Economic Security adopted by the Ninth Latin American Council of SELA, held at Caracas in September 1983, in which ECLA is requested to lend its efforts to the implementation of that recommendation,

Recalling in particular the recommendations and mandates contained in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the Latin American Economic Conference held at Quito from 9 to 13 January 1984, which represent the joint response adopted by Latin America and the Caribbean in order to face up to the economic crisis affecting the region and which lay down priority criteria on regional co-operation,

1. Stresses the need for the Secretariat of the Commission to intensify the co-ordination of its activities to promote and support technical and economic co-operation among the countries of the region with the various subregional, regional and international bodies in order to achieve greater efficiency in the use of resources and to avoid duplication of effort;

2. Reaffirms the importance for the Economic Commission for Latin America of orienting and concentrating the efforts made by the Secretariat on the priority areas defined by the governments of the region in the field of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the Caracas Programme of Action and the Quito Plan of Action;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary:

a) to intensify his consultations with governments during the preparation of studies and the execution of activities, in order to adapt them to changing circumstances;

b) to co-operate in the preparations for the third session of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee of the Caracas Programme of Action, to be held at Cartagena in September 1984;

c) to identify those methods and procedures for co-operation among the countries of the region which make the fullest possible use of financial resources in national currencies, taking account of the experience of other regions and the work done in this respect by other international bodies;

d) to promote joint interregional technical and economic co-operation activities with other regional commissions, in consultation and co-ordination with the competent organizations of the United Nations system, with a view to strengthening co-operation among developing countries of different geographical areas, and, in particular, to continue developing the activities already initiated with the Economic Commission for Africa in order to help strengthen technical and economic co-operation among the countries of the two regions in accordance with the Programme of Action adopted at the joint meeting in Addis Ababa in June 1982 with a view to promoting interregional co-operation in the fields of trade, the development and utilization of human resources, and science and technology for development, with particular attention to the fullest possible use of resources in local currencies;

e) to prepare the necessary reports concerning the progress made in carrying out the recommendations and mandates addressed to ECLA by the Latin American Economic Conference and to submit them to the Ordinary Meeting of the Latin American Council of SELA with a view to the analysis and assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the Quito Plan of Action adopted on 13 January 1984;

4. Urges the governments of the member countries of the Commission to request the United Nations and those of its specialized agencies which enjoy budgetary autonomy and which carry out technical and economic co-operation activities to review their rules and procedures, at the next session of the United Nations General Assembly, with a view to increasing the use of local currency in such activities. In this connection, it requests the ECLA Secretariat to submit to the governments of the member countries of the Commission, by 30 August 1984, a study identifying ways and means of achieving this objective, if possible at the next session of the General Assembly;

5. Urges in particular the governments of the developed member countries of the Commission to make additional extrabudgetary contributions to the Secretariat in order to support the efforts of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to intensify and broaden their horizontal technical and economic co-operation;

6. Calls upon the other developed countries and the competent organizations of the United Nations system, as well as upon other sources of financing, to contribute resources for the programmes and projects on technical co-operation among the countries of the region which the Secretariat must put into effect in pursuance of the mandates received in regional and international forums.

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460(XX) TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION BETWEEN  
THE COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN AREA AND THE  
OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind its resolution 358(XVI) of 13 May 1975 on the establishment of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC), which, as well as recognizing the special historical, geographical and cultural identity of the Caribbean countries and reaffirming the need to maintain and strengthen Latin American co-ordination and solidarity, emphasized the need to promote initiatives designed to strengthen co-operation between the other member countries of ECLA and integration groupings of countries of the Latin American region with the CDCC,

Also bearing in mind its resolution 365(XVII) of 5 May 1977 on economic integration and co-operation, which points out that despite the considerable progress made in the integration of the economies of the countries of the region and in linking up their production systems, the economic potential of integration has still not been used to the full,

Recalling its resolution 440(XIX) of 15 May 1981 in which it requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Caribbean institutions charged with promoting co-operation and integration, to prepare a programme of work and studies with a view to strengthening technical and economic co-operation between the countries of the Caribbean area and the other countries of the region,

Noting the meeting of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee's Ad Hoc Working Group on Caribbean/Latin American Co-operation, held in Port of Spain on 1-2 February 1984, which discussed inter alia trade settlement arrangements, trade promotion, tourism, banking, consultancy, container repair, and science and technology,

Conscious of the need that technical and economic co-operation between the countries and groups of countries of the Caribbean subregion and the countries and groups of countries of the rest of the region should be linked with the processes and machinery for economic integration which exist in the region,

1. Notes with satisfaction the preparation by the Secretariat of a study which examines and identifies the main obstacles standing in the way of greater co-operation between the Caribbean countries and the other countries of the region, determines what opportunities exist for increasing such co-operation, and suggests several areas for the promotion of specific projects aimed at creating closer links of technical and economic co-operation between the Caribbean countries and other countries of the region in spheres of common interest;\*/

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\*/ See document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.29.

2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

a) To prepare in consultation with the CDCC Secretariat and the member States of that Committee, as well as with other countries in the region, and with the co-operation of other Caribbean institutions responsible for promoting co-operation and integration, specific projects in those spheres already identified in advance which offer concrete possibilities for co-operation between the Caribbean countries and the rest of the region, including inter alia trade, services, transport, science and technology, and education and culture;

b) To report to the 21st session of the Economic Commission for Latin America on the appropriate measures taken within the work programme of the Commission to implement specific projects to promote co-operation between Latin America and the Caribbean.

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## 461(XX) ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF WATER RESOURCES

### The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking account of the recommendations and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Water Conference which make up the Mar del Plata Action Plan, together with the resolutions subsequently adopted in this respect by the United Nations General Assembly and Economic and Social Council, especially those regarding the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

Recalling the resolutions adopted at its nineteenth session on the subject of support for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the programme of work in the field of water resources, and measures to promote the fulfilment of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade in Latin America,

Bearing in mind the present international economic crisis which is adversely affecting the economic and social development of the countries of the region, including the field of water resources, thus involving the need to carry out structural changes at the national level in order to permit suitable co-ordination in the planning of such resources, as part of national development plans and programmes,

Considering the progress made since 1981 in the promotion of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Latin America, especially as regards support for the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

1. Decides to pursue, at the request of governments, its efforts in connection with support for activities designed to achieve the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan at both the national and regional levels;

2. Urges governments to co-operate in the preparation of the final version of the report on the progress made in implementing the Mar del Plata Action Plan, entitled "The water resources of Latin America and their utilization. A report on progress in the application of the Mar del Plata Action Plan",\*/ which should be given the widest possible dissemination;

3. Likewise urges governments to continue to co-operate in the preparation of future periodic reports, as decided at the session of the Committee on Water held during the eighteenth session of ECLA;

4. Recommends that the Secretariat of the Commission:

a) continue its efforts aimed at promoting the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan;

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\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.6.

b) keep up its support for activities by governments connected with the implementation of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade;

c) redouble its efforts in connection with the co-ordination of the relevant activities of the United Nations specialized agencies and other international bodies at the regional level;

d) strengthen its activities aimed at furthering horizontal and international co-operation in the field of water resources, especially those aimed at supporting national and regional projects relating to the planning and administration of water resources at the national level;

e) continue, in co-operation with the appropriate governmental and international bodies, its activities in connection with the application of improved water resource management techniques aimed at the multiple use of such resources, including incorporation of the environmental dimension, especially in the mountain river basins of South America, Central America and the Caribbean;

f) take account of the offers made by countries in support of the workshop on co-operation in the management, economic aspects and planning of water resources, the programme for the development and management of high mountain river basins in Latin America, and the formulation of a regional programme of assistance to the countries on information systems for the planning and management of their water resources;

g) report to the 21st session of ECLA on the progress made with regard to the matters referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this resolution and those raised at the request of the delegations participating in the Committee on Water, which are contained in the report of that Committee.

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462(XX) ECLA ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the importance which population settlement processes and the quality of the constructed environment have for the development of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and for the improvement of their inhabitants' quality of life,

Bearing in mind the efforts being made in the countries of the region to define human settlement policies and programmes which are integrated in national development plans and strategies,

Recognizing the need for still greater intensification of regional co-operation in order to provide support for the efforts being carried out by the countries in areas related to human settlements, with special emphasis on action at the local level and popular participation,

Recalling the resolutions adopted at various international meetings held within the framework of the United Nations, particularly the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Vancouver, 1976), the Latin American Conference on Human Settlements (Mexico City, 1979), and the sessions of the Commission held at Guatemala City in 1977, at La Paz in 1979 and at Montevideo in 1981,

Taking note with satisfaction of the activities conducted by the ECLA Secretariat in the field of human settlements, as well as the measures taken to allocate more resources to the programme on that subject and to strengthen the links with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and with other co-operation bodies operating in the region,

Noting with concern the far-reaching effects of the international economic crisis on Latin America and the Caribbean and the limitations of all types to which the countries of the region are subjected, including the adjustment processes which many of them have been obliged to carry out in order to face up to the critical state of their economies,

Reaffirming in line with the Regional Programme of Action adopted at the nineteenth session of ECLA, the need to carry out thorough-going conceptual, institutional and structural changes in this field, if the human habitat is to reach the minimum levels required by the countries of the region in order to improve the quality of life of their population,

Taking note of the programme of work proposed by the ECLA system for execution in the period 1986-1987,

1. Recommends that matters related to human settlements should continue to be given high priority in the activities of ECLA;

2. Urges the Executive Secretary of ECLA to continue to make the necessary efforts to ensure that adequate attention is paid to the needs of the region with respect to human settlements, as well as to develop further the co-operation links with other intergovernmental bodies operating in the region, especially the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Environment Programme, and other appropriate international bodies;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to establish, within the framework of the ECLA programme of activities on human settlements, a regional programme of instruction and training in this field, seeking the co-operation of other co-operation bodies and of national training centres for this purpose;

4. Also requests the Executive Secretary to promote the necessary activities and to establish the appropriate inter-institutional contacts in order to promote national documentation systems as part of a unified regional documentation and classification system on human settlements, on the basis of the experience of the region;

5. Recommends that the Secretariat take the necessary measures to collect and exchange documentation on national human settlement policies, legislation on urban land, and existing finance systems, in order to co-operate with the physical and planning processes of the countries of the region;

6. Reiterates the importance of continuing to give high priority to Secretariat activities concerning human settlement technologies which are appropriate to the economic, social and environmental conditions of the countries of the region, while also promoting the exchange of experience and co-operation among the countries in this field;

7. Recommends that the ECLA Secretariat promote and attempt to sponsor, within existing budgetary resources, the holding in 1985 of a regional meeting of experts on human settlement policies, with special regard to the topics dealt with in paragraphs 5 and 6 above and to the subject of popular participation;

8. Reasserts ECLA's competence in the field of human settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean and the need, in this context, to expedite the full implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 32/162, concerning the decentralization of the resources of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to the regional economic commissions.

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463(XX) STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS FUND  
FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population, 1984 \*/ regarding the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, and especially recommendation 80,

Reiterating the need to strengthen the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) so that it can give more effective financial and technical assistance to the countries of the region,

1. Recognizes the very important collaboration given by UNFPA in support of the efforts of the countries of the region in the field of population;
2. Urges governments and donor agencies, in view of the fact that the demand for greater financial assistance in the field of population exceeds the existing resources of UNFPA, to increase their contributions to the Fund so that it can respond more adequately to the growing assistance needs of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean;
3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to give this recommendation prompt and fitting consideration.

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464(XX) ACTIVITIES OF THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND  
CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recalling its resolution 358(XVI) which established the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee,

Recalling also ECLA resolutions 372(XVII) and 399(XVIII) and resolutions 420 (PLEN.14) and 451 (PLEN.16) of the Committee of the Whole, which endorsed the Constituent Declaration, functions, rules of procedure and work programme of CDCC and the reports of the first through the sixth sessions of the Committee,

Bearing in mind resolution 1982/58 of the Economic and Social Council, which took note of the determination of the member governments of CDCC to pursue activities aimed at strengthening the Secretariat of the Committee, and General Assembly resolution 32/197 on restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system and decentralization of the functions of the United Nations, including those of the economic commissions,

I

1. Notes the progress achieved in the implementation of the approved work programme since the sixth session of the Committee;
2. Endorses with appreciation the report of the seventh session of CDCC and the resolutions contained therein;
3. Endorses also the programme of work approved for the biennium 1984-1985;

II

1. Notes with appreciation the recent advances in the delegation of authority to the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, the identification of most items of the budget as they relate to CDCC in the 1984-1985 Programme Budget document, and the issuance of separate budgetary allotments for the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean;

2. Reiterates its concern that:

i) the entire work programme of the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for 1984-1985 continues to be subsumed as a subprogramme under the Programme "International Trade and Development Financing";

ii) delays are still being experienced in filling the vacant posts in the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECLA to seek the revision at the earliest possible time of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 and the combined ECLA work programme, in order to re-establish a separate programme for the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, as was the case during the 1982-1983 biennium;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECLA to accelerate efforts to seek and to channel funding and resources to the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean and also to accelerate the filling of vacant posts in that office, bearing in mind that several Caribbean countries are non-represented or under-represented on the staff of the United Nations;

5. Requests the Secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee to proceed with the implementation of the approved work programme for the biennium 1984-1985, observing the priorities set by the Committee.

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465(XX) PROGRAMME OF WORK AND CALENDAR OF  
CONFERENCES OF ECLA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

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

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

Having considered the draft programme of work for the different areas of activity of the ECLA system for the period 1986-1987,\*/ which covers also the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE),

Taking full account of the opinions expressed and adjustments proposed by member governments, as recorded in the final report of the twentieth session, and the changes deriving from the resolutions adopted at that session,

1. Approves the draft programme of work of the ECLA system (including the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning and the Latin American Demographic Centre) for the period 1986-1987 -with the adjustments reflected in the final report and taking account of the resolutions and decisions adopted at the twentieth session of the Commission- which constitutes the legislative authority of the Commission for the execution of the programmes and projects in it;

2. Notes that the work programme of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) is not included in the work programme of the Commission and that after the CDCC work programme is approved at its eighth session, scheduled for June 1984, it will be submitted for the consideration and approval of the seventeenth session of the Committee of the Whole;

3. Takes note that the allocation of the resources needed for carrying out activities described in this work programme requires the approval of the pertinent bodies of the United Nations;

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\*/ Document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.7.

4. Also approves the calendar of conferences of the ECLA system as given in the annex to this resolution, with the observations and suggestions reflected in the report of the twentieth session;

5. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue to entrust ECLA with the responsibility for organizing and holding the Latin American regional preparatory meetings for United Nations world conferences;

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

7. Instructs the Executive Secretary to report to the 21st session of ECLA on the fulfilment of this resolution.

223rd meeting  
6 April 1984

CALENDAR OF ECLA INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES FOR THE PERIOD 1984-1986

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of financing
1984	Eighth Session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN): Appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the current international economic crisis	Montevideo 18-23 January	ECLA resolutions 419 (PLEN. 14); 422 (XIX); 425 (XIX); 432 (XIX) and 449 (PLEN. 16)	ECLA regular budget
1984	Ninth Session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN): Science and technology for development	Montevideo 23 and 24 January		
1984	Twentieth Session of ECLA	Lima, 29 March - 6 April	ECLA resolutions 432 (XIX) and 449 (PLEN. 16)	ECLA regular budget
1984	Eighth Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC)	Port au Prince June	ECLA resolutions 358 (XVI); 432 (XIX) and 449 (PLEN. 16)	
1984	Latin American Technical Meeting for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO	7-10 May ECLA Headquarters	United Nations General Assembly resolution 38/192	
1984	Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women	Cuba <u>a/</u>	The Conference was set up as a permanent subsidiary organ of ECLA, by decision of the Eleventh Extraordinary Session of the Committee of the Whole (E/CEPAL/AC.71/4)	United Nations Headquarters budget <u>b/</u>
1984	Seventeenth Session of the ECLA Committee of the Whole	United Nations Headquarters, New York <u>a/</u>		
1984	Central American Economic Co-operation Committee	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolution 9 (IV)	ECLA regular budget
1985	Latin American Regional Meeting to review the implementation of the Plan of Action for Youth	Spain <u>a/</u>	Para. 97 of the Regional Plan of Action for Latin America and the Caribbean for the International Youth Year (document E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.22)	
1985	Tenth Session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN)	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV); 419 (PLEN.14); 422 (XIX), para. 204; 425 (XIX)	ECLA regular budget
1985	Ninth Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC)	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolution 358 (XV)	ECLA regular budget
1985	Eighteenth Session of the ECLA Committee of the whole	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolution 419 (PLEN. 14)	ECLA regular budget
1986	Eleventh Session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (CEGAN)	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV); 419 (PLEN.14); 422 (XIX), para. 204; 425 (XIX)	ECLA regular budget
1986	Tenth Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC)	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolution 358 (XVI)	ECLA regular budget
1986	Twenty-first Session of ECLA	<u>c/</u>	ECLA resolution 449 (PLEN. 16)	ECLA regular budget

a/ Date to be decided.

b/ A request has been made for the transfer of funds to ECLA.

c/ Place and date to be decided.



466(XX) STRENGTHENING OF THE LATIN AMERICAN  
DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRE (CELADE)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations of the regional meetings on population, and especially those designed to implement the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action,

Also bearing in mind the fact that the recommendations mentioned above highlight the need to approach population problems as an inseparable part of development strategies, the planning process and general policies,

Considering the Latin American Regional Population Programme's objectives of collaborating with the countries of the region in providing information on their demographic situation and in formulating and appraising development plans and programmes in the field of population, the implementation of which was entrusted by the Secretariat to the Latin American Demographic Centre,

Recognizing how important it is for the member countries of the Commission to continue to enjoy the services of a suitable regional body endowed with appropriate resources for meeting needs as regards technical co-operation, diversified training, the development and adaptation of analysis techniques suited to the conditions of the region, the generation, processing and retrieval of information on population, and the incorporation of demographic variables into development plans and strategies,

Aware that the decentralization of population activities from the central bodies of the United Nations Secretariat towards the regional commissions and in particular towards the Economic Commission for Latin America, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolutions 32/197 and 37/214, has not yet achieved significant progress which would make it possible to strengthen regional action in this area,

Concerned by the fact that in recent years the Latin American Demographic Centre has suffered a reduction in the funds granted to it by financing bodies,

Bearing in mind that the Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, held within the seventh session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts (Havana, November 1983) recommended that at the twentieth session of ECLA the member countries should study the advisability of adopting forms of financial co-operation designed to strengthen the activities of CELADE,

1. Recommends that the member countries of the Commission which were able and willing to do so, inspired by the spirit of technical co-operation among developing countries, should make direct contributions to ECLA which would primarily be used to finance technical co-operation missions and training programmes carried out by CELADE in the countries;

2. Instructs the Executive Secretary to study and adopt appropriate measures for the timely implementation of such contributions, in consultation with the countries prepared to make them.

223rd meeting  
6 April 1984

467(XX) NEW PROGRAMME OF WORK AND SUPPORT FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING (ILPES)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Recalling that in June 1983 the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) -a permanent United Nations body functioning with its own identity within the ECLA system- completed twenty-one years of valuable service to the region,

Bearing in mind the results of the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning (Buenos Aires, 9-10 May 1983), which is the highest-level forum of the System of Co-operation and Co-ordination among Planning Bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Also bearing in mind the resolutions adopted by the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES (Buenos Aires, 10 May 1983) and the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee of ILPES (Mexico City, 28-29 November 1983) regarding the main lines of the programme of work and the future financing of ILPES,

Recognizing that in the sphere of economic and social planning ILPES is an intergovernmental body of fundamental importance for strengthening the co-ordination of economic and social policies and strategies as instruments of development and co-operation among the countries of the region,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report on the activities of ILPES during the period 1981-1984 contained in documents E/CEPAL/ILPES/G.21 and E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.23;

2. Notes with approval the main lines of the programme of work of ILPES for the triennium 1984-1986 laid down by the governments and the Director of the Institute, as well as the main functional areas in which it will concentrate its activities: economic policy and planning; public sector planning; regional and sectoral planning; and pre-investment and projects;

3. Likewise notes with approval the core topics to which ILPES will give priority: articulation of the short, medium and long-term policy formulation processes; the place of the region in the world economy in the near future; the territorial and social effects of global and sectoral economic policies, and the role of the public sector in the region, with emphasis on its social development policies;

4. Expresses its satisfaction at the results of the Fourth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean (Buenos Aires, 9-10 May 1983), which once again confirm the great importance for regional co-operation assumed by this multilateral forum for technical discussion on the shared problems of development and for the exchange of experience regarding public policies;

5. Endorses the recommendations of the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee of ILPES and the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee of ILPES, and hence:

a) Urges the governments of the region to give the highest priority to defending the financing of ILPES at meetings of international organizations;

b) Notes with approval the establishment and implementation of the new regular system of financing of ILPES on the basis of voluntary contributions determined by each country, as approved at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee;

6. Expresses its satisfaction at the decision taken by the countries which have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with ILPES or have already pledged their contributions for 1984, recommends those countries of the region which have not yet done so to take a decision on their voluntary contributions as soon as is convenient, and urges all member countries to make actual payment of their contributions in 1984 with the greatest possible promptness;

7. Recommends the member countries to seek additional resources in order to finance activities they plan to carry out with ILPES, also using, in so far as possible, resources from the UNDP indicative national planning figures;

8. Renews the expression of its special gratitude to UNDP for the whole-hearted support given to ILPES since its establishment, and urges it to continue to give the Institute its valuable technical and financial support;

9. Reiterates its satisfaction at the support given by the whole region to ILPES, at the co-operation agreements which the Institute is signing with some member governments, at the important backing given to it by the Inter-American Development Bank, and at the collaboration of countries which are not members of ILPES, such as Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Japan, the Netherlands, and Spain;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECLA to approach the relevant bodies of the United Nations with a view to expanding the technical staff of ILPES paid for from the regular budget of the United Nations;

11. Notes and approves the bases for promoting horizontal co-operation given in the report prepared on this subject for the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee \*/ and recommends national planning bodies to continue to promote the necessary measures to strengthen this co-operation in so far as they are able, in line with those bases;

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\*/ See ILPES, New services for horizontal co-operation, document VI-ST/5.

12. Notes with satisfaction and approves the report on the activities of ILPES during 1983 and its programme of work for 1984, as laid down at the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee (San José, 29-30 November 1982), the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Committee (Buenos Aires, 10 May 1983) and the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee (Mexico City, 28-29 November 1983);

13. Also notes with satisfaction the greater emphasis which will be given by ILPES to programmes for Central America and the Caribbean, including the carrying out of specific technical and financial studies with a view to the decentralization of its activities in these areas;

14. Takes note with satisfaction of the recommendations of the Third Meeting of Caribbean Planning Experts (Port of Spain, 28 April-2 May 1983) and repeats its request to ILPES and the Governments of the Caribbean to ensure, in so far as it is possible for them to do so, conditions such as to permit greater activity in the region, including the initiation of activities in the Caribbean in conjunction with the ECLA Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean;

15. Likewise notes with satisfaction that the Government of Brazil has proposed that the Seventh Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee, to be convened in the second half of 1984, should be held in Brasilia and that the Government of Mexico has offered to host the Fifth Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Committee, which will consequently be held in Mexico City in the first half of 1985.

223rd meeting  
6 April 1984

468(XY) INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the objectives and targets of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade cannot be achieved without the effective participation of women in national, regional and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that, in spite of the activities that have been carried out in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Women, insufficient progress has so far been made and that it is therefore necessary to intensify action, optimize resources and reformulate strategies in the light of the circumstances currently prevailing in the region and of its pressing needs,

Recognizing the work that ECLA has carried out to further the application of the Regional Plan of Action for the integration of women into the development of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Stressing that the serious economic crisis affecting the region has caused a gradual deterioration of the quality of life of a high percentage of its population,

Appreciating the support that has been provided by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, yet aware of the countries' increasing requirements for financial assistance for the execution of comprehensive promotion projects giving priority to women in the marginal urban areas and in rural areas,

Stressing the vital importance of the governments' policies at the national level to ensure the effective participation of women in development,

Taking into consideration the convening of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1985,

Reaffirming the recommendations of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Mexico City, from 8 to 10 August 1983,

1. Urges governments:

a) in the design and implementation of new development strategies that are consistent with the accelerated pace of progress in science and technology and culture, to encourage the full integration of women into the economic and social processes of their countries;

b) to adopt short and medium-term policies aimed at carrying out the activities pertaining to women that are envisaged in the Regional Programme of Action for the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to ensure the continuation of these activities beyond the United Nations Decade for Women;

c) to prepare a comprehensive diagnosis of the situation of women which should bring together the scattered efforts that have been made in this field in order to make it possible to formulate policies that are consistent with the real situation of each country;

d) within the framework of comprehensive development strategies, to plan and implement projects of national, regional and zonal scope in order to slow down the migration to the cities of women and their families and to prevent them from being exploited and marginated;

e) to adopt immediately measures aimed at improving working conditions and the working environment of women in the rural areas, and, in particular, to avoid the damaging effect of the uncontrolled use of insecticides and pesticides, especially among pregnant peasant women;

f) to carry out more thorough research and diagnostic studies on the issue of female minors in their family and social contexts, with emphasis on illiteracy, dropping out of school, exploitation, fertility and health, in order to make it possible to plan and implement duly co-ordinated multisectoral programmes;

g) to carry out research studies on the effect which working conditions and the working environment have on women's health, as well as studies on social security coverage for women;

h) if they have not already done so, to sign, ratify and put into effect as soon as possible the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and to promote its dissemination;

i) to extend or increase effectively the coverage of social security schemes to family members at all stages in their lives, stressing the situation of women who are housewives;

j) to carry out activities and projects designed to promote a sense of responsibility among fathers by educating couples as regards their obligations to society;

k) to participate actively in the process of preparing for the World Conference;

2. Requests the ECLA Secretariat to provide Governments with technical support in the process of requesting technical and financial co-operation from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women for the

purpose of carrying out projects to ensure the improvement of living conditions for women and their families; such projects should include, among others, the following components:

- a) The training of women, particularly for the middle level of management;
- b) The creation of jobs for women, especially through the creation of self-managed and other enterprises;
- c) Training to secure access to credit by enterprises managed by women;

3. Requests the Chairpersons of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women (Mexico City, August 1983) and the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to transmit the conclusions and results of their respective conferences to the World Conference;

4. Reiterates its support for the work being done by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) to promote better living conditions for women and their more effective integration into development.

223rd meeting  
6 April 1984



469(XX) REGIONAL SYSTEM OF FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS FOR  
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the urgent need to accelerate efforts aimed at achieving economic integration among the countries of the region, both in order to deal with the current international crisis and to reduce the future vulnerability of the member countries to fluctuations in the world economy,

Recognizing that the consolidation of a structure of intra-regional commercial relations is an important step towards achieving the economic integration of the region,

Recognizing the key importance, in orienting these efforts, of having reliable and timely statistics on each country's foreign trade, by areas and by trading partners, developed in accordance with uniform classifications and at a level of detail that satisfies trade policy requirements,

Bearing in mind that despite the progress achieved in recent years in the field of foreign trade statistics by most of the countries of the region, statistics are not always available at the right time and in the detail required for adopting decisions pertaining to trade policy,

Bearing in mind ECLA resolution 437(XIX) on the possibilities for access by member countries to updated economic and trade information,

Having examined the report on "Access to information sources on Latin American foreign trade statistics" (E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.28 - E/CEPAL/G.1301), prepared by the Secretariat in compliance with the aforementioned resolution 437(XIX),

Stressing the efforts that have been made by the subregional integration bodies (ALADI, CARICOM, JUNAC and SIECA) and the member countries of each one of them to harmonize foreign trade statistics and accelerate the flow and dissemination of these statistics in support of integration efforts,

Bearing in mind that the most effective way to maximize the possibilities for member countries to have access to available statistics on each country's foreign trade is to articulate a regional system of foreign trade statistics,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the work done by the Secretariat of the Commission in setting up the External Trade Data Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean (BADECEL), and of the progress made in putting it underway;

2. Urges the Governments of member countries to give priority to the improvement and processing of their foreign trade statistics, to supply them rapidly and in the necessary detail to the subregional integration and co-operation bodies to which they belong and to ECLA's External Trade Data Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean (BADECEL), and to collaborate with the subregional and regional programmes aimed at harmonizing these statistics and making them compatible;

3. Urges the national and international technical co-operation agencies to provide support for projects carried out by member countries for the purpose of improving the reception, systematization and processing of their foreign trade statistics;

4. Urges the secretariats of the integration bodies of the region to continue collaborating with the Secretariat of ECLA in its efforts to set up and perfect a regional system of foreign trade statistics;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary:

a) to take appropriate steps to ensure that the External Trade Data Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean (BADECEL), maintained by the Secretariat, can incorporate as rapidly as possible the information produced by member countries on their foreign trade;

b) to take appropriate steps to ensure that the data base incorporated into BADECEL is made accessible, with the greatest possible detail, flexibility and speed, to the official agencies of the member countries and with a periodicity of at least two years with the data available;

c) to set up, in collaboration with the subregional integration bodies, a programme aimed at fully developing a regional system of foreign trade statistics which would be easily and rapidly accessible to the member countries and to help them overcome the obstacles they encounter in the reception, systematization and processing of their foreign trade statistics and in the establishment of appropriate procedures for harmonizing these statistics and facilitating their distribution and dissemination.

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470(XX) ACTIONS AFFECTING THE FREEDOM OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL AMERICA

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Reaffirming the brotherhood and solidarity of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean and their desire to live in keeping with democratic principles,

Reiterating the sovereign right of all the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean to follow their own economic, social and political paths in peace and freedom, free of all kinds of outside interference, rejecting all economic measures which are discriminatory or coercive for political reasons, and assuring all their inhabitants the full enjoyment of human rights and the benefits of progress, in an atmosphere free of pressures, threats and aggression from without,

Reaffirming that full respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, refraining from the threat or use of force against any State, non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States and the peaceful settlement of international disputes are of capital importance for the success of the International Development Strategy,

Bearing in mind that there is an essential link between peace and development, since without peace there can be no development, and without development peace will always be precarious,

Taking into account the statements made by several Central American countries regarding actions perpetrated against their economic activities and to the detriment of their port, marine and air facilities, including the mining of their ports,

Considering that such activities strike at the free exercise of international trade and are at variance with the principles and objectives laid down in the International Development Strategy, the recommendations of the Action Committee in Support of the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA), and other international norms,

Also considering the urgent need of the Central American countries for economic and financial support to help them not only to surmount the present situation but also to resume on a sustained basis the path of progress and economic and social development,

1. Energetically rejects the actions and threats against the economic activities of the Central American countries, be they in the industrial, commercial, agricultural or fishery fields, and also those which restrict free international trade by land, sea or air transport;

2. Adheres to the statements of principle adopted in other international forums to the effect that it is necessary to banish from Central America all foreign intervention which strikes against the peace and economic development of the subregion and reiterates its support for the efforts being made by the Contadora Group, in conjunction with the Foreign Ministers of the region, in favour of the peace, security and economic and social development of Central America;

3. Repeats the appeal to all States, agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations to continue and increase their economic assistance to the Central American countries and urges them, in this connection, to support the programme of work of CADESCA, to be carried out in due co-ordination with the other Central American integration bodies.

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471(XX) PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT SESSION

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

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

Considering that at its twentieth session the Commission has not taken a decision on the venue for its next biennial meeting, since conversations are still in progress with some member Governments to this end,

Decides to authorize the Executive Secretary to hold the necessary consultations with member States to fix the place of the 21st session, which will be held at the most convenient date in 1986, subject to the agreement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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6 April 1984