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JOINT REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECLA  
AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE INTER-  
AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON  
CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN  
THE TWO SECRETARIATS

documents. Close contact between the secretariat and the LASI has been maintained throughout.

(b) Housing, building and urbanization

This programme has benefited by the active collaboration of the Inter-American System, especially through the Pan American Union and the Inter-American Housing and Planning Centre. In conjunction with ECLA and other United Nations organizations, these two bodies sponsored the Meeting on Housing Problems held at San José (Costa Rica) in 1957. Subsequently, in November 1958, the Pan American Union and the Centre were represented at the first session of the Housing Sub-Committee. In compliance with the latter's resolutions, the Inter-American System will render technical assistance in the implementation of the work programme established by the Sub-Committee for 1959.

2. Private investment in Latin America

The documents presented to the Trade Committee at its second session include the Preliminary study of Government policies affecting foreign private investment in Latin America (E/CN.12/C.1/12/Add.1), the outcome of joint research on the part of the two secretariats.

3. Repercussions of the European common market

The ECLA secretariat presented at the seventh session of the Commission a preliminary study (E/CN.12/449 and Add.1) on the possible repercussions of the European common market on Latin America's exports. Under the terms of resolution 121 (VII), the Commission, besides taking note with interest of this study, recommended to the secretariat that it should

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The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council (IA-ECOSOC) wish to place it on record, in the first place, that the present arrangements for proper co-ordination and co-operation as regards the work of the secretariats of their respective organizations, through the Co-ordination Committee, and the steady and regular exchange of information, are fully satisfactory.

The two secretariats reaffirm their conviction that the magnitude of Latin America's economic problems and the limited resources available for carrying out the research required in order to tackle them, renders co-ordination and co-operation between the two bodies absolutely essential, in order that such resources as exist may be utilized as advantageously and efficiently as possible.

To prevent duplication of the work of the two organizations is a task which the secretariats can only partly accomplish, as it lies mainly with the Governments to achieve this by seeing that proposals for similar action on the part of different international bodies are not approved.

1. Central American Economic Integration Programme

(a) Statistical co-ordination

The Central American Statistical Co-ordination Sub-Committee has enjoyed the valuable co-operation of the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI), which has attended all meetings of the Sub-Committee and has taken part in the preparation of several of its working

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continue to observe closely the economic integration of Europe and other areas, keeping the member Governments supplied with the relevant information, and that it should carry out studies in this field. In view of the interest shown by IA-ECOSOC in the same topic, it was agreed that, since the resources of the ECLA secretariat were limited, the IA-ECOSOC secretariat should carry out a complete study of this subject which would also be presented to ECLA. This study has reached an advanced stage, and will probably be completed by mid-1959.

To sum up, in the light of these considerations and of the experience acquired in the course of the co-operation maintained between the two organizations with respect to the projects mentioned above, the Executive Secretary of ECLA and the Executive Secretary of IA-ECOSOC have reached the firm conclusion that:

(a) The present co-ordination machinery constitutes an adequate framework within which the two organizations will continue to act in close co-operation;

(b) Co-operation and liaison activities - interpreted as a dynamic process, as hitherto - should concentrate on the adoption of measures relating to individual projects or to special aspects of these, without being subject to the terms of inflexible agreements relating to any specific field of action.

Bearing in mind these conclusions, the Executive Secretary of ECLA and the Executive Secretary of IA-ECOSOC propose, once their secretariats' respective work programmes have been approved, to hold other meetings

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and to maintain close contact by means of correspondence, exchange of documents and, in particular, draft applications and studies prior to their completion.