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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Twelfth session
Caracas, Venezuela, 2-13 May 1967

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening addresses

The programme for the inaugural ceremony and the opening addresses will be announced in the order of the day for the opening meeting.

2. Election of officers

Rule 16 of the rules of procedure provides that "the Commission shall, at the commencement of each session, elect from among the representatives a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election".

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Commission is given on the first page of this document. It is followed by comments on the different agenda items.

4. The position of the Latin American economy

In order to expedite the discussions concerning the position of the Latin American economy, the secretariat has prepared the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1966, as well as extracts summarizing parts of the Survey, which appear in the booklet entitled The Latin American economy in 1966.

The Survey this year not only analyses recent development trends in Latin America as a whole and in individual countries, but has a special section dealing with trends, prospects and institutional problems in agriculture.

Under the same agenda item, the secretariat is also submitting several studies on income distribution in Latin America, evaluating the impact of certain factors on income distribution in the region as a whole and in specific countries.

Documents:

Economic survey of Latin America (E/CN.12/767)

The Latin American economy in 1966. Summary extract from the Economic Survey (E/CN.12/768)

/Estudios sobre

Estudios sobre la distribución del ingreso y el desarrollo de América Latina (E/CN.12/770)

Studies on income distribution and development in Latin America. Summary (E/CN.12/771)

5. Planning problems in Latin America

In the last few years, planning has made significant progress in Latin America but its strengthening and further development are being seriously hampered, particularly during the stage of implementation. It is time to evaluate planning activities in the light of the experience acquired in the Latin American countries for a better understanding of the nature of the difficulties encountered and to suggest ways and means of overcoming them. Discussion on this item would be guided by those considerations.

As a working paper for the discussions, the secretariat is submitting a document dealing with the progress and problems of planning in Latin America. It provides a short account of the history of planning in the region, the features of the various plans, the extent to which they are being applied and the main obstacles to their success. It analyses the nature and origin of those obstacles and classifies them as internal or external. It also suggests a few conclusions to be drawn from the analysis.

Documents

Planning in Latin America (E/CN.12/772)

Reference document:

Discusiones sobre planificación, texts of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, Siglo XXI, Editores S.A., Mexico, 1966.

6. Latin American trade policy and the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

The document presented by the secretariat discusses three basic questions: (a) the recent trends of Latin America's foreign trade; (b) the broad lines of world trade policy; and (c) Latin America's external trade problems in relation to the second session of UNCTAD.

Special attention is given to the policies of the industrialized countries which represent the world's great industrial centres (both market and centrally planned economies), and their development since the first session of UNCTAD.

/The section

The section concerning Latin America's trade problems in relation to the second session of UNCTAD deals with some aspects of primary commodity problems, manufactures and semi-manufactures, the financing of trade and development and shipping. The Commission's deliberations on this agenda item may be vitally important in view of the debate to be held at the forthcoming second session of UNCTAD.

Document:

Latin America and world trade policy (E/CN.12/773)

Reference documents:

Note by the secretariat on Joint ECLA/UNCTAD/UNIDO activities relating to the promotion of exports of manufactures (E/CN.12/780)

Note by the secretariat, presenting the report of the consultative meeting of experts on United Nations technical assistance relating to exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures from developing countries (Geneva, 24-28 October 1966) (E/CN.12/781)

7. The relatively less developed countries and Latin American integration

In compliance with resolution 254 (XI), the ECLA secretariat is submitting a preliminary study on the problems confronting the economically relatively less developed countries in the process of Latin American integration. It suggests various methods and procedures for resolving those problems in keeping with the overall objectives of integration, namely: to promote the equitable distribution of the development opportunities created by the broader market; to ensure that the relatively less developed countries profit by those opportunities so that they can participate fully in Latin America's industrial development and accelerate their economic growth rate.

The secretariat is exploring the practical possibilities of convening a meeting of high-level government representatives of the relatively less developed countries, in accordance with the terms of resolution 254 (XI). In the event that such a meeting should be convened, the report of its deliberations would be submitted as a Conference document.

Document:

The relatively less developed countries and Latin American integration (E/CN.12/774)

/8. Report

8. Report on the activities and programme of work of the Commission

The report of the work of the Commission since the eleventh session of the Committee of the Whole, held in Santiago, Chile, 10-12 May 1966, together with the draft programme of work and priorities for May 1967-May 1969, are being submitted under this item.

The report covers the activities of the various offices, divisions and units of the ECLA secretariat, as well as the part played by the Commission at conferences or seminars organized by ECLA or other bodies.

In accordance with the Commission's instructions at its eleventh session, the draft programme has indicated the funds available for carrying out the programme, and the distribution of staff among the various projects, expressed in terms of man-months.

In establishing the final programme, which is submitted every two years to the Economic and Social Council, the Commission should bear in mind the recommendations of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the subsidiary organs of the Commission.

The report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council, which will be discussed and adopted under agenda item 10, will comprise both the report of the Commission's activities and its draft programme of work.

Documents:

Report on the activities of the Commission since the eleventh session of the Committee of the Whole (E/CN.12/775)

Draft programme of work and priorities, 1967-69 (E/CN.12/776)

Reference documents:

Note by the secretariat on resolutions adopted recently by the General Assembly and by the Economic and Social Council which require action or are of interest to the Commission (E/CN.12/777)

ECLA - A basic guide to the Commission and its secretariat, July 1966

Indexes of resolutions approved by ECLA, 1948-66. Supplement to A basic guide to the Commission and its secretariat, August 1966

9. Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning

(a) Report on activities, 1966-67

(b) Election of new members of the Governing Council

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The Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning was established as an autonomous agency under the aegis of ECLA pursuant to resolution 220 (AC.52) adopted by the Commission at the ninth session of the Committee of the Whole. It has been in operation since 1 July 1962, and receives financial assistance from the Special Fund component of the United Nations Development Programme and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Part A, paragraph 2 (c) of the above-mentioned resolution provides that the Governing Council of the Institute should submit to ECLA, each year, a progress report on its activities. In compliance with this provision, the Institute is submitting a special report at the present session together with a note by the secretariat.

Under Part A, paragraph 3 of resolution 220 (AC.52), the Commission, at its twelfth session, is to elect the new members of the Institute's Governing Council whose term of office expires at this time. The rules and conditions governing their election are set forth in the relevant note by the secretariat.

Documents:

Report on the activities of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. Note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/778)

Note by the secretariat on the election of new members of the Governing Council of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (E/CN.12/779)

Reference document:

Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (descriptive leaflet)

10. Consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council

Each year the Commission submits to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and projects as well as those of its subsidiary bodies. The report also includes an account of the proceedings at the session, the text of the resolutions adopted and the programme of work and priorities. The secretariat will, therefore, distribute draft texts of parts I and V, covering the work of the Commission since its last session and the programme of work and priorities for May 1967 to May 1969.

/11. Date

11. Date and place of the thirteenth session

In accordance with its rules of procedure, the Commission shall at each session decide upon the place of meeting for its next session, with due regard for the principle that "the countries of Latin America be chosen in rotation". It is incumbent upon the Commission to examine the offers received from Governments of member States wishing to act as hosts at the next session, and to decide on the date and place of that session. It should be noted that since 1951 the Commission has held its sessions every two years, while the Committee of the Whole has met in the intervening years.

The previous sessions of the Commissions have been held in:

Santiago, Chile,	7-25 June, 1948
Havana,	29 May - 14 June 1949
Montevideo,	5-21 June 1950
Mexico City,	26 May - 16 June 1951
Quitandinha,	9-25 April 1953
Bogota,	29 August - 16 September 1955
La Paz,	15-29 May 1957
Panama,	14-23 May 1959
Santiago, Chile,	4-15 May 1961
Mar del Plata,	6-18 May 1963
Mexico City,	6-18 May 1965