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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
Ad Hoc Committee on the Functions of ECLA  
Fourth session  
Mexico City  
Item 14 of the agenda

REVIEW OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS BY THE  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Cuba and Brazil: Joint draft resolution

THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING that paragraph 16 of Economic and Social Council resolution 106 (VI) of 25 February 1948, as amended by resolution 34 B (IX) of 12 August 1949, provides that not later than 1951 the Council shall make a special review of the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America with a view to determining whether the Commission should be terminated or continued, and if continued what modification, if any, should be made in its terms of reference;

CONSIDERING that ECLA is beyond any doubt an admirable centre of investigation of inter-American economic conditions and an excellent instrument both for acquiring precise knowledge of our present situation and for determining, by means of an exact technique, the economic needs of the American nations, and that it creates exceptional working conditions and trains economic experts for whom there is such need in our hemisphere;

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CONSIDERING that in the exercise of its activities and in consequence of the functions entrusted to it, the Commission has, on the one hand, been giving special attention to the subject of economic development, and on the other, co-operated actively in the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme, although the latter could not have been included in its original terms of reference, as the Programme was approved after the Commission had begun its activities;

CONSIDERING that the subject of economic development is of such importance that the Economic and Social Council, on a similar occasion, in the case of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, decided on 7 March 1951 to include it among the subjects to be given priority in that Commission's studies; and

TAKING NOTE of resolution 409 (V) of the General Assembly which, inter alia,

"expresses the opinion that the regional economic commissions should be maintained, although their organization and terms of reference may have to be revised in the light of the experience acquired since their establishment";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the suggestions made by the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the need to give its work wider scope in the interest of its member countries;

1. DECIDES to present to the Economic and Social Council a report explaining the reasons not merely for continuing the Economic Commission for Latin America, because it has proved its ability to

/contribute

contribute greatly to the improvement of the national economy of Latin American countries and in particular to facilitate a thorough study of it, but for expanding its functions so as to make it the largest joint economic organization as yet set up by Latin American countries;

2. RECOMMENDS to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations the addition to paragraph 1 of resolution 106 (VI) of 25 February 1948, as amended by resolution 234 B (IX) of 12 August 1949, of sub-paragraphs (d) and (e), reading as follows:

"(d) Pay special attention in its activities to the problems of economic development and assist in the formulation and implementation of integrated measures which would direct practical/ action towards furthering the economic development of the region".

"(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council and its Technical Assistance Committee in the discharge of their functions under the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme and, in particular, in the evaluation of these activities in Latin America".

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