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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Sixth session -  
Santiago, Chile, 7 April 1958

REPORT ON CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
AND THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL

### 1. Co-ordination and co-operation at the Government level

In resolution 117 (VII), adopted at the seventh session, the Commission decided that "the ECLA secretariat shall transmit to the secretariat of IA-ECOSOC for the Economic Conference of the Organization of American States, and, in advance, to the Governments of the countries participating therein, a full report on the studies carried out, under way or scheduled up to that date in relation to the problem of payments and the possibility of creating a regional market in Latin America, with a view to co-ordinating the efforts of ECLA and IA-ECOSOC and preventing the duplication of their activities".

In compliance with this resolution, the ECLA secretariat prepared a report on ECLA activities relating to payments and a regional market in Latin America (E/CN.12/483) for presentation to the Economic Conference of the Organization of American States, held at Buenos Aires in August 1957. Two members of the secretariat also attended the Conference.

The Economic Conference, in turn, adopted resolution XL, in which it referred to ECLA resolution 117 (VII) and to document E/CN.12/483, declared that it was desirable gradually and progressively to establish a Latin American regional market on multilateral and competitive bases and decided to express its gratitude to the Economic Commission for Latin America for the valuable data supplied to the session in document E/CN.12/483.

### 2. Co-ordination and co-operation at the secretariat level

In accordance with the various relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission, the secretariat has continued to maintain contact with the secretariat of IA-ECOSOC and information on their respective activities has been exchanged.

The Committee on Co-ordination, established pursuant to resolution 31 (IV), adopted at the fourth session, met twice during the period following the seventh session. The first meeting took place at Buenos Aires during the Economic Conference of the Organization of American States, and was continued in Santiago after the Conference. The second meeting took place in Santiago immediately before the current session of the Committee of the Whole.

During these two meetings, the representatives of the secretariats of both organizations studied their respective work programmes to ensure that there was no duplication of effort and to study those aspects conducive to mutual co-operation.

/Discussions have

Discussions have been in progress for some time on co-operation concerning studies of the impact of the creation of the European Common Market on Latin America, in which both secretariats are interested. It will be recalled that in resolution 121 (VII), adopted at the seventh session held at La Paz, the secretariat was requested to prepare a study on this subject, and in compliance with that resolution a preliminary analysis is being presented in the current issue of the Economic Bulletin. It has been agreed that a more complete study should be carried out by the IA-ECOSOC secretariat with whatever assistance ECLA may be able to give. It was further agreed that the IA-ECOSOC study should be submitted to ECLA at its eighth session in Panama in 1959.

With respect to the studies which the ECLA secretariat has been requested to do in order to provide additional information and background material for future sessions of the Working Group on the Latin American Regional Market, it was agreed that the ECLA and IA-ECOSOC secretariats should maintain close contact and explore the possibilities of dividing the work or making a joint study of the regulations and incentives for foreign investment in the various countries and an analysis of their possible effects on the development of individual countries and industries in a regional market.

In order to achieve greater statistical uniformity and to avoid any unnecessary duplication in collecting and compiling data, the secretariat of the Commission has continued to co-operate with the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI) with these purposes in mind. In this connexion, the Commission was represented by two observers at the fifth session of the IASI's Committee on Improvement of National Statistics (COINS), held at Washington from 13 to 26 November 1957.

The IASI provided the professor who was in charge of the Training Course on the Construction of Indexes of Quality and Price in Foreign Trade and sent a second officer as a lecturer. This Course was held from 23 September to 29 October 1957 at Mexico City under the Central American Economic Integration Programme, and was organized jointly by ECLA and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration.

/Finally, IASI

Finally, IASI is sending one of its officers to Santiago in May of this year to work on the studies for the standardization of tariff nomenclature, which is one of the projects being undertaken under the regional market programme. Moreover, the Director of the IASI will pay a visit to Santiago in the near future at which time it is proposed to discuss fully co-operation and respective responsibilities for this study.

In carrying out the Central American Economic Integration Programme, the ECLA secretariat has worked most profitably, within its terms of reference, with IA-ECOSOC and with the specialized agencies and bodies created under the Technical Assistance Programme of the Organization of American States. The Statistical Co-ordination Sub-Committee has been able to rely at all times on the co-operation of the Inter-American Statistical Institute. As regards housing, ECLA will continue to render any assistance requested by the Inter-American Housing and Planning Center.