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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Eighth session
Santiago, Chile, 14-16 February 1962

SPECIAL REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON THE
CREATION OF THE LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL PLANNING

Corrigendum

On page 1, the title of the resolution should read:

RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, ON THE
LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING

INTRODUCTION

1. At its eighth session, held at Santiago on 14-16 February 1962, the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America considered, under item 7 of its agenda, the creation and organization of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, bearing in mind document E/CN.12/AC.50/7 presented to it by the Executive Secretary.
2. After adopting resolution 218 (AC.50), which is annexed to the present report, the Committee also adopted resolution 219 (AC.50), reproduced below:

RESOLUTION FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, ON THE LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind that a resolution has been adopted at its current session establishing a Latin American Economic and Social Planning Institute,

Considering that it is a matter of the utmost urgency for the economic and social development of Latin America that the Institute should begin its work at once,

Mindful of article 10 of the Commission's terms of reference,

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council will hold its thirty-third session in April 1962, when it will have an opportunity to consider the establishment of the Institute that has just been approved,

Resolves:

1. To request the secretariat to transmit forthwith to the Economic and Social Council a special report on the Institute, giving an account of the discussions on the subject by the Committee of the Whole and of their decisions and resolutions adopted thereon;
 2. To ask the Economic and Social Council, at its thirty-third session, to devote special consideration to the Commission's decisions with respect to the Institute, in view of the urgent need for it to begin its operations.
3. Pursuant to the above resolution, and to enable the Economic and Social Council, if it deemed appropriate, to consider the matter at its thirty-third session, the secretariat reproduces in the following pages

/the paragraphs

the paragraphs from the account of proceedings that refer to the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning appearing in the Annual report to the Economic and Social Council covering the period 16 May 1961 to 16 February 1962 (E/3581, E/CN.12/AC.50/11).

/EXCERPTS FROM

EXCERPTS FROM THE ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS AT THE EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONCERNING THE LATIN AMERICAN
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING 1/

4. The establishment of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning was undoubtedly the major item discussed by the Committee of the Whole and it commanded the attention of every delegation. In its resolution 199 (IX) the Commission had requested the Executive Secretary of ECLA to consult with the Managing Director of the Special Fund on the arrangements that might be made for its functioning.

5. It was the unanimous view of the delegations that the establishment of the Institute was a matter of the greatest urgency for the promotion of an economic and social policy in Latin America along the dynamic lines required at the present time.

6. It was also unanimously recognized during the debate that the two main functions of the Institute - the provision, at the request of the Governments concerned, of training and advisory services to the countries and areas within the geographical scope of the Commission, and the undertaking of research in planning techniques - implied that ECLA would proceed with the work it was doing in both fields; this, while of considerable value to Latin America, had had a limited effect because of the lack of resources at the secretariat's disposal.

7. It was stressed in the Committee that in the past few years ECLA's work in the field of training and technical advice to governments had been undertaken at the expense of other very important aspects of its programme of work and of its own activities in the field of theoretical and practical research and analysis, which were an ECLA tradition. There was a consensus of opinion that, by transferring those activities to the Institute, the ECLA secretariat could revert more fully to its studies and research work and undertake such other practical activities as the Commission might entrust to it.

1/ The following paragraphs correspond to paras. 339-353 in documents E/3581-E/CN.12/AC.50/11.

8. During the discussion of document E/CN.12/AC.50/7 presented by the Executive Secretary, and in the course of the debate on the organization, functions and objectives of the Institute it became clear that different views were held among the delegations present, particularly with respect to the composition of the Governing Council of the Institute.
9. The five delegations representing the countries which had requested the United Nations Special Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank to co-operate in the establishment of the Institute, held consultations on the draft resolution they had prepared with the delegations that had expressed new points of view in the initial debate. A group consisting of several delegations was then set up informally to reconcile the different points of view in a single draft resolution.
10. The delegation that presented the joint draft amendment on behalf of the group pointed out that in the matter of the composition of the Governing Council of the Institute for the initial five-year period there had been two main schools of thought. The first favoured the establishment of a Governing Council consisting exclusively of government representatives. The second supported a mixed formula - the Council should consist of representatives both of Governments and of the international organs operating in the financial and economic field in Latin America.
11. The same delegation said that the countries which had discussed the draft resolution - convinced as they were that the Institute which was to be established under the aegis of ECLA would represent a real technical instrument enabling Governments members of the Commission to expand training, advisory assistance and systematic research programmes in the field of economic and social development planning - unanimously agreed that the Governing Council ought to be elected entirely by ECLA. Of the eleven members composing the Council, eight should be nationals of eight different Latin American countries and three should be from the international organizations mentioned above.

12. In the course of the Committee's discussions, several delegations, referring to the work of the Institute, voiced their opinions as to the direction that should be given to its activities. One delegation stressed that in the adoption and systematization of planning techniques the Institute should take into account the practical experience of its own country and other countries elsewhere in the world, which it felt was a proven success.

13. The same delegation, and others, urged that the Institute's planning techniques should be designed to further those structural changes in the economy which were deemed needful to speed up the rate of economic development, secure a more equitable distribution of income and raise the level of living of the broad masses in Latin America, which was currently so low.

14. The representatives of FAO and UNESCO pointed out that from the outset they had supported the idea of establishing the Institute, expressed their wish to collaborate and participate in its activities and stated that they were conducting preliminary negotiations with a view to putting the necessary arrangements for co-operation on a formal footing, once the Institute had begun its work.

15. Several non-governmental organizations also voiced their enthusiastic support of the Institute, and enlarged upon the points noted in the foregoing paragraphs, urging that ECLA should seek ways and means of providing technical training in the economic field for the trade union federations of Latin America.

16. The Committee of the Whole finally adopted, with one abstention, both resolution 218 (AC.50) establishing the Institute, and resolution 219 (AC.50) requesting the secretariat to transmit forthwith to the Economic and Social Council a special report on the new Institute so that, in view of the urgent need for the Institute to begin its operations, the Council should have the opportunity of considering the subject at its thirty-third session. The delegation that had abstained from voting, in giving its reasons for so doing, indicated that although it approved the objectives of the Institute, it could not endorse the form in which

the Governing Council was to be constituted under the terms of resolution 218 (AC.50). Nevertheless, as evidence of its country's support of the new institution, it announced the intention of its Government to establish fellowships as a means of broadening and increasing the Institute's activities.

17. In accordance with resolution 218 (AC.50) the Committee of the Whole agreed that the first election of the members of the Governing Council should be held at a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to be held at Santiago on 21 March 1962, and waived the requirements relating to documentation, convening of meetings and other formalities imposed on the secretariat by the Commission's rules of procedure.

18. At the conclusion of the debate the Executive Secretary summed up the views expressed by the delegations, and thanking the Governments and specialized agencies for their support of the secretariat in the preliminary negotiations for the establishment of the Institute and the Committee of the Whole for the confidence placed in the secretariat's ability to put into effect a project which would extend and amplify ECLA's work.

Annex

Resolution 218 (AC.50): LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL PLANNING

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,

Noting with satisfaction the note by the Executive Secretary on the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (E/CN.12/AC.50/7) submitted in compliance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of ECLA resolution 199 (IX),

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI), which invites the Governments concerned to establish development planning institutes closely linked to the respective regional economic commissions,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations Special Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank, whose contribution has made possible the establishment of an institute for development planning in Latin America,

Expressing gratification at the prospect that the United Nations, in discharging its responsibilities as Executing Agency, will act through ECLA,

Noting with satisfaction the Special Fund's agreement that the Institute be located at Santiago as an autonomous body under the aegis of ECLA, and the generous offer by the Government of Chile to provide appropriate premises,

Expressing the hope that the Regular and Expanded Programmes of Technical Assistance will give additional help by granting United Nations resources and fellowships for training at the Institute, and

Considering the urgent need to speed up economic and social development in the Latin American countries,

/Resolves:

Resolves:

A

1. To establish the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, which will be responsible for providing, at the request of the Governments concerned, training and advisory services to the countries and areas within the geographical scope of the Commission, and for undertaking research in planning techniques, in accordance with the following aims and functions:

- (a) To raise the technical level of government officials and specialists through training programmes in the form of courses and in-service training;
- (b) To assist Governments in establishing the institutional and technical organization required for a more efficient programming of their economic and social development policies;
- (c) To assist Governments at a purely technical level in preparing their economic and social development programmes;
- (d) To carry out the theoretical studies required for the improvement of planning techniques used in Latin America.

2. To establish a Governing Council for the Institute, its functions to be as follows:

- (a) To lay down general rules governing the action of the Institute in matters entrusted to it;
- (b) To review and approve work programmes and the relevant budgets;
- (c) To submit a progress report to ECLA each year on the work of the Institute;

3. To provide that the Governing Council shall be composed in the manner and subject to the stipulations laid down below:

- (a) Eleven members of recognized technical ability elected by ECLA, of whom eight shall be nationals of eight different Latin American countries and three shall be from international organizations working in the economic and financial field in Latin America;
- (b) In electing the eight members mentioned above, care shall be taken to ensure equitable geographical distribution;

- c) The eleven members of the Governing Council shall be elected for a term of two years at the regular ECLA sessions and eligible for re-election;
- d) The Director-General of the Institute - referred to under 4 below - shall be an ex officio member of the Governing Council with the right to participate without vote in its deliberations;
- e) The Governing Council shall elect a chairman from among the eight members mentioned under b) and shall adopt rules of procedure for its meetings, which shall be held at least twice a year.

4. To create the post of Director-General the incumbent to be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations after prior consultation with the Governing Council, , and entrusted with the direction and administration of the Institute in accordance with the instructions given him by the Governing Council and subject to the following stipulations and functions:

- a) To submit the programmes and budget of the Institute to the Governing Council;
- b) To execute the programmes and to undertake the expenditure envisaged in the budget;
- c) To select and appoint the staff of the Institute;
- d) To select the fellows for the Training Programme;
- e) To make formal arrangements with Governments for making available the services of the Institute;
- f) To accept on behalf of the Institute contributions from Governments, international organizations, private foundations and institutions for the purpose of financing its activities;
- g) To co-ordinate the work of the Institute with that of other international, regional and bilateral programmes in related fields;
- h) To attend the meetings of the Governing Council;
- i) To report to the Governing Council on the Institute's activities and on the execution of its work programme.

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In the exercise of his powers and the discharge of his responsibilities the Director-General may reach agreement with the specialized agencies as to methods of co-operating with the Institute in their respective fields.

B

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,
Further resolves,

1. That the first election of the members of the Governing Council referred to in paragraph 3 a) of part A of this resolution shall take place at an extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole, to be held at Santiago on 21 March 1962 with this exclusive end in view. The members thus appointed shall remain in office until the Commission's tenth session. To facilitate the convening of this extraordinary meeting it is agreed that the secretariat shall not be required to abide by the provisions laid down in the Commission's rules of procedure in respect of documentation, prior notice, and other arrangements.

2. That the Governing Council of the Institute shall approve a Plan of Operation for the United Nations Special Fund project in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution and, should the occasion arise, shall authorize the Chairman of the Governing Council to sign it;

3. That the Governing Council shall submit to ECLA, prior to its 1966 session, a proposal designed to ensure the continuity of the Institute, in accordance with the aims referred to in paragraph 7 of ECLA resolution 199 (IX);

4. That the Director-General of the Institute, after prior consultation with the Governing Council, shall reach agreement with the Executing Agency and the United Nations Special Fund on any change in the budget contained in the Plan of Operation of the Special Fund project;

/5. That, as

5. That, as long as the Special Fund contribution continues, the Director-General of the Institute, in addition to reporting to the Council of Directors, shall report directly to the Executing Agency in accordance with the provisions of the Special Fund project;

6. That the Director-General may also request the co-operation of the Resident Representatives of the Technical Assistance Board, who are also programme directors of the Special Fund, in regard to the provision of such training and advisory services as may be agreed on with the Governments concerned;

7. That the Director-General with the aim of furthering the Institute's aims, may in consultation with the OAS/ECLA/IDB Committee on cooperation consider what co-operation might be afforded by these organizations with respect to any requests that Governments may make for training and advisory services;

8. To urge the Latin American Governments to submit separate requests for advisory services to the United Nations Special Fund, as provided in paragraph 5 of document E/CN.12/AC.50/7.

16 February 1962