



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
REPORT OF THE SIXTH SESSION

(29 August—16 September 1955)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWENTIETH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 10A

NEW YORK

2. To the ECLA secretariat that, in conjunction with FAO, it begin a thorough investigation into the possibilities of raising the rate of investment in Latin America's agriculture and into a better use of available investment resources, and that in carrying out this research it seek the collaboration of the technical experts of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

RESEARCH IN THE AMAZON AREA

*Resolution 93 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/402)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering:

(a) The importance which the development of the great wealth of the Amazon Basin represents both for the group of nations which share it and for this continent, and the benefits for the welfare and progress of humanity to be derived from its exploitation,

(b) That the Amazon area is a zone which covers approximately half the territory of South America, and which possesses vast possibilities for economic development,

(c) That the immensity of this area requires joint and co-ordinated action for its exploitation by the countries concerned, and

(d) That the resolution adopted on 13 June 1949 at the second session of ECLA (E/CN.12/151) attached great importance to the study of this topic,

Recommends:

1. That the ECLA secretariat and FAO, with the collaboration of the specialized international agencies, carry out in so far as possible a joint preliminary study of the general Amazon area;

2. That on the basis of the foregoing study they draw up a programme of research designed to promote the exploitation and development of the resources of the Amazon Basin;

3. That the countries concerned:

(a) Exchange information, through the ECLA secretariat and FAO, on their experience and research in the area in question, and

(b) Co-operate fully in the carrying-out of the studies mentioned.

INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

*Resolution 94 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/403)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering:

(a) That the efficacy of the industrialization process and the feasibility of programmes directed towards that end suggest, in certain countries, the development of industries, not requiring a major investment effort, for the transformation of agricultural products, and

(b) That resolutions 67 (V) and 68 (V) of the Economic Commission for Latin America referred to the industrial transformation of bananas and hard fibres, respectively, and make specific recommendations on these subjects,

Recommends to the secretariat that, in addition to the studies on bananas and hard fibres, research be carried out, as far as its resources permit and in collaboration with other international bodies concerned, on the industrial transformation of certain agricultural products essential to the economies of the Latin American countries, bearing in mind, in view of the special situation of some countries, the desirability of adopting processes which do not involve a high density of capital per unit of product.

AGRICULTURAL SURPLUSES

*Resolution 95 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955
(E/CN.12/404)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind:

(a) That the accumulation of agricultural surpluses is a current economic fact,

(b) That the disposal of a considerable part of such surpluses is being effected by their sale on foreign markets,

(c) That some of the countries exporting agricultural commodities have stated that the accumulation of surpluses and the procedure employed in disposing of them have, in some cases, caused disturbances in their normal trade patterns, and

(d) That such procedures could cause disturbances in the future by limiting sales possibilities for other traditional exporters, who are heavily dependent upon the exportation of foodstuffs and raw materials, and

Having regard to:

(a) The most recent resolutions adopted with reference to the problems and prospects of agricultural surpluses, the statements and intentions evidenced by the countries having those surpluses, and the efforts made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to reduce to a minimum the unfavourable effects of the agricultural surplus problem, and

(b) The "Principles of surplus disposal" recommended by FAO and already accepted by thirty-four countries, and the "Guide lines for dealing with agricultural surpluses" formulated by the Committee on Commodity Problems of the said organization at its twenty-third session,

Resolves:

1. To recommend to the governments of member countries, and by virtue of resolution 38/54 approved at the Meeting of Ministers of Finance of Economy at the Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, particularly to those forming part of the inter-American system:

(a) That in determining and adjusting their agricultural production and surplus disposal policies, they particularly bear in mind the repercussions which such policies may have on the trade of the countries of this hemisphere characterized by their dependence on exports of agricultural products; and

(b) That they strengthen the existing consultative procedure to make the greatest and most effective contribution possible to the satisfactory execution of an orderly agricultural surplus disposal policy, designed