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the construction materials industry and markets, with due regard to the possibility of regional or national complementarity in the production of certain items, as well as their manufacture in conditions of maximum efficiency, bearing in mind the new situation created by the existence of the Latin American Free-Trade Association and the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration; and that in the preparation of these studies, collaboration be sought from public and private bodies likely to be helpful in attaining the proposed aims, including the Pan American Federation of Architects' Associations.

13 May 1961

206 (IX). Study and integral evaluation of human resources in the economy

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the human factor is a vital element in development policy and that the ultimate aim of this policy is the continuous improvement of the economic and social well-being of the whole community,

Bearing in mind that the study and application of measures related to economic development presuppose an over-all evaluation of human resources,

Noting that the characteristics of the human factor most closely related to economic development and requiring joint analysis and planning, include: (a) population movements, which are the basis of present and future labour supply; (b) the structure of employment and the absorption of labour into economic activities; (c) the supply of skilled labour at all the various levels and in all sectors of the economy as a basis for the organization of productive employment; (d) a sufficiently high general level of education to meet the cultural needs of the people and provide for vocational training to the extent and in the special fields required; (e) labour productivity in the various sectors of economy and in all occupations, its increase being the chief aim of economic and social development; (f) remuneration in the various occupations in line with productivity, distribution of income, production incentives and expansion of the market, and with the optimum level of investment for development, which will depend more and more on efforts by all sections of the community rather than on the interests of small social and economic groups,

Recalling resolution 149 (VIII) of the Economic Commission for Latin America on skilled labour,

Recommends to the secretariat that, in collaboration with the appropriate national and international bodies, it carry out co-ordinated studies on the basic aspects of human resources as set forth in the preambular paragraphs of this resolution, with a view to providing Governments with technical assistance in connexion with their efforts to establish economic development planning.

13 May 1961

207 (IX). Capital goods industries

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that there is a tendency among the countries of the region to develop their industry along more balanced lines by assigning a more important role to the local processing of their raw materials, fuels and intermediate products, and that this trend is generating a steadily increasing demand for basic production equipment,

Considering that in the more highly industrialized countries of Latin America the metal transforming industries, and especially heavy industry, have already developed sufficiently to embark on the manufacture of such equipment,

Considering that the production of capital goods would bring incalculable benefits in its train, both for individual countries and for the region as a whole, inasmuch as it would permit, on the one hand, a substantial saving of foreign exchange and, on the other—since by its very nature it lends itself to co-ordination of resources—the more efficient utilization of the production capacity of metal transforming enterprises,

Considering that the studies which ECLA is initiating in this field reveal that, despite the existence of favourable conditions for this type of industry, its development is lagging behind because of factors unconnected with the techniques and production capacity of enterprises,

Considering that the analysis of the aforesaid factors shows that the want of adequate provision for the medium- and long-term financing of sales of these capital goods constitutes the principal limitation to the expansion of industry,

Considering that the national agencies do not have sufficient resources to meet these requirements, but that they offer a basis for the establishment of a financing mechanism and the channelling of supplementary resources from abroad,

Decides:

1. To recommend to the Latin American Governments that, through their credit policies connected with the operations of private banks, and, where appropriate, through their foreign trade banks or development institutions, they lend their support in the medium- and long-term financing of the sale at home or abroad of capital goods produced in their countries, to the extent that this is compatible with their economic, especially monetary, situation;

2. To recommend to the Governments members of the Commission that they instruct their representatives to international financing agencies to request these bodies to study the problem of medium- and long-term credit for the purpose of financing the sale of capital goods produced in Latin America, and the ways in which they might help to supplement the activities of national credit institutions in that field; and to take resolute action with a view to implementing the recommendations arising out of the said study;

3. To request the secretariat to continue the studies it is carrying out in relation to the manufacture of

capital goods, and to collaborate with national agencies in the preparation of specific projects for presentation to the appropriate international financing institutions, with a view to guiding the action they may take in order to attain the above-mentioned objectives through the combination of national and international resources.

13 May 1961

208 (IX). Regional integration

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the progress achieved in various countries in the process of programming the development of their economies,

Bearing in mind that it is desirable for the States parties to the Montevideo Treaty and the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration — as well as for countries intending to accede to them — to co-ordinate their development plans or policies with the new economic circumstances created by the existence of those instruments of regional integration,

Decides :

1. To recommend to the States parties to the Montevideo Treaty and the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration—as well as to countries intending to accede to them—that, in preparing and implementing their economic development plans and policies they take into account the new conditions in respect of markets, competition and regional integration possibilities created by the existence of the said Treaties;

2. To recommend to the ECLA secretariat that, when so requested by the States parties to the Montevideo Treaty and the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration—as well as by countries intending to accede to them—it study the degree of compatibility of the targets established by those countries, and set forth in their programmes or in other expressions of the economic policy they propose to pursue, with the aims already set forth in the above-mentioned Treaties;

3. To request the secretariat to co-operate with the Governments referred to, whenever it is asked to do so, in the co-ordination of their development programmes with the objectives of the Montevideo Treaty and the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration.

13 May 1961

209 (IX). Experts on labour questions

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that organized labour can make a valuable contribution to the study of the social problems of development, as well as supporting the national programmes deriving from the relevant recommendations,

Decides to recommend to the ECLA secretariat that it invite, when appropriate, experts on labour questions connected with the labour movement to seminars or meetings for the study of the social problems of development.

13 May 1961

210 (IX). Decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and strengthening of the regional economic commissions

The Economic Commission for Latin America,
Bearing in mind :

(a) That the United Nations General Assembly adopted, at its fifteenth session, resolution 1518 (XV) recommending that steps be taken to decentralize United Nations activities in economic and social fields and make increased use of the regional economic commissions,

(b) That the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 793 (XXX) on the decentralization of activities and operations and the advantage of drawing, as fully as possible, on the services of the regional economic commissions, especially in the preparation and execution of programmes for advancing regional development in the economic and social fields,

(c) That the Secretary-General of the United Nations has submitted to the Commission, for consideration at its present session, document E/CN.12/564, in which the views of member Governments are requested on the measures which would be conducive to strengthening the regional economic commissions and increasing their participation in the programmes under way,

(d) That the Executive Secretary of the Commission has presented for consideration at the present session document E/CN.12/599 which sets forth an overall plan and, at the same time, specific initial measures for decentralizing the programmes for advancing regional economic development,

Considering :

(a) That on numerous occasions the member Governments have pointed out the advantages that would accrue from utilizing the services of the Commission as actively as possible and from proceeding to decentralize the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations,³⁸

(b) That the financial resources available for the technical assistance programmes are insufficient to cover all the projects in which the member Governments are interested, and that a periodic selection should therefore be made of the projects likely to be most beneficial for economic development and that they should be carried out as efficiently as possible by means of a continuous evaluation of results,

(c) That the knowledge and experience of the ECLA secretariat should be drawn upon as fully as possible in both the formulation and development of the projects,

(d) That the ECLA secretariat should be given the requisite staff to enable it to provide such services with all necessary efficiency,

Decides :

1. To take note with satisfaction of General Assembly resolution 1518 (XV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 793 (XXX), of the relevant document

³⁸ See ECLA resolution of 20 June 1950 (E/CN.12/192), reiterated in resolutions 12 (IV), 39 (AC.16), 85 (VI), 110 (AC.34), 125 (VII) and 144 (AC.40).