



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1963

224 (X). Programming of housing

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Having studied the note by the secretariat (E/CN.12/681) on the report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning established in compliance with Economic and Social Council resolution 903 C (XXXIV) and the provisional report (E/CN.12/647) of the Latin American Seminar on Housing Statistics and Programmes, held at Copenhagen, Denmark, from 2 to 22 September 1962, under the joint auspices of the Government of Denmark and the United Nations, in co-operation with several agencies of the Organization of American States,

Considering that in Latin America the housing conditions of large sectors of the population are extremely unsatisfactory, and that they are, moreover, considered to have deteriorated in a number of countries during the decade 1950-1960, a state of affairs which calls for the immediate adoption of national policies and programmes based on more adequate statistics and suitable methods of planning,

Recognizing the need for Governments to formulate national house-building programmes in the context of national economic and social development plans, as a means of ensuring more effective utilization of resources and compatibility between the aim of improving living conditions in respect of housing and the requirements of economic development,

Bearing in mind that the Economic and Social Council recommended, in its resolution 903 C (XXXIV), that the Secretary-General should be authorized to provide additional staff in the Bureau of Social Affairs and the corresponding strengthening of the staffs in the regional economic commissions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1709 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, to carry out the research and organizational work necessary for the effective development of the housing, related community facilities and physical planning programme of the United Nations.

Bearing in mind the activities undertaken in regard to housing by various regional institutions, especially those channelled through the Inter-American Development Bank and the interest of that institution in improving the objective bases for the formulation of housing policies and programmes in the Latin American countries,

1. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 903 C (XXXIV), by which the Council invites the regional economic commissions to strengthen their activities in this field and to co-operate fully in the work of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the provisional report on the Latin American Seminar on Housing Statistics and Programmes (E/CN.12/647), endorses the general conclusions contained therein (paragraphs 578-582), recommends the secretariat to issue the report in its final form and distribute it to Governments, and expresses its special thanks for the co-operation of the Economic Commission for Europe in the conduct of the Seminar;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the establishment, under the United Nations technical assistance programme, of a group of consultants on the programming and

financing of housing projects, attached to the Commission's secretariat;

4. *Requests* the secretariat:

(a) To prepare, in co-operation with the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, and with the assistance of experts if necessary, appropriate methodological bases for the formulation of housing programmes in the Latin American countries, including in particular methods of estimating housing deficits and building requirements for the satisfaction of minimum housing needs;

(b) To promote intergovernmental exchanges of experience in relation to housing policies and programmes and house-building and financing methods, to collaborate with national agencies in the preparation of specific research or demonstration projects conducive to the satisfactory solution of the housing problem, and to extend to the rest of the region and intensify the studies carried out by the Commission's Mexico office in connexion with the standardization of materials and modular co-ordination;

(c) To co-operate with the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning in the organization of training courses in housing programming for officials from national housing institutions or agencies;

(d) To co-ordinate its activities closely with those of the international agencies operating in this field, with a view to avoiding duplication.

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225 (X). Agricultural development

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that agricultural production in several Latin American countries has recently not been increasing at a satisfactory rate, a fact which has tended to aggravate their external trade problems; that it has not contributed directly to improving the level of nutrition of their inhabitants; and that in general it has adversely affected the economic and social development of those countries,

Considering that it is indispensable to remove the structural and institutional obstacles to the wholesale use of up-to-date production techniques calculated to raise the productivity of land and labour and ensure the proper conservation of agricultural and forest resources,

Bearing in mind that unsatisfactory land and water tenure systems, and inadequate services for research, extension, credit, marketing, education and training in agriculture are among the most important of these obstacles,

Realizing that the process of structural and institutional readaptation of agriculture calls for planning within the framework of general programmes of economic and social development;

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the document entitled "Agriculture in Latin America: problems and prospects" (E/CN.12/686 and Corr.1), prepared jointly by the secretariat and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the joint action and co-ordination carried out in regard to agricultural development and land reform by the Commission, the Food and Agriculture