



UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

(FOURTH SESSION)

(28 MAY 1951 — 16 JUNE 1951)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS : THIRTEENTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 8

NEW YORK

Expressing its thanks to the Government of the Republic of Brazil for its generous invitation to hold the fifth session of the Commission at Rio de Janeiro;

Resolves that the fifth session of the Commission will be held at Rio de Janeiro in 1952, at such a date as the Executive Secretary, after consultation with the Chairman, shall determine, in the light of decisions by the Council regarding its 1952 Calendar of Meetings.

(k) PORTUGUESE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The Commission again considered the question of adopting Portuguese as an official and working language. The delegations expressed their appreciation of Brazil's generous offer to give the necessary facilities for using Portuguese as an official language at the fifth session to be held at Rio de Janeiro. The Commission adopted a resolution (E/CN.12/268) which expressed its wish that Portuguese might be adopted as an official and working language.

2. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

I. FUTURE OF THE COMMISSION

REVIEW OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951* (E/CN.12/286/Rev.1)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking note of resolution 409 (V) of the General Assembly, which, *inter alia*, "expresses the opinion that the regional economic commissions should be maintained, although their organization and terms of reference may have to be revised in the light of the experience acquired since their establishment";

Considering that paragraph 16 of Economic and Social Council resolution 106 (VI) of 25 February 1948, as amended by resolution 234 B (IX) of 12 August 1949, provides that not later than 1951 the Council shall make a special review of the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America with a view to determining whether the Commission should be terminated or continued, and if continued what modification, if any, should be made in its terms of reference;

Considering that ECLA is beyond any doubt an effective centre of investigation of Latin-American economic conditions and an excellent instrument both for acquiring precise knowledge of the present situation and for determining, by means of appropriate analysis, the economic needs of the Latin-American nations, and that it creates exceptionally good working conditions and trains economic experts for whom there is a great need in the Latin-American countries;

Considering that in the exercise of its activities and in consequence of the functions entrusted to it, the Commission has, on the one hand, been giving special attention to the subject of economic development, and on the other, co-operated actively in the United Nations

Technical Assistance Programme, although the latter could not have been included in its original terms of reference, as the Programme was adopted by the United Nations after the Commission had begun its activities;

Considering that the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, on 7 March 1951, recommended to the Economic and Social Council that the Commission be continued indefinitely and to include in its terms of reference activities in the field of economic development in view of the importance of this subject to the under-developed countries;

Taking into account the suggestions made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the need to give its work wider scope in the interest of its member countries;

Approves the Executive Secretary's Statement on the Work of the Commission since its establishment presented to the *Ad hoc* Committee of the Economic and Social Council (E/AC.34/6) and commends the Executive Secretary for the preparation of this document;

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council that the Economic Commission for Latin America be continued indefinitely; and

Decides to include in its report to the Economic and Social Council a section explaining the reasons not merely for continuing indefinitely the Economic Commission for Latin America, because it has proved its ability to contribute greatly to the improvement of the national economies of Latin-American countries and in particular to facilitate a thorough study of them, but also for expanding its functions so as to make it the largest joint economic organization as yet set by Latin-American countries;

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations the addition to paragraph 1 of resolution 106 (VI) of 25 February 1948, as amended by resolution 234 B (IX) of 12 August 1949, of subparagraphs *d* and *e*, reading as follows :

"(d) Give special attention in its activities to the problems of economic development and assist in the formulation and development of co-ordinated policies as a basis for practical action in promoting economic development in the region;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council and its Technical Assistance Committee in discharging their functions with respect to the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme in particular by assisting in their appraisal of these activities in the Latin-American-region."

II. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951* (E/CN.12/271)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the Latin-American countries should plan their programmes of economic development so as to ensure the most intensive and systematic expansion of