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This report, covering the period between 17 October 1953, when the Committee's second session ended, and 9 May 1955, the closing date of the Extraordinary Session, is divided into four parts: the first outlines the activities of the Committee and the secretariat during the period between the two sessions; the second describes the technical assistance provided by the United Nations and its specialized agencies in relation to the Central American economic integration programme; Part Three summarizes the discussions and conclusions of the extraordinary session, held at San Salvador, El Salvador, from 4-9 May 1955; and Part Four lists the resolutions adopted at the extraordinary session.

The Rapporteur of the extraordinary session, Dr. Jorge Arenales Catalán, Minister of Economy of Guatemala, submitted this report for the consideration of the Committee at its closing meeting on 9 May 1955. The report was unanimously adopted.
PART ONE. ACCOUNT OF ACTIVITIES BETWEEN THE SECOND SESSION AND THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION IN SAN SALVADOR.

A. Introduction

The Committee was officially established at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on 23 August 1952, the Ministers of Economy of the five Central American republics being in attendance. The Republic of Panama was invited to join the Committee or in any case to send observers to the sessions. The second session was held in October 1953, at San José, Costa Rica. At the second session some of the first reports requested from the secretariat and from the United Nations agencies which provide technical assistance were submitted and sixteen resolutions were adopted, representing the first concrete steps taken by the member countries to implement the Central American economic integration programme. At this same session, the Committee resolved to broaden its membership by including other Ministers, in addition to Ministers of Economy, when the governments should so decide in view of the specific topics to be discussed.

The third session of the Committee should have been held in 1954 at Managua, Nicaragua, but, through unforeseen circumstances, it had to be postponed. Meanwhile the members of the Committee agreed to hold the extraordinary session to consider the reports and plans which required immediate action to ensure the continuity of the programme. In particular, the projects which are being carried out with technical assistance from the United Nations and its specialized agencies require to be planned.
well in advance to ensure that the necessary funds will be available for their execution.

B. Foreign trade and customs nomenclature

The Central American Trade Sub-Committee, created under Resolution 18 (AC.17), adopted at the second session of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee, held two meetings: the first at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, from 27 September to 2 October 1954 and the second in Mexico City from 24 to 28 January, 1955. On the basis of work accomplished by the secretariat with the collaboration of the United Nations Statistical Office and the Inter-American Statistical Institute, this Sub-Committee continued the work on a standard customs nomenclature for Central America begun in 1952. The Sub-Committee established the supplementary instruments required to apply the nomenclature to the five Central American countries on an effective basis. This work was climaxed at the second session of the Sub-Committee with the adoption of the Code Manual for the standard nomenclature and its alphabetical index. The Sub-Committee also approved a standard nomenclature for exports at its first session.

Under the terms of Resolution 19 (AC.17), adopted at the second session of the Committee, the secretariat prepared a study on inter-Central-American trade and its possibilities and another analysis of trade policy and free trade in Central America.

/C. Co-ordination
C. Statistical co-ordination

At the second session, Resolution 20 (AC.17) was adopted on the desirability of co-ordinating the concepts, methods, procedures and standard presentation of statistics in Central America, in order to ensure their uniformity and comparability, especially in regard to the needs of the economic integration programme. The secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Statistical Office and the Inter-American Statistical Institute, prepared a report to enable the Committee to determine the best means for achieving statistical co-ordination.

D. Financing of development

Resolution 22 (AC.17), adopted at the second session, requested the secretariat to continue its studies of the financing problems as related to the Central American economic integration programme. As a supplement to the report considered at that session, which was principally concerned with the possibility of developing Central American securities markets, the secretariat, with the collaboration of the United Nations Fiscal Division, has undertaken a study of the Central American tax systems for the purpose of estimating their capacity to finance a higher rate of economic development. This new report will be submitted to the Committee in 1955.

E. Other work

During the period embraced by this report the secretariat participated in all the technical assistance activities for the Central American economic integration programme, advising the expert missions and collaborating in their work. The secretariat likewise formed part of the Working Group

/presided
presided over by the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board, through which the agencies which provide technical assistance co-ordinate their programmes and advise the Committee on the submission of individual requests for technical assistance.

PART TWO. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE INTEGRATION PROGRAMME

A. Introduction

In accordance with the general outlines drawn up when the Committee was constituted, the member governments have requested technical assistance for implementing a number of the projects included in the Central American economic integration programme. At the second session of the Committee it was resolved to request the execution of the second phase of the projects already begun, while technical assistance was also requested to carry out new projects. For 1954, experts were requested from the Technical Assistance Board for the following projects: Advanced School of Public Administration; transport; customs nomenclature and procedures; Industrial Research Institute; electric energy; technical training; forest products, pulp and paper; livestock and dairy products; cotton and textile industries; and vegetable oils and fats. It was planned that the following agencies would participate in these projects: the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization. The Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board was placed in charge of co-ordinating these activities, with the advice of the Working Group made up of representatives of these agencies and a member of the ECLA secretariat. To cover the local costs of the projects, the governments agreed to donate a sum equal to that contributed in 1953.
Within the budget limitations of the Technical Assistance Board, the most urgent projects were carried out, while some others were postponed until 1955.

B. Advanced School of Public Administration

In accordance with the Committee's adoption of this project at its second session, once the agreements between the five participating governments and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration had been signed, the school began to operate in early 1954 at San José, Costa Rica. It functioned throughout the year in accordance with the approved plans. The school constitutes a concrete accomplishment of the integration programme and is rendering valuable service to the governments of Central America.

C. Transport

In accordance with Resolution 21 (AG.17), adopted at the second session, and in order to implement the main recommendations of the transport report submitted by the joint ECLA/TAA mission in 1953 and of the seminar on this subject held at San José, Costa Rica in July of the same year, studies were undertaken on the regulation of road traffic, maritime freight rates, and the possibility of establishing both a Central American merchant fleet and a joint port administration. Experts from the Technical Assistance Administration, whose reports will be submitted to the Committee in 1955, were available for this purpose. It was found necessary to postpone the appointment of an expert on the co-ordination of highway plans until 1955.

/D. Customs
D. Customs nomenclature and regulations

An expert designated by the Technical Assistance Administration began an examination of the aspects of customs legislation and regulations which are pertinent to the standard Central American customs nomenclature. At the second session of the Central-American Trade Sub-Committee this expert gave a report on the progress of his work, pending the submission by the Technical Assistance Administration of the final report and recommendations during the course of 1955.

E. Research Institute for Industry

The basic study on this subject was made in 1954 by a mission composed of three experts from the Technical Assistance Administration. Once the interest of the governments in the project was made known, a second mission at the end of 1954 and during early 1955 studied the location of the Institute and its financing and drew up the bases for a detailed work programme. The report of the first mission was given to the governments in September 1954.

F. Electric energy

In June 1954, a report prepared by three experts from the Technical Assistance Administration was submitted to governments, in which, in accordance with the decision made at the first session of the Committee, a survey was made of the possibilities for greater output and wider distribution of electric energy in Central America.

/G. Technical
G. Technical training

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the first session of the Committee, two experts appointed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization made a study in 1953 of technical training conditions in Central America and of the existing facilities. After their preliminary report had been transmitted to governments, the above-mentioned agencies appointed a second mission to formulate a concrete plan to cover the whole area and aimed at contributing to the improvement of technical training in the five countries. This second report was submitted to governments in January 1955.

H. Forest products, pulp and paper

In 1954, the mission nominated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with the collaboration of an expert from the Technical Assistance Administration and of the secretariat, completed its report on forest resources in Central America and the possibilities of pulp and paper production. The report was submitted to the consideration of the Committee in January 1955.

I. Livestock and dairy products

In accordance with the request of governments, a study on livestock and dairy products was entrusted to a mission of experts from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. After an extensive survey of the present and potential livestock areas of Central America, the mission drew up a report at the end of 1954, which will be submitted to the Committee during the course of 1955.
J. Cotton and textile industries; vegetable oils and fats

The financial limitations of the Technical Assistance Board made it necessary to postpone the proposed studies in these fields. These studies are included in the plans for 1955.

K. Technical assistance programme for 1955

With a view to submitting in due time the technical assistance programmes for 1955, the Chairman of the Committee, with the advice of the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board and the secretariat, and after consultation with the other members of the Committee, submitted the tentative programme to the Board in August 1954. This programme consists of the following projects: Advanced School of Public Administration; Research Institute for Industry; forest development and the production of pulp and paper; transport; output and distribution of electric energy; Central American Institute for Technical Industrial Training; livestock and dairy products; agricultural economy; industrial economy; vegetable oils and fats; cotton and textile industries; weights and measures; and customs regulations. The Technical Assistance Board approved a budget of 329,860 dollars to carry out this programme for Category I projects during 1955 and a budget of 62,700 dollars for the projects in category II, contingent on the availability of funds.

/Part three/
PART THREE. EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

A. Membership, attendance and organization of work

An Extraordinary Session of the Committee was convoked at San Salvador, El Salvador. It was attended by delegations from the five countries which constitute the Committee: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The Government of Panama was invited to send an observer.

a) List of delegations

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<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Jorge Rossi, Minister of Economy and Finance</td>
<td>Alberto Di Mare, General Director of Economy of the Ministry of Economy and Finance</td>
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<td>Alfredo T. Povedano, Chief of the Department of Commerce of the Ministry of Economy and Finance</td>
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<td>Rodrigo Soley, Legal Adviser</td>
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<td>Mario Rodriguez, Chief of the Customs Office</td>
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<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Manuel Antonio Ramírez, Acting Minister of Economy</td>
<td>Enrique A. Porras, Minister of Finance</td>
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<td>Jaime Quesada, Acting Under-Secretary of Economy</td>
<td>Benjamin Wilfrido Navarrete, Under-Secretary of Finance</td>
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/Roberto Masferrer
Roberto Masferrer, Under-Secretary of Education

Pedro Abelardo Delgado, Director of the Department of Economic Studies of the Ministry of Economy

Leopoldo Barrientos, Co-Director of the Centro Interamericano de Productividad Industrial

Jorge Tenorio, Director-General of Statistics and Census

Francisco Morán, Director-General of Secondary Education of the Ministry of Education

Rafael Huezo Selva, Technical Adviser to the Ministry of Economy

Ramón González Montalvo, Adviser to the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Relations

Enrique Agustín Dalton, Graduate Economist attached to the Department of Economic Studies of the Ministry of Economy

Juan Adalberto Menjivar, Assistant Economist attached to the Department of Economic Studies of the Ministry of Economy

Guatemala

Chief of the Delegation

Jorge Arenales Catalán, Minister of Economy and Labour

Delegate

Roberto Herrera Ibargüen, Ambassador to El Salvador

/Advisers
Honduras

Advisers

José Luis Mendoza, Director of International Agreements and Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Relations

Mario Asturias, Manager of the Banco de Guatemala

Chief of the Delegation

Pedro Pineda Madrid, Acting Minister of Economy and Finance

Delegate

Manuel Luna Mejía, Ambassador to El Salvador

Advisers

Gabriel A. Mejía, Director-General of Income Tax of the Ministry of Economy and Finance

Roberto Ramírez, President of the Banco Central de Honduras

Rafael Callejas, Jr., Manager of the Technical Department of the Banco Nacional de Fomento

Paul Vineili, Adviser to the Banco Central de Honduras

Nicaragua

Chief of the Delegation

Enrique Delgado, Minister of Economy

Delegate

Leonte Herdocia, Ambassador to El Salvador

Advisers

Luis A. Cantarero, Secretary of the National Economic Council

Gustavo A. Guerrero, Head of the Department of Economic Studies of the Ministry of Economy

Jaime Montealegre, Head of the Department of Commerce of the Ministry of Economy

/b) Specialized Agencies
b) Specialized Agencies

Antonio Gómez Orbaneja, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Alfonso Crespo, International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Francantonio Porta, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Rafael Paz Paredes, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

J. Burke Knapp, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The Bank)

Federico Consolo, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The Bank)

David Gordon, Representative of the Bank in Guatemala

Jean Valley, Representative of the Bank in Nicaragua

Jonas H. Haralz, Representative of the Bank in Honduras

c) Observers

Armando C. Amador, Inter-American Economic and Social Council (IA-ECOSOC)

Omar Dengo, Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI)

At the first meeting, Mr. Manual Antonio Ramírez, Chief Delegate of El Salvador, was elected Chairman of this Extraordinary Session, and Mr. Jorge Arenales Catalán, Chief of the Delegation from Guatemala, was elected Rapporteur.

The Committee met in plenary sessions, and during the course of the proceedings special working groups were formed when necessary.

/B. Agenda
B. Agenda

At the first meeting the draft agenda submitted by the secretariat was adopted without changes as follows:

1. Opening addresses
2. Consideration and adoption of the agenda
3. Current status of the Central American economic integration programme

   Background documents:
   a) Report of the secretariat (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/3);

4. Industries

   Background documents:
   Note by the secretariat (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/6) and report on forest resources and the possibilities of pulp and paper production in Central America; Mission of Experts of the Food and Agriculture Organization, in collaboration with the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration

5. Educational and research institutes

   Background documents:
   a) Note by the secretariat (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/12) and report of the Director of the Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America (Doc. ESAPAC/256/10.21);
   b) Note by the secretariat (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/7) and report on the organization of a Central American Research Institute for Industry: Mission of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration (Doc. ST/TAA/1/ CENTRAL AMERICA/R.2);

6. Foreign trade
6. Foreign trade and customs nomenclature

Background documents:
   a) Report of the first session of the Central American Trade Sub-Committee (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/9);
   b) Report of the second session of the Central American Trade Sub-Committee (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/14);
   c) Analysis and prospects for inter-Central American Trade (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/10);
   d) Trade policy and free trade in Central America (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/11).

7. Statistical co-ordination

Background documents:
   Note by the secretariat (Doc. E/CN.12/CCE/8)

8. Date and place of the third ordinary session

9. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee

C. Account of proceedings

1. Current status of the Central American economic integration programme. The reports on the work accomplished since the second session of the Committee, submitted by the Executive Secretary and by the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board, were considered at the first meeting. It was pointed out that, having regard to the progress achieved in the programme, it was advisable that the plans dealing with productive activities and with the establishment of new industries should bear an appropriate relationship to the basic plans of an institutional nature. The delegations took note with satisfaction of the secretariat's report, agreed to reaffirm their wish that projects of an industrial nature should be emphasized and requested that the secretariat prepare an evaluation of the priorities for the programme as a whole to be presented to the next session of the Committee. In this respect, resolution 8 (CCE) "Current Status of the Central American Economic Integration Programme" was adopted.

DOCUMENT E/CN.12/CCE/29

/As regards
As regards technical assistance activities, the Committee expressed its appreciation to the Technical Assistance Board and to the specialized agencies which have participated in the programme, for the efficient way in which they have attended to the requests of the various governments, and also reaffirmed their hope that in the budgets for 1956, a high priority would continue to be given to the Central American economic integration programme.

The technical assistance projects requested for 1956 are the following: Advanced School of Public Administration; Research Institute for Industry; forest resources, pulp and paper; industrial economics; highway transport; weights and measures; electric energy; maritime transport; cotton and textile industries; customs; livestock and dairy products; agricultural economics; and co-ordination of technical training. With regard to technical assistance, resolution 10 (CCE), "Technical Assistance" Document E/CN.12/CCE/257 was adopted.

2. Forest resources, pulp and paper production in Central America.

The Committee took note with satisfaction of the report on this subject, prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization with the collaboration of the Technical Assistance Administration and the secretariat. The Committee recognized that this is one of the basic aspects of the integration programme insofar as it represents the establishment of industries based on natural resources in the area which could only be created through the co-operation of the five countries because of the size of Central American markets. The Committee accepted the recommendations of the experts concerning the desirability of a thorough study of sites for the pulp and paper mill in one of the zones studied in Honduras, wherever the best conditions for such a project.
a project exists. It was also agreed to recommend that the governments carry out the recommendations in the report as to the development and protection of forest resources through policies of conservation and adequate systems of exploitation, mapping, forest inventories, a study of new species, land tenure and forestry legislation, expansion of forestry services, improvement of methods used in the lumber industry, formation of a central organization for the lumber industry, a study of markets and encouragement for the creation of subsidiary industries. To these ends it was decided to transmit the report to Central American Ministers of Agriculture for their study and consideration, and for their decision as to which aspects could best be carried out jointly by the Central American countries and should therefore be examined at the third session of the Committee. In order to strengthen the forestry services of the area, it was decided to ask the Technical Assistance Board to provide an expert in forestry education who would cooperate with the work of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences at Turrialba, Costa Rica.

In recommending the study of the location, development and financing of a pulp and paper mill in Honduras, and in agreeing to request the Technical Assistance Board to provide the necessary experts for carrying out the project, the delegates considered that governments, in drawing up their development plans, should bear in mind the project for a Central American pulp and paper industry and should take appropriate measures to expand the Central American market for its products.

The foregoing considerations were embodied in two resolutions adopted by the Committee: 1 (CCE) "Forest resources in Central America" (Document E/CN.12/CCE/167), and 2 (CCE) "Pulp and Paper Industry" (Document E/CN.12/CCE/177).
3. **Statistical co-ordination.** The Committee considered the secretariat's report on the co-ordination of statistics in Central America and agreed to give this work permanence and continuity by establishing a Statistical Co-ordination Sub-Committee composed of Central American Directors-General of Statistics, with headquarters at San Salvador. The terms of reference of the Sub-Committee will be to propose measures for establishing uniform statistical standards, concepts and methods; to draw up plans for co-ordinating the compilation, preparation and publication of Central American statistics; to encourage the establishment of training centres and technical courses; and to look into the possibility of joint publication of the basic statistics of the Central American countries. It was understood that those statistics necessary for the regional economic integration programme should be given priority in the Sub-Committee's work programmes.

In this regard Resolution 3 (CCE) "Co-ordination of Statistics" Document E/CN.12/CCE/187 was adopted.

4. **Customs nomenclature and training.** The Committee approved the reports of the Central-American Trade Sub-Committee on their first and second sessions. It was pointed out that to date two Central American countries had already adopted the Standard Central American Customs Nomenclature, that a third country had presented the plan to its National Legislature and that the other two countries were studying customs reform based on the new nomenclature. The delegations congratulated the Sub-Committee for having completed the Code Manual for the SCACN, with its alphabetical index, both of them being indispensable
to the application of the nomenclature. The Standard Export Nomenclature prepared by the Sub-Committee was also approved. In view of the need to improve the training of customs personnel in the five Central American countries, the Committee recommended that governments take appropriate measures to that end and also requested the co-operation of the Advanced School of Public Administration for the same purpose. The delegates believed it advisable that the secretariat prepare a printed edition of the SCACN, its Code Manual and alphabetical index, within the period that the urgency of the question required. The secretariat pointed out to the delegations that in the printing budget for 1955, this new item had not been foreseen and that their request would consequently have financial implications.

Resolution 4 (CCE) "Customs Nomenclature and Training" Document E/CN.12/CCE/207 was adopted.

5. Advanced School of Public Administration. The Director of the School submitted a report to the Committee on the first year of activities, which was received with much interest. The delegates expressed their satisfaction at the work accomplished, since the School has been of positive benefit to the Central American countries, and also at the valuable co-operation of the Technical Assistance Administration. The Board of Directors of the School held its first meeting at San Salvador on 5 and 6 May.

Resolution 5 (CCE) "Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America" Document E/CN.12/CCE/207 was adopted.
6. Central American Research Institute for Industry. The
delegations considered the report submitted by the experts of the
Technical Assistance Administration on the organization of a Central
American research institute for industry (Document ST/TAA/J/CENTRAL AMERICA/
R.27). The delegates were of the opinion that the services of an institution
of the type contemplated, established through the cooperation of the five
Central American governments, would contribute to exploring future industrial
possibilities and to the diffusion of scientific, technological and industrial
knowledge in the area. It was also felt that such an institute would improve
the productivity and the efficient operation of existing plants. The report
of the experts was approved without reservation, and it was decided to
recommend that governments proceed forthwith to establish the Institute, with
adequate legal status, and as outlined in the report. Since both the
Government of El Salvador and the Government of Guatemala had offered their
capital cities as sites for the Institute, offering to furnish an adequate
building and to install the necessary basic services, the Committee appointed
a group consisting of the chiefs of the delegations of Costa Rica, Honduras
and Nicaragua, to make an objective evaluation of the general conditions
prevailing in both countries, in order to make a choice between the two
generous offers. This working group recommended that the Institute should
be established at Guatemala City.

On this subject, Resolution 6 (CCE) "Central American Research
Institute for Industry" (Document E/CN.12/CCE/217) was adopted.

7. Weights and measures. The metric system is legally in force
in the Central American countries; but the Committee, cognizant that many
other weights and measures are used in the area, with no co-ordinated system
/of equivalents
of equivalents established, and believing that the effective application
of the metric system should be encouraged, requested the Technical Assistance
Board to provide an expert to make the necessary studies and to recommend
a solution to governments. It was decided to adopt Resolution 7 (CCE)
"Standardization of Weights and Measures" (Document E/CN.12/CCE/22/).

8. Central American Institute for Technical Industrial
Training. The Committee considered the preliminary report prepared by the
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the
International Labour Organisation on the possible establishment of a Central
American institute for technical industrial training. The delegates
expressed their interest in this project, having recognized since the
first session of the Committee that the technical training of Central
American workers is one of the basic aspects of the economic development
and integration of the area. However, since a project of this nature would
entail a series of consultations with the Ministers concerned in each country,
particularly the Ministers of Education and Labour, it was decided to leave
a final decision on this project pending until 30 June 1955. It was agreed
that by that date the governments should express their opinion through their
Ministers of Economy so that a joint statement could be forwarded to the
TAB. The delegations saw a clear need for correlating educational and
cultural progress with economic development. They accepted the invitation
extended by the Minister of Economy of Guatemala, on behalf of his Government,
and agreed to suggest that a meeting of the Ministers of Education of the
Central American countries be held at Guatemala City as soon as possible.

Resolution 9 (CCE) "Technical Industrial Training" (Document
E/CN.12/CCE/24) was adopted.

9. Inter-Central-American
9. **Inter-Central-American trade and trade policy.** The Committee expressed great interest in the two reports submitted by the secretariat, analysing the prospects of inter-Central-American trade and, secondly, trade policy and free trade in Central America (Documents E/CN.12/CCE/10 and 11). In this field, which was regarded as essential to the policy of Central American economic integration, definite progress has been made in the past year; negotiations are now being undertaken between the countries with the aim of expanding the free trade zones. It was pointed out that the treaties which have already been ratified have contributed substantially to a greater volume of reciprocal trade among the Central American countries. It was thus recommended that governments intensify their efforts to ratify bilateral free trade treaties. Since some agreements are being studied by several of the governments at present, and having regard for the advisability of reaching agreements of broader scope, based on the recommendations of the study submitted by the secretariat, the delegations decided that it would be better to postpone detailed consideration of trade policy until the next session. The delay would allow a common criterion to be established for future progress on a firm basis. In the meantime, the Central-American Trade Sub-Committee was assigned the additional tasks of drawing up a preliminary draft for a multilateral Central-American free trade treaty; of studying the commodities, whether raw materials, semi-manufactured or manufactured products, that might be included in a minimum list of commodities to be subject to free trade in Central America as a whole; and of initiating work towards possible equalization of customs duties on commodities which are important for Central American economic integration.
In the above-mentioned field, Resolution 11 (CCE) "Inter-Central-American Trade and Trade Policy" Document E/CN.12/CCE/267 was adopted.

10. Date and place of the third session. Because the meeting had been an extraordinary session, the Delegation of Nicaragua repeated its offer that the third normal session should be held at Managua, Nicaragua, in accordance with Resolution 26 (AC.17) adopted at the second session. The delegations agreed that the third session should be held in that city and suggested that it should be convened towards the end of 1955, at a date to be determined by common agreement. The secretariat pointed out that the current budget did not provide for two sessions of the Committee in 1955, but that the wishes of the Committee would be taken into account.

11. Votes of thanks. The Committee expressed its warm appreciation to the Chairman of the session, Mr. Manuel Antonio Ramírez, Acting Minister of Economy of El Salvador, for the effective way in which he had directed the proceedings, as well as for the generous hospitality that had been extended to the delegations by the Government of El Salvador. The Committee also thanked Mr. Jorge Rossi, Minister of Economy and Finance of Costa Rica, Chairman of the Committee between the second and third normal sessions, for the effective way in which he had co-ordinated the activities of the programme. The delegations also expressed their appreciation to the secretariat for organizing the Conference and preparing the reports; to the representatives of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and Technical Assistance Administration, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization for the reports which they had submitted to the session; and to the representatives of the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, and the Inter-American Statistical Institute for their interest and share in the proceedings.
# PART FOUR. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

## List of resolutions

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FOREST RESOURCES IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Resolution 1 (CCE) adopted on 6 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/16)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that, in accordance with resolution 2 (AC.17), paragraph 2 (e), the secretariat has presented a report on forest resources and the possibilities of pulp and paper production in Central America, prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with the collaboration of the Technical Assistance Administration and the secretariat; and

CONSIDERING that forest resources are an important source of wealth in Central America, both for the economic development of each country as well as for the achievement of the aims of economic integration:

RESOLVES

1. To take note with satisfaction of the Report on Forest Resources and the Possibilities of Pulp and Paper Production in Central America, prepared by experts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with the collaboration of the Technical Assistance Administration and the secretariat of the Committee;

2. To express its appreciation to these organizations for completing the first stage of the forestry programme;

3. To transmit this report to the Ministers of Agriculture of the Central American countries for their study and consideration with a view to:

   a) implementing its recommendations for the development and protection of the forest resources of each country through the adoption of uniform policies on conservation and on improved systems for the utilization of lumber and other forest products:

   /b) implementing in
b) implementing in the respective countries the recommendations of the experts concerning mapping, forest inventories, the study of new species, land tenure and forestry legislation; expansion of forest services, improvement of methods of lumber processing, the formation of a central organization for lumber industries, market studies and the creation of subsidiary industries;

c) to request the Technical Assistance Board to provide an expert in forestry education who would co-operate with the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences in broadening the means of instruction for forestry.
Resolution 2 (CCE) adopted on 6 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/17)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

HAVING NOTED with satisfaction the Report on Forest Resources and the Possibilities of Pulp and Paper Production in Central America, and having expressed its appreciation to the international agencies responsible;

CONSIDERING that forest resources in certain Central American areas have characteristics favourable to large-scale industrial development;

CONSIDERING that, given the extent of the Central American market for pulp, paper, cardboard and other products and the considerable cost of a plant of economic size, it appears advisable that the Central American project on pulp and paper consist of a single plant located in whichever zone presents the best possibilities for immediate development; and

CONSIDERING that the Republic of Honduras, in accordance with this report, offers the most favourable conditions for the establishment of an industry of this type:

RESOLVES

1. To request the Technical Assistance Board to provide the following experts to make a complete study of the location, development and financing of a pulp and paper mill in Honduras, in whichever zone presents the best conditions from the point of view of forest resources, costs, transport, power and markets:

   a) an expert in forest resources and forest management;

   b) an expert on the location of pulp and paper mills, costs, and markets;

   c) an expert to draw up plans for a pulp and paper mill and related industries;

   /d) an expert
d) an expert to draw up plans for the financing of this industry, taking into account the advisability of combining all or some of the following factors: the support of governments, the aid of private enterprise either Central American or foreign and the participation of international financial organizations;

2. To recommend to governments that in formulating their development plans they bear in mind the project for a Central American pulp and paper industry and take appropriate measures to expand the Central American market for the products of this industry;

3. That the continuation of the studies and projects relating to this industry should not delay or interfere with the consideration and formulation of projects relating to the establishment of other Central American industries which would tend to make the economic integration of the area effective.
STATISTICAL CO-ORDINATION

Resolution 3 (CCE) adopted on 6 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/18)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that resolution 20 (AC.17), adopted by the Committee at its Second Session, held in San José in 1953, recommended that the governments hold "meetings of the Directors of Statistics to determine how to put into effect appropriate measures for establishing uniform statistical standards, concepts and methods, and for co-ordinating the laws and procedures relating to its compilation, preparation and publication of relevant statistics with a view to the successful promotion of the Central American economic integration programme"; and that in conformity with the above resolution the secretariat has submitted a report on statistical co-ordination (document E/CN.12/CCE/8);

CONSIDERING that the standardization of statistical systems and methods in each of the countries, as well as in the region as a whole, will promote the Central American economic integration programme, both at the project stage and in its evaluation at later stages;

CONSIDERING the urgent need for basic improvements in Central American statistics, which are fundamental to the economic integration programme; and

CONSIDERING that the measures adopted in this field should be based, as far as possible, on the international and inter-American standards established by the appropriate agencies of the United Nations and the Inter-American system;

RESOLVES

1. To take note with satisfaction of the report submitted by the secretariat (document E/CN.12/CCE/3), in which the problem of Central American statistical co-ordination is examined with a view to the needs of Central American economic integration.

2. To establish a Statistical Co-ordination Sub-Committee composed of the Directors-General of Statistics of each country and advisers from the secretariat, the United Nations Statistical Office and the Inter-American
Inter-American Statistical Institute, with headquarters in San Salvador but empowered also to meet in any one of the other capital cities of the Central American countries when need arises. This Sub-Committee will have the following terms of reference:

a) to propose, after study, measures considered advisable for the purpose of establishing uniform statistical standards, concepts and methods, based on the recommendations of the international and inter-American agencies;

b) to draw up plans to serve as a basis for the adoption and co-ordination of laws and procedures relative to the compilation, preparation and publication of Central American statistics;

c) to suggest plans for mutual collaboration and technical interchange aimed at enabling each country to benefit from the experiences of the others;

d) to promote the establishment of training centres and technical courses for the personnel of the various Offices of Statistics, with the co-operation of the international and inter-American agencies;

e) to consider the possibility of joint publication of the basic statistics of the Central American countries.

The Sub-Committee, in drawing up its work programme, should give priority to those statistics that are required for the Central American economic integration programme.

3. To recommend that the secretariat facilitate the establishment of this Sub-Committee as soon as possible, so that a report on its activities and work programme may be submitted to the Committee at its next session.
CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE AND TRAINING

Resolution 4 (CCE) adopted on 7 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/19)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that the Central American Trade Sub-Committee established under resolution 18 (AC.17) has submitted reports to the Committee on its first and second sessions (document E/CN.12/CCE/9 and 14);

CONSIDERING that at its first session, under resolution 2 (SC.1), the Sub-Committee considered and approved the Draft Standard Export Nomenclature for Central America (document E/CN.12/CCE/SC.1/4), and that this nomenclature is adapted to the needs of customs and trade statistics for exports in Central America;

CONSIDERING that at its second session, under resolution 8 (SC.1), the Sub-Committee approved the Draft Code Manual for the Standard Central American Customs Nomenclature (SCACN), recommended that member governments give full effect to the Manual, and also requested that the Committee urge governments to adopt the SCACN as soon as possible;

CONSIDERING that under resolution 8 (SC.1) the Sub-Committee also requested that the secretariat prepare a printed edition of the SCACN and the Code Manual to facilitate its use in Central America; and

CONSIDERING that in its resolution 7 (SC.1) the Sub-Committee emphasized the need of better training for customs personnel in Central America, in relation to the adoption of the new nomenclature;

RESOLVES

1. To approve the reports of the first and second sessions of the Central American Trade Sub-Committee (documents E/CN.12/CCE/9 and 14) and to express its appreciation to the Sub-Committee, the secretariat and the other agencies participating in this Sub-Committee for their efficient work.

2. To approve
2. To approve the Code Manual of the Standard Central American Customs Nomenclature, with its alphabetical index, drawn up by the Sub-Committee and to recommend its adoption to those governments which have adopted or are adopting the Nomenclature.

3. To recommend to governments which have not already done so, the adoption of the Standard Export Nomenclature for Central America approved by the Committee at its first session under resolution 2 (SC.1).

4. To take note of the progress made in the adoption of the Standard Central American Customs Nomenclature and to express the hope that it will be used at an early date by all the countries in the area.

5. To adopt the suggestion made by the Sub-Committee in its resolution 7 (SC.1) to recommend to the governments that they improve the training of their customs officials and that they thus establish more adequate educational facilities, taking into account among other aspects the guidance and assistance which can be given by the Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America.

6. To request the Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America to provide courses in customs administration and to co-operate with the governments in the training of customs personnel.

7. To support the request made by the Sub-Committee under resolution 8 (SC.1) that the secretariat prepare a printed edition of the Standard Central American Customs Nomenclature and its Code Manual, including the alphabetical index, for use by statistical and customs services in Central America and by the public in general; further, to urge the secretariat, bearing in mind the urgency which exists for these documents, to grant the necessary priority for this publication so that it is available during the course of 1955.
ADVANCED SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

Resolution 5 (CCS) adopted on 7 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/20)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that the Director of the Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America created under resolution 23 (AC.17) has submitted to the Committee a report on the first year of the school (documents E/CN.12/CCE/12 and ESAPAC/256/IG.21); and

CONSIDERING that the accomplishments of the School have been in accordance with the purposes for which it was created and have been of positive benefit to both the Central American countries and to the Central American economic integration programme:

RESOLVES

1. To approve the report of the Director of the Advanced School of Public Administration on the first year of the school, and to express to him and to the teaching staff its appreciation for the efficient way in which they have discharged their responsibilities.

2. To take note with satisfaction of the progress and results obtained so far in the development of the teaching programme of the school.
CENTRAL AMERICAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRY

Resolution 6 (CCE) adopted on 7 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/21)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that in accordance with resolution 6 (AC.17), approved during the first session, the secretariat has submitted a report on the organization of a Central American Research Institute for Industry (document ST/TAA/J/CENTRAL AMERICA/R.2), prepared by a mission of the Technical Assistance Administration;

CONSIDERING that the services of an institute of technology and research will contribute to exploring future industrial possibilities and to a more economic and efficient operation of existing plants, as well as to the diffusion of scientific, industrial, and technological information in the Central American area; and

CONSIDERING that the Governments of El Salvador and Guatemala have offered to be the host to the Institute and have agreed to contribute equally to the construction of a suitable building and to the installation of the necessary basic services:

RESOLVES

1. To take note with satisfaction of the report submitted by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration on the organization of a Central American Research Institute for Industry and to thank the experts for the success of their mission.

2. To recommend to the governments of Central America:

a) that they proceed to establish a Central American Research Institute for Industry, with adequate legal status, along the general lines of the expert report, with the participation of the governments and in accordance with the agreements that may be carried out for this purpose between the governments;

b) that they request the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to
Administration to give the necessary assistance for the operation of the Institute and for the development of its activities;

c) that in accordance with the financial plan proposed in the report they contribute funds as indicated in this plan;

3. To authorize the Chairman of the Committee to take whatever steps may be necessary to implement the project at an early date, in consultation with the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board;

4. To express its appreciation equally to the Governments of El Salvador and Guatemala for their offers to act as host to the Institute and to provide the building and basic services, and to decide, after an objective evaluation of general conditions prevailing in each country, that the Institute be established in Guatemala.
STANDARDIZATION OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Resolution 7 (CCE) adopted on 7 May 1952 (E/CN.12/CCE/22)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that, although the metric system is in effect in Central America, there is still a great diversity of weights and measures in use, the equivalents of which vary from country to country;

CONSIDERING that the standardization of weights and measures in the area and the effective application of the metric system is of fundamental importance to the aims of the Central American integration programme;

CONSIDERING that the second session of the Central Banks of Central America requested the Ministers of Economy and Finance, under resolution 8, to undertake studies on the weights and measures used in their countries;

RESOLVES

To recommend that governments request the Technical Assistance Board to provide the services of an expert who would, in consultation with the secretariat and bearing in mind the work being accomplished by Central American Central Banks, start a study on the weights and measures used in the area with the aim of obtaining an effective application of the metric system and to recommend the measures to be taken for this purpose.

/CURRENT STATUS
CURRENT STATUS OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROGRAMME

Resolution 8 (CCE) adopted on 7 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/23)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that the secretariat has submitted a report on the work done since the second session (document E/CN.12/CCE/3), in which the various studies and projects that have been assigned to it are described; and

BEARING IN MIND resolution 2 (AC.17), adopted at the first session, where some of the productive activities that are considered to be of top priority for the Central American economic integration programme are indicated:

RESOLVES

1. To take note with satisfaction of the report of the Executive Secretary on the work accomplished since the second session.

2. To reaffirm its interest that, within the Central American economic integration programme as a whole, there be an adequate relationship between the basic projects of an institutional nature and those relating to the promotion of productive activities and the establishment of new industries suitable for Central America.

3. In view of the changes in the Central American economies since the priorities enumerated in resolution 2 (AC.17) were established, and having regard to the views expressed at this session, to request that the secretariat prepare an evaluation of the above-mentioned priorities for submission to the Committee at its next session, with whatever additions or changes may seem to be advisable for early accomplishment of the aims of the programme.

/TECHNICAL INDUSTRIAL
TECHNICAL INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Resolution 9 (CCE) adopted 7 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/24)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that the secretariat, in accordance with resolution 7 (AC.17) has submitted a Preliminary Report on the possible creation of a Central American Institute for Technical Industrial Training established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation;

CONSIDERING that an improvement in the level of technical training in the five Central American countries is of fundamental importance for the integration programme and over-all economic development;

CONSIDERING that an improvement in technical training in Central America must include those general aspects of education pertinent to the problems of the Central American republics;

RESOLVES

1. To express its interest in the Preliminary Report on the possible creation of a Central American Institute for Technical Industrial Training, submitted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation, and to thank these organizations for their offer to contribute to the establishment and financing of such an institute.

2. To recommend to governments:

a) that, through their Ministries of Education and Labour, they give due consideration to this report and, in the spirit of Central American Co-operation that characterizes the Committee's activities, they request the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation to proceed with the necessary projects, at the national as well as the regional level, for achieving the improvement in technical training that is so vitally important to Central American economic integration;
b) that, in view of the need for correlating educational and cultural progress with economic development, the governments arrange for periodic meetings of their Ministers of Education, with the collaboration of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for the purpose of promoting and co-ordinating the educational and cultural development of the area.

3. To thank the Government of Guatemala for its offer, expressed through its representative at the Committee, that the first meeting of the Central American Ministers of Education, referred to in part b) of the foregoing paragraph, should be held in that country and to suggest that the meeting be held as soon as possible.

4. To authorize the Chairman of the Committee:

a) to make immediate contact with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation requesting that the funds assigned in 1955 for the Central American Institute for Technical Industrial Training project be kept available, in order to indicate to those agencies before 30 June 1955 the interest that the governments may have in altering the application of the above-mentioned funds, on the understanding that they will in any case be used for Central American technical training in industry;

b) after consultations have taken place among the interested Ministers in each country, to inform the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board, before 30 June 1955, of the decision taken by the governments in regard to the recommendations of the report cited in paragraph 1.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Resolution 10 (CCE), adopted on 7 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/25)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that under resolution 24 (AC.17) of the second session of the Committee it was agreed to request the United Nations and its specialized agencies for technical assistance to study activities of interest to the programmes of economic integration in Central America;

CONSIDERING that the Technical Assistance Board and its member organizations have given this assistance and have established various missions in accordance with the requests presented by the Central American governments:

RESOLVES

1. To express its appreciation to the Technical Assistance Board and Technical Assistance Administration, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for the effective way in which they have attended to the requests of the governments for technical assistance for the Central American economic integration programme.

2. To request the Technical Assistance Board and the specialized agencies of the United Nations that, when establishing their budgets for 1956 and within their financial possibilities, they continue to give high priority to the Central American Integration Programme. As a result, that they give consideration to the projects arising from this extraordinary session and from the forthcoming third session, as well as to those which may lead from the missions which have begun or are finishing their work during the present year, giving priority to the technical assistance projects set forth below:

(A) Technical Assistance
A) **Technical Assistance Administration**

1) Advanced School of Public Administration
2) Central American Research Institute for Industry
3) Forest resources, pulp and paper (in collaboration with FAO)
4) Industrial economics
5) Highway transport
6) Weights and measures
7) Electric energy
8) Maritime transport
9) Customs
10) Cotton and textile industries (in collaboration with FAO)

b) **Food and Agriculture Organization**

1) Forest products, pulp and paper (in collaboration with TAA)
2) Livestock and dairy products
3) Agricultural economics
4) Cotton and textile industries (in collaboration with TAA)

C) **International Labour Organization and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**

1) Co-ordination of technical training in Central America

3. To recommend to governments that in drawing up their national programmes of technical assistance to be submitted to the Technical Assistance Board, they include the integration projects in the highest priority group.

4. To recommend that governments reach agreement with the Technical Assistance Board and the specialized agencies on the signing of the agreements, the contributions of the countries and the number of experts that may be needed for the 1956 programme.
INTER-CENTRAL-AMERICAN TRADE AND TRADE POLICY

Resolution 11 (CCE) adopted on 9 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/26)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

CONSIDERING that the secretariat, in accordance with resolution 19 (AC.17), has submitted a report analysing the prospects of inter-Central-American trade (document E/CN.12/CCE/10) and a second report on trade policy and free trade in Central America (document E/CN.12/CCE/11);

CONSIDERING that the delegations of Costa Rica and Nicaragua have expressed their intention to submit drafts of similar resolutions upon the intensification of inter-Central-American trade and upon the possible drawing-up of a multilateral free trade treaty for Central America;

CONSIDERING that bilateral free trade agreements are now being studied by several of the Central American governments and that, in applying the treaties now in force, problems have come to light and situations have arisen that require more detailed study by all the Central American governments;

CONSIDERING that governments need to evaluate the experience up to the present, before working out a common criterion on inter-Central-American trade policy:

RESOLVES

1. To take note with satisfaction of the reports submitted by the secretariat analysing the prospects of inter-Central-American trade and on Central American trade policy and free trade.

2. To recommend that governments intensify their efforts to ratify bilateral free trade treaties among the respective countries.

3. To revise the terms of reference of the Central American Trade Sub-Committee, created by resolution 18 (AC.17), requesting it, in addition, and bearing in mind the conclusions submitted in the reports to which reference is made in paragraph 1 above and the views on /inter-Central-American
inter-Central-American trade policy expressed at this session:

   a) to draw up a preliminary draft for a multilateral Central American free trade treaty;

   b) to study those commodities, whether they are raw materials, semi-manufactured or manufactured products, which might be included in a minimum list of commodities to be subject to free trade in Central America; and

   c) to initiate, in reference to this list, work toward possible equalization of customs duties on commodities which are important for Central American economic integration.

4. To postpone until the third session of the Committee a detailed consideration of a common criterion on inter-Central-American trade policy, in the light of the conclusions that the Central American Trade Sub-Committee may have reached by that time.
VOTE OF THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES OF EL SALVADOR

Resolution 12 (CCE) adopted on 9 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/27)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its deep appreciation to the Government and authorities of El Salvador for the generous hospitality extended to the delegations, to the secretariat and to the representatives of the specialized agencies, and to express its satisfaction with the effective arrangements that were made to ensure the successful operation of the session.

2. To request the Minister of Economy of El Salvador to convey the Committee's thanks to the Compañía Salvadoreña del Café for having furnished their conference rooms for this session.

Resolution 13 (CCE) adopted on 9 May 1955 (E/CN.12/CCE/28)

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE,

RESOLVES:

To express its deep appreciation

a) To the Chairman of the Extraordinary Session, Dr. Manuel Antonio Ramírez, Acting Minister of Economy, El Salvador, for the effective way in which he conducted the proceedings of the session, thus contributing to the successful conclusion of the work;

b) To the representative of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and to the other members of the secretariat, for organizing the session and for the reports that provided the Committee with a solid basis for their discussions;

c) To the representatives of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and the Technical Assistance Administration, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for the reports they submitted to the session, as well as to the representatives of the International Civil Aviation Organization and those of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the interest they had shown in the work of the Committee;

d) To the representatives of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Statistical Institute for their attendance at the session and their participation in the discussions.