



# **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 4**

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## 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

Organization of the United Nations, the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, through the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development;

2. *Notes further with satisfaction* the co-operation being given by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Special Fund in regard to technical training through the establishment and strengthening of faculties of agriculture and forestry, and special schools and research and training institutes in the sphere of forestry, fisheries and agrarian reform;

3. *Requests* the secretariat and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in co-operation with other competent international and regional bodies, in particular those which are members of the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development, to continue or to initiate basic studies on the agricultural development of the countries of Latin America, paying particular attention to the following:

(a) The study of the systems of land and water tenure in those countries of the region not included in the study now being made by the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development, with a view to providing Governments with a more satisfactory basis for such measures as they may decide to adopt for the transformation of those structures in order to overcome the obstacles in the way of technological improvement and the economic and social progress of the rural populations;

(b) The study of the levels of agricultural productivity prevailing in the various countries of the region, in an endeavour to determine what technological changes should be made in order to raise those levels and bring about greater complementarity in the agricultural economies of the Latin American countries, bearing in mind the existence within the region of agricultural zones with common characteristics and problems;

(c) The study of agricultural research, extension, education and training services, in an effort to define their existing structure, operation and degree of efficiency, the improvements which should be introduced in those services in order to make technological transformation possible on the scale needed to produce a faster rate of economic and social development in the Latin American countries, and the future requirements in trained personnel at all levels;

4. *Requests* the secretariat, the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in conjunction with the other inter-American organizations belonging to the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development, to intensify their technical co-operation with Governments of member States which so request, in the formulation of economic development plans;

5. *Recommends* to Governments of member States that they should give all possible assistance in carrying out the above-mentioned studies and likewise that they take the fullest advantage of the technical training programmes of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Special Fund.

16 May 1963

## 226 (X). Financing of development

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering* that, in order to expedite the rate of economic growth of the countries of the region, it is imperative to bring about a substantial increase in the accumulation of capital,

*Bearing in mind* that the financing of investment should derive primarily from the internal efforts of the Latin American countries themselves,

*Having regard* to the need for preventing the financing methods adopted from creating internal inflationary pressures or marked balance-of-payments disequilibria,

*Taking into account* the fact that existing patterns of income distribution in most of the Latin American countries constitute a potential source of internal savings which can be utilized on a larger scale, and at the same time channelled more effectively,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress made in research on the financing of development undertaken by the secretariat, as reflected, *inter alia*, in the documents entitled "Towards a dynamic development policy for Latin America" (E/CN.12/680), "The economic development of Latin America in the post-war period" (E/CN.12/659 and Add.1) and "The role of external financing in the economic development of Latin America" (E/CN.12/649), as also of the studies and meetings conducted in compliance with the OAS/ECLA/IDB Joint Tax Program;

2. *Reaffirms* the terms of resolution 3 (IV), adopted by the Commission in June 1951, and others on the same topic;

3. *Requests* the secretariat, in proceeding with its studies on these subjects, in co-ordination with other interested international agencies as appropriate, to devote special attention to research on the structure, volume and distribution of internal savings so that it may serve as a basis for formulating a financial policy compatible with the aim of accelerating the economic and social development of the countries of the region.

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## 227 (X). Economic integration and planning

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering* that the processes of economic integration in Latin America constitute a highly important factor in the acceleration of the economic development of the countries of the region,

*Bearing in mind* the urgent need to intensify and regulate the exploitation of such development possibilities through the strengthening of movements towards the integration and co-ordination of national development programmes,

1. *Recommends* to the Governments of Latin America that in formulating their development plans they take into consideration the broader markets resulting from economic integration, in such a way as to facilitate the process and ensure that due advantage is taken of the possibilities opened by complementarity in their economies;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to carry out, in co-ordination with the secretariat of the Latin American Free-Trade Association and the Permanent Secretariat of the General