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**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**

*Taking into account* the importance of the Portuguese language in inter-American life and in strengthening the bonds of fraternity and culture which unite the peoples of the continent;

*Taking into account* the generous offer made by the Brazilian delegation on behalf of its Government to provide the requisite means for the execution of the purpose set forth in the operative part following,

*Decides* to inform the Economic and Social Council of its earnest desire that the Portuguese language should be adopted as an official and working language of the Commission.

## VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF MEXICAN OFFICE

### ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEXICO OFFICE OF ECLA

30 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951*  
(E/CN.12/284)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Notes* with satisfaction the Executive Secretary's recommendation that an office of the Economic Commission for Latin America should be set up in Mexico City, as a branch office of ECLA headquarters in Santiago, Chile, to study the economic problems of the following countries: Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama, without prejudice to the Executive Secretary's authority to extend those studies to other areas of the continent if he deems it advisable;

*Notes* that with the establishment of this office, the Secretariat will be able to carry out its work more efficiently and economically;

*Accepts* with pleasure the generous offer made by the Government of Mexico to the United Nations to place at the disposal of the ECLA Office in Mexico all the necessary facilities; and

*Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, bearing in mind the foregoing consideration, to take the necessary measures to facilitate the constitution and organization of the new office at the close of the Commission's fourth session.

## VII. CO-ORDINATION WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

31 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 15 June 1951*  
(E/CN.12/287)

#### A

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Taking into account* the Commission's responsibility to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and the responsibility of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council to the Organization of American States;

*Considering* that it is necessary to intensify co-operation and co-ordination between all the international agencies and bodies established in the region, without prejudice to their independence, and to the terms of reference contained in their respective charters or constitutions;

*Considering* the fact that ECLA's broad terms of reference make it possible for the Commission and the other agencies established in the region to act jointly and to concentrate their efforts on problems of primary importance; and, in particular, that since its creation ECLA, in accordance with its terms of reference, has developed arrangements for close co-operation and co-ordination with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, so that unnecessary duplication of work has been avoided, as is demonstrated by statements made by representatives of the agencies concerned at the session of the Commission and by the statement of the Executive Secretary (E/AC.34/6, paragraphs 91-159) which was prepared in consultation and agreement with the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council (paragraphs 139-156);

*Taking into account* the fact that the Commission already has expressed the need for its continuation, and the desirability that it should continue to give its special attention to the work of economic development,

*As to co-ordination between ECLA and IA ECOSOC,*

*Declares* that each of its member Governments is convinced that co-operation and co-ordination in the work and programmes of ECLA and IA ECOSOC should be achieved to the greatest extent necessary and useful and, for the attainment of this objective,

1. *Resolves* that its Executive Secretary continue the work of co-operation and co-ordination which has been initiated between ECLA and IA ECOSOC;

2. *Expresses* the view that both agencies will be able to extend reciprocal and effective collaboration, within the limits of their available resources, through agreements between their respective Executive Secretaries, whether on their own initiative or by resolutions adopted in annual meetings;

3. *Invites*, in accordance with the foregoing, the IA ECOSOC through its Executive Secretary, to join with the Executive Secretary of ECLA in a Committee on Co-ordination which should guarantee on a continuing basis the adequate distribution of work or the application of the efforts of both agencies to the study and solution of leading problems, under the following conditions:

(a) In addition to the Executive Secretaries, this Committee should be composed of the officials (*funcionarios*) of both organizations whose presence may be necessary to make co-ordination effective;

(b) This Committee should meet twice a year, or more frequently if the Executive Secretaries of both organizations consider it desirable;

*As to co-ordination at the governmental level,*

1. *Recommends* to the Governments of member States the adoption of appropriate administrative arrangements, in accordance with their particular circumstances, with

a view to achieving wider understanding of the studies and resolutions of international agencies, and also the highest possible degree of co-ordination of policy at the meetings of these international bodies and agencies;

2. *Invites* the IA ECOSOC to appoint an official (*funcionario*) of the Organization of American States, to study, jointly with an official (*funcionario*) of the United Nations designated by ECLA, the measures which they consider necessary and adequate to ensure that co-ordination at the governmental level may be achieved in a practical and positive manner, and to submit their conclusions to the subsequent meetings of ECLA and IA ECOSOC for their approval;

3. *Recommends* that the Executive Secretary maintain direct and close contact with such governmental organs as each Government will designate.

## B

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Decides* to appoint the Executive Secretary, Mr. Raúl Prebisch, to represent the Commission as envisaged in the penultimate paragraph of the preceding section of this resolution.

## VIII. WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES

32 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951*  
(E/CN.12/285)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Having considered* the statement of the Executive Secretary on work programme and priorities 1951-1952 (E/CN.12/243);

*Considering* that it is desirable to establish a system of priorities for the work entrusted to him;

*Considering* the resolutions on the concentration of efforts and resources adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council; and in particular,

*Considering* the order of priorities established by the Economic and Social Council for activities relating to the economic development of under-developed countries;

*Expresses* its approval of the Executive Secretary's statement (E/CN.12/243) and especially of the work programme and order of priorities established in it;

*Draws* the attention of the Economic and Social Council to its work programmes and priorities, as submitted by the Executive Secretary in the statement approved by the Commission, including its financial implications;

*Notes* that the principal objective of the Commission's activities is directly to promote the economic development of the various countries of the region and to solve current economic problems relating to economic trends;

*Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council that, in reviewing its work programme for the remainder of 1951 and for the year 1952, it should take into account the fact that the Commission is the most recently created regional commission of the Council, and is experiencing

a period of normal growth and expansion of its activities, and that its budget is considerably smaller than those of other similar organs of the Council;

*Expresses* the hope that the Commission will enjoy the same opportunities to develop its activities as the other regional commissions of the Council, established prior to the Economic Commission for Latin America, with the necessary resources made available to it;

*Requests* the Economic and Social Council to take appropriate measures for an adequate increase in the funds available to the Commission, with a view to ensuring the continuation of those activities which are assigned a high priority in the statement of the Executive Secretary on work programme and priorities 1951-52.

## IX. AMENDMENT TO RULES OF PROCEDURE

AMENDMENTS TO RULES 3, 10, 25 AND 38 OF THE COMMISSION'S PRESENT RULES OF PROCEDURE

33 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951*  
(E/CN.12/270)

*The Economic Commission for Latin America*  
*Decides :*

1. To amend rule 3 of the rules of procedure to read as follows :

### “ Rule 3

“ The Executive Secretary shall ensure that, at least thirty days before the commencement of a session, member Governments shall receive a notice of the opening date of the session, together with a copy of the provisional agenda and at least two copies of each of the reports, studies and documents which are to be considered during the session.

“ Such reports, studies and documents shall be submitted to member Governments in the language which they indicate, in accordance with the provisions of rule 42 of the rules of procedure.”

2. To add a paragraph to rule 10 reading as follows :

“ In the event that a member Government does not receive the reports, studies and documents to be considered during a session thirty days in advance, as provided in rule 3, it shall have the right to request that the items to which those reports, studies and documents refer should be excluded from the agenda, and the Commission shall immediately grant such a request.

“ Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, if, when an item is submitted for consideration by the Commission, three quarters or more of the members accredited to attend a given session insist that it should nevertheless be discussed, that majority decision shall prevail.”

3. To add the following phrase to rules 25 and 38 :

“ except as provided in the third paragraph of rule 10 of these rules of procedure.”