



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
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Bearing in mind that greater efforts will have to be made in this direction in the next few years so as to enable every Latin American country to achieve its development objectives, within the framework of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

1. Decides to intensify its efforts to develop planning methods, including those connected with its work on structural changes, and to provide more training courses on planning techniques and advisory services to Governments;

2. Urges the competent bodies to provide the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning with all the financial and other support it requires to continue and intensify its efforts to further planning in the region, while retaining the intellectual freedom that it must have;

3. Urges the secretariat to convene meetings of the directors of planning offices in the region periodically to provide an opportunity for exchanges of views on the planning experience the countries acquire in their use of planning instruments and their application of development policies.

162nd meeting,
7 May 1971.

310 (XIV). INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 49/

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Having taken note of General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) laying down the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, and of the document on the same subject presented by the secretariat (E/CN.12/869),

Bearing in mind that Latin America as a whole maintained the same growth rate in the First United Nations Development Decade as in the 1950s and made significant progress in various important economic spheres, but such progress was not evenly spread over all the countries of the region, the trends were not sustained and, in general, were not reflected in qualitative and structural changes that would help to satisfy the expectations awakened or alleviate the economic and social tensions prevailing in many countries of the region,

Considering that, in spite of some improvement in its external economic relations, Latin America is not receiving its fair share of the growth of the world economy, that the terms of trade have frequently shown unfavourable trends, and that payments disequilibria have often resulted in high levels of external indebtedness,

Bearing in mind that economic and social progress is the common and shared responsibility of the entire international community, as is recognized in United Nations resolution 2626 (XXV), and that the circumstances in which the Latin

49/ See paras. 426-429 above.

American economies are developing show the evident need for greater internal and external efforts to overcome the obstacles to economic and social progress,

Recognizing that the Latin American countries are anxious to attain appreciably higher development goals than in the past and to spread the resulting benefits more equitably, and that they have expressed their will and determination to participate actively in the action laid down in the United Nations International Development Strategy, inasmuch as it provides an appropriate framework for combining and harmonizing national policies and external co-operation measures,

Reaffirming that, as recognized by the General Assembly, the primary responsibility for development lies with the developing countries themselves, and making the most effective use of their national economic potential depends on each country's internal efforts and on the policies it adopts to that end, but that it is for the international community to facilitate and complement those efforts through the adoption of concerted and more favourable policy measures by developed countries in such fields as financing, trade, and technology,

Considering that ECLA will assume the main responsibility for appraisal at the regional level, "in co-operation with regional development banks and subregional groupings, and with the assistance of other organizations of the United Nations system",

Taking into account that the developing countries will, as appropriate, establish or strengthen their planning mechanisms, including statistical services, for formulating and implementing their national development plans during the Decade,

1. Recommends that the Governments of the developing countries members of the Commission should:

(a) Define as soon as possible their economic and social development goals and objectives in the context of their national programmes for the present decade, as indicated in the International Strategy, particularly with respect to the acceleration of their economic growth rates and the qualitative and structural changes that should accompany it, import and export needs, the mobilization of domestic resources and their complementary requirements in terms of external financial and technical co-operation;

(b) Strengthen and perfect planning systems that are attuned to each country's special characteristics, so as to provide themselves with the best possible technical bases for formulating and implementing their economic and social policies and to facilitate appraisals thereof;

(c) Adopt the necessary measures to improve their statistical services and, in particular, to make available up-to-date basic data for the periodical review and appraisal of progress towards national and regional development. These data should relate to: (i) the rate and steadiness of growth; (ii) the structural and technological changes that have occurred in the process of development; (iii) the social impact of the development process; (iv) trends and changes in the external sector.

(d) Make available periodically on a regular basis, particularly for the appraisal of the social effects of development, the basic statistical data required for following trends in: (i) employment and the structure of employment; (ii) income distribution; (iii) the level of living of the urban and rural population; (iv) regional imbalances; (v) the position with regard to nutrition, health, education, housing and other social factors;

(e) In the different international forums, press for the implementation of the policy measures contained in the International Development Strategy, both by the industrialized and by the developing countries;

2. Requests the developed countries and the international organizations concerned to announce, in good time and at regular intervals, the specific decisions and measures that they adopt, implement and envisage to give effect to the International Strategy;

3. Instructs the secretariat, in accordance with resolution 2626 (XXV), to adopt the necessary measures for:

(a) Carrying out appraisals at the regional level, the first of which should be submitted to the Commission at its fifteenth session. To this end, it urges the specialized agencies of the United Nations to examine the progress made in their respective sectors, to provide the necessary information and criteria and to collaborate with the Commission in carrying out the regional appraisals. With the same end in view the secretariat will endeavour to reach specific agreements with those agencies on the co-ordination of technical work and will make every effort to obtain studies and information from the regional, international and intergovernmental organizations operating in Latin America, and also to enlist their co-operation as much as possible. Governments will give the necessary instructions to their representatives in the institutions concerned, and the secretariat will try to co-ordinate such contributions with these organizations;

(b) Establishing the methods and criteria that will enable the countries and the secretariat itself to carry out the appraisals envisaged in resolution 2626 (XXV);

(c) Collecting and analysing data on trends in the Latin American economies in order to carry out the above-mentioned regional appraisals;

4. Requests the secretariat and ILPES to give priority to requests from Governments of member countries for technical assistance in connexion with tasks arising out of the Development Strategy;

5. Establishes a Committee of High-Level Government Experts, composed of the developing countries members of the Commission, to serve as a forum for analysing the different points connected with the achievement and appraisal of the objectives of the International Development Strategy in Latin America, in accordance with paragraphs 79 and 81 of General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV). In consultation with Governments, the secretariat will convene the Committee at the appropriate time, and will submit to it the results of such meetings at the technical level as may be necessary and any studies it is carrying out on the subject;

6. Further requests the secretariat to continue the studies now under way and to initiate studies where they are not now being done for all developing countries in the region on:

(a) The different long-term development methods and strategies of the Latin American countries, so as to analyse their effects in such major areas as employment, income distribution, regional imbalances, sectoral trends, degree of external dependence, and technological development;

(b) The social aspects of development;

(c) Mobilization of domestic resources, including financial intermediation and the role of the public sector in the mobilization of such resources;

(d) Income distribution and basic research on income distribution patterns in the countries of the region;

(e) Regional imbalances and policies and the different aspects of the process of urbanization;

(f) Expansion, diversification and access to the export markets of the Latin American countries, and strengthening of their export capacity;

(g) External financing and how it may be increased on conditions and by methods that will ensure that it makes an effective contribution to the economic and social development of the Latin American countries;

(h) The share and the effects of private foreign investment in the Latin American countries;

(i) Progress towards integration, bearing in mind the integration systems now in operation.

162nd meeting,
7 May 1971.

311 (XIV). ECLA AND THE THIRD SESSION OF UNCTAD 50/

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the resolution 310 (XIV) on the International Development Strategy adopted at the present session contains recommendations to Governments and instructions to the secretariat aimed at enabling Latin America to participate fully in the review and appraisal of the objectives and policy measures contained in the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade,

Considering that the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to be held in Santiago, Chile, in April/May 1972, will provide an extremely important forum for the international community to discuss concerted action by the developing and the developed countries, to find new areas of agreement and to broaden those that already exist in respect of fundamental aspects of international trade, external financial co-operation and the development of technology,