

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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Having taken note of the remarkable efforts made by the secretariat in connexion with the study both of these problems and of the social requisites for economic development,

Considering that the studies in question still represent only the first steps towards a complete grasp of all the social requirements that are essential for integrated development planning, as well as of the urgent measures required to raise the level of living in the Latin American countries,

Requests the secretariat, in co-operation with the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and interested organizations:

- (a) To convene in 1964 a working group of specialists in social planning, and to continue, for the purposes of that meeting, the studies already begun on the methodology of social planning, with very particular attention to the need for establishing the indispensable criteria for determining targets and priorities that could be incorporated in a plan for the various social sectors as a whole, within the context of over-all planning, and bearing constantly in mind the generally accepted scheme of the components and indicators of the level of living;
- (b) To carry out further studies on all those aspects of the social structure of the Latin American countries which affect the acceleration of economic development;
- (c) To continue research on the geographical distribution of the population and of the causes, characteristics and effects of the various shifts and settlements of both urban and rural population, within the economic development process, laying special emphasis on:
- (i) The causes and effects of major urban concentrations;
- (ii) The search for the best methods of strengthening regional economies that would be conducive to the development of population centres, and for procedures that would facilitate the rapid incorporation of marginal populations in the economic process.
- (d) To maintain, in fulfilling this task, the closest possible co-ordination with the United Nations research institute for social development to be established at Geneva early in 1964.

16 May 1963

231 (X). Planning of education and economic and social development

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Having regard to the note by the secretariat on problems of the programming of social development (E/CN.12/661), which contains an important section on the programming of the educational sector, and other documents in which allusion is made to the human aspects of economic development,

Considering that, in order to promote and secure the rapid economic and social development of Latin America, all levels and forms of education are called upon to discharge a function whose importance has been stressed during the tenth session,

Considering that it is essential for the region's educa-

tional systems to be developed by means of a planning process whereby the structure and efficiency of these systems can be dynamically geared to the requirements of population growth and to development needs in the matter of human resources.

Considering that efficacious planning of this kind calls for appropriate mechanisms duly co-ordinated with those of over-all development planning, properly trained personnel, the continuous improvement of planning techniques, and the integration of plans for education with economic plans and with those of other social sectors.

- 1. Notes with satisfaction the speed and intensity with which, ever since the second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education, held at Lima in 1956, the concepts and practice of educational planning have been extended and improved in Latin America and other regions, and expresses its appreciation of government action and the co-operation of international organizations, more particularly of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in this field:
- 2. Stresses the importance, for the integration of educational planning with economic planning, of joint action by UNESCO and the Commission in the form of undertakings such as the Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development in Latin America, held at Santiago, Chile, in March 1962, and the participation of UNESCO in the provision of advisory services to the States members of the Commission;
- 3. Welcomes the establishment by UNESCO and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning of a special educational planning section, which will be an integral part of the Institute and will concentrate on training and research with a view to ensuring that educational planning is undertaken within the context of over-all development planning;
- 4. Pays a special tribute to the value of the contribution which the international and regional financing organizations are making to the promotion of education through their programmes of credit and assistance to the Latin American countries;
- 5. Recommends to Governments that they should intensify the application of the principles and techniques of educational planning to the formulation and execution of education policy as a means of vindicating the right of the Latin American peoples to education, training the human resources that are indispensable for development, and enhancing the efficacy of existing educational services;
- 6. Recommends that the international and regional organizations concerned should intensify their coordinated action in order to co-operate with Governments requesting such assistance at the different stages of the educational planning process in relation to economic and social development.

 16 May 1963

232 (X). External financing

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the high levels of capital formation essential for the acceleration of the economic develop-

ment of Latin America necessitate, besides a substantial internal effort, an increase in external financial cooperation by virtue of which the requisite structural reforms can be put into effect and internal resources mobilized to facilitate economic growth within a framework of financial stability,

Considering that such a volume of external financing will entail a joint effort on the part of the industrialized countries to provide more extensive credit on appropriate financial terms, so that the capital goods most needed in each individual case can be purchased,

Considering that the countries of the region will have to strive to increase their exports of industrial goods, and that it will accordingly be necessary for them to have at their disposal systematic studies on the relevant financial problems,

Considering that, despite the efforts made to secure greater flexibility in the granting and disbursement of credits, sufficient speed has not yet been attained to impart greater fluidity to investment programmes,

Considering further the need for more satisfactory coordination between economic development programmes and currency stabilization plans, in order to prevent undesirable fluctuations in the levels of employment and consumption of developing countries,

- 1. Recommends to the credit institutions operating in the international field that they should consider the possibility of:
- (a) Intensifying their efforts to secure greater speed and flexibility in the concession and disbursement of credits;
- (b) Allowing each country, in granting their credits, a wider margin of opportunity for the purchase of equipment produced domestically;
- 2. Recommends to countries supplying capital goods that they should consider the possibility of increasing their financial contribution to Latin America by granting credits on easier maturity terms and in a manner more appropriate to the needs of the countries importing such goods;
- 3. Recommends to the Latin American member States that the formulation of their internal and external financing policies should be consistent with the development programmes of the public and private sectors;
- 4. Takes note with satisfaction of resolution AG-8/63 adopted by the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank at its fourth meeting, and recommends to States members of the Commission that they should support, through their representatives to that institution, the continuation of studies on the problems of financing Latin American exports.

16 May 1963

233 (X). Planning

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind that planning systems require for their effectiveness the organization and co-ordination of a series of administrative and technical mechanisms to provide guidance in establishing development targets, the administration of development programmes and the channelling of economic and social policy along lines

consistent with those mechanisms, and the periodical production of data for the control and execution of plans,

Considering that development plans should embody the aspirations of the various sectors of the population and that the active participation of those sectors is required for their execution,

Considering that economic and social factors constitute two inseparable aspects of development, and that in consequence an integrated approach to planning must be adopted, taking account, inter alia, of problems relating to income distribution and to the need to seek the balanced development of the different areas in each country,

- 1. Recommends the Governments of Latin America to promote the organization or consolidation of programming systems, so that the phases of formulation, execution and control of development plans may be properly integrated, and, as a supplement to the formulation of long-term and short-term plans, to ensure the balanced development of the other instruments or mechanisms forming the planning system, the greatest attention being devoted to those at a relatively less advanced stage, in accordance with a work schedule whose main items might be the following:
- (a) Preparation of regional development plans within each individual country;
- (b) Formulation of over-all and sectoral medium-term investment plans:
- (c) Preparation of over-all and sectoral financing programmes;
- (d) Formulation of economic and social policy in terms of the over-all and sectoral objectives of the plans;
- (e) Application of the system of programme budgeting and adaptation of the public sector's accounting systems to planning requirements;
- (f) Creation of machinery for the compilation, processing and analysis of the data required for the formulation, execution and control of programmes;
- (g) Participation of the various sectors of the population and of state agencies in the programming process;
- (h) Consolidation or creation of agencies for the preparation and evaluation of specific investment projects and preliminary projects;
- 2. Reaffirms the terms of resolution 185 (IX), in so far as it requests the secretariat to continue organizing technical meetings for the discussion of planning problems, and recommends to the Governments of States members of the Commission that they should organize a programme of visits for the exchange of experience among the various programming offices established in Latin America;
- 3. Requests the secretariat and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning to continue and expand their research in the field of planning, in order to support the efforts of Governments in the directions mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs, and to pursue their work on income distribution, rendering technical assistance to the countries of the region and pressing on with the study of the methodological and technical problems of analysis;
- 4. Recommends to the Latin American countries that they should study the desirability of setting up, in addi-