



**UNITED NATIONS**

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA**  
**REPORT OF THE SIXTH SESSION**

**(29 August—16 September 1955)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWENTIETH SESSION**  
**SUPPLEMENT No. 10A**

**NEW YORK**

(b) That this improved co-ordination of agricultural production among all countries would help to avoid the drawbacks of exaggerated policies of national self-sufficiency,

(c) That in the selective expansion of agricultural production due regard should be paid to the ecological characteristics of the various sub-regions of Latin America, and likewise to the economic and social conditions prevailing in each of them,

(d) That the selective expansion of agricultural production should be complemented by an appropriate increase in consumption and an improvement in standards of nutrition, and

(e) That a faulty distribution mechanism hinders the full utilization of agricultural production for the purposes of internal consumption and foreign trade,

*Recommends:*

1. To Member Governments:

(a) That in formulating their agricultural development programmes they bear in mind both the ecological, economic and social factors affecting their respective countries, and the corresponding programmes of other countries, especially those of Latin America; and

(b) That as a fundamental aspect of their programmes for agricultural development and the improvement of consumption, they take into account the need to solve existing distribution problems; and

2. To the ECLA secretariat and FAO that, with active co-operation on the part of Member Governments, they continue to provide information on the agricultural development programmes of the various countries of the region, and to carry out analyses of the relationships between those programmes, with a view to the better co-ordination and integration of the economic development of groups of countries on a regional basis.

PROGRAMMING OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

*Resolution 89 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955  
(E/CN.12/398)*

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering:*

(a) That the need to raise the standard of living of the population of Latin America requires an expansion of agricultural production,

(b) That this expansion should be achieved in accordance with organic programmes adjusted to basic economic factors, to domestic requirements, to a suitable distribution of the factors concerned among the various activities and to the situation and prospects for foreign markets,

(c) That the formulation of an organic programme of agricultural development requires the prior preparation of a technique of programming in the field, whose standards should be integrated with a general methodology of economic programming, and the availability of complete statistics and basic studies,

(d) That the document entitled "The Selective Expansion of Agricultural Production in Latin America and its Relationship to Economic Development" (E/CN.12/378), jointly prepared by ECLA and FAO, represents a valuable contribution to the progress of work on the technique of agricultural programming, and

(e) That resolution 64 (V) of the Economic Commission for Latin America requests the secretariat, FAO and the Inter-American Statistical Institute to undertake research into the systems of agricultural statistics of the Latin American countries,

*Resolves:*

1. To recommend to the ECLA secretariat and the Food and Agriculture Organization that they collaborate in carrying out a study of the technique of agricultural programming, as a component part of the general studies on the technique of programming undertaken by the ECLA secretariat, with special reference to the economic structures and the general development requirements of the Latin American countries;

2. To recommend to the ECLA secretariat, to FAO and to the Inter-American Statistical Institute that they provide the advice and assistance required by the governments of member countries for the thorough preparation and compilation of the statistics and basic studies which are essential for the programming of agricultural development; and

3. To recommend to the governments of member countries, that, in accordance with the indications and advice of the entities mentioned in the foregoing recommendation, they organize wherever necessary, the centres of statistical, economic and social research necessary for this purpose, and that these centres establish a permanent interchange of statistical information for the countries of the region through the ECLA secretariat.

STUDIES CONCERNING COFFEE PROBLEMS

*Resolution 90 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955  
(E/CN.12/399)*

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering:*

(a) That the meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy, at the Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, in November 1954, unanimously approved a resolution providing that the Special Commission on Coffee of IA-ECOSOC should make, through a special committee appointed from among its members, a detailed study of the world coffee situation and its prospects for the future; and that if this study should show the possibility of adopting measures of international co-operation capable of appreciably reducing the range of fluctuations in the price of coffee and keeping them within limits satisfactory for producers and consumers, the Special Committee should prepare draft texts suitable for attaining that objective, to be submitted for the consideration of the member countries affected by the problem;

(b) The great importance of the coffee industry, not only to the coffee-producing countries where its rate and state of development is a fundamental element in determining economic stability, but also for many coffee-consuming countries, since it is a major factor in international trade and enables the coffee-producing countries to purchase manufactured goods from the coffee-consuming countries;

(c) That resolution 63 (V) approved at the fifth session of the Commission recommends that the secretariat, in collaboration with FAO and other intergovernmental bodies, make a study in specified areas where coffee is the main source of income of those economic

and technical aspects of coffee production which exert the greatest influence on economic development, and

(d) That the progress report on this study, which has been made to the sixth session of the Commission, indicates that the completed study will provide information of considerable value to the governments of countries interested in the production and consumption of coffee,

1. *Requests* the ECLA secretariat and FAO to make available, both to the interested governments, and to the Special Commission on Coffee of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, whatever information resulting from the studies on the coffee industry in which they are now engaged, they feel would be of interest; and

2. *Expresses* the hope that the Special Commission on Coffee of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council will endeavour to complete the study in which it is engaged in the shortest possible time, and make its results available to governments interested in the international trade in coffee, so that they may be in a position to judge whether, and the extent to which, it may be possible to adopt measures of international co-operation designed to stabilize world coffee markets, and the possible nature of such measures.

#### LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

*Resolution 91 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955  
(E/CN.12/400)*

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Considering:*

(a) That, according to official statistics, production of goods of animal origin is expanding in Latin American countries at a slower rate than aggregate crop and livestock production,

(b) That in consequence of this slow rate of increase, an appreciable decline in *per capita* meat consumption has occurred during the last seven years in several countries, to the serious detriment of the dietary standards of their populations,

(c) That a greater encouragement of production of goods of animal origin would contribute decisively to a better balance between crop and livestock production, as well as between these two sectors and general economic development,

(d) That there is a lack of accurate and comprehensive information on the factors retarding the progress of stockbreeding and of production of goods of animal origin in the region,

(e) That the need to accelerate the development of the production of goods of animal origin in Latin America has been the object of special resolutions at a number of international meetings, particularly the third FAO meeting on Food and Agriculture Programmes and Prospects in Latin America, held at Buenos Aires in September 1954,

(f) That at the said meeting a recommendation was made to FAO that in co-operation with ECLA and other appropriate organizations, it should carry out a study of the possibilities of accelerating the development of stockbreeding and of the measures which should be adopted for this purpose, and

(g) That close and satisfactory collaboration and understanding exist between the ECLA secretariat and

FAO to undertake a joint study of Latin America's agricultural problems,

*Resolves:*

1. That the ECLA secretariat and FAO be requested to take appropriate steps to include in their joint work programme, with the highest possible priority, the study on the development of stockbreeding to which reference is made in the resolution adopted at the third meeting of FAO referred to above;

2. That this study include, *inter alia*, the following basic aspects:

(a) An analysis of the technical and economic factors which hinder livestock production and improved supplies of goods of animal origin in Latin America, and which thus obstruct better dietary standards;

(b) The possibilities and outlook for the development of the livestock industry in the Latin American countries; and

(c) The measures which should be adopted to promote the development of stockbreeding and the consumption of products of animal origin; and

3. That for those purposes typical areas be chosen which are representative of the different ecological and economic conditions in which stockbreeding activities are carried out in Latin America.

#### AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

*Resolution 92 (VI) adopted on 15 September 1955  
(E/CN.12/401)*

*The Economic Commission for Latin America,*

*Noting with satisfaction* the study of the selective expansion of agricultural production in Latin America and its relation to economic development (E/CN.12/378), submitted jointly by the secretariat of ECLA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and

*Considering:*

(a) That investment in agriculture has been very low in Latin America, particularly in relation to the income accruing from this activity,

(b) That the total of such investment is not clearly or precisely known, since much of it does not appear in official statistics,

(c) That the real opportunities for utilizing the investment resources available for agriculture are not precisely known,

(d) That the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has offered its collaboration in technical research designed to promote agricultural development in Latin America, and

(e) That it is of fundamental importance for the over-all economic development of Latin America that the rate of investment in agriculture be raised,

*Recommends:*

1. To member governments that, through their appropriate agencies, they initiate or intensify research and studies designed to determine (a) the quantity and quality of investments in agriculture; (b) the volume and use of income accruing from agricultural activities; (c) the possibility of increasing the rate of investment; and that they should supply this information to the secretariat of ECLA and to FAO; and