

Distr.
RESTRICTED

LC/R.806 (Sem.53/2)
29 September, 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

E C L A C

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Meeting on Technological Options and Opportunities
for Development: The Aluminium and Tin Industries
in Latin America and the Caribbean, sponsored by the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
(ECLAC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development (UNCTAD), and the United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP) */

Santiago, Chile, 26 and 27 October 1989

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

In accordance with the work programme of ECLAC/UNCTAD/UNDP Project, "Assistance for Commercial Development and Trade Negotiations", a Latin American and Caribbean expert meeting of high ranking officers, under personal capacity, will be held in the Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), to examine the present situation and prospects of the aluminium and tin industries of the region. The main objective of this meeting is to identify, in a comparative framework, options open to governments and industries of the region with regards to the use of modern technology to improve supply outlooks and its impact on demand of these industries. The meeting agenda is as follows.

*/ This meeting is being carried-out within the framework of ECLAC/UNCTAD/UNDP Project - RLA/87/019, "Assistance for Commercial Development and Trade Negotiations".

Document not subjected to editorial revision.

1. Presentation of the two Secretariats' (ECLAC/UNCTAD) studies.

After the inauguration of the meeting by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, First Session begins with the presentation of the two Secretariats (ECLAC/UNCTAD) reports prepared for this meeting, one on aluminium (LC/R.803(Sem.53/5)) and the other on tin (LC/R.802(Sem.53/4)). These two studies have adopted a common analytical framework to facilitate discussions and comparisons between the two metals. They examine the development of supply and demand during the period in question (1978-1987) in Chapter I, technology and cost of production in Chapter II, development of supply and demand until the mid-1990s in Chapter III, opportunities for and constraints on increased Latin American and Caribbean production in Chapter IV, and conclusions and recommendations in Chapter V. While the use of modern technology is their primary objective, the scope of the studies is broader, providing general analyses on the structural changes of the industries and problems regarding trade and marketing.

2. Comments on the two studies and presentations of individual country cases.

Second Session invites the participants to make comments on the two papers presented earlier and to present their specific country cases of the industry in question, in order to obtain more up-dated and more in-depth information and to bring to light some areas of major concerns specific to the country. The case of aluminium is examined first, followed by tin. The representatives of international and regional organizations are also requested to contribute to this end. Depending on the emphasis and special interest of each participant, his presentation might cover a range of topics: the production and trade situation of his country and their perspectives; consumption patterns and major end-uses of the metals; the technological impact on demand and supply --the applied production technologies and their relation to productivity, new uses and applications of the metals, materials substitution possibilities--; increase in local processing including semifabricated products, marketing, creation and promotion of new uses; and North-South, South-South, particularly intraregional trade possibilities and complementarities.

3. Presentation of and comments on the comparative study, prepared by the two secretariats (Third Session).

The purpose of the comparative paper (LC/R.801(Sem.53/3), also prepared by the Secretariats, is to summarize and to bring to light major differences and similarities between the two industries, in order to identify areas for action and policy recommendations. This paper synthetically examines the factors responsible for a markedly contrasting consumption pattern between aluminium and tin during the last three decades on the demand side. It also provides a brief analysis on the differentiated productivity levels in production of the Latin American and Caribbean producers. Certain importance

is given to the issue of marketing and intraregional trade possibilities. The participants are invited to make general and specific comments on this paper, in view of their own company/country/institution experiences.

4. Discussion of recommendations (Forth Session).

This session is to assess the validity of the recommendations contained in the three secretariats' studies, to foresee problems and obstacles implementing them, and when possible, to seek modalities of such implementation.

5. Follow-up action (Forth Session).

The meeting will close by adopting, if any, follow-up actions as a result of the deliberations made during the course of the meeting.

