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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS : TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

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NEW YORK

Part III

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT THE EIGHTH SESSION

147 (VIII). Co-ordination among programmes bodies

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that several Latin American countries possess or are organizing programming bodies for the purpose of guiding their economic development into appropriate channels with a view to bringing about the harmonious growth of all sectors of production and raising the standards of living rapidly without disturbing the balance thereof,

Considering that it is extremely useful that each such advisory body should have the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with the organization of the other bodies, their methods of work, objectives and targets and programmes whether under study or in process of being carried out and of pooling the conclusions derived from their experience,

Considering that a technical co-operation agreement to this effect already exists between the programming bodies of Colombia and Ecuador, and was signed in February 1959 by the Governments concerned, *ad referendum*,

Considering that at the recent consultations on trade policy and payments at Caracas consideration was given to the possibilities of extending the aforesaid agreement to other Latin American programming bodies,

Considering that the ECLA secretariat could be of effective assistance as a centre for the pooling of experiences and suggestions in these matters,

Decides to request the secretariat, if national Governments so request and to the extent that their resources allow, to study the organization, objectives, methods of work and other characteristics of the programming bodies existing or about to be set up in Latin America, as well as their programmes under study or in process of being carried out and to act as liaison between those bodies, and to suggest that, in the event of the conclusions of agreements like that already entered into between Colombia and Ecuador, the ECLA secretariat, when so requested, should assist in the organization of the joint secretariat thus formed.

22 May 1959

148 (VIII). Improvement of budget procedures

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that in most of the Latin American countries a substantial proportion of the total annual investments is made through the public sector,

Considering that the budget procedures utilized in many Latin American countries could be improved so as to increase investment possibilities and encourage the best possible use of other public resources,

Takes note with satisfaction of the project of the United Nations Fiscal and Financial Branch and of the ECLA secretariat to hold a seminar on budget presentation and preparation,

Recommends that the secretariat, in collaboration with the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations and other United Nations bodies, should carry out studies with a view to facilitating the adaptation by the Latin American Governments of the technical principles of budget presentation and preparation to economic development needs and to the improvement of budget practices in accordance with a sound fiscal policy, and, when member countries so require, provide training facilities for Government officials responsible for work connected with budgets.

22 May 1959

149. (VIII) Skilled labour

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the secretariat note (E/CN.12/519) on the question of skilled labour in Latin America,

Considering the adverse effects which the great scarcity of technical personnel and of specialized labour in general have on the region's economic development.

Recommends the secretariat to consider, in collaboration with the other international organizations concerned, and in particular the ILO, UNESCO, the OAS and the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) the establishment of a joint project:

1. To make an estimate of the skilled labour required with particular reference to those categories which are difficult to train,
2. To make an estimate of the means available for training and of the existing resources,
3. To collaborate with Governments which request such co-operation in preparing measures for the readaptation and expansion of these resources and the utilization of skilled immigrant labour.

22 May 1959

150 (VIII). UNESCO activities relating to primary education in Latin America

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking into account the fact that, according to statistics for 1956 published by UNESCO, the percentage of illiteracy in Latin America reaches the alarmingly high figure of 40 per cent, with a school life of four years for the literate population and only one year for the total population,