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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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NOTE

The Economic Commission for Latin America is required, in paragraph 12 of its terms of reference, to submit to the Economic and Social Council once a year a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies. For those years in which the Commission does not hold a session, the Executive Secretary is required to submit to the Council a full report of its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, after approval by the Chairman of the Commission and circulation to Governments of member States for their comments and any necessary modifications.

During the period covered by the present report, the Commission has not held a session and the provisions of the above-mentioned paragraph have been applied accordingly.

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ABBREVIATIONS

BCIE	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
CACM	Central American Common Market
CARICOM	Caribbean Economic Community
CARIFTA	Caribbean Free Trade Association
CCE	Central American Economic Co-operation Committee
CECLA	Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination
CEL	River Lempa Executive Commission (El Salvador)
CELADE	Latin American Demographic Centre
CIADDEC	National Training and Applied Research Centre for Community Development
CIDA	Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development
COCAAP	Central American Port Authorities Council
CONACYT	National Council for Science and Technology (Mexico)
CONAPLAN	National Council for Economic Planning and Co-ordination (El Salvador)
CONICYT	National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (Chile)
CONSUPLAN	Supreme Economic Planning Council of Honduras
CORDIPLAN	Central Office for Co-ordination and Planning (Venezuela)
CRNE	Regional Committee on Electrical Standards
ECCM	East Caribbean Common Market
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America
EEC	European Economic Community
EMBRATUR	Brazilian Tourism Authority
ENALUF	National Light and Power Enterprise (Nicaragua)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GAFICA	FAO Advisory Group for Central American Economic Integration
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICAITI	Central American Research Institute for Industry
ICAP	Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress
ICE	Costa Rican Electricity Institute
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank

ABBREVIATIONS (continued)

ILPES	Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning
IMCO	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization
INDE	National Electrification Institute (Guatemala)
INDEC	National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (Argentina)
INTAL	Institute for Latin American Integration
LAFTA	Latin American Free Trade Association
OAS	Organization of American States
OTC	United Nations Office of Technical Co-operation
SIECA	Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration
SUDENE	Superintendency for the Economic Development of the North-East (Brazil)
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 31 MARCH 1973

1. This twenty-fifth annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) covers the period from 31 March 1973 to 28 February 1974. ^{1/} It is submitted to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its fifty-sixth session in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Commission's terms of reference.

A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

2. The list of meetings held by subsidiary bodies during the period under review appears in annex I.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Activities of the secretariat

3. This and the following sections deal with the activities of the secretariat that are not directly related to the proceedings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

4. During the period covered by this report, as in other years, the Division prepared the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1973. This document presents a review of the situation in Latin America as a whole and in the individual countries and an analysis of the social situation in the region during the early 1970s.

Other work of the Division

5. The following studies were prepared: (a) Algunos problemas que plantea la operación de las corporaciones transnacionales en América Latina ("Some problems raised by the operation of transnational corporations in Latin America"). This study presents and analyses a detailed methodological plan for the study - already under way - of the effects produced by the activities of multinational corporations on economic and social development in Latin America. (b) Algunas reflexiones sobre el desarrollo regional, a propósito del caso Argentino ("Some reflections on regional development: the case of Argentina"). This document studies the characteristics of regional development in Argentina, their determining factors, and some possible policies which could be adopted with a view to modifying the present regional pattern. (c) Diferentes modelos o estilos de desarrollo ("Different models or styles of development"). This document reviews, for an imaginary Latin American country,

^{1/} For the twenty-fourth annual report of the Commission see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth session, Supplement No. 8 (E/5275).

the most important problems and relationships which would emerge over the next 30 years if a style of development similar to that observed in recent years continues to be followed. (d) Raíces históricas de las estructuras distributivas en América Latina ("Historical roots of distribution structures in Latin America"). This study reviews historically the economic formation of the Latin American countries as it has affected distribution. Starting from the over-all conditioning framework inherited from colonial times, an analysis is made of the introduction of Latin America into the system of international economic relations, first under British and then under North American hegemony, and the distribution structure of the export economies which developed during the period is also examined. (e) Notas sobre estilos de desarrollo en América Latina ("Notes on development styles in Latin America"). This study describes the structural and dynamic elements determining the variations in development styles existing in Latin America.

6. For the International Seminar on Income Distribution and Development (Santiago, Chile, 12-16 March 1973), organized by the Centre for Studies on National Planning of the Catholic University of Chile, the Division prepared a study entitled Notas sobre la estrategia de la distribución y la redistribución del ingreso en América Latina ("Notes on income distribution and redistribution strategy in Latin America").

7. At the meeting of the Brazilian Association for the Advancement of Science (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 9-13 July 1973), a study was presented on the underlying structural causes of the monetary crisis.

8. A monograph on development finance systems in Latin America was presented at the International Seminar on the Role of Banks in the Economic Development of Latin America (Lima, Peru, 9-13 July 1973).

9. For a meeting of the Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination (CECLA), held at Brasilia in August 1973, a note was prepared on the reform of the international monetary system and the multilateral trade negotiations.

10. Studies are in progress on income distribution, styles or models of development, public enterprises, private foreign investment and the financing of housing in Latin America.

Economic and technical co-operation

11. The secretariat was represented at two meetings of experts on the action programme for economic co-operation between non-aligned and other developing countries in the fields of trade, industry and transport (Guyana, 30 April-2 May 1973 and 30 and 31 July 1973). The interregional project prepared at these meetings was submitted for consideration to the Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries (Algiers, 5-9 September 1973), which gave it its broad approval.

12. The secretariat presented an information document to the Working Group on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and was represented at the second session of this Group (New York, 9-18 January 1974).

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

13. During the period covered by this report the Division prepared a contribution to the study of the world social situation and provided technical co-operation to a number of countries in the region.

14. The following studies were completed: "Population trends in the 1960s: some implications for development", "Employment and the utilization of human resources in Latin America" and "Development: images, conceptions, criteria, agents, choices". 2/

15. A note on population and modernization in Latin America (E/CN.12/L.95) was prepared for the United Nations Symposium on Population and Development (Cairo, 4-14 June 1973).

16. These two studies together with studies on social and economic factors affecting population trends in Latin America, on female economic activity and fertility, on volume, characteristics and consequences of internal migration in Latin America, on some questions of population and human rights in Latin America and on population, environment and development, will form part of a volume to be published on the occasion of World Population Year, 1974.

17. Research work on the situation of the lower urban strata was continued on the basis of a field study of the living conditions of people living in marginal areas of Santiago and Guayaquil. Part of the report on the research in Santiago has been completed and in a second stage the results of the research carried out in Guayaquil will be presented, together with a comparative study of the two cities, including the social characteristics of the strata studied, their participation in the job market and the over-all situation of the lower urban strata in relation to the social structure.

18. A note was prepared on education and societal images.

19. Among studies in progress, mention may be made of the organization of national studies on the spatial structure of development and on relations between development and population dynamics, the preparation of studies on social stratification (on the basis of census data) and on income distribution policies, and a conceptual and methodological study on development styles and unified development strategies, as part of a joint project with the Economic Development Division.

Technical co-operation

20. At the request of the Government of Venezuela, advisory assistance was given to the National Training and Applied Research Centre for Community Development (CIADEC) in the preparation of its training course in development planning.

21. At the request of the Government of Brazil, advisory assistance was given to the authorities in the town planning of Natal (Rio Grande do Norte) and in the programmes of the Superintendency for the Development of the North-east (SUDENE).

2/ Economic Bulletin for Latin America, vol. XVIII, Nos. 1 and 2, 1973.

22. One of the regional planning advisers represented the secretariat at the Expert Meeting on Human Settlements (Vancouver, Canada, 8-12 May 1973) sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning. He also represented the secretariat at the Interregional Seminar on New Towns (London, 4-19 June), sponsored by the United Nations and the United Kingdom.

TRADE POLICY DIVISION

23. During the period covered by this report, a study was prepared on non-traditional exports, technical co-operation services were provided to a number of countries in the region and work was begun on projects concerning Latin America and the reorganization of international economic relations and on regional and subregional integration. Progress was made in the discussion and initial preparation of projects concerning national foreign trade policies and the economic relations of Latin America but work was not begun on the projects because of the limited numbers of staff available.

Strategy for non-traditional exports

24. In this study (E/CN.12/967) an endeavour has been made to bring together the basic elements needed for the evaluation, on the basis of the results achieved, of the export promotion policies which have been tried out in the region.

25. The evaluation of export promotion policies can cover three basic aspects: (a) evaluation of the results obtained, using quantitative indicators of the evolution of exports; (b) evaluation of the content of the policy or strategy proper, by seeking to identify causal relations and determining the degree to which the policy is appropriate to the country's problems, the different measures included in it and the relation between them; and (c) evaluation of the application of the policy, by reviewing the administrative, institutional or other factors which may have affected its full implementation.

26. Following these general lines, the study describes the evolution of policies to promote exports of manufactures in their most general context and their relation to other aspects of the national economy such as industrial and trade policy, physical infrastructure, etc. A description is given of the various means of stimulation used in the different countries of the area, indicating their relative importance in the application of the policies and their practical scope. A study is made of the institutions responsible for applying the promotion policies and their evolution to fit themselves for the new requirements of external trade. An analysis is made of the development of exports of manufactures by Latin America in recent years, their share in the total trade in manufactures, changes in their structure and geographical destination and the items which have contributed most to the greater dynamism of total exports. The study details aspects of international bilateral and multilateral co-operation in this field. Finally, it offers a first appraisal of the effectiveness of the policies based on the results obtained, endeavouring to distinguish whether these have been the consequence of the mere application of incentives or the result of a more global strategy.

Other work

27. In connexion with the project on Latin America and the reorganization of international economic relations with a view to examining the repercussions on the external sector of countries in the region of the major readjustments taking place in the world economy, a study is being made of the recent evolution and future prospects of exports of primary commodities and Latin America's trade with some major developed areas. In connexion with the project on regional and subregional economic integration, the impact of integration and intra-area trade on the structure of trade and production and on import substitution and industrialization is being analysed. The analysis of the balance of payments of the region as a whole is also being continued for the annual Economic Survey.

Technical co-operation

28. At the request of the Government of Costa Rica, three advisory missions were sent to that country's Investment and Export Promotion Centre in connexion with the implementation of the export credit insurance system and methods of channelling financial resources to that end, aspects of the export promotion law related to the preparation of an export strategy with appropriate incentives and the preparation of the chapter on exports of manufactures (strategy, objectives, targets and policies) in the National Plan for 1974-1978.

29. In agreement with the Government of Argentina, consultations were held with the Ministry of Trade and the Central Bank in connexion with a study analysing experience with policies for the promotion of non-traditional exports.

30. Similar meetings were held with Brazilian government authorities.

31. At the request of the Government of Nicaragua, a technical assistance mission was sent to the Nicaraguan Export Promotion Centre, "Exportemos", to collaborate in the preparation of its three-year programme of activities.

32. The secretariat was represented at the Seminar on Export Promotion for the Central American Common Market Countries (San José, Costa Rica, 6-11 August 1973), sponsored by the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre. It was also represented at the Interregional Seminar on the Generalized System of Preferences (Brasilia, 20 October-2 November 1973) organized by UNCTAD and GATT.

Collaboration with the Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination

33. During the period covered by this report, the secretariat's collaboration with the Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination (CECLA) has been of a different kind and along different lines from that of previous years, for ECLA has been co-operating with the Latin American countries in connexion with their participation in the GATT multilateral trade negotiations and has in fact been doing so ever since the third session of UNCTAD in May 1972.

34. At the fifteenth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America, the countries of the region unanimously adopted resolution 326 (XV), requesting the

secretariat "to provide technical assistance to the Latin American Governments, at their request, for the negotiations and, to that end, to accelerate and strengthen its contribution to the UNCTAD/UNDP project concerning co-operation with the Latin American countries in the field of trade policy related to the multilateral trade negotiations", and recommending that it "should accord the highest priority and urgency to studies and work related to the above-mentioned project".

35. A number of documents on various aspects and problems of particular interest to the Latin American countries in connexion with the multilateral trade negotiations have been prepared and submitted for the consideration of member Governments. In addition, over a thousand cards have been made out, providing statistical information on trade between the Latin American countries and the industrialized nations participating in the multilateral trade negotiations and on the trade barriers affecting such exports in the markets of the industrialized countries. This information has been processed on the basis of tabulations supplied to the Latin American countries, at their request, by GATT.

36. In addition, four meetings of high-level Latin American government experts directly concerned with the negotiations were held in 1973 under the terms of the UNCTAD/UNDP project and their conclusions have served as a basis for the policies established collectively or individually by the CECLA countries in the preparatory phase of the multilateral trade negotiations. Furthermore, at the request of the Governments of the Dominican Republic and Panama, missions visited both these countries to provide information and co-operation with a view to facilitating their preparations for participation in the negotiations. Missions of this kind have also been requested by other Latin American countries.

37. The following documents were prepared in 1973: "Efectos de la ampliación de la Comunidad Económica Europea sobre los países miembros de CARIFTA"; "La reforma del sistema monetario internacional y las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales"; "Técnicas y modalidades de negociación para productos industriales"; "Técnicas y modalidades de negociación para productos tropicales"; "Nota informativa para el Programa CECLA previa a la tercera reunión del Comité Preparatorio"; "Evaluación del trabajo del Comité Preparatorio de las negociaciones del GATT"; "Bibliografía de referencia sobre las negociaciones"; "Restricciones a la importación y otras barreras no arancelarias"; "Segundo informe sobre hechos y actividades vinculados a las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales"; "La ley estadounidense sobre reforma del comercio y las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales"; "Objetivos y metas de las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales"; "La aplicación de las comunidades económicas europeas"; "Identificación de derechos arancelarios y barreras no arancelarias que afectan las exportaciones de productos de especial interés para los países latinoamericanos en las negociaciones comerciales multilaterales"; "Efectos de la ampliación de la CEE sobre las preferencias arancelarias generalizadas que reciben los países latinoamericanos del Reino Unido". Distribution of these documents was limited to the member countries of CECLA.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

38. During the period covered by the present report the Division completed a study on prospects and arrangements for regional integration in the Latin American motor vehicle industry, a study on the Latin American industrial sector and the International Development Strategy and a note on the transfer of foreign industrial technology to the countries of Latin America. Technical co-operation was provided to a number of countries in the region.

Prospects and arrangements for regional integration in the
Latin American motor vehicle industry

39. This study (E/CN.12/971) was prepared jointly by ECLA and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), with the collaboration of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Assistance was also provided by a working group on economies of scale in the Latin American motor vehicle industry, attended by some 20 enterprises from the region, representing both terminal plants and plants producing parts and components, which met at Santiago, Chile, in 1970. The purpose of the study is to determine how far the economic production of passenger cars and commercial vehicles can feasibly be developed in Latin America through the integration of domestic markets, which, taken individually, are small compared with the volume of production of the major world producers.

40. The study consists of three parts. The first gives background information on the integration of the motor vehicle industry, such as the situation of the industry in Latin America and the existing and future market for motor vehicles in the countries of the region. The second part analyses scale economies as they affect investment in fixed assets and relative production costs. It also analyses, in the light of the experience of developing countries, the incidence of the degree of domestic content in the total cost of the vehicles produced. The third part deals with the integration prospects for the motor vehicle industry in Latin America and studies two concrete cases more fully: Andean integration and the Central American Common Market.

41. The main conclusions of the study relate to these two integration systems currently in progress. Demand in the Andean subregion is expected to amount to over 200,000 motor vehicles a year in 1980, which is 30 per cent higher than the combined demand of these countries would be if their economies were not integrated. Demand for commercial vehicles (for freight and the transport of passengers) will probably be 150,000 units annually in the same year. This demand would permit the Andean Group to establish its own highly integrated motor vehicle industry so that it could be self-supplying in the field, with production costs not too far above those of the major world producers.

42. This appraisal is based on the projection of an ideal situation where the range of models of vehicles produced and the number of terminal plants would be fairly limited (the present situation is completely different because of the excessive number of makes, models and motor vehicle plants). However, at least according to some of the hypotheses, the range of models produced would be sufficiently broad to allow the consumer a certain choice as regards the size and make of the vehicle. This means, in practice, that the motor vehicle sector should be programmed at the subregional level, with terminal plants and plants producing parts and components being assigned to the various participating countries.

43. In the economic appraisal of the different solutions, an estimate has been made of the investment in fixed assets represented by a subregional industry conceived along these lines. In the terminal industry the investment would range from \$500 million to \$800 million, depending on the hypothesis considered. The parts and components industry would have to increase its output fivefold between 1973 and 1980 to satisfy the demand originating in the terminal industry. The relevant investment is estimated at \$450 million.

44. The present and potential demand for vehicles in the Central American Common Market is comparable with that of either Chile, Colombia or Peru, taken individually. In 1980, this demand is expected to amount to 45,000 passenger cars and 30,000 lorries and buses. The motor vehicle industry would therefore only be able to rely for its development within the CACM on a small demand, lower than the volume required in a world context to be able to produce economically. There would practically be a market for only one terminal producer and, in order that as many participating countries as possible could benefit from this industrial activity, the various production processes would have to be divided among them. The parts and components industry should be planned on the basis of standardized products or groups of products in the interests of maximum efficiency in the producing units. Since this involves reducing to a minimum the number of models manufactured locally, a certain diversification of supply to meet specific needs could be arranged through controlled imports of vehicles.

45. Estimates of production costs - one of the basic criteria for judging the economic feasibility of an industrial plant - are based, as in the case of the Andean subregion, on production scales and admissible rates of domestic integration. For a clearer understanding of the limitations inherent in these evaluations, it should be recalled that production costs also depend on a number of other factors, such as wages and salaries, productivity and prices of inputs, to name only the most important factors, which vary considerably from one place to another. Accordingly, before establishing the frame of reference for a motor vehicle development programme, it would be worth while carrying out more detailed studies, taking into account other information besides that considered in this study.

The Latin American industrial sector and the International Development Strategy

46. The main purpose of this study (E/CN.12/969) is to undertake a regional evaluation of the industrial sector during the first two years of the Second United Nations Development Decade, within the context of the goals and objectives established in the International Development Strategy (IDS). The analysis begins with a comparison of the growth rate of Latin American industry in the years 1970-1972 (8.5 per cent) with the proposed target for this activity in the IDS (8 per cent). It is pointed out on the one hand that, although this goal was exceeded at the regional level, the rates at the country level were very uneven, fluctuating between 1.6 per cent for Uruguay and 12.7 per cent for Brazil, and on the other hand, that even if the goal proposed in the IDS were maintained throughout the present decade, the gap in industrial development between the countries of the region and the industrialized nations would remain unaltered owing, among other factors, to Latin America's rapid population growth. In other words, the share of the Latin American industrial product in the world product (3.4 per cent) would remain unchanged and Latin America's per capita industrial product, which in 1970 was 123 dollars (at 1963 prices), would still represent the equivalent of half of the world average, one sixth of that of the Eastern European countries and one eighth of that of the United States and Canada.

47. In this respect, more realistic differential goals are suggested for groups of countries in the light of the stage of industrialization reached and their growth potential, while at the same time it is recommended that each and every one of the countries in the region should redouble its efforts to narrow the gap over the long term.

48. The study describes the main features of the regional industrial sector and some of its results and contributions to over-all economic development; hence the analysis covers a longer period (from 1960 to 1972).

49. An analysis of the stage of industrial development of the countries in the region and its correlation with the production structure thus shows that the more advanced the stage of industrialization (in Argentina, for example), the greater is the share of the industrial product accounted for by the sectors producing consumer durables and capital goods, although it is pointed out that the value of the product and the internal relative price system may affect the variables considered. There follows an analysis of some characteristics of industrial establishments such as their size (in terms of number of persons employed) and the share of each level in the industrial product and employment. Other sections examine the manufacturing sector's capacity to absorb the new increases in the economically active population and the labour force diverted from primary activities and to reduce unemployment; the evolution of Latin American exports of manufactures and their incidence on the rate of growth of the manufacturing product; and the important role of the various regional and subregional integration systems in this field. In connexion with the latter point, it should be noted that although Latin America's exports of manufactures showed a high average annual rate of growth over the past 11 years - 20.5 per cent as against 13.9 per cent for the developing countries as a whole and 11.4 per cent for the developed countries - their share in world exports of manufactures is still negligible since it only rose from 0.4 per cent in 1960 to 0.7 per cent at the beginning of the present decade.

50. The study also contains a description of some aspects of demand and supply as regards technical know-how, a definition of the main economic policy instruments used in the region and a review of the goals and objectives of industrial development programmes prepared by individual countries in the region for periods ranging between 1969 and 1977, as compared with those proposed in the International Development Strategy.

Transfer of foreign industrial technology to the Latin American countries

51. This study (E/CN.12/L.96) endeavours to define the concept of industrial technology and the channels through which it is transferred. It also examines the main characteristics of or arrangements for the transfer of industrial technology to the Latin American countries, identifies the problems raised by this process and, lastly, puts forward some suggestions for action aimed at achieving greater efficiency in the transfer of this know-how.

52. This document emphasizes the rapid increase in the flow of foreign technology from the industrialized countries to the countries of Latin America, as evidenced by the increase of about 20 per cent annually in the payments for the purchase of technical know-how. In most countries of the region, therefore, expenditure on imported technology represents a higher proportion of the industrial product than in some industrialized countries. At the same time, however, total expenditure on technology in Latin America is only between 0.35 and 0.40 per cent of the total value of the goods and services produced, while in countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Japan the proportion is between 2 and 3 per cent.

53. The study also analyses the contractual conditions of the transfer of know-how and the clauses which are generally included in most of the contracts and which push up the cost of the transfer, such as those imposing the obligation to purchase the equipment, raw materials or intermediate products directly from the licensor, and those limiting or preventing possible exports. It is pointed out that whether or not the technical know-how is patented has an important influence on the cost of the transfer, but leaving this consideration aside, the amount payable in either case largely depends on the technical capacity and the negotiating power of the contracting parties. The Latin American countries in general are clearly handicapped in this respect.

54. It is evident from this study that a substantial proportion of the transfer of technology is accounted for by the know-how imported from their parent companies by subsidiaries of or firms associated with foreign enterprises, and this proportion is definitely increasing.

55. Apart from direct external investment, contractual agreements between local and foreign enterprises provide another important means of transfer.

56. Towards the end of the 1960s, several countries of the region began to adopt various measures aimed at the establishment of a technological policy and its instrumentation with a view to a more efficient transfer of know-how. The immediate concern of the Latin American countries at the moment is to reduce the costs and improve the terms of transfer contracts by the application of specific criteria through certain government agencies.

57. To achieve a more efficient system of transfer, the agency concerned would also have to act as a consulting agency for the local enterprise in regard to other transfer machinery or foreign suppliers. Moreover, this agency, in consultation with the industrial planning bodies, should encourage local enterprises in priority sectors to enter into negotiations for the transfer of foreign techniques which are considered essential for industrial development.

58. As a long-term policy, the strengthening of the firms' technological potential through research and development would be an essential prerequisite for obtaining the transfer of foreign technology on reasonable terms. In this connexion, the agency concerned with the transfer would have to co-operate and co-ordinate its work with that of other agencies responsible for planning and executing research and development activities. A policy aimed at improving the conditions of transfer of foreign technology can therefore be successful only if it is conceived as part of what might be called over-all technological policy.

Other work of the Division

59. A study on the evolution of the Latin American steel industry during the period 1969-1971 was prepared for the Third Interregional Symposium on the Steel Industry (Brasilia, October 1973), the main topics dealt with being the apparent consumption of steel sheet and the iron and steel industry in Latin America.

60. A study was prepared for the Working Group on the Methodology of Industrial Studies (Buenos Aires, 20-30 August 1973), organized by UNIDO, setting forth some considerations on the statistical requirements of the analysis and programming of

industrial development. The first part of the study mentions the most important topics which have to be tackled by those responsible for formulating policy, preparing programmes and evaluating progress in the field of industrial development; the description of each topic includes an analysis of the main indicators and statistics needed for its study. The second part considers the type of statistical material normally available in the countries of the region and describes its main limitations and gaps.

61. Notes were prepared on some lines of industrial policy in Central America in the present stage of integration and on the situation of the fertilizer industry in the Andean subregion and its prospects in 1980-1985. A study is also in preparation on industrialization and income distribution.

Technical co-operation

62. At the request of the Government of Ecuador, lectures were given at the seminar on industrial programming in the chemical industry sector, held in the National Polytechnic School.

63. The ECLA/FAO/UNIDO Advisory Group on Forest Industries has continued to provide assistance to the Board of the Cartagena Agreement in its programme for the pulp and paper sector, and to CARIFTA in connexion with the market for sawnwood. A technical assistance mission from the Advisory Group collaborated with the Government of Honduras in the preparation of a forest development programme and the Advisory Group also prepared a study on the prospects for the industrial use of wood in Uruguay (E/CN.12/L.97) and helped to organize a Latin American seminar on the sawmill industry in Chile.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

64. During the period under review a note was prepared on international intermodal transport, overland services in the southern cone of the continent were promoted and work continued on improving the information and documentation system for transport planning. Technical assistance services were provided to several countries in the region.

International intermodal transport: statement of the immediate problems for Latin America and action programme for affected institutions

65. The study (E/CN.12/L.103) alerts government and non-governmental organizations to the importance of this subject, which should be given urgent attention owing to the swiftness with which the region is being invaded by new transport technologies and institutions for the organization of the movement of international trade and the fact that new rules for transport and trade documentation are being established at meetings where the region's interests are not explicitly considered. It also outlines the programme of collaboration between ECLA and the Latin American institutions which was considered by the Latin American group at the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Group (Geneva, 29 October to 2 November 1973). A summary of Latin America's position regarding the studies which should be carried out on international intermodal transport was also prepared for this meeting.

Other work of the Division

66. ECLA and the Institute for Latin American Integration (INTAL) are carrying out a joint project to open new transcontinental transport corridors, particularly between Lima and Buenos Aires and between Lima and São Paulo, which would enable the non-tariff barriers applicable in transit countries to be eliminated and would both promote the interest of transport carriers in organizing this traffic and provide the necessary training. For this purpose, advantage is taken of existing infrastructure and facilities for trans-shipment from railway wagons to lorries in order to accelerate transport and make it safer and even cheaper than by sea. As part of this project, the first direct train journey between Chile and Brazil, through Argentina and Bolivia, was organized at the end of 1973, thus demonstrating that a service by this and other transcontinental routes was feasible, and much information on procedures, documents and other useful data was collected in order to analyse the possibilities of facilitating this traffic.

67. As regards the systems of information and documentation for transport planning, the ECLA/IBRD project for information registers has introduced innovations in the sphere of bibliographic documentation and has sought to develop a classification of terms (key words or descriptors and facets) that will satisfy four requirements: (a) the terminology should reflect the most serious transport problems in Latin America and the technological changes envisaged; (b) the organization of terms should be suitable for automatic or manual data retrieval systems; (c) the terminology should be the same for all modes of transport, but it should be compatible with the specialized terminology of the existing systems of international bibliographic documentation for each mode of transport; and (d) the organization of terms should be such as to permit co-ordination with the terminology of other economic sectors, particularly as regards the vocabulary for describing geographic and economic space. A thesaurus and documentation format was prepared for a model Latin American transport documentation system fulfilling these requirements. This innovation was discussed at various meetings of the Working Group on Transport Documentation (Brazil, 1973) and with European agencies and experts in this field. It was agreed that work on the ECLA/IBRD project should be co-ordinated with that of the European Conference of Ministers of Transport, International Road Research Documentation (IRRD) and the International Union of Railways.

68. In another working document of the joint ECLA/IBRD project, the model for the register of information for transport planning was changed on the basis of suggestions and experience gained when it was implemented in Brazil, Colombia and Peru.

69. Work began on 12 tourism promotion projects financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

70. The Division also has the following studies under way: a data register on Latin American merchant shipping; the lighter-aboard-ship (LASH) system and its repercussions in Latin America; a manual on integrated national systems of transport documentation; and an analysis of the question of "reciprocity" in international road transport.

Technical co-operation

71. At the request of the Government of Honduras the Division collaborated with

the relevant public agencies in connexion with the establishment of a register of information for transport planning. It also collaborated with ILPES in the preparation of a development strategy for Honduras.

72. At the request of the Governments of Brazil, Colombia and Peru, the Division co-operated in the implementation of the joint ECLA/IBRD project for setting up registers of information for transport planning and the formulation of policies in the transport sector. In Brazil a start was made on the preliminary work for the application of an integrated system of bibliographic documentation on transport.

73. At the request of the Government of Mexico, a study was made of trucking regulations and the marketing of agricultural products, particularly in the low-income sectors.

74. At the request of the Government of Chile, the Division collaborated in preliminary studies on tourist circuits and the restoration of historical monuments in Tarapacá province.

75. At the request of the Government of Guyana, the Division made a joint review, with staff from the secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), of the formulation of a plan for developing tourism.

76. In response to a request from the Government of Brazil, advisory assistance was provided to the Brazilian Tourism Authority (EMBRATUR) in the preparation of a seminar on tourism promotion techniques and to SUDENE in the preparation of its second tourism plan.

77. The secretariat was represented at the third meeting of the Andean Pact Tourism Council (Santiago, Chile, 4-6 July 1973), at the meeting of the Caribbean Tourist Association (Aruba, 10-15 September), at the twenty-third General Assembly of the International Union of Official Tourism Organizations (Caracas, 1-10 October) and at the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee for Tourism Promotion of OAS (Buenos Aires, 5-7 December).

JOINT ECLA/FAO AGRICULTURE DIVISION

78. During this period the Division updated the preliminary version of the report on the current situation, problems and prospects of the beef trade in the countries of the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA). It also prepared studies on agriculture in the LAFTA countries, the image of agriculture in Andean integration, sources of animal protein and energy in the Latin American tropics for nutrition purposes, and the situation and evolution of agriculture and food supplies in Latin America. Advisory assistance was provided to the integration schemes and to several countries in the region.

Current situation, problems and prospects of the beef trade in the LAFTA countries

79. This document is an updated version of a similar report prepared in October 1972. It was issued in response to a request made at the meetings of the LAFTA Working Group on the Meat Trade.

80. The LAFTA countries account for about 15 per cent of the total world production of beef and their exports represent approximately one quarter of the world beef trade. In absolute terms, this was equivalent in 1971-1972 to an annual volume of production of 6 million tons and to exports of meat and cattle worth around 962 million dollars. In spite of this, per capita production, consumption and exports of beef have definitely stagnated in the area as a whole.

81. By way of introduction to the analysis of the situation and prospects of the beef trade in the countries of the area, a brief description is given of production characteristics and trends, productivity levels and the obstacles to a greater expansion of supply and consumption of this commodity.

82. The factors limiting production include a shortage of feed for the herds, the considerable incidence of diseases leading to many deaths and substantial economic losses, the slow genetic improvement of native cattle, the difficulty of getting high-yield European breeds to adapt to the tropics and the many deficiencies observable in the tenure, development and management of pastures.

83. There are genuinely bright prospects for the LAFTA countries as regards area integration and complementarity in the field of livestock production and the marketing of surpluses. They have no option but to co-ordinate their action and supplement and improve their research, extension and technical assistance services; to wage a common battle against foot-and-mouth disease, whose endemic existence in the South American countries is restricting the sale of meat on certain international markets; to improve and rationalize internal and external marketing channels; to promote area trade in physical inputs required for livestock production and - a vitally important point - to form themselves into a consolidated group with joint bargaining power vis-à-vis the importing countries in the large regional economic groupings.

Agriculture in the LAFTA countries

84. The work initiated by LAFTA in compliance with the provisions of the 1970-1980 Plan of Action, includes a study on the problems of regional agriculture. The secretariat of LAFTA requested the collaboration of the Joint Agriculture Division in the preparation of a document of a conceptual nature on the subject.

85. The importance of studying the agricultural sector within the context of integration is due not so much to the present or potential contribution of agriculture to commodity trade - the usual way of measuring or evaluating progress in integration - as to the contribution it can make at the regional or subregional level towards solving the more widespread problems of poverty, unemployment, under-nutrition and relative deterioration in living conditions which affect broad sectors of the population.

86. Accordingly, the main objective of a study of this kind is not merely to determine how much domestic agriculture can produce within a certain period and how much can be traded among the various countries. Although these two factors are genuinely important and for that reason are examined as fully as possible in the light of the available data, attention is centred on an analysis of questions related to economic and social aspects of agricultural development problems. In other words, an attempt is made to determine the role of agriculture within the

context of an integrated development process whose benefits would be more equitably distributed among the various population sectors in the countries of Latin America.

87. This over-all view of the agricultural development problems is particularly important in the case of LAFTA, since the sphere of action of this group is based primarily on free trade in commodities, which, as analysed in the study, may present serious hindrances to the attainment of the member countries' development objectives.

Image of agriculture in Andean integration

88. As part of the assistance given to the Board of the Cartagena Agreement by the Joint ECLA/ILPES Programme for Latin American Economic Co-operation, a report on this subject was prepared with the Institute's collaboration.

89. The basic objective of the study was to supplement and amplify the analysis contained in chapter II of the document entitled "General bases for a development strategy", prepared by the Board in collaboration with the ECLA/ILPES Programme in 1972. The study analyses the main features of agricultural development in the Andean countries and discusses some basic guidelines for a subregional agricultural development policy within the framework of the integration process.

90. The material presented conveys a clear picture of the trade potential and integration possibilities of the agricultural sector of the Andean countries.

91. A document complementing the foregoing was also prepared, proposing possible action in the agricultural sector within the process of Andean integration. This study served as a basis for discussion at the meeting of the group of national experts (Lima, January 1974), which preceded the Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture held the same month.

Sources of animal protein and energy in the Latin American tropics for nutrition purposes

92. This study was prepared for the Seventh Pan-American Congress of Veterinary Medicine and Zootechnics (Bogotá, 23-28 July 1973).

93. It summarizes the main factors related to: (a) the various sources of animal protein found in the Latin American countries, with emphasis on the importance of the production and supply of livestock products; (b) the factors limiting livestock production and productivity, taking into account technical and economic factors; (c) some technical indicators of efficiency and productivity; (d) the low consumption of animal protein and the social problem this creates; and (e) future prospects for livestock production.

Situation and evolution of agriculture and food supplies in Latin America

94. This report (LARC/74/3) is ECLA's main contribution to the documentation to be presented by the FAO secretariat at the thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for

Latin America. It presents the most important aspects of the current situation of Latin American agriculture, which will probably continue to be manifested in the short and medium-term.

95. The document begins with an analysis of the contribution of agriculture to the development of the countries of the region. Various indicators are presented to show the sector's response to the functions it is expected to fulfil within the context of over-all regional development. The second section analyses the structure and evolution of agricultural production, by countries and commodities.

96. Special attention is paid in this document to the effects which recent world market trends may have on regional agriculture, since it is closely bound up with that market. In nearly all the countries a large proportion of the agricultural output goes to external markets, while most of the physical or technological inputs are obtained from outside the region. Many countries also resort to external markets to supplement their domestic supply. The present world situation seems fairly favourable for the region as a whole, since, while the prices of all agricultural exports increased by 16 per cent between 1970 and 1972, the prices paid for imports rose at a much slower rate (5 per cent). However, the growth of the region's agricultural exports is sluggish, so for this and other reasons the last part of the analysis consists of a review of the restrictions affecting the supply of agricultural commodities, from the standpoint not only of the availability of resources, but also of the structural and institutional factors which are real obstacles to agricultural development throughout the region.

97. The report includes a brief analysis of forestry and fishery activities in the region.

Other work of the Division

98. The Division collaborated in the establishment, work and achievements of the three multidisciplinary working groups which have been operating in the FAO Regional Office since the beginning of 1973. These groups deal with the following subjects: (a) integrated rural development; (b) internal hindrances to exports; and (c) environment and development.

99. The Division helped to organize the thirteenth FAO Regional Conference, scheduled to be held at Panama City in August 1974.

Technical co-operation

100. The Division provided advisory assistance to the Supreme Planning Council of Honduras (CONSUPLAN) in the preparation of the Development Plan 1974-1978. For this purpose, in collaboration with ILPES, a strategy was set out for the agricultural sector and the bases for the implementation of a sectoral model were discussed with national experts.

101. For the development programme appraisal requested by the Government of Argentina, technical notes were prepared on the present situation and the targets anticipated in various different development plans for wheat, maize and cattle-raising.

102. The Division assigned an economist to LAFTA on a permanent basis to provide technical assistance in the integration and agricultural development fields. This staff member has collaborated closely with the rest of the Division in the preparation of the above-mentioned documents. The Division is also continuing its co-operation with SIECA in the integration programmes and studies in Central America.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

103. During the period covered by the present report a study was completed on the international interconnexion of electric power systems in Latin America, another on recent production and consumption of energy in the region and a third on the Latin American mining industry and its recent evolution. In addition, technical co-operation was provided to a number of countries in the region.

International interconnexion of electric power systems in Latin America

104. This study (E/CN.12/970) covers two fields in which the ECLA secretariat has been working for several years: the efficient management of energy, and regional economic integration.

105. The study is in two parts. The first summarizes the still-brief history of international interconnexions in Latin America and their potential. Some notable aspects of European and United States experience in technical, administrative and juridical matters are also summed up, and their importance as a source of inspiration for the Latin American countries is noted.

106. The second part is more theoretical and is directed especially at the planning offices of the public service electricity enterprises. It reviews some basic problems of the financial and economic evaluation of interconnexion projects in general, giving only a summary analysis of the economic and social viability of international projects, since it recognizes that they merit a special evaluation which would go beyond the aims of the study. The financial evaluation of the projects is dealt with separately from their economic appraisal because, even though the electricity enterprises of the region are mostly State-run, they depend to a large extent on foreign credit, which is governed by practical considerations of profitability, and also because project analysts often neglect to study the viability of financing of a project.

Recent production and consumption of energy in Latin America 3/

107. This study reviews the present total consumption of energy and its evolution, with separate analyses of the trends in the petroleum, natural gas and electricity industries. Aspects such as production, known resources, consumption, State participation and volume of investment are considered, some observations are made on energy planning in the Latin American countries, and the main problems to be solved are described.

108. Some conclusions of the report should be underlined.

109. For Latin America as a whole, it is estimated that the targets laid down in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade would require an increase in the consumption of commercial energy at a cumulative rate of not less than 7.8 per cent per year. Although the supply of this energy is facing serious difficulties, its general rate of growth has been satisfactory in recent years and has kept reasonably close to this level (in 1971 the growth rate was 7.7 per cent).

3/ See Economic Survey of Latin America, 1972 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.74.II.G.1).

110. In keeping with the level of income in the region, the average per capita consumption of energy is relatively low. In 1971 it was only 605 kilogrammes of petroleum equivalent (p.e.): i.e., rather less than one half of world consumption (1,270 kilogrammes of petroleum equivalent in 1970), although two and a half times higher than that of the other developing countries as a whole.

111. The surplus of energy production over consumption registered in Latin America and the Caribbean (384 million tons p.e. as against 163 million in 1970), excluding vegetable fuels, mainly reflects the petroleum exporting capacity of Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago and, to a lesser degree, the under-utilization as a fuel of the natural gas produced. If these factors are excluded, production of commercial energy was less than consumption during the year in question (120 million tons p.e. compared with 145 million tons).

112. At the end of the 1960s, the countries of the region had largely secured their sovereignty over their hydrocarbon resources, while in 1970 84 per cent of public service electric energy was supplied by State enterprises.

113. The declining trend in petroleum prices recorded in the 1960s changed radically at the beginning of the 1970s with correspondingly favourable consequences for exporters and adverse consequences for importers. This new situation makes it advisable to undertake a complete review of both energy policies in the region and development plans in that field.

114. At the end of the 1960s and the beginning of the 1970s, important discoveries of oil and natural gas were made in areas of the Amazon watershed spread over four Andean countries.

115. Over-all production of electric energy in Latin America achieved a cumulative annual growth rate of 8.1 per cent in the period 1961-1970 and the rate rose to 11.2 per cent in 1971, but 54 per cent of the population is still outside the coverage of public electricity services.

116. The most serious problem facing the Latin American countries as regards energy is how to finance their expansion requirements - in both local and foreign currency - during the decade 1971-1980, since they will need the equivalent of around \$45,000 million, of which more than half will be in foreign currency.

117. An investment of this magnitude (60 per cent in electricity and 40 per cent in hydrocarbons) will weigh heavily on fiscal resources, since an appreciable proportion of these sources of energy are already under State ownership.

Mining in Latin America and its recent development 4/

118. This study was prepared as a first appraisal of the mining sector in the region during the 1970s, pursuant to the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

119. The study reviews such aspects as the economic importance of mining in the region, known mineral resources, mining output, mining exports, domestic consumption,

4/ Ibid.

degree of vertical integration of mining output, employment capacity, investment, price trends of some mining products, legal and administrative aspects and possible ways of securing more rapid development of the mining sector.

120. The following conclusions drawn by the study are worth noting.

121. Mining is an important sector of the economy in several countries. Although mining production in the region increased by 4 per cent annually during the 1960s, the increase being greatest in the case of the most important minerals, Latin America's share in world output declined, except as regards production of iron, nickel and tin. This relative decline was particularly sharp in bauxite, copper and lead. Available data for 1971 and part of 1972 show that the rate of growth has slowed.

122. Although during the past decade the volume of mining production grew less than the region's gross domestic product (5.5 per cent at market prices), the marked improvement in world prices for the principal metals enabled the sector to maintain its contribution to the product at around 4 per cent.

123. The share of this sector (excluding hydrocarbons) in the total value of Latin American exports increased throughout the past decade, since from 14.7 per cent in 1961 it rose to 16.8 per cent in 1965 and 21.4 per cent in 1970. In absolute terms, the value of mining exports grew from \$1,213 million in 1961 to \$2,961 million in 1970 - a cumulative annual growth rate of 10.5 per cent. In 1971, however, the value of mining exports declined, and their share in total exports shrank to 19.4 per cent, mainly owing to the drop in copper, lead and tin prices.

124. During the 1960s there were marked advances in the level of local processing of most mining products, and this trend was maintained at the beginning of the present decade, mainly through increases in the pelletizing of iron ore, in alumina production and in tin smelting.

125. The cumulative net investment in the sector was estimated at about \$3,000 million to \$3,500 million in 1970. On the basis of projects planned or under way, it is calculated that an additional \$6,500 million will have been invested by the end of the 1970s.

126. During the period covered by the study, the Latin American countries did a great deal towards consolidating their sovereignty over their mineral resources by transferring the initiative for their exploitation from the private to the public sector. Some examples of this are the mining legislation reforms in Mexico and Peru and the reform of the Political Constitution in Chile whereby the big copper mining companies were nationalized.

127. The main problem faced by most of the Latin American countries in promoting their mining production is that they lack financial resources of their own and entrepreneurial organization. Another point worth noting is the insufficient participation of these countries in the marketing and pricing of their exports.

Other work of the Division

128. The Division has in progress a study on Latin America and the energy crisis, a project for a glossary and model statistical tables applicable to mining, and

various studies connected with information on the environment in Latin America. Consultations with the Governments of the region are in progress on the desirability and possible organizational details of a meeting to review the economic implications of the "energy crisis" for the region.

Technical co-operation

129. At the request of the Government of Argentina, the Division collaborated with the National Economic Institute of Mendoza in matters connected with water legislation and management and took part in the advanced seminar on the pollution of water resources (Buenos Aires, 26 March-6 April 1973) sponsored by the Government of Argentina, the Organization of American States and the Government of Israel.

130. At the request of the Government of the Dominican Republic, the Division collaborated with ILPES in providing advisory assistance to the National Planning Office in connexion with the development strategy for the period 1970-1980.

131. At the request of the Government of Mexico, the Division collaborated with the Special Commission of the Presidential Secretariat in the preparation of a medium-term development plan for the mining sector for 1973-1976 and was represented at the Regional Meeting on Science and Man (Mexico City, 28 June-14 July), sponsored by the National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

132. At the request of the Government of Ecuador, the Division collaborated with the Empresa Eléctrica Quito S.A. on the latter's plans for expanding and modernizing the electricity distribution network of the city of Quito.

133. At the request of the Chilean National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), the Division collaborated in the preparation of a technical seminar at the national level to analyse the consequences which the present energy crisis may have on the country's economy and suggest policies for scientific and technological research and development in this respect.

STATISTICS AND PROJECTIONS DIVISION

134. During the period covered by the present report, the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America was prepared and technical co-operation services were provided to a number of countries in the region.

Statistical Yearbook for Latin America

135. The first issue of the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America was brought out, replacing the Bulletin published twice-yearly since 1964.

136. The first part of the Yearbook gives statistical series for Latin America and the region as a whole. The same series are also given by subregions. The second part presents the same statistical series by countries in alphabetical order.

Other work

137. For the International Seminar on the Statistics of International Economic Relations (Berlin, 10-28 September 1973), sponsored jointly by ECLA and the German Fund for International Development, a study was prepared (E/CN.12/L.100) giving the bases and characteristics of the tariff nomenclatures used in the various regional integration processes in Latin America and reviewing the statistical classifications connected with international trade. Two more studies were also prepared for this meeting: a note on the external sector in Latin American input-output experiments (E/CN.12/L.101), giving a general picture of the way the external sector is treated in input-output experiments in Latin America, and an article on terms of trade in Latin America (E/CN.12/L.99) giving historical series for the external trade of the Latin American countries and setting out the methods of calculation used in ECLA to determine the quantum and unit value indices of external trade and some concepts deriving from those indices, such as the terms of trade, the purchasing power of exports, import capacity and the terms-of-trade effect.

138. The work being carried out by the Division includes preparation of the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America; a series of monographs on income distribution (case studies), with the collaboration of the World Bank and UNICEF; a change of base year to 1970 for the terms-of-trade programme, involving import and export indices and the index of Latin America's main export products on the basis of international quotations. The programme to mechanize the balance-of-payments data of the Latin American countries covering the period 1960-1972 was put into effect and the tables previously obtained manually through the arduous work of several persons were established by means of a computer. A statistical series was drawn up entitled "A quantitative framework for regional research". A series of documents on statistical indicators, a document on methods for producing statistical data, a document summing up input-output experiments in Latin America and a report on the treatment of the external sector in input-output experiments in Latin America were also prepared.

Technical co-operation

139. At the request of the Government of Guatemala, the Division collaborated with the Statistical Office in preparing the household sampling survey and with the Planning Office in connexion with the demographic sampling survey.

140. At the request of the Government of Argentina, the Division collaborated with staff of the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) in connexion with processing population censuses and household surveys. In addition, lectures were given at the University of Economic Sciences at Rosario.

141. At the request of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the Division collaborated with the Central Statistical Office in improving continuous demographic sampling surveys.

142. At the request of the Government of the Dominican Republic, the Division collaborated with the National Statistical Office in the demographic sampling survey and in preparing a training course for specialized staff.

143. At the request of the Government of Mexico, advisory services were provided to the Presidential Secretariat in connexion with the quantitative framework of the development plan.

144. At the request of the Government of Venezuela, advisory services were provided to the Central Bank on matters connected with national accounts.

145. At the request of the Government of Haiti, advisory services were provided to the authorities in the preparation of a methodological basis for the interpretation of the results of the socio-economic and industrial surveys and the General Census of 1961.

146. At the request of the Government of Ecuador, advisory services were provided to the National Statistical Institute in preparing a request to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and in planning the third population census and the second housing census, while the National Census Office was assisted in work on the pilot census and in matters connected with the equipment used for the census and for the processing of data.

147. At the request of the Government of Peru, the Division collaborated with the appropriate authorities in the processing of data from the population and housing censuses.

148. At the request of the Government of El Salvador, the Division collaborated with the authorities in revising the discrepancies in the 1971 census tabulations; in addition, advisory services were provided to the National Council for Economic Planning and Co-ordinating (CONAPLAN) in programming an econometric model and the Division collaborated in the processing of data from the population and housing censuses.

149. At the request of the Government of Nicaragua, advisory assistance was provided in preparing the tabulation of a labour survey.

150. At the request of the Government of Honduras, the Division collaborated with the Statistical Office in matters connected with the population census.

151. At the request of the Government of Costa Rica, the Division collaborated in a joint mission in connexion with the Nicaraguan housing and population censuses.

LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS CENTRE

152. During the period covered by the present report, the Centre continued its research on numerical experimentation models for comparing development styles and medium-term and long-term econometric models. Technical co-operation services were provided to several countries in the region.

153. The preliminary version of the document on different development models or styles, prepared jointly by the Centre and the Economic Development Division, presents some of the results obtained by means of a numerical experimentation model designed for studying medium-term and long-term strategies in order to identify the main problems that may arise if development continues along traditional lines. The use of the model makes it possible not only to indicate the important aspects of the problem, but also to estimate its relative magnitude and investigate what options are available for solving it and what each of these solutions would entail. The document analyses the situation for a country with characteristics similar to the average characteristics of Latin America at the end of the 1960s and assumes

that the future development pattern will be similar to that experienced in the recent past. For the purpose of the analysis, the achievement of certain goals (basically in relation to consumption levels) is proposed and it is then determined what is required to achieve them and what the performance of the main variables in this process is likely to be. In this basic projection (which is analysed in detail), two critical points identified are employment capacity and external disequilibrium. These problems are subsequently discussed at some length. In addition, the study assesses the importance of the attainment in the process of social, economic and political change of relatively high rates of growth, kept constant over a fairly long period.

154. In connexion with this same project, and with the purpose of applying it to specific countries, a new version of the model was prepared for the comparison of development strategies. This revised version, which includes a number of conceptual modifications and involves the amplification of the previous scheme, actually amounts to a new model. It provides a more detailed description of the economic system and a larger number of categories are used for sectors, employment, population, education, technology and distribution of value added. It is not a final version, since one of this model's characteristics is its great flexibility and adaptability, which enables changes to be introduced as suggested by its use or as required by the objectives pursued. In fact, the model is constantly being revised and improved. Its programming for computers has been checked and the programme tested. In addition, the preparation of data for the Venezuelan economy has been completed and work begun on the preparation of basic information for Brazil.

155. With the purpose of perfecting the model for the comparison of strategies, a population model was devised in order to study the repercussions of demographic and migratory trends on the size of the labour force. In the development styles model, the active population is determined on the basis of rates of growth and coefficients of over-all activity which must be calculated exogenously. The new population model - which is being programmed for computers and for which data are being prepared (for Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina and a Central American country) - will enable much more accurate calculations to be made. What it does is to include the spatial distribution of the population and the relevant rates of activity in the demographic projections by sex and age prepared by the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) and used as basic information, the object being to determine the effects of certain demographic trends, together with the structural changes they cause, on the growth rate and size of the active population. In addition, an attempt is made to analyse the impact of changes in the rates of participation by age groups.

156. Finally, according to the demographic, migratory and activity hypotheses that may be adopted in a development strategy, the coefficients and over-all rates that best reflect those hypotheses will be calculated and introduced as data in the model for the comparison of styles.

157. As regards research on medium-term and long-term econometric models, a version was completed for the Jamaican economy. The study comprises three chapters. The first gives a brief description of Jamaica's economic development over the past two decades, the second chapter presents the basic assumption and analyses the results of the projections, and the last chapter contains a description of the model used for the projections. The various annexes discuss some more technical matters connected with the calculation of the model.

158. As regards the calculation techniques, new methods for medium-term projections are being analysed. The Box-Jenkins statistical model is currently being tried out: it is fairly simple in design, but produces projections which compare favourably with many more sophisticated econometric models. The Box-Jenkins model is simple in that it only requires observations on the variable in question, and is useful in preparing satisfactory projections for a great many macro-economic variables of importance to the countries in the region.

159. Other methods of calculation are also being programmed; the Box-Jenkins basic model is being amplified with the purpose of improving the projections made and at the same time analysing specific medium-term economic policy options.

160. Work has begun on the preparation of new econometric models for the South American countries with the object of incorporating them in the LINK project. The LINK project, which is co-sponsored by UNCTAD and other international institutions, endeavours to establish the structure of a world model through the integration of models for the various countries. The aim of the project is to gain a better knowledge of the nature and intensity of international economic relations. Most of the statistics required for the model for Colombia have already been prepared, and preliminary estimates have been made of the most important economic relations. The necessary statistical information for the model for Brazil is in course of preparation.

161. The Centre collaborated in the studies prepared by the member countries of CECLA with a view to establishing the goals and objectives to be reached in the multilateral trade negotiations being carried out within the context of GATT. The work undertaken relates to over-all projections, specific projections by commodities and a review of the structure of exports that would be necessary in order for the countries of the region to be able to undertake the task of expanding exports at the minimum rate of 7 per cent proposed for the 1970s in the International Development Strategy.

162. At the request of the Mexican Government, the Centre collaborated with the Special Committee of the Office of the President of Mexico in the preparation of a medium-term development plan for 1973-1976.

163. The Centre co-operated in several international or university training courses. For this purpose, staff members of the Centre held courses on the following subjects: planning theory and techniques (at the Tenth Central American Intensive Course on Programming Techniques and Annual Operational Plans, held in Guatemala City from 9 July to 31 August 1973); annual operational plans (at the National Course on Planning and Projects held in Managua, Nicaragua, from 23 July to 21 September 1973); and the comparative study of econometric models for Latin America (in the Institute of Economics of the Catholic University of Chile, 20 August 1973 to 15 January 1974).

164. A staff member of the Centre acted as Co-Director of the International Seminar on the Statistics of International Economic Relations (Berlin, 7 to 20 September 1973).

MEXICO OFFICE

165. During the period covered by this report, the Office devoted its main efforts to the provision of advisory services requested by the Government of Nicaragua in connexion with the Managua earthquake in December 1972; to the continuation of studies on economic trends in the Central American countries, Panama and Mexico; to the continuation of studies on regional development in Mexico and the economic development of Panama and the Central American countries; to collaboration with regional agencies in the efforts to restructure the Central American Common Market; to supervision of technical assistance provided by United Nations experts in Central America; and to collaboration with the resident representatives of UNDP in the preparation of national technical assistance programmes. As in previous years, close co-operation was maintained with the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration.

Economic Survey of Latin America

166. The Office prepared the chapters on economic trends during 1972 in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, together with an over-all and sectoral evaluation of these trends.

Regional and urban development in Mexico

167. The study of regional and urban development in Mexico comprised various general and sectoral studies. The former include a study on interstate migration in Mexico between 1950 and 1970, and another on the measurement of Mexico's economically active population in the same period (CEPAL/MEX/73/15), while the sectoral studies cover agriculture, industry and transport. In the agricultural sector, a methodological study was prepared on agricultural analysis as part of regional diagnosis, together with another study on agricultural production and yields in the period 1960-1970. A number of studies were prepared on industry. Two of these deal with the methodology for regional industrial research: the first examines the problems of regional industrial analysis, and the second the regional development of manufacturing industry. Other studies on industry deal with the present structure and location of the steel industry, the forest products industry and the basic chemical industry. In addition, a note on coefficients and ratios was prepared for the analysis of the location of industrial activities. In the transport field, a study was prepared on the characteristics and functional requirements of the highway system; on the railway network, including aspects of regional movements of freight by rail; and on subjects related to institutional questions, the road inventory, and the mobilization of goods both inside Mexico and for foreign trade. The Office prepared a document on regional development strategy entitled Mexico: estrategia regional de desarrollo (CEPAL/MEX/73/12) and a preliminary document on problems involved in the economic analysis of urban planning. The programme for assembling information on federal public investment in 1960-1970 was completed, while a study was made, with the collaboration of

government officials, of various methods for establishing a properly organized information system for regional research in Mexico. Lastly, the Office completed the detailed outline of a document which will summarize the regional diagnosis of the national economy, put forward a proposed regional development strategy at the national level and present suggestions for the formulation of development programmes by regions.

Mexico's development strategy and plan

168. The Office of the President of Mexico was given technical advisory assistance in the preparation of an information system designed to serve as a basis for the country's economic and social programming; the task included the revision of the system of national accounts up to 1971. The Office of the President was assisted in the preparation of the following studies: México: Política de empleo (CEPAL/MEX/73/13), México: La industria en el programa de desarrollo compartido (CEPAL/MEX/73/14), and México: Estrategia del desarrollo industrial (CEPAL/MEX/73/27). A study was prepared on the organization of the services needed to implement a policy for the transfer, absorption and development of technology in Mexico, including the demarcation of priority fields for a Latin American programme in this field.

Reconstruction and economic development of Nicaragua

169. The Office prepared the basic document 5/ on this matter for the seventh extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLA, which was held at the request of the Government of Nicaragua (New York, 16 to 18 January 1973), and helped to prepare the relevant report. 6/ In compliance with a recommendation made by the Committee of the Whole at this session, and in response to a request from the Government of Nicaragua, the Office collaborated in the preparation of the national reconstruction and development plan, which comprises the Immediate Action Plan for 1973 7/ and the Annual Operational Plan for 1974. The Immediate Action Plan sets out the main lines of the development strategy, the principal aims, programmes and instruments of economic policy, and macro-economic projections relating to national accounts, composition of the product, balance of payments, monetary policy and public finance, and the programmes, projects and activities of the various sectors.

5/ "Report on the damages of the earthquake that occurred in the city of Managua and its adverse effects on the Nicaraguan economy" (E/CN.12/AC.64/2); "Table illustrating some specific possibilities for international assistance" (E/CN.12/AC.64/2/Add.1).

6/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8A (E/5239 - E/CN.12/AC.64/3) and corrigendum.

7/ Plan Nacional de Reconstrucción y Desarrollo: Vol. I. "Lineamientos generales de la estrategia del desarrollo y Plan de Acción Inmediata para 1973"; Vol. II. Programas, proyectos y actividades sectoriales del Plan de Acción Inmediata para 1973."

170. Staff members of the Office helped to prepare the work plan and system of organization, short-term measures for attenuating the effects of the earthquake and the drought, and a training course for local work cadres. They participated in the organization and activities of the sectoral groups set up to prepare an emergency plan, in the preparation of an ECLA project for the provision of technical assistance to the Government of Nicaragua (CEPAL/MEX/73/Nic.2) and in drafting the report on the activities carried out by the ECLA/ILPES Mission during its second visit to Managua (CEPAL/MEX/73/Nic.3).

171. In consultation with the Government of Nicaragua and the relevant agencies, the Office prepared the first report on the special international technical and financial assistance provided to Nicaragua in connexion with the earthquake of 23 December 1972 (CEPAL/MEX/73/Nic.8).

172. The Office completed a methodological document for use in connexion with the diagnostic analysis and programming of the housing sector as part of the economic and social development of Nicaragua. ^{8/} The 1963 1971 and 1973 population and housing censuses were analysed, and different aspects of the housing situation were compared.

173. The Office collaborated in the preparation of a survey whose results were used to examine the employment problem. This survey was based on a study containing preliminary proposals on the diagnosis and preliminary guidelines of an employment policy for Nicaragua, in which consideration was given to the latest population censuses and the results of a survey of the employment situation carried out in May 1973 in Managua and the cities which had received the largest flows of displaced population.

174. In accordance with a recommendation of the Committee of the Whole of ECLA, the experience gained in connexion with the Managua earthquake will be used to prepare national emergency plans which might be used as a pilot project for an international model.

175. The National Light and Power Enterprise (ENALUF) was given advisory assistance in a study to determine the daily period of rainfall during the wet season so that building activities can be more efficiently planned and technical co-operation projects were prepared with a view to the participation of other international agencies in the advisory assistance given to Nicaragua.

176. To supplement the programme of activities established by the Co-ordinating Committee on National Planning for the Reconstruction and Development of Nicaragua, a National Course on Planning and Projects was organized (Managua, 23 July to 21 September 1973) under the sponsorship of the Government of Nicaragua, with the financial support of UNDP and the collaboration of the Office of Technical Co-operation (OTC), the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and other international agencies.

8/ Guía preliminar para un diagnóstico y programación del sector vivienda dentro del desarrollo económicosocial de Nicaragua: Diagnóstico y programación del sector vivienda dentro del desarrollo económicosocial de Nicaragua.

Central American Intensive Course on Programming Techniques
and Annual Operational Plans

177. Arrangements were made for the tenth Central American Intensive Course on Programming Techniques and Annual Operational Plans (Guatemala City, 9 July to 31 August 1973).

Integrated electric power development

178. Work was completed on the final version of the comparative study of energy costs in Central America in 1969 and 1970 (E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/92), the processing of electricity statistics for 1971 and a document on the regional evaluation of the electricity sector and the prospects up to 1985.

179. As regards the standardization of electrical materials and equipment, chapters I, II, III and IV of a draft regional electricity code (CCE/SC.5/CRNE/IX/3) were prepared and presented at the ninth meeting of the Regional Committee on Electrical Standards (San Salvador, 23 to 28 May 1973), at which the first three chapters were approved. Another document presented at this meeting was a report by the secretariat to the Regional Committee on Electrical Standards (CCE/SC.5/CRNE/IX/2).

180. At the request of the Government of Guatemala, the feasibility of the interconnexion of the Central Interconnected System of Guatemala with that of the River Lempa Hydroelectricity Executive Committee (CEL) of El Salvador 9/ was explored, and the current situation and prospects of both countries as regards electric power development were analysed, together with the economic benefits obtainable from the project on the basis of sharing electric power reserves and substituting the more economical energy received from El Salvador for that generated in Guatemala. Subsequently, a supplementary study 10/ was prepared in view of the recent increases in the prices of petroleum fuels and two alternatives were suggested for Guatemala's electric power development programme.

Integrated development of water and energy resources

181. The final version of the regional document on the evaluation and utilization of water resources in Central America 11/ was drafted. An evaluation of water

9/ La interconexión eléctrica Guatemala-El Salvador. I. Análisis de la factibilidad de la interconexión del Sistema Central de Guatemala y el Sistema CEL de El Salvador (CEPAL/MEX/73/21).

10/ La interconexión eléctrica Guatemala-El Salvador. II. Incidencias en la interconexión del aumento de los precios de los combustibles derivados del petróleo y de dos alternativas del programa de obras de generación del INDE de Guatemala (CEPAL/MEX/73/21/Add.1).

11/ Istmo Centroamericano: Programa de evaluación de recursos hidráulicos. VII. Centroamérica y Panama (E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/76; TAO/LAT/104/Regional).

resources in the country 12/ was prepared as a basic document for the meeting of the Working Group on the Water Resources of Honduras (27 and 28 March 1973).

182. As regards energy resources, a document containing a regional evaluation of the energy sector 13/ with an analysis of the present structure of energy supply in the Central American countries and demand projections up to 1985 was issued and distributed, while information was reviewed and analysed for a document on the production and consumption of energy (electricity and petroleum) in the Central American countries in 1972. 14/ A study was prepared on the increased use of energy resources observed recently in Central America, with an analysis of possible ways of meeting the current petroleum fuel crisis and a preliminary analysis of the possibilities of developing internal energy resources (water and geothermic) for the generation of electric energy during the period 1974-1985. At the request of SIECA, a study was prepared on Central America's possible attitude to the proposed Latin American Energy Agreement (discussed at the third Latin American Consultative Meeting of Ministers of Energy and Petroleum, held at Lima, Peru, in November 1973) and the bases for the establishment of an energy and petroleum information system in Central America. 15/

Statistics

183. An inventory of the statistics prepared by the Mexico Office was included in the Central American Statistical Inventory prepared by the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), as decided at the interagency meeting of users (San José, Costa Rica, 30 November and 1 December 1972). Subsequently, the inventory prepared by the Bank was carefully revised and valuable suggestions were put forward for making it a more useful instrument for user agencies.

Other work of the Office

184. Three studies were prepared for the tenth session of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee (CCE), scheduled to take place in 1974: a note by the secretariat, comprising sectoral analyses and including a suggested plan for the restructuring of the Central American Common Market; a revised version of a report on the technical assistance provided since 1970 to the Central American Common Market by United Nations experts; and a report on the main developments in the Central American Common Market during 1972 (CEPAL/MEX/73/26).

12/ Istmo Centroamericano: Programa de evaluación de recursos hidráulicos.
IV. Honduras (E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/73; TAO/LAT/104/Honduras), October 1972.

13/ Istmo Centroamericano: Evaluación Regional en el sector de energía
(E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/93; TAO/LAT/127).

14/ Istmo Centroamericano: Consumo de energía, 1950, 1955, 1960 y 1965 a 1972
(E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/97; TAO/LAT/128/Add.1), August 1973.

15/ Recomendaciones sobre la posición centroamericana ante el Proyecto de
Convenio Latinoamericano de Energía, y bases para el establecimiento de un sistema
de información sobre energía y petróleo a Centroamérica (SIECA/SGE/73-Repr. 61),
Guatemala, 24 October 1973.

185. The Office collaborated in the study on economic trends in Panama and the possible impact on that country of the construction of a new canal at sea level. A study was prepared on the bases for an economic and social development strategy for Honduras (CEPAL/MEX/73/17).

186. A report was completed on the 1971 electrical energy statistics for Central America and Panama (E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/98) and another on the use of groundwater for irrigation in the Sébaco valley in Nicaragua (CEPAL/MEX/73/20; TAO/LAT/130).

187. Studies are under way on econometric models for the Central American countries; the evolution of social classification and development in the subregion; self-sufficiency in the supply of grains and the marketing of non-traditional agricultural commodities; the establishment of a Central American customs union; and on indirect tax systems in the countries of the area as a basis for the preparation of a system of collection and distribution of indirect taxes and customs duties which might be suggested within the context of the Customs Union. A summarized account of activities carried out by the Central American countries in connexion with the utilization of water resources is also in course of preparation and work continued on a comparative analysis of various agricultural demand projections in the six countries of the subregion for the period 1980-1990.

Technical co-operation

188. At the request of the Governments of Costa Rica and Panama, the Office co-operated in the preparation of a bilateral trade treaty 16/ and participated in two meetings of representatives of the respective Ministries of Economic Affairs and of private enterprise in both countries, one in San José and the other in Panama City. Twenty-nine articles of the draft treaty were approved at these meetings. While three remained pending for consideration at a future ministerial-level meeting. The treaty is concerned strictly with trade.

189. The Office collaborated with the Central American Research Institute for Industry (ICAITI) and BCIE in determining what procedure should be followed in presenting to the Central American Electric Power and Water Resources Sub-Committee the proposal to establish a regional laboratory for testing electrical equipment and material and in submitting the request for the necessary financing to some international agencies.

190. At the request of BCIE, the Office co-operated in the preparation of a programme of investment in infrastructure works in Central America for the years 1973-1980. It was also represented at a SIECA/BCIE/ECLA interagency meeting on the subject in Guatemala City and helped to prepare the report of that meeting. 17/

16/ Elementos de juicio para la formulación de un tratado de comercio y desarrollo fronterizo entre Costa Rica y Panama (CEPAL/MEX/73/2/Rev.1).

17/ Informe de la Reunión Interagencial BCIE/SIECA/CEPAL sobre programación financiera del BCIE en proyectos de infraestructura hasta 1980, February 1973.

191. The Office collaborated in the presentation and co-ordination of several requests to the Governments of Mexico and Puerto Rico by some Central American countries for advisory assistance in the operation and maintenance of thermoelectric power plants and the training of Central American personnel in various aspects of the electric power industry.

192. Advisory assistance was given to the Ministry of Economic Affairs of Honduras in the preparation of a document on the evaluation of Decree No. 97 as an instrument of development and negotiation. 18/ In this Decree, 151 tariff headings and subheadings are compared with their counterparts in the Central American external and common tariffs.

193. At the request of the Costa Rican Electricity Institute (ICE), a lecture was given on systems engineering, some corrections were made in the programme of synthetic generation of flow data prepared by the Institute and the final revision of the computer programme for calculating synthetic flows of the rivers Arenal and Térraba was completed.

194. The Office helped to prepare a survey on employment in Nicaragua, with the participation of the regional expert on censuses assigned to it. Subsequently, it continued to co-operate with the Nicaraguan authorities in the organization and conduct of the survey and in reviewing the material collected. The survey was carried out in the second half of May.

195. The regional expert on censuses provided the Statistical Office of Honduras with advisory assistance in the review of plans and material for the population and housing censuses, which have been postponed until 1974.

196. In response to a request from the Land Administration and Settlement Institute of Costa Rica, attention was given to the preparation of a programme for the reorganization of the Batán project. This project, which is for a land settlement area on the Atlantic seaboard, was initiated in 1963 but has been hampered by organizational problems.

197. At the request of the National Agricultural Institute of Honduras, the Office participated in the preparation of the regulations for Decree No. 8 governing the renting of land.

198. The regional expert on water resources advised the Government of El Salvador on a study of multiple water use in the Lempa river basin and on the preparation of a research project on the use of groundwater for irrigating the Zapotitán valley. He also provided the Government of Guatemala with advisory assistance in putting into execution the groundwater project in the Guatemala valley. He carried out a hydrometeorological study for the Nicaraguan Government to determine the magnitude and frequency of droughts in Nicaragua and the role of irrigation in mitigating their effects. 19/ Technical assistance was provided to the countries of the

18/ Centroamérica: Incidencia arancelaria de algunos rubros de importación (CEPAL/MEX/73/18).

19/ Irregularidades de la precipitación pluvial en Nicaragua y regularización de las disponibilidades hídricas para el centro agropecuario (CEPAL/MEX/73/Nic.4; TAO/LAT/129).

subregion in the preparation of the second phase of the Central American Hydrometeorological Project (UNDP/WMO) and the supplementary national projects, and to the Central American Bank for Economic Integration in connexion with the entry into operation of an agricultural financing programme based on irrigation, to be carried out in the region during the remainder of the decade. 20/

199. The regional adviser on industrial questions collaborated with officials of ICAITI in the regional textile programme and in connexion with the co-operation which UNIDO is to provide in the pulp and paper and leather industry projects and in the study on the food industry and the transfer of technology. He also exchanged ideas with officials of the National Economic Planning Council of Guatemala on aspects of the economy related to the country's industrial development, with staff members of BCIE, SIECA and ICAITI on industrial aspects of Central American economic integration, and on questions related to the ICAITI work plan for the second half of 1973 and for 1974. This plan includes a comparative study of the national development plans and the impact they may have on regional economic integration and on the action of regional agencies with respect to the particular situation of Nicaragua.

200. The Office collaborated with the Governments of the area in questions related to transport infrastructure, including a study on the construction in Mexico of low-cost roads through the intensive use of manpower and the possible adoption of this method in Central America. An outline of a road-building programme of this type was prepared. Contacts were also established with BCIE and SIECA to discuss the Central American highway programme, particularly in regard to Nicaragua.

201. At the request of UNDP the Office participated in the activities of the joint UNDP/IDB Mission concerned with evaluating the Nicaraguan Government's request for financing of the pre-feasibility studies for the river San Juan hydroelectric and navigation project.

202. At the request of SIECA, a document was prepared offering recommendations regarding the concerted position that might be adopted by the Governments of the region in connexion with energy and petroleum at the third Latin American Consultative Meeting of Ministers of Energy and Petroleum held at Lima, Peru, during the first week in November.

203. The regional expert on maritime transport and ports temporarily assigned to the Mexico Office advised the national agencies and port authorities of the five Central American countries on questions related to the main port terminals in the area. Advisory assistance was provided, in particular, to the Santo Tomás de Castilla National Port Enterprise, Guatemala, in a study on ways to improve the efficiency of equipment for handling bulk cargo, and to the National Port Enterprise of Honduras in connexion with the joint administration of the principal ports of that country (now in the hands of private enterprise (concessions) or government bodies), of which the enterprise will assume control as from 1974. The expert also collaborated with SIECA and the Central American Port Authorities Council (COCAAP) in the preparation of the technical assistance project for the improvement and development of the port and sea transport system in Central America, which is to be presented shortly to UNCTAD.

20/ Justificación de un programa de desarrollo y financiamiento agropecuario a base de riego en Centroamérica durante la década de los setenta (CEPAL/MEX/73/30; TAO/LAT/pend.).

204. In response to a request from the Supreme Planning Council of Honduras, technical assistance was provided in the study of some investment options for the National Railways of that country.

205. The Office collaborated with SIECA in the formulation of the agreements concerning the customs union and tariff policy, as part of the over-all programme for restructuring the Central American Common Market.

206. The regional expert on budget programming assigned to SIECA co-operated with the Fiscal and Tariff Department of the Secretariat in the preparation of the programme budget and the general programme of work for the rest of 1973 and for 1974. He prepared a study on the public finances of the central Government of El Salvador in 1972, covering budgetary execution in the fiscal year and the state of the Treasury, advised the Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador on the formulation of techniques for the preparation of annual operational plans and their co-ordination with the 1973-1977 medium-term plan, took part in a seminar on the formulation and evaluation of the Government budget of El Salvador and in a course on programme budgeting organized in that country for training personnel from health sector institutions, and also participated in the first stages of the evaluation and review of methodologies for the Central American budgetary systems, which is one of the main activities in the SIECA work programme.

207. The Office co-operated actively with SIECA and the UNDP Regional Office in the preparation of the draft request to UNDP for technical assistance for Central American integration in 1974-1978. Subsequently, a representative of the Mexico Office and a representative of SIECA submitted the draft request to the Ministers for Economic Affairs of the five member countries of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee for their views and endorsement, which are indispensable for the next stages of the negotiations.

208. At the request of the United Nations Office of Technical Co-operation, the Office collaborated in the evaluation of the second stage of the regional development of the Lerma river basin and in the evaluation of the report of the mission sent by UNIDO to the Government of Mexico to analyse the regional implications of the project.

209. At the request of the Department of Agriculture of the Government of Mexico, staff members of the Office participated in working meetings on community enterprises (co-sponsored by FAO) to evaluate Mexico's experience as regards enterprises of this type. Reports were prepared by the Department of Agriculture and analysed at the meetings.

210. The regional expert on electricity economics and administration prepared an information system for the Compañía de Luz y Fuerza del Centro, S.A., which started to use it in February 1973. Many recommendations were put forward for regularizing the accounting and financial control processes, particularly as regards the formulation, classification and control of the investment programme and its incidence on the company's economic and financial situation.

WASHINGTON OFFICE

211. During the period under review, the activities of the Washington Office were broadened and research and analysis activities were added to the Office's existing work of compiling and supplying information material, representing the secretariat at meetings and undertaking liaison activities.

Research and analysis

212. The Office completed a study on some actual and implicit effects of foreign affiliate production on the trade balance of Latin American host countries. Another study, on Canada and the foreign firm, was completed in draft form. In addition, a number of technical reports were prepared on the following topics: implications, from the United States and Latin American viewpoints, of recent international trade and monetary events; the significance for developing countries of a new international floating exchange rate, on the one hand, and an internationally agreed special drawing rights link system on the other; United States trade policies and their impact on developing countries; multinational corporations and international development; the four pillars of future United States international economic policy: trade, direct investment, official development assistance and monetary reform; the international repercussions of the Eurodollar market; the significance of United States economic co-operation with Latin America; and the issue of structural transformation of the inter-American machinery.

213. A project on industrial technology to be undertaken jointly by IDB, the Institute for Latin American Integration (INTAL) and ECLA was examined with officials of IDB. Collaboration in the fields of industrialization and integration is also being explored with IDB.

Compilation and supply of information

214. The Office continued to provide the secretariat with information for the use of the substantive divisions in their research work, to deal with special requests from the Office of the Executive Secretary, and to collaborate with the Library.

215. The Office provided information and documentation on the activities of the secretariat in answer to a large number of requests from international and regional organizations, various offices of the United States Government, and universities, research foundations and private bodies in the United States.

Representational and liaison activities

216. The Washington Office represented ECLA at the country reviews of the Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress (ICAP) Staff of the Office also attended the ICAP Inter-Agency Committee meetings on labour questions, technical matters and other subjects; the meetings of the Special Consultation and Negotiation Committee on Maritime Trade and Transport; the OAS meeting on industrial property and the application of technology to development; the third General Assembly of OAS; the thirteenth extraordinary session of the Inter-American

Economic and Social Council (CIES); the General Assembly of the International Organization for Standardization; and the fourteenth session of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Pan-American Highway Congress.

217. Staff of the Office attended the session of the Group of Eminent Persons on Multinational Corporations, held in New York, and the first Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting organized by the United Nations Environment Programme in Washington.

218. The Office carried out liaison activities with the Inter-American Development Bank, the Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress, the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development.

RIO DE JANEIRO OFFICE

219. This Office continued to collaborate with Brazilian government officials in research and advisory assistance activities. A study on regional and urban development and another on differences in industrial productivity and wages were completed.

220. The Office collaborated in the preparation of the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1973 and in the appraisal of the International Development Strategy.

221. The Office collaborated in a regional development planning course organized by the State Government of Rio Grande do Sul, which took place from 9 April to 27 July.

MONTEVIDEO OFFICE

222. This Office, which represents ECLA in its dealings with the organs of LAFTA, continued to participate in LAFTA meetings and studies, particularly in the work of the Standing Executive Committee and the Conference of the Contracting Parties. It also carried out co-ordination and liaison functions between the ECLA and LAFTA secretariats and assisted the delegations of member countries in the study of technical problems.

223. During the year its most important work was that aimed at harmonizing the collective negotiations for the possible readjustment of the structure of LAFTA to a new stage of economic integration in accordance with article 61 of the Montevideo Treaty. A document of a general nature was prepared for this purpose, entitled "Outlines of some minimum bases for orienting the readjustment of the present LAFTA mechanisms", while another document dealt specifically with the complementarity agreements and sought to establish criteria for their reformulation.

224. The Office prepared a summary of LAFTA's activities during 1973 for incorporation in the Economic Survey of Latin America and collaborated in the appraisal of the International Development Strategy.

225. The Office prepared the second statistical review of the operation of the complementarity agreements between the Contracting Parties.

226. It took an active part in the two meetings of the Standing Executive Committee with the directors of the national integration agencies (Lima, October 1973, and Montevideo, November 1973) and was entrusted by them with the continuation of its work on complementarity agreements with a view to providing suitable bases for the collective negotiations which it is planned to hold in 1974.

Sectoral meetings

227. The Office took part in various meetings of industrial entrepreneurs of the area, especially those concerned with the most dynamic branches of industry such as chemicals, pharmaceuticals and machine tools.

Other work of the Office

228. A staff member from the Office represented ECLA and ILPES at the fifth Co-ordination Meeting of Integration Agencies (Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 1973).

229. The Office co-operated with members of the Board and the Commission of the Cartagena Agreement in the work of harmonizing the collective negotiations to be held within LAFTA during 1974.

230. The Office undertook the co-ordination of ECLA/UNCTAD/UNDP project RLA-72/098 for co-operation with the Latin American member countries of CECLA in their preparations for the trade negotiations to be held within GATT.

OFFICE FOR THE CARIBBEAN

231. During the period covered by this report, the Office continued its co-operation in the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy and provided the Governments and intergovernmental institutions of the Caribbean with advisory assistance in analysing economic and social development problems. Particular attention was devoted to the study of economic trends in the Caribbean; continuing studies on prospects for intraregional trade; the analysis of problems in areas of fiscal and monetary policy; the formulation of proposals for improving efficiency in the field of transport; collaboration with other subregional institutions in promoting economic integration; the provision of assistance to some territories in improving the quality of their statistics; the carrying out of studies on agricultural development; and substantive supervision of technical assistance provided by regional advisers and experts.

Economic Survey of Latin America

232. As the Office's contribution to the annual Economic Survey of Latin America, country surveys were prepared for Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the West Indies Associated States and a general summary giving an over-all view of developments in the CARIFTA subregion as a whole was also prepared (ECLA/POS/73/3).

Intraregional trade and trade policy

233. Research continued into suitable areas and measures for promoting intraregional trade. Assistance was also given to the West Indies Associated States in resolving some of the outstanding trade policy problems relating to implementation of the Common Tariff of the East Caribbean Common Market (ECCM). In this connexion, a document containing proposed amendments to the ECCM Common External Tariff was prepared (ECLA/POS/73/8).

234. The Office also participated in the Working Group set up to examine the impact on the CARIFTA countries of the United Kingdom's entry into the European Economic Community (EEC) and to formulate viable policies for negotiating a relationship with the enlarged EEC.

Transport

235. Assistance was given to the CARIFTA/CARICOM secretariat in drawing up the main elements of a comprehensive institutional framework for implementing transport policies within the terms of the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community and at the request of the Comptrollers of Customs of the subregion the main results of the United Nations/IMCO Conference on International Container Traffic were explained and elaborated.

Agriculture

236. Work commenced on a continuous compilation of statistical data and information with a view to preparing a compendium of agricultural statistics for the subregion.

237. Work was also initiated on the identification of possibilities for specialization and complementation in agriculture and on assisting the CARIFTA/CARICOM secretariat in executing the study on rationalization of agriculture. In this respect, a questionnaire was drawn up at the secretariat's request to facilitate the preparation of an up-to-date inventory of available information for the first phase of the rationalization exercise.

Economic integration

238. The Office continued to assist the countries of the subregion in accelerating the process of economic integration.

239. Special attention was given to the finalization of the Treaty Establishing the Caribbean Community, which was concluded on 4 June 1973 and came into force on 1 August 1973, and the Common External Tariff, which had been the subject of intensive intergovernmental negotiations for about 18 months, was also finalized. Other instruments finalized and accepted by Governments of the subregion were the Agreement for the Harmonization of Fiscal Incentives to Industries, and the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Investment Corporation.

240. In connexion with the instruments recently adopted by the CARIFTA/CARICOM countries, the Office prepared a study on the impact of CARIFTA, ^{21/} a draft appraisal of the scheme for harmonization of incentives to industries and a working paper entitled "Antigua, the ECCM and CARICOM" for the ECCM/CARICOM Working Party.

241. The Office also continued to collaborate with area officials and other subregional institutions in examining further measures commissioned by the Conference of Heads of Government of the subregion with a view to accelerating the integration programme. Consultations were held with officials of the Government of Haiti on the prospects of that country's association with CARIFTA, and continuing examination was given to the possible impact on CARIFTA if Haiti should become associated with one of the larger non-member countries of the Caribbean subregion.

Appraisal of the International Development Strategy

242. Work continued on the systematic collection and collation of comprehensive data connected with the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy, and a draft report on machinery for plan evaluation in Jamaica was prepared in collaboration with the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies.

Statistics

243. The West Indies Associated States were assisted on a continuing basis in establishing machinery for improving the collection and publication of external trade statistics necessary for the introduction of the ECCM Common External Tariff, and for up-grading the range and quality of other economic statistics. A note was prepared on the key for converting from the ECCM Tariff Code (based on the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature) to the Standard ECCM Trade Classification (ECLA/POS/72/2/Corr.1), and a working paper on the processing of external trade statistics for ECCM countries was issued (ECLA/POS/73/11).

244. With the attainment of independence of the Bahamas and its possible membership in the Commission, the Office prepared a series of economic and statistical indicators for that country.

245. The Office also helped to prepare the working documents for CECLA on the impact of the United Kingdom's entry into EEC.

Monetary and fiscal studies

246. The Office collaborated with the West Indies Associated States in examining their existing monetary arrangements with the object of restructuring them and giving them greater autonomy and flexibility. At the subregional level, research was initiated on a comparative study and compilation of data on national taxation structures.

^{21/} See Economic Bulletin for Latin America, vol. XVIII, Nos. 1 and 2, 1973.

Technical co-operation

247. At the request of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the Office collaborated with the officials concerned with rural and community development projects.

248. In response to a request from the Government of the Bahamas, the requirements for port facilities on New Providence Island were reviewed and assistance was provided in the preparation of a port development feasibility study. At the request of the Government of Barbados, the development planning for the port of Bridgetown was reviewed, ship and cargo movements were analysed and recommendations were made for reforms in port operations in the context of projected volumes of containerized cargo.

249. Port development plans in the Cayman Islands, Dominica and St. Vincent were examined and advisory assistance was given regarding appropriate facilities in the light of size of economy, volume of cargo movements and cost/benefit analyses. A comprehensive review of the economic evaluation of the proposed new port at Georgetown, in the Cayman Islands, was conducted and substantive modifications with a view to future operations were suggested. The Governments of Tortola and Monserrat were assisted in analysing cargo movements in order to appraise their plans for extension. In all cases, considerable emphasis was accorded to efficiency of port operations so as to avoid heavy capital outlay.

250. The Office was represented at five meetings of the United Nations Physical Planning Project Technical Advisory Panel.

251. Advisory services were provided to the CARIFTA/CARICOM secretariat in analysing the effectiveness of efforts to collect port and shipping statistics.

252. The following papers were prepared: Proposal for a Caribbean regional transport study (POS/INT.73/3); Port planning parameters of the Caribbean basin (ECLA/POS/73/4); Ship arrivals distribution table for port planning (ECLA/POS/73/5); Validity of Poisson distribution for predicting ship arrivals and port congestion (ECLA/POS/73/6); CARIFTA ports and shipping statistics (ECLA/POS/73/7); Performance indices of selected world ports (POS/INT.73/7).

Other activities of the Office

253. Staff members collaborated with the UNDP Office in Port of Spain in its country programming exercises for the period 1974 to 1978.

254. The Office for the Caribbean co-operated with UNCTAD and the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre in the preparation of the CARIFTA Product List and in connexion with the marketing of non-traditional products and the subregional training programme in export promotion for CARIFTA countries.

255. Discussions were held with UNICEF on programmes in the Caribbean, including the regional youth camp in Dominica.

256. The Office co-operated with UNIDO in formulating and executing projects in the Caribbean.

257. Office staff members gave advisory assistance to IBRD in connexion with the Bank's country appraisals and its regional mission to the Caribbean.

258. Assistance was given to the United Nations Development Advisory Team in the execution of some projects.

Meetings and conferences

259. Office personnel participated actively in the following meetings: the thirteenth CARIFTA Council Meeting, the joint meeting of CARIFTA Council and Attorneys-General, and the eighth Conference of Heads of Government (Guyana, 2-13 April 1973); meetings of Commonwealth Caribbean Statisticians and Trade and Customs Officials (Guyana, 24-28 April 1973); the third annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Caribbean Development Bank (Jamaica 25-28 April 1973); the meeting of experts on an action programme for economic co-operation among non-aligned and other developing countries (Guyana, 24 April to 4 May 1973); the annual Conference on the Regional Programme of Monetary Studies (Jamaica, 10-13 June 1973); the inauguration of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (Trinidad, 4 July 1973); the fourteenth CARIFTA Council Meeting (Trinidad, 3-6 July 1973); the Working Party on ECCOM External Trade Statistics (Antigua, 9-10 August 1973); First General Assembly of the Caribbean Organization of Tax Administrators (Barbados, 23-24 August 1973).

260. Office staff members also participated in the inaugural meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers of Finance (Trinidad, 27-29 August 1973), the fifteenth CARIFTA Council Meeting and First CARICOM Council Meeting (Jamaica, 9-13 October 1973), the annual Meeting of Agricultural Planners on Agricultural Marketing Protocol (Montserrat, 16-21 October 1973), the Working Party on the Formulation of a Common Policy on Local and Foreign Private Investment and the annual Meeting of National Planning Agencies (Guyana, 2-7 November 1973), and Working Party to review the ECCOM Tariff (Antigua, 12-15 November 1973).

BOGOTA OFFICE

261. During the period covered by this report the Bogota Office continued with its work of analysing the evolution of the countries within its geographical area, i.e., Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, the Netherlands Antilles and Venezuela. In the case of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela it continued to examine the most important developments relating to the integration movements to which they belong, especially the Cartagena Agreement. It also provided advisory services to various countries of the subregion.

262. The Office completed a study examining the scope of the Andean Group customs union within the framework of the agreements signed. This report, entitled La unión aduanera implícita en el Acuerdo de Cartagena. Primera parte: los compromisos básicos y su aplicación hasta fines de marzo de 1973 (CEPAL/Bogotá/73/3), lists in order all the customs union commitments accepted in the Agreement itself and those adopted by the Commission since the Agreement came into force, up to the Lima Consensus of 1973.

263. A note was prepared on the agreements for setting up a Caribbean Community and Common Market (ECLA/BOGOTA/73/4).

264. The Office collaborated in the joint work of ECLA and ILPES and in FAO activities in the following areas: updating and reformulation of the Andean subregional strategy; development and evolution of the fertilizer industry in the Andean Group; studies and research on financial intermediation; programming and evolution of transport; participation of public enterprises in development; studies on agricultural and stock-breeding policy, housing development and its operating conditions in Latin America; regional and frontier development; and the spatial structure of development.

265. In response to a request from SIECA, and under the auspices of ECLA and UNCTAD, a report was prepared on the bases for the adoption of a new Central American tariff policy (ECLA/BOGOTA/73/5).

266. At the request of the Governments of the subregion, the Office collaborated with them in a review of the future orientation of regional and frontier area development work, collaboration in the establishment of machinery for co-operation in specific fields between the National Planning Department of Colombia and Central Office for Planning and Co-ordination (COORDIPLAN) of Venezuela, collaboration with the Ministry of Finance in the revision of classifications of public spending and preparation of criteria for use by the authorities of the Netherlands Antilles to examine the evolution of imports of meat and animals on the hoof from Colombia.

267. The Office was represented at the eighth meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council (Bogotá, February 1973) a seminar on the implications of Venezuela's participation in the Andean Group (Bogotá, March 1973), a meeting on the Andean Agreement and Frontier Integration (Pasto, Colombia, February 1973), the fifth Latin American Conference on Rural Electrification (Bogotá, July 1973), the first Forum on Integration and Development in Spanish-speaking America (Bogotá, July 1973), the First Latin American Symposium of Economists (Bogotá, October 1973), the fifth Seminar on Academic Integration (Bogotá, October 1973), a seminar on problems and opportunities of the Andean multinational enterprises (Cartagena, Colombia, November 1973); the Latin American and Caribbean Meeting on Small-scale and Medium-scale Industry (Bogotá, November 1973)· the first Meeting on Twenty-first Century World Policy (Bogotá, December 1973).

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER OFFICES

268. A study on population and modernization in Latin America (E/CN.12/L.95) was prepared for the United Nations Symposium on Population and Development (Cairo, 4-14 June 1973).

269. ECLA participated in the Expert Meeting on Human Settlements (Vancouver, Canada, 8-12 May 1973), sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning. It also attended the Interregional Seminar on New Towns (London, 4-19 June 1973), sponsored by the United Nations and the United Kingdom.

270. The secretariat was represented at the Seminar on Export Promotion for the Central American Common Market countries (San José, Costa Rica, 6-11 August 1973), which was sponsored by the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre, and at the Interregional Seminar on the Generalized System of Preferences (Brasilia, 20 October to 2 November 1973), which was organized by the same Centre.

2. Meetings and seminars

271. The list of meetings and seminars held during the period under review appears in annex II below.

C. RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

272. The secretariat of FAO continued to provide the ECLA secretariat with the services of some of its staff and both institutions continued their co-operation in the ECLA/FAO/UNIDO Pulp and Paper Advisory Group. For the meeting of the Working Group on Methodology for Industrial Studies (Buenos Aires, 20-30 August 1973), organized by UNIDO, a study was prepared which contained some considerations on the statistical requirements arising in the analysis and programming of industrial development.

Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning

273. Co-operation between ECLA and ILPES is too wide-ranging to be reviewed in detail, but a few of the activities in which the two organizations have co-operated are mentioned below.

274. The secretariat collaborated in the holding of the post-graduate course on integrated regional development planning, which was held at Santiago, Chile, from 20 June to 7 September 1973, and in the preparation and teaching activities of the fourth course on regional development planning, held at Santiago, Chile, from 6 August to 9 November 1973.

Organization of American States

275. The secretariat continued to collaborate with OAS through participation in technical meetings.

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

276. In compliance with the joint ECLA/IBRD agreement, work continued on the establishment of a register of information for transport planning and the secretariat co-operated with public bodies in Brazil, Colombia, Honduras and Peru in the establishment of this register.

277. It also collaborated with IBRD in the studies on income distribution.

Central American Common Market

278. The Mexico Office continued to provide the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee and its auxiliary organs with secretariat services and basic documentation.

279. ECLA continued its collaboration with the secretariat of SIECA in studies on the reorganization and reactivation of the Central American Common Market and helped to prepare the draft request for technical assistance from UNDP for Central American integration in the period 1974-1978. It also participated in

meetings of the High-Level Committee for Restructuring the Central American Common Market.

280. The secretariat also maintained close links with SIECA, BCIE, the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Monetary Council, the Central American Research Institute for Industry and the Central American Institute of Public Administration.

Latin American Free Trade Association

281. ECLA collaborated with the secretariat of LAFTA in the preparation of a report on agriculture in the LAFTA countries. In compliance with a recommendation made at the meetings of the Joint LAFTA Meat Group, the preliminary version of the report on the current situation, problems and prospects of the beef trade in the LAFTA countries was brought up to date and used in the LAFTA discussions on regulating trade in agricultural products. The ECLA secretariat took an active part in LAFTA secretariat meetings and studies, particularly in the activities of the Standing Executive Committee and in specialized meetings.

Andean Subregional Integration Agreement (Cartagena Agreement)

282. As part of the technical assistance provided to the Board of the Cartagena Agreement under the joint ECLA/IILPES programme of Latin American economic co-operation, a report was prepared on the situation of agriculture within the framework of Andean integration. The ECLA secretariat collaborated with the expert from the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies attached to the Board of the Cartagena Agreement in the preparation and improvement of national accounts statistics and other comparable economic indexes for the countries of the Andean Group.

Caribbean Free Trade Association and Caribbean Community

283. ECLA collaborated with the secretariat of the Caribbean Free Trade Association and the Caribbean Community (CARIFTA/CARICOM) in preparing the main elements of a broad institutional framework for the implementation of transport policy in conformity with the provisions of the CARICOM Treaty. It also collaborated in work aimed at the conclusion of an agreement on regional maritime transport and in the preparation of a study on the rationalization of agriculture.

Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination

284. During the period covered by this report the secretariat continued to collaborate with the Special Committee on Latin American Co-ordination, for which it prepared technical studies, and ECLA representatives attended the CECLA meetings.

Other organizations

285. In collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner-General for the Spanish Development Plan, ECLA sponsored the First Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Development (Madrid, March 1973), at which special attention was focused on national planning experiences, economic integration systems and various regional planning projects.

286. ECLA co-operated with the Institute for Latin American Integration (INTAL) in organizing the first direct rail journey between Brazil and Chile as part of the project for promoting transcontinental land services in the southern zone of South America.

287. The secretariat collaborated with the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) of Chile in the preparation of a national technical seminar to analyse the possible impact of the energy crisis.

288. In conjunction with the German Foundation for International Development, ECLA sponsored the International Seminar on Statistics of International Economic Relations (Berlin, 10-28 September 1973).

Annex I

LIST OF MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES
DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report <u>a/</u>
Working Group on the Water Resources of Honduras	First session Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 26 and 27 March 1973	E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/95
Discussion leaders: Mr. Salomón Ciliagar Uclés and Mr. Bayardo Paguada Figueroa		
Regional Committee on Electrical Standards	Ninth session San Salvador, El Salvador, 23-28 May 1973	E/CN.12/CCE/SC.5/96
Discussion leader: Mr. Noel Espinoza		
Rapporteur: Mr. Rafael Echeverría		

a/ Copies of reports that are not available through the normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at the Geneva Office may be obtained from the Regional Commissions Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at United Nations Headquarters. Where no symbol is given, this means that no report is available.

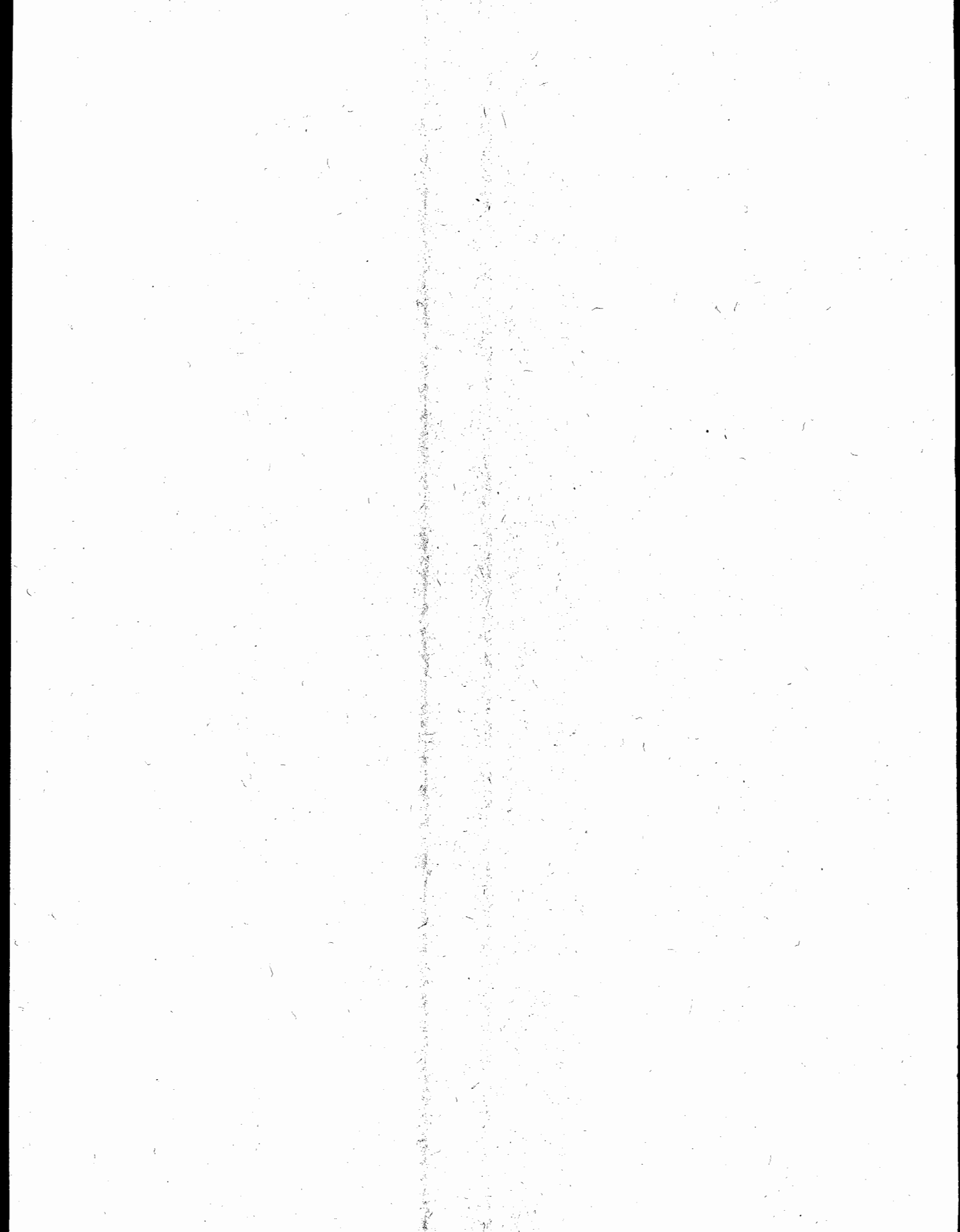
Annex II

LIST OF MEETINGS AND SEMINARS

Title	Place and date	Symbol of report <u>a/</u>
Latin American Regional Group on Science and Technology	Santiago, Chile, 9-11 May 1973	
Course on economic and social documentation for the special requirements of public administration	Santiago, Chile, 8-18 June 1973	
Post-graduate course on integrated regional development planning	Santiago, Chile 20 June to 7 September 1973	
Tenth Central American intensive course on programming techniques and annual operational plans	Guatemala City, Guatemala, 9 July to 31 August 1973	CEPAL/MEX/73/22; CICA/X/21
National course on planning and projects	Managua, Nicaragua, 23 July to September 1973	CEPAL/MEX/73/Nic.7
Regional course on development planning	Santiago, Chile, 6 August to 9 November 1973	

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