

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

(7 April 1984 - 25 April 1986)

REPORT

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1986

SUPPLEMENT No. 13



UNITED NATIONS

Santiago, Chile, 1986

486 (XXI) TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan for Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, which, in various recommendations, entrusts the regional commissions with specific tasks with the objective of supporting the activities relating to technical co-operation among developing countries carried out by governments at the subregional, regional and interregional levels,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 39/216 of 18 December 1984, in which bodies and organizations of the United Nations system are urged to provide and to intensify support and assistance in accordance to their mandates to economic co-operation among developing countries, giving due regard to the Caracas Programme of Action adopted at the High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Caracas from 13 to 19 May 1981,

Also bearing in mind the appraisals of the progress made under the Caracas Programme of Action, carried out at the third and fourth meetings of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee of the Group of 77 for Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias from 3 to 8 September 1984 and at Jakarta from 19 to 22 August 1985,

Taking into account the decisions adopted at the fourth meeting of the High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, convened by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme in New York from 28 to 31 May 1985, in which inter alia, an appeal was made to organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to define more clearly the dimension of technical co-operation among developing countries in their projects and activities,

Recalling its resolutions 459 (XX) on technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and 460 (XX) on technical and economic co-operation between the Caribbean countries and the other countries in the region, both adopted on 6 April 1984,

Recalling also that there exist several initiatives and studies that permit the financing of activities in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries with the use of local currencies in respect of subjects of priority interest for the countries of the region, such as the proposal included in Decision 226 of the Eleventh Ordinary Session of the Latin American Council of the Latin American Economic System and a study on the matter recently concluded by the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning,

Taking note of the agreements reached by ECLAC, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, to establish schemes for ongoing consultation and co-ordination with the Latin American Economic System and the Latin American Integration Association in respect of common projects carried out by these organizations in matters of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries,

Recalling Decisions 154, 155, 156, 196, 197, 226 and 227 of the Latin American Council of the Latin American Economic System, which deal with technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and which represent an advance in organization at the regional level,

Concerned at the duration and intensity of the international economic crisis, which has led to a deterioration of the economic, social and financial situation of the countries of the region,

1. Reaffirms that the intensification of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries is a viable means of strengthening national efforts to surmount the crisis and to take care of the development needs of the countries of the region;

2. Reaffirms also the importance of the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion and support of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries, at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, within the framework of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and giving due regard to the Caracas Programme of Action and the Quito Plan of Action;

3. Further reaffirms the need to pursue and intensify the efforts deployed by the Secretariat, in accordance with its mandates, to promote and support co-operation among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in sectors of interest to them and to support the co-operation networks which already exist in the region to that end;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the relevant mandates:

a) to continue to strengthen the links maintained by the ECLAC system with national focal points designated by the respective governments to co-ordinate co-operation among developing countries, so that the activities of the Secretariat designed to promote and support co-operation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels continue to respond directly to the needs of the developing countries in sectors which they consider to be of priority;

b) to facilitate the implementation of initiatives and activities which help to strengthen the links among national focal points for co-ordinating co-operation among developing countries, for the purpose of improving the dissemination of information on the capabilities and requirements of the countries to carry out such co-operation and, in particular, concerning the operational arrangements which exist in them in respect of the preparation and execution of activities relating to co-operation among developing countries, at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

c) to support the participation of all agents with a relevant role to play in co-operation among developing countries in activities which the Secretariat undertakes to promote such co-operation in sectors of interest to the countries, including non-governmental organizations and entities which, in the opinion of the governments concerned, might help to initiate effective exchanges within the framework of co-operation among developing countries;

d) to propose mechanisms to increase the use of local currencies in the financing and implementation of technical and economic co-operation projects among countries of the region, taking into account, on the one hand, existing national regulations on the use of their currencies and, on the other, the operational instruments available and the studies already carried out at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

e) to explore the possibility of promoting, among the national development finance institutions of the countries of the region, mechanisms and financial agreements for economic and technical co-operation, similar to those existing among central banks, with a view to opening additional lines of credit;

f) to collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme in supplying up-to-date information to countries concerning the availability of funds from the Special Programme Resources and the way in which these resources can be utilized, to help the countries draw up proposals for the use of such resources, and to seek that, whenever necessary, such resources can be used as supplementary financing of the hard currency components of the economic and technical co-operation projects of the countries of the region;

g) to promote exchange and co-operation programmes in the area of export credit guarantees and insurance, under the auspices of national export credit finance institutions, and to recommend the establishment of new regional mechanisms in this field and the setting-up of this type of institution in interested countries;

h) to intensify the activities carried out in conjunction with the other regional commissions, in consultation and co-ordination with the appropriate agencies of the United Nations, relating to the initiation of projects to promote technical and economic co-operation among developing countries of different regions, within the framework of the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, and, in particular, to continue to support the initiatives taken in respect of co-operation among developing countries, giving due regard to the Caracas Programme of Action;

5. Urges the governments of the member countries of the Commission to examine ways and means to sustain and, if possible, increase the support provided by the ECLAC system to Latin American and Caribbean countries in the identification and promotion of actions to expand technical and economic co-operation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

6. Likewise urges the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system and other sources of financing to support the Secretariat's programmes and projects to promote and support co-operation among developing countries and regions, in compliance with the mandates issued in this respect;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit reports, at the next session of the Committee of the Whole, concerning the progress made in the tasks entrusted to him in this resolution.

230th meeting
25 April 1986