

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

ANNUAL REPORT

(8 May 1978-26 April 1979)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1979

SUPPLEMENT No. 16

VOLUME II



UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1980

387 (XVIII). CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
AND AMONG DEVELOPING REGIONS OF DIFFERENT
GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS 10/

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking note of General Assembly resolutions 32/183 of 19 December 1977 and 33/134 of 19 December 1978 regarding the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, as well as resolution 32/182 of 9 December 1977 on technical co-operation among developing countries,

Also taking note of General Assembly resolutions 3177 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, 3241 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3442 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, 31/119 of 16 December 1976, 32/180 of 19 December 1977 and 33/195 of 29 January 1979 on economic co-operation among developing countries,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 on the capacity of the United Nations development system, especially its provisions on the establishment of priorities, and 3405 (XXX) of 28 November 1975 on new dimensions in technical co-operation, in particular its aspects related to technical co-operation among developing countries, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/74 on regional co-operation and development,

Bearing in mind the measures recommended by the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held in Mexico City from 13 to 22 September 1976, 11/ and especially those addressed to the regional commissions,

Also bearing in mind the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation and the relevant resolutions adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo, from 16 to 19 August 1976, 12/ as well as the recommendations made on this subject by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Belgrade, from 25 to 30 July 1978, 13/

Also mindful of the first short- and medium-term plan of action for global priorities regarding economic co-operation among developing countries adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, held at Arusha, from 6 to 16 February 1979, 14/

10/ See paras. 572 and 573 in vol. I of this report.

11/ See A/C.2/31/7, part one.

12/ See A/31/197.

13/ See A/33/206.

14/ See TD/236.

Bearing in mind the report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, held in Buenos Aires from 30 August to 12 September 1978, ^{9/} which saw the emergence of a movement of the developing countries aimed at putting into effect new arrangements for co-operation based on national and collective self-reliance,

Considering that the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and the resolutions adopted at that Conference contain recommendations addressed to the regional commissions which refer explicitly to their role at the subregional, regional and interregional levels,

Recalling its resolutions 316 (XV) of 29 March 1973 on co-operation among developing countries of different geographical areas, 354 (XVI) of 13 May 1975 on technical co-operation among developing countries and 363 (XVII) of 5 May 1977 on co-operation between developing countries and regions of different geographical areas,

Recognizing the need to stimulate technical and economic co-operation among the countries and groups of countries of the region and to strengthen the subregional and regional institutions as appropriate means of enhancing the development of the countries of the region,

Also recognizing the importance of forging closer and stronger links of technical and economic co-operation with other developing regions,

Fully aware that the effective implementation of the recommendations contained in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action calls for the combined efforts of all the bodies, organizations and agencies, both subregional and regional and those of the United Nations system, and especially the United Nations Development Programme,

Taking note with satisfaction of the views expressed by various delegations on the subject and the efforts initiated by the secretariat to carry out interregional co-operation activities with other regional commissions and to identify programmes designed to promote co-operation relations at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, ^{15/}

1. Urges the Governments of the developing member countries of the Commission to intensify their intraregional mutual co-operation programmes and projects and take the necessary steps to put into effect the recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and resolutions relating to the national level;

2. Exhorts the Governments of the developed member countries of the Commission to make contributions for technical co-operation activities among developing countries, without prejudice to the existing programmes, as was recommended in the Plan of Action and resolution adopted in Buenos Aires;

^{15/} See E/CEPAL/1063.

3. Recommends to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme that it expedite the measures for ensuring an adequate response to the joint formulation of priorities for the developing countries of the region, in order to use the regional indicative planning figures;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECLA:

(a) To take the necessary steps, as far as ECLA is concerned, to put into practice the recommendations of the Plan of Action and resolutions adopted in Buenos Aires addressed to the regional commissions, and to that end to draw up, where necessary, formal co-operation or other agreements with the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies, organizations and agencies, both subregional and regional, and those of the United Nations development system, taking due account of their respective spheres of competence and mandates;

(b) To consult the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to review the practices in force in order to give the most positive response possible to the joint formulation by the developing countries of priorities for the use of regional indicative planning figures, through their appropriate intergovernmental organizations, including the regional commissions or other agencies of the United Nations system, or with their support;

(c) To provide the necessary co-operation for the activities, programmes and projects of the United Nations Development Programme in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of technical co-operation among developing countries;

(d) To participate actively in the work of the high-level meetings of representatives of all States participating in the United Nations Development Programme, as was recommended in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;

(e) To establish in the secretariat appropriate servicing machinery directly responsible for promotion, information and co-ordination activities related to technical and economic co-operation among developing countries;

(f) To include the subject of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries in the research work of the secretariat and the agendas of the intergovernmental and specialized meetings convened by the secretariat, whenever the subject of the research or of the meeting permits;

5. Notes with satisfaction and approval the decision of the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and ECLA to carry out interregional technical and economic co-operation activities between Africa and Latin America in the areas of trade, training and science and technology;

6. Also notes with satisfaction and approval the arrangements being made between the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Executive Secretary of ECLA, in conjunction with the Government of India, to organize a meeting in New Delhi at the beginning of June 1980, to be attended by representatives from Latin American countries and India, with a view to promoting technical co-operation between Latin America and India within the framework of the principles and objectives of technical co-operation among developing countries adopted by the developing countries in the respective forums.

7. Urges the Governments and the intergovernmental, subregional and regional organizations of the developing member countries of the Commission to take an active part in the aforementioned interregional activities to encourage and strengthen the links between the different geographical regions of the developing world through joint mutual co-operation programmes and projects;

8. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands for the generous special contribution recently made to the secretariat of the Commission to promote economic and technical co-operation activities among developing countries;

9. Decides that the question of co-operation among developing countries and regions should be examined at each session of the Commission by a sessional committee, following consultation with Governments, in order to examine the intraregional and interregional co-operation activities carried out by the secretariat of the Commission with a view to formulating appropriate support measures to promote such co-operation;

10. Further decides to strengthen its support for the activities of the intergovernmental, subregional and regional organizations of the developing member countries of the Commission, especially SELA.