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PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST WORKING SESSION OF THE AD HOC CO-OPERATION
COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS), THE
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) AND THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA (ECLA)

With a Note by the Executive Secretary



NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Executive Secretary has pleasure in submitting to the member Governments the Record of Proceedings of the first working session of the Ad Hoc Co-operation Committee of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), which was held at Washington, D.C., from 6 to 14 March 1961. This record sets forth the points raised in connexion with the various subjects discussed at the above-mentioned session, on which important decisions were reached relating to co-ordination and co-operation among the three participating organizations. The topics discussed and the agreements concerted cover the following fields: The annual economic and social survey of Latin America; economic development missions; the international economy and Latin American integration; the agricultural economy and land reform; education and development; strengthening of tax systems in Latin America; transport; technology and productivity; training and technical assistance programmes; statistics; and methods of co-ordinating activities.

In view of the great importance of the negotiations conducted in Washington, the Executive Secretary wishes to draw the particular attention of the Governments members of the Commission to the present document, which is complementary to the joint report by the ECLA and OAS secretariats (E/CN.12/575) on the co-ordination of the activities in which the two organizations are engaged.

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OAS - IDB - ECLA

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST WORKING SESSION

(Washington, D.C., 6 to 14 March 1961)

The Ad Hoc Committee on Co-operation, consisting of Mr. José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Mr. Felipe Herrera, President of the Inter-American Development Bank, and Mr. Raúl Prebisch, Under-Secretary in charge of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, met at the Headquarters of the Pan American Union at Washington, D.C., from 6 to 14 March 1961.

The members of the Committee were accompanied by the following officials: Mr. William Sanders, Assistant Secretary General (OAS) and Mr. Jorge Sol Castellanos, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs (OAS); Mr. Manuel Noriega Morales, Chief of the Technical Assistance Division (IDB) and Mr. Milic Kybal, Liaison Officer (IDB); Mr. Alfonso Santa Cruz, Director of the ECLA Mexico Office; Mr. Cristobal Lara, Deputy Director of the ECLA Mexico Office; Mr. Guy Trancart, Director of the ECLA/BTAO Economic Development Training Programme; and Mr. David Pollock, Chief of the ECLA Washington Office.

Mr. José A. Mora was unanimously elected Chairman of the session. Mr. Manuel Noriega Morales continued to officiate as Secretary of the Committee and Mr. Armando Cassorla acted as Secretary of the session.

After adopting the record of the Committee's preliminary meeting, held on 7 December 1960, Mr. Mora, Mr. Herrera and Mr. Prebisch agreed that their discussions should be based on the information and proposals that had been specially prepared by Mr. Louis H. Swenson (ECLA), Mr. Jorge Sol Castellanos (OAS) and Mr. Manuel Noriega Morales (IDB).

The discussions that took place and the proposals put forward related to the activities in respect of which, in the opinion of Mr. Mora, Mr. Herrera and Mr. Prebisch, the need for and possibilities of co-ordination and co-operation among the three institutions were greatest.

The following were the points raised in connexion with the various topics discussed by the members of the Committee.

I. Annual economic and social survey of Latin America

The Committee agreed that the specific objective of the annual economic and social survey of Latin America should be to carry out the terms of reference relating to the survey assigned to the IA-ECOSOC (Chapter IV, Recommendation I, of the Act of Bogotá), and to ECLA by resolution of its member Governments. To this end, the survey should contain an objective analysis of the main economic and social developments occurring in Latin America during each calendar year in the light of the fundamental long-term problems confronting the Latin American countries in their efforts to promote their individual and collective advancement. This should be effected by arranging the contents of the survey systematically in order to ensure its continuity and comparability from one year to another and should not preclude, on certain occasions, the inclusion in the survey of a presentation and analysis of specific situations and problems of interest to all or some of the Latin American countries.

In this connexion, the Committee agreed that:

- (a) The annual economic and social survey of Latin America should be a joint OAS/ECLA undertaking, for which the OAS would be the executive agency, without precluding any special collaboration which the IDB might afford in certain matters within its purview;
- (b) The annual survey should be an eminently objective, analytical and descriptive document, excluding appraisals of economic policy and recommendations, but without precluding any separate recommendations which the OAS and ECLA secretariats may make to their executive organs;
- (c) The co-operation of the ECLA secretariat should cover the following aspects: (i) the assignment, at least during the initial phase, of three of its professional staff members specializing in the work of preparing and drafting the survey; (ii) the provision of basic statistical information and material;
- (d) The General Secretariat of the OAS should submit to the Committee for its consideration a preliminary outline of the survey and other material of interest for the preparation of this work, keep it informed of the progress achieved and duly submit the final text to ECLA and the OAS for their joint approval;

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- (e) The IDB may co-operate, through its technical staff, in an analysis of financing problems in Latin America, and in any other aspects on which agreement may be reached in respect of each survey.

II. Development missions

The Committee considered that the technical assistance for economic development requested by Governments could assume a variety of forms. Among these at least the two following principal types should be distinguished: (1) technical assistance for specific projects or fields; (2) technical assistance for overall studies and advisory services in development programming.

The Committee agreed that, given its nature and scope, technical assistance in specific projects or fields did not call for joint action and, generally speaking, did not offer much scope for such action. On the other hand, the missions connected with overall economic studies and advisory services for development programming, because of their broad scope and the variety of fields covered, offered possibilities for joint action by OAS and ECLA, with the co-operation of the IDB.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed that the technical assistance requested for specific projects or fields should be provided independently by the three organizations within their respective specialized fields of competence, without precluding, wherever appropriate and in specific cases, the exploration of possible forms of co-ordination and co-operation, regarding which the three organizations should keep one another informed.

Mr. Mora and Mr. Frebisch shared the view that the activities connected with overall studies and advisory services for development programming lent themselves to a joint effort by the OAS and ECLA secretariats, for which ECLA would be responsible as the executive agency.

On that understanding, Mr. Mora and Mr. Frebisch agreed that, whenever their organizations received applications for such development missions, their secretariats would jointly undertake to take the preparatory steps with a view to determining the nature and scope of the services requested,

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including an estimate of the number of specialists required, the fields to be covered and the contributions to be made by the two organizations, as well as the contributions of the interested Government(s).

The ECLA secretariat, as the executive agency, should prepare and propose to the General Secretariat of the OAS the plan of organization and composition of the missions, keep it informed of the progress of the work, and duly submit the final report to the ECLA and OAS secretariats for their joint approval.

It was understood that the development missions sponsored by the two secretariats would be of a purely technical nature and that they would refrain from making any appraisals of economic policy, although each organization would be entitled to submit separately whatever recommendations it deemed appropriate within its own purview.

It was further understood that the development missions would be considered and sponsored as activities jointly undertaken by the ECLA and OAS secretariats, unless either of these organizations had exceptional reasons for not participating.

Mr. Herrera stated that he was very gratified at the agreement reached by the OAS and ECLA secretariats regarding the aforesaid missions, whose studies could be extremely useful to the Governments concerned and to the IDB for the purpose of creating a better understanding of the economic and social problems of the respective countries and co-operating with Governments in the preparation of economic development programmes. For those reasons he intended to make the widest possible use of the results of their studies. He added that, in his opinion, those studies could subsequently help countries in preparing specific projects that might be financed by the IDB or other agencies.

Mr. Mora, Mr. Prebisch and Mr. Herrera decided to deal with matters concerning the joint OAS/ECLA missions in the Ad Hoc Committee.

III. The international economy and regional integration

In view of the nature of these subjects and the activities carried out in connexion with them by the OAS and ECLA, the relevant aspects were dealt with specially by Mr. Mora and Mr. Prebisch. They both agreed

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on various points relating to the activities of the OAS and ECLA secretariats bearing on the Latin American Free-Trade Association, the Central American Economic Integration Programme and the Studies on Basic Products.

(a) Latin American Free-Trade Association

In view of ECLA's experience in the activities of the Latin American common market, to which it had been devoting a large portion of its resources for several years, and of its principal responsibility in this matter pursuant to the terms of reference it has received from Governments, it was decided that:

- (i) The ECLA secretariat should continue its work in connexion with Latin American economic integration, particularly that relating to the Latin American Free-Trade Association;
- (ii) The possible collaboration of the General secretariat of the OAS in the field concerned was conditional upon the applications or proposals that might be duly submitted by the Latin American Free-Trade Association, or its member countries, and that any work which it might undertake should be effectively co-ordinated with that of the ECLA secretariat;
- (iii) The OAS and ECLA secretariats should continue to participate as before in the meetings of the Montevideo Committee and should take whatever action was necessary to keep abreast of developments in that field in close touch with each other.

(b) Central American Economic Integration Programme

In view of the work done by ECLA in connexion with the Central American Integration Programme and of the main responsibility in that matter assigned to it by the participating Governments, it was recognized that the ECLA secretariat should continue to bear that responsibility. It was also considered advisable that its activities in connexion with the aforesaid Programme should be supplemented by co-operation with the General Secretariat of the OAS through the contribution of technical resources in certain selected fields. In regard to the co-operation of the General Secretariat of the OAS, Mr. Mora stated that:

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- i) The General Secretariat of the OAS should continue to provide, through the ECLA Mexico Office, the advisory services of the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI) to the Central American Statistical Sub-Committee;
- (ii) The General Secretariat of the OAS should assign to the ECLA secretariat, for as long as might be necessary, an expert to study transport costs, and three experts - an architect, an industrial engineer and an economist - to carry out pending studies relating to the construction and housing industry;
- (iii) The additional co-operation that might be given by the General Secretariat of the OAS in the transport programme, particularly in connexion with the implementation of the Central American Highway Plan, should await further consideration.

(c) Basic products

In view of the work that the General Secretariat of the OAS has been doing for several years in connexion with studies and activities relating to the stabilization of prices in international commodity trade, and of the responsibility assigned to it in this matter by Governments, it was recognized that the General Secretariat of the OAS should continue to exercise that responsibility, and it was deemed advisable that the ECLA secretariat should afford it the closest possible co-operation in that field. It was further agreed that the co-operation of the FAO secretariat should be enlisted when agricultural commodities were involved.

Mr. Prebisch and Mr. Mora expressed their appreciation at the way in which the IDB, in its particular field of competence, was helping to promote economic integration. Special mention was made of the active participation of the IDB in the steps leading to the establishment of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration.

Mr. Herrera welcomed the above statements and reiterated the interest of the IDB in those matters, pointing out that it was the intention of the IDB to continue its active association in the aforementioned processes of economic integration through its financing and technical assistance operations.

IV. The Agricultural economy and land reform

The Secretary General of the OAS spoke of the study which the OAS intended to prepare on problems of the agricultural economy and land reform in Latin America in order to provide the Inter-American Economic and Social Council with background data with which to appraise the scope and nature of the problems involved and to adopt, at the international level and to the extent that the Council's terms of reference permitted pursuant to chapter 1.4 of the Act of Bogotá, the criteria or policy that it might deem appropriate, including the formulation of recommendations to Governments.

The study would consist of a general survey of the agricultural situation in the Latin American countries and the relative importance of the various aspects of land reform. An examination would also be made of the available supply and requirements in respect of specialized personnel in the fields of agricultural development and the administration of agricultural programmes, with a view to suggesting or projecting the training activities considered necessary.

The co-operation agreements between the OAS and FAO and between ECLA and FAO were discussed as well as the valuable contribution which FAO might make in the aforementioned studies. Note was taken of the recent exchange of views held between senior officials of the OAS and ECLA and the FAO Regional Representative for Latin America and other FAO staff members, at which conclusions were reached on the form in which the FAO secretariat could collaborate.

The Committee took note of the information supplied by the Secretary General of the OAS and of the fact that the above-mentioned study would be carried out as a joint project sponsored by the OAS, ECLA and FAO secretariats, for which purpose a working group would be established and meet shortly in Washington in order to prepare an outline of the study and plan its various stages.

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Note was also taken of the fact that, in carrying out the study, the General Secretariat of the OAS would submit to IA-ECOSOC a progress report on the work of the meeting to be held in 1961, and that every effort would be made to complete it in sufficient time for it to be submitted to the Council at its regular session in 1962.

Mr. Herrera expressed interest in knowing the results of the study which would undoubtedly constitute a valuable source of information for the IDB.

V. Education and development

With reference to two conferences on education and development scheduled by the OAS and ECLA, Mr. Mora and Mr. Prebisch discussed some aspects of co-ordination between their respective secretariats and agreed:

- (a) That the Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development being prepared by ECLA and UNESCO should also be cosponsored by the OAS, for which purpose the necessary arrangements should be made;
- (b) That the General Secretariat of the OAS should participate in the planning meeting, to be held in May 1961, and should also assign a staff member for a period of three or four months to prepare a document on the financing and costs of education;
- (c) That the General Secretariat of the OAS should undertake to prepare the necessary bibliography and invite five or six experts from American countries in the economic, social and educational fields to participate in the Conference as advisers, in addition to the representatives sent by the General Secretariat of the OAS on its own behalf.

In that connexion, Mr. Mora said that the purpose of the meeting on education and economic development which the OAS had scheduled for 1962 and in which UNESCO and ECLA might also participate, would be to examine and review the conclusions of the conference held in December 1961, so that the General Secretariat of the OAS could present specific preliminary projects which would enable IA-ECOSOC and the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education to take the relevant decisions. Accordingly, the date of the meeting would be fixed to enable the secretariat's work to be undertaken following the conference in December 1961.

/The Committee

The Committee noted the request received by the General Secretariat of the OAS from the United States Government that an examination should be made of the requirements and problems of higher education in Latin America in order to propose plans for immediate action.

At the suggestion of Mr. Herrera, note was also taken of the proposal of the Ford Foundation that certain Latin American universities and research centres should be used for studies and research bearing on aspects of economic and social development in the region.

The Committee decided to consider, at an early meeting, the possibilities of joint action in the cases mentioned above.

VI. Tax programme

The Committee took note of the conversations held during recent months between senior staff members of the OAS, the IDB, ECLA and the Harvard University Law School with a view to pooling their efforts in order to strengthen the tax systems in the Latin American countries for the purpose of mobilizing resources for the financing of economic and social development in Latin American.

The conclusion was reached that the OAS and ECLA secretariats could carry out a long-range programme in that field embracing the systematic study of the tax administration and structure of the Latin American countries; the dissemination of technical knowledge; the discussion and exchange of ideas and experience; the establishment of research centres; the training of personnel; and, in general, any other activities that those bodies might undertake, within their respective purviews, which would help to further understanding of the importance of tax problems and encourage effective and persistent action to solve them.

The Committee noted the results of the conversations held with representatives of the Harvard University Law School and reached some conclusions which would enable the programme to be launched forthwith, beginning with work which could be undertaken in 1961 and 1962.

Pursuant to the foregoing considerations, the Committee agreed on the following plan:

A. Sponsorship

A. Sponsorship and purpose of the Programme

The OAS and ECLA secretariats will cosponsor a long-range programme designed to strengthen the Latin American tax systems. The technical aspects of this programme will be carried out with the co-operation of the Harvard University Law School.

B. Organization

A Special Co-ordinating Committee will be organized, to be composed of members of the OAS and ECLA secretariats and representatives of the IDB and of Harvard University. The understanding is that each of these bodies will appoint one representative, preferably selected from among its senior officials, and one alternate, to whom the institution concerned will assign the chief responsibility for the execution of the activities within its purview.

Once the Programme is in operation, the Special Committee will appoint an Executive Secretary, responsible to the Committee itself, who will devote his attention, on a full-time basis, to the channelling and co-ordination of the work in hand, in accordance with the instructions which he receives from the Committee.

During the interim, one or two of the alternates will be requested to undertake the administrative and technical work initially entailed by the Programme, likewise in accordance with the directions of the Committee.

C. Development

The following is a list, in chronological order, of the activities to be undertaken between March 1961 and mid-1962.

- (a) A meeting of a group of experts to advise the Special Committee on the general lines which the Programme should follow and, in particular, on the technical norms and scope for the studies and conferences referred to below;
- (b) A study of the fiscal systems of the Latin American countries, divided into two phases: the first concerned with tax administration and the second with tax policy in general;
- (c) The preparation of technical studies and papers on tax problems, to be carried out in the same two phases, i.e., the first relating to tax administration and the second to tax policy;
- (d) On the basis of the findings of the above-mentioned studies, two conferences, to be convened as follows: (i) A

- (i) A conference on tax administration, which might be held at Buenos Aires in September 1961; and
- (ii) A conference on tax policy, to be held at ECLA Headquarters in Santiago, Chile, early in 1962.

Both conferences will be jointly convened by the OAS and ECLA secretariats and will be of a technical nature. The participants will be selected by these organizations from among persons whose knowledge, experience and position qualify them to formulate specific and useful conclusions on problems of tax administration and policy in Latin America. They will have to include at least one representative from each of the Latin American countries.

Mr. Mora stated that it was proposed to submit the conclusions reached at these two conferences to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, at its regular annual session in mid-1962, so that it might adopt such recommendations as it deemed appropriate in respect both of tax problems and of any future programmes on the subject which might be developed at the inter-American level.

D. Financing

The activities entailed by the Programme will be jointly financed by the participating agencies, which will contribute funds or services, or both. Although some specific offers of financial contributions have already been received, such as one made by the Ford Foundation through Harvard University, and others extended, in principal, by the OAS and ECLA secretariats and by the IDB, it was felt to be desirable that the contribution of each organization should in due course be fixed by its representative on the OAS-ECLA-IDB-Harvard Special Co-ordinating Committee, in the light of the activities to be undertaken and the budgets drawn up.

It was suggested that the financial resources contributed by each institution should be deposited in a special account, to which expenditure in connexion with the joint programme should be debited, in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Special Committee for the purpose.

VII. Transport

Mr. Mora and Mr. Prebisch made a detailed examination of the transport programmes in course of implementation by the OAS and ECLA secretariats, and in that connexion agreed:

- (a) That the General Secretariat of the OAS should assign three specialists to co-operate in the development of the transport activities programmed by the ECLA secretariat and, furthermore, should place at ECLA's disposal its studies on sea and air transport in Latin America, to be completed shortly;
- (b) That the ECLA secretariat should continue its study of transport problems in connexion with the Latin American Free-Trade Area, pursuant to its mandate from the Governments concerned; and
- (c) That the OAS General Secretariat should proceed with the studies which it was carrying out in compliance with the resolutions of the Special Committee to Study the Formulation of New Measures for Economic Co-operation (CECE), as well as with its programmes on port matters. Mr. Herrera remarked that the findings of these studies would undoubtedly be of great interest to the IDB.

VIII. Technology and productivity

In view of the nature of those problems, and taking into account the activities programmed by the OAS and ECLA secretariats, Mr. Mora and Mr. Prebisch reached agreement on several points relating to the conduct of certain studies on the status of technology, as well as on the problems of research on Latin America's requirements and available supply of technical personnel.

(a) Technological studies

It was agreed that, upon the completion of the projects at present being carried out by ECLA in Argentina, Brazil and Chile and by the OAS in connexion with the activities of the technological research institutes in Latin America, the two organizations should prepare a joint or very closely co-ordinated project for the study of Latin America's current problems and needs in the field of technology.

(b) Technical

(b) Technical personnel requirements and supply

It was noted that this problem had been studied by the OAS and ECLA secretariats and that there were substantial possibilities of co-ordinating the relevant programmes currently under way.

In that context, Mr. Mora and Mr. Prebisch agreed:

- (i) That the General Secretariat of the OAS should set to work forthwith on the compilation of a bibliography and available statistics and, at the same time, should obtain from ECLA any material the latter had on the subject;
- (ii) That the General Secretariat of the OAS should establish a joint OAS/ECLA working group, which would meet in the second quarter of 1961 and would be responsible for evaluating the data referred to above. It would also consider the advisability of making a full study of Latin America's supplies and requirements of skilled manpower and technical personnel in general, to which end the collaboration of the ILO, UNESCO and other international or regional organizations interested in such a study should be sought.

Mr. Herrera said that he would look forward to learning the results of the above-mentioned studies, which would unquestionably provide information of great value to the IDB.

IX. Training and technical assistance programmes

A review of OAS, IDB and ECLA activities revealed the possibility of many types of co-operation among the three bodies.

As regards the programming of economic development, ECLA has for some years been conducting a basic training course of a regional nature, as well as intensive courses in several countries. These activities have been considerably expanded in connexion with advisory services on programming techniques. The number of countries in which intensive courses have been given has steadily increased, and the basic course has been expanded to accomodate more students and to allow specialization by sectors.

/Great interest

Great interest was aroused by ECLA's plans for its economic development training course, the importance of which was recognized; and it was agreed that the programme should be expanded and strengthened, in view of the requirements of the Latin American countries in that field.

The President of the IDB stated that the Bank's regular activities included the lending of technical experts to advise Governments and public and private bodies on the preparation of specific projects which might eventually be financed by the Bank. Among its training projects, the IDB was proposing to request the Centro de Estudios Monetarios Latino-americanos (CEMLA) to hold special training courses for the operational staff of development banks and institutions. Moreover, the IDB was considering an application submitted to it by the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) for aid in the financing of studies designed to pave the way for the ultimate establishment, within FLACSO, of schools of higher studies and research in economics and public administration.

The Secretary-General of the OAS said that his organization rendered technical co-operation services in that field through the following:

- (a) Training centres situated in various Latin American countries, such as the Inter-American Housing Centre, in Colombia; the Inter-American Centre for Rural Education, in Venezuela; the Inter-American Training Centre for Economic and Financial Statistics, in Chile; and the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Centre, in Brazil;
- (b) Granting of fellowships to enable Latin American students to follow advanced courses abroad;
- (c) Exchange of professors and lecturers among institutions of higher learning;
- (d) Exchange of scientific experts among universities and research institutes.

He also announced that the OAS was proposing to expand some of its training and technical assistance programmes considerably, including, in particular, the expansion of the Inter-American Housing Centre (Bogotá) and the establishment of an Inter-American Institute for Town and Regional Planning to operate at Lima, with the assistance of the Government of Peru and of Yale University. The OAS was also considering an application submitted to it by FLACSO for aid from the Inter-American Technical Co-operation Services.

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Owing to the variety and broad scope of the training and technical assistance services rendered by the OAS, the IDB and ECLA, the Committee felt that the specific modes of co-operation among the three organizations could not be established a priori or along lines sufficiently general to cover all the fields and media of activity. Consequently, the Committee agreed on the following points:

- (a) That co-ordination and co-operation among the training and technical assistance services of the three organizations should be planned and carried out in a manner specifically adapted to each programme or group of similar programmes, with due regard to the need for avoiding undue dispersion of available resources;
- (b) That in order to facilitate the efforts of the Committee in the direction indicated above, the officials responsible for training and technical assistance services within each organization should set up a working group to study, formulate and recommend to the Committee the specific ways in which co-ordination and co-operation might be achieved.

It was also deemed advisable that, in specific cases, the technical assistance activities of the three organizations should be co-ordinated with those of other national or international bodies.

X. Statistics

The Committee attached special importance to the co-ordination of the work undertaken in the field of statistics, which it regarded as basic in view of the activities of the three organizations. It was thought desirable that, before any decision was adopted in that connexion, a meeting should be held in the near future, to be attended by representatives both of the United Nations Statistical Office and of the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI), for the purpose of agreeing upon a programme for co-ordinating activities.

The Committee noted that co-operation among the organizations varied according to whether they were producers or users of statistics, and recognized that IASI and the United Nations Statistical Office had been closely collaborating for some time. It was likely, therefore, that at the proposed meeting satisfactory results could readily be achieved.

/XI. Methods

XI. Methods of co-ordination

The Committee agreed to establish expeditious methods of consultation and co-operation which would enable the findings of its studies to be put into practice efficiently.

To that end, the Committee agreed that the three organizations should exchange information, on a continuous basis, on their respective programmes and activities and, particularly, on the progress of projects which they were carrying out jointly or in co-ordination.

In that spirit, the Secretary General of the OAS declared his intention of establishing an office at ECLA Headquarters in Santiago, Chile, and, similarly, the Under-Secretary in charge of ECLA expressed his interest in strengthening the Group already maintained by the Commission in Washington. Both agreed that their respective secretariats should provide, on a reciprocal basis, the necessary space and equipment facilities for the installation of the offices in question.

The Secretary General of the OAS placed it on record that the representative of the Pan American Union in Santiago, Chile, while continuing to perform his regular duties, would represent the Secretary General of the OAS at the sessions of the Latin American Free-Trade Association, and would be duly instructed as to the desirability of maintaining close contact with the ECLA representative, so that the activities incumbent upon the two secretariats in that field might be more efficiently channelled.

Similarly, Mr. Mora gave an account of the plans of the General Secretariat of the OAS for the establishment of a permanent office in Paris, France, to provide information services and maintain liaison with the secretariats of European regional organizations and international institutions and serve as an instrument to facilitate certain aspects of their technical assistance services. He also said that the representative concerned would be instructed to transmit to the ECLA secretariat and to the IDB all such information as he might obtain which would be of value to the said institutions.

It was deemed desirable that the Committee should, in certain special cases and according to the nature of the matter in hand, consult specialized international institutions, members of whose staff might be invited to take part in the relevant discussions.

/The Committee

The Committee agreed that the Secretary to be appointed in conformity with the provisions of the Record of Proceedings of the Inaugural Session should be answerable to the Committee itself. He would be responsible for seeing that the resolutions of the Committee were implemented in accordance with the instructions issued to him. It was agreed to appoint as Secretary of the Committee Mr. Pedro Irañeta, who would, however, continue to discharge his present functions as Secretary of the IDB.

At the close of the session, the members of the Committee placed it on record that its proceedings should be regarded as complying with the terms of the notes exchanged by the signatories on 29 November 1960, inasmuch as they established an Ad Hoc Committee, "with the object of ensuring the co-operation we all desire in matters that may be of common interest to us, naturally without interference in the field that is the particular purview of each of the three organizations", and stipulated that the corresponding agreements "will be adapted, for the purposes of their implementation, to the institutional arrangements of each of the member organizations, according to the nature of the matters in hand".

The present Record of Proceedings was signed on the fourteenth day of March, nineteen hundred and sixty one, at the Headquarters of the Pan American Union, in Washington, D.C.

(signed) José A. Mora
Secretary General of
the Organization of
American States

(signed) Felipe Herrera
President of the Inter-
American Development
Bank

(signed) Raúl Prebisch
Under-Secretary in
charge of the United
Nations Economic
Commission for Latin
America

