

E/2021
E/CN.12/266



UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

(FOURTH SESSION)

(28 MAY 1951 — 16 JUNE 1951)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS : THIRTEENTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 8

NEW YORK

aspects of the problems of automotive transport in Latin America, with special emphasis on those affecting the Inter-American Highway, for submission to the Commission at its next session.

FREE ZONE OF COLÓN (REPUBLIC OF PANAMA)

25 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 14 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/258)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the usefulness of free customs zones as a means of facilitating the interchange of goods within the Latin-American area as well as between the Latin-American countries and countries outside that area; and

Considering the practical problems arising from the need for the construction of installations in free customs zones that have already been created or may be created in the future by Latin-American republics; and

Considering the request expressed to the Commission by the Government of the Republic of Panama for assistance in connexion with the problems of bringing into maximum operation the free zone of Colón, Republic of Panama, created in 1948; and

Considering the contribution that could be made by the maximum operation of the aforementioned free zone toward the lowering of maritime freight rates with a view to reducing the price of the articles that are handled by that zone;

Recommends that the Executive Secretary make, within the means at his disposal, a preliminary inquiry into the problems of bringing about the maximum utilization of the facilities of the free zone of Colón, Republic of Panama, in order to determine the kind of studies necessary to evaluate the economic effects of the operation of that zone; with special emphasis on its relationship to the high level of maritime freight rates applicable to Panama; and that he report to the Government of Panama on the most practical means of carrying out such studies, bearing in mind the possibility of securing the assistance of United Nations and other agencies that might be concerned with this problem.

SOUTH AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

26 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 7 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/253)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Takes note of document E/CN.12/232 concerning the South American Petroleum Institute submitted by the Executive Secretary; and

Considering

(a) That the Economic and Social Council has requested the Economic Commission for Latin America to advise the Council on the application of the South American Petroleum Institute for consultative status in category B;

(b) That the activities of the South American Petroleum Institute are such as would further the economic development of the Latin-American countries and that

its collaboration may therefore be of use to the organs of the United Nations concerned,

Decides to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it should accord to the South American Petroleum Institute consultative status in category B.

POPULATION CENSUS OF LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES

27 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 15 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/265)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering the importance of statistical data on economically active population and labour resources; and

Considering that such statistical data can only be obtained by means of official censuses, effected in accordance with an adequate census programme such as that already approved by the Governments of the Latin-American countries;

Invites the Governments of those Latin-American countries which have not done so to take a census of the population of their respective territories, so as to make available comprehensive statistical data relating to the economically active population and the labour resources in each country.

RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

28 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 7 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/252)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Considering that the Economic and Social Council will consider the question of relations between the three regional commissions and non-governmental organizations at its thirteenth session;

Decides to await the outcome of the Council's consideration before deciding upon its permanent rules of procedure in this respect; and

Decides that, pending Council action, it will apply the provisions of resolutions 288 (X) and 289 (X) of the Economic and Social Council, and, in particular those provisions which pertained to arrangements for consultations between non-governmental organizations and functional commissions, and further that any provision in the existing rules of procedure of the Commission which is inconsistent with resolutions 288 (X) and 289 (X) shall be superseded.

ADOPTION OF PORTUGUESE AS AN OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGE

29 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/268)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

In view of the resolution, concerning the designation of the City of Rio de Janeiro, the capital of Brazil, as the site of its fifth session to be held in 1952, approved in plenary meeting this day;

Taking into account the importance of the Portuguese language in inter-American life and in strengthening the bonds of fraternity and culture which unite the peoples of the continent;

Taking into account the generous offer made by the Brazilian delegation on behalf of its Government to provide the requisite means for the execution of the purpose set forth in the operative part following,

Decides to inform the Economic and Social Council of its earnest desire that the Portuguese language should be adopted as an official and working language of the Commission.

VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF MEXICAN OFFICE

ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEXICO OFFICE OF ECLA

30 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 16 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/284)

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Notes with satisfaction the Executive Secretary's recommendation that an office of the Economic Commission for Latin America should be set up in Mexico City, as a branch office of ECLA headquarters in Santiago, Chile, to study the economic problems of the following countries: Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama, without prejudice to the Executive Secretary's authority to extend those studies to other areas of the continent if he deems it advisable;

Notes that with the establishment of this office, the Secretariat will be able to carry out its work more efficiently and economically;

Accepts with pleasure the generous offer made by the Government of Mexico to the United Nations to place at the disposal of the ECLA Office in Mexico all the necessary facilities; and

Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, bearing in mind the foregoing consideration, to take the necessary measures to facilitate the constitution and organization of the new office at the close of the Commission's fourth session.

VII. CO-ORDINATION WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

31 (IV). *Resolution adopted on 15 June 1951*
(E/CN.12/287)

A

The Economic Commission for Latin America,

Taking into account the Commission's responsibility to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and the responsibility of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council to the Organization of American States;

Considering that it is necessary to intensify co-operation and co-ordination between all the international agencies and bodies established in the region, without prejudice to their independence, and to the terms of reference contained in their respective charters or constitutions;

Considering the fact that ECLA's broad terms of reference make it possible for the Commission and the other agencies established in the region to act jointly and to concentrate their efforts on problems of primary importance; and, in particular, that since its creation ECLA, in accordance with its terms of reference, has developed arrangements for close co-operation and co-ordination with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, so that unnecessary duplication of work has been avoided, as is demonstrated by statements made by representatives of the agencies concerned at the session of the Commission and by the statement of the Executive Secretary (E/AC.34/6, paragraphs 91-159) which was prepared in consultation and agreement with the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council (paragraphs 139-156);

Taking into account the fact that the Commission already has expressed the need for its continuation, and the desirability that it should continue to give its special attention to the work of economic development,

As to co-ordination between ECLA and IA ECOSOC,

Declares that each of its member Governments is convinced that co-operation and co-ordination in the work and programmes of ECLA and IA ECOSOC should be achieved to the greatest extent necessary and useful and, for the attainment of this objective,

1. *Resolves* that its Executive Secretary continue the work of co-operation and co-ordination which has been initiated between ECLA and IA ECOSOC;

2. *Expresses* the view that both agencies will be able to extend reciprocal and effective collaboration, within the limits of their available resources, through agreements between their respective Executive Secretaries, whether on their own initiative or by resolutions adopted in annual meetings;

3. *Invites*, in accordance with the foregoing, the IA ECOSOC through its Executive Secretary, to join with the Executive Secretary of ECLA in a Committee on Co-ordination which should guarantee on a continuing basis the adequate distribution of work or the application of the efforts of both agencies to the study and solution of leading problems, under the following conditions:

(a) In addition to the Executive Secretaries, this Committee should be composed of the officials (*funcionarios*) of both organizations whose presence may be necessary to make co-ordination effective;

(b) This Committee should meet twice a year, or more frequently if the Executive Secretaries of both organizations consider it desirable;

As to co-ordination at the governmental level,

1. *Recommends* to the Governments of member States the adoption of appropriate administrative arrangements, in accordance with their particular circumstances, with