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REPORT OF THE TENTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mexico City, 8 March 1975

75-4-720

345 (AC.68) LATIN AMERICAN DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRE

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,

Bearing in mind that by resolution 304 of its fourteenth session the Economic Commission for Latin America declared the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) to be an autonomous institution under the auspices of the Commission;

Taking into account resolution 327 of the fifteenth session of ECLA which urges the secretariat of the Commission to strengthen its capacity to satisfy government requests for technical assistance in the improvement of demographic statistics and the inclusion of demographic variables in development planning, and recognizes the need for continuation of CELADE's activities in demographic research and training as an essential complement to the secretariat's programme;

Considering that the responsibilities of the secretariat in the matter of the interrelationship between population and development and in the formulation of population policies have increased considerably as a consequence of the terms of reference assigned by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission itself, and of those deriving from the World Population Plan of Action and the Latin American meetings on this matter, organized by ECLA and CELADE in San José (1974) and Mexico City (1975);

Noting that the continued existence and strengthening of CELADE for the purpose of performing within the region specific population functions in respect of training, research, information and direct assistance activities for the Governments are now even more important than in the past in view of the considerations referred to in the preceding paragraphs.

Recognizing the need for the Commission to incorporate in its organization a unit which would assume on a permanent basis the functions now being performed by CELADE and the Population Unit of the secretariat, expanding them in co-ordination with the other functions

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of the secretariat, ensuring their unity of orientation and action, in order to be able to deal successfully with the broad and complex context in which demographic considerations are defined in development problems;

Bearing in mind that the responsibilities which the Governments wish to assign to CELADE jointly with ECLA are of such nature that they require a steering body composed of representatives of the countries of the region, which on the instructions of their respective Government, will operate as a permanent link with the national institutions in charge of formulating population policies and their incorporation into development plans;

Expressing their gratitude to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) for the financial assistance it renders in support of CELADE's activities;

Recalling that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) project of assistance to CELADE, with the participation of thirteen countries of the region, expired on 30 April 1974;

Taking into account resolution 327 (XV) of the fifteenth session of the Commission, resolution CD 7/1 of the seventh meeting (1974) of the Governing Board of CELADE, the special report of the government representatives of the Governing Board of CELADE and the Note by the Secretariat (E/CEPAL/AC.68/2), submitted to the Committee of the Whole at this extraordinary session;

Taking into account further that it is desirable to strengthen mutual interregional collaboration and co-ordination in the field of population, particularly as regards the study and evaluation of the World Population Plan of Action.

Decides:

1. To provide that CELADE, an autonomous organization under the auspices of ECLA, be incorporated in the latter's system as a permanent institution with its own identity;
2. To determine that the objectives and functions of CELADE shall continue to be those laid down in CELADE's Plan of Operations, agreed upon by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations

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and thirteen Latin American countries which acceded to the Plan in October 1967, objectives and functions that were expanded by document DP/SF/R.11/Add.135/Rev.1, approved by the Governing Council of UNDP at its eleventh session in January 1971, unless they are amended by the Commission;

3. To request the Executive Secretary of ECLA to take the necessary action, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure that the institutional organization established for CELADE in this resolution incorporates the international and local staff provided for in its budget approved for 1975, the corresponding financial resources, and the existing equipment, vehicles, installations files, libraries and other working facilities and materials;
4. To provide that CELADE's operations shall be administered by a Director General who shall be accountable for his administration to the Executive Secretary of ECLA and who shall be appointed in accordance with the procedure to be determined by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
5. To strengthen regional co-operation and co-ordination by establishing all the machinery needed to ensure that CELADE's incorporation into ECLA guarantees the former's relationship with the United Nations system;
6. To recommend that the secretariat study appropriate machinery for enabling the Latin American Governments to participate more regularly, directly and effectively in the field of population and its relationship with economic and social development, and submit a report on this matter at the forthcoming session of ECLA;
7. To provide that it shall be incumbent on the Director General to carry out the decisions of ECLA and those that may derive from the participation of Governments referred to in the preceding paragraph, and to plan and direct the educational research, information and technical assistance programmes in accordance with the decisions of ECLA to direct the administrative management of the Centre; and to establish and maintain relations with national and international institutions

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in areas of mutual interest, for which purpose he shall, before formalizing the requisite agreements or arrangements, enter into consultation with the member Governments, on the understanding that those entered into with governmental organizations must be concluded through the Executive Secretary of ECLA or with his prior authorization;

8. To provide that the Director General of CELADE, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of ECLA, shall prepare a plan for the restructuring of the budgets and personnel assigned to projects and work plans of both programmes which may be under way at the time of integration;

9. To provide that the Executive Secretary of ECLA, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, be authorized to accept those contributions from Governments, international organizations, public and private institutions and foundations which contribute to the financing of CELADE's activities in accordance with its objectives and purposes and with the guidelines which the Commission may lay down in this connexion at its regular sessions;

10. To recommend to the Governments members of the Commission that they request the Governing Council of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to render financial support for CELADE's activities for a five-year period starting in 1976, taking as a basis UNFPA's contributions for the years 1974 and 1975 and their future projection and bearing in mind the recommendations addressed and the work assigned to ECLA by the Governments at the Second Latin American Population Meeting (Mexico City, March 1975);

11. To request the Executive Secretary of ECLA to prepare, in consultation with the member Governments and on their behalf, and also in consultation with the Population Division of the United Nations and UNFPA, a project for assisting CELADE's activities, bearing mind the guidelines laid down in this resolution, for submission by these Governments to UNFPA prior to the twentieth session of the Governing Council of UNDP;

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12. To request the Executive Secretary of ECLA to enter into consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to including in the Organization's regular budget a certain number of CELADE's key directional and administrative posts in order to secure the continuity of its work;

13. To request the Governing Council of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA that the Executive Secretary of ECLA, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, be appointed executing agent for the CELADE projects financially supported by UNFPA and UNDP which are now under way and for those that may be established in the future; and

14. To request the Executive Secretary of ECLA to enter into consultations and make arrangements with the Population Division of the United Nations in order to strengthen the co-ordination machinery in the fields of education, technical co-operation and demographic research at the international level and with the United Nations specialized agencies operating in the region in the fields referred to.

Mexico City, 7 March 1975

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