

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)**

**BIENNIAL REPORT
(16 April 1992 – 27 April 1994)**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
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**UNITED NATIONS
Santiago, Chile, 1994**

547(XXV) COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (Buenos Aires, September 1978) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Taking into account the decisions adopted at the eighth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which met from 25 to 28 May 1993 at United Nations Headquarters, New York, and in particular the decisions addressed to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system,

Recalling its resolution 530(XXIV) on cooperation among developing countries and regions,

1. Takes note of the report of activities of the ECLAC system in support of cooperation among developing countries and regions during the biennium 1992-1993, contained in the note by the secretariat entitled "Activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support technical cooperation among developing countries and regions"¹ submitted to the Commission for consideration at its current session;
2. Reaffirms the importance of technical cooperation among the countries of the region as a mechanism which presents economic advantages and as a means of contributing to the achievement of the objectives of economic and social development, especially in the context of the measures required to permit and consolidate changes in production patterns with social equity;
3. Emphasizes the importance of the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in supporting action by the Governments of the region aimed at increasing the use of the mechanisms and modalities of technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;
4. Stresses that relations among potential agents of technical cooperation among developing countries should be based on countries' own needs and be conducted in accordance with each country's strategies and national priorities;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the relevant mandates, to:
 - a) Continue to strengthen the links between the ECLAC system and national government-designated focal points for technical cooperation among developing countries and regions, especially in supporting exchanges of experience in new areas of importance to changing production patterns with social equity, such as modernization of the public sector, government decentralization, and social development programmes;

¹ LC/G.1809(SES.25/16).

- b) Strengthen activities in support of cooperation networks and systems already in existence in the region, especially in those economic and social sectors which Governments consider to be of priority importance for their development objectives in those areas;
- c) Continue to carry out activities in support of the dissemination of information on opportunities for and activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries, especially information on ECLAC projects and initiatives to promote private sector participation in technical cooperation among developing countries and regions;
- d) Intensify activities aimed at incorporating operational forms of technical cooperation among developing countries into the various sectors of the work programme of the secretariat of the Commission, with special emphasis on those forms which permit, where appropriate, participation by the business sector and by non-governmental organizations in general;
- e) Provide support, wherever possible, to the mechanisms for coordination among bodies and organizations engaged in TCDC activities in the region, with a view to facilitating inter-agency coordination in backing cooperation initiatives among developing countries in sectors of interest to the Governments of the region, including the consolidation of information on countries' supply of and need for cooperation;
- f) Continue, in coordination with the United Nations Development Programme and the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), to give support to any regional TCDC programming exercises which the countries of the region decide to carry out, especially in the sectors of greatest importance for consolidating changes in production patterns with social equity;
- g) Intensify coordination with the Latin American Economic System (SELA), which acts as regional focal point for TCDC activities, in organizing activities in support of the annual meetings of national directors of international technical cooperation;
- h) Step up, within the framework of mechanisms for consultation with the secretariats of the other regional commissions, those joint activities which could promote technical and economic cooperation among countries in the various developing regions, in coordination with the competent organizations of the United Nations system;
- i) Intensify the search for new resources, including innovative approaches such as triangular cooperation, to enable the countries to implement operational activities, whether as suppliers or as recipients of technical cooperation, and promote the use of personnel, equipment and other appropriate inputs in projects executed by the ECLAC system.