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Item 13 of the agenda

WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES

1951 - 1952

STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

In the Provisional Agenda (E/CN.12/216/Rev.1) the attention of the Commission has been drawn to the important task of reviewing the 1951-1952 work programme of the Commission. Subsequently the Executive Secretary has circulated document E/CN.12/242 in which the attention of the Commission was drawn to the General Assembly resolution 413 (V) of December 1950 and the Economic and Social Council resolution 362 (XII) B of March 1951 on the Concentration of Effort and Resources. These resolutions were drawn to the attention of the Commission at an early stage of its Fourth Session so that the Commission might bear these criteria constantly in mind during the consideration of any proposed additions to the Commission's programme of work.

The Commission has been in particular aware of the Council request to its Commissions:

"(a) to review during 1951 their 1952 programmes, using

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the criteria set forth in Council resolution 324 (XI); and  
"(b) to indicate, when new projects are recommended, which  
current projects might be deferred, modified, or eliminated  
to ensure that the economic and social work of the United  
Nations will be carried on most effectively."

as well as of paragraph six of the above Council resolution which  
attached particular importance and accordingly a very high priority  
to activities related to the economic development of underdeveloped  
countries.

To facilitate further the Commission action with respect to  
its work-programme for the remaining part of 1951 and 1952, the  
Executive Secretary has analysed in detail the continuing assignments  
of the Secretariat, those ad hoc projects which had not been  
completed prior to this Fourth Session of the Commission, as well  
as those new projects which are being requested in the resolutions  
adopted by the Ad Hoc Committees of this Session.

Insofar as old projects are concerned the statement is based  
on Appendix B of the Executive Secretary's statement for the  
Council Ad Hoc Committee (Document E/AC.34/6). The Executive  
Secretary in preparing this statement took into account the policies  
established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social  
Council, the resources available to ECLA in its 1951 budget and  
those resources which are likely to be made available in 1952.  
It should be noted that the budget estimates for 1952 which will  
be presented by the Secretary-General have included more fully the  
implications of these continuous activities of the Commission,

/that were

that were not covered adequately in the budget during previous years.

The work-programme of ECLA may be divided into two major groups of projects:

A. Continuing Projects on which the responsibility of the Secretariat, in line with the Commission terms of reference, is of such a nature that studies and reports should be presented on an annual basis, although each year's studies differ and supplement each other in scope (country coverage) and in substance (different aspects of major problems).

B. Ad Hoc Projects which in addition to the continuing projects, are specifically requested from the Secretariat at each Commission Session. These projects are either requests for special studies falling within the broad groups of Continuing Projects (see A above), but cannot be undertaken for budgetary reasons as parts of continuing projects and thus require special staff for undertaking them, or activities which are outside the broad scope of major continuing projects.

As projects in groups "A" and "B" are of a relatively high priority, projects of lower priority, which may be deferred or eliminated are assembled in group "C".

As stated above the Continuing and Ad Hoc Projects often are closely inter-related, and in many ways supplement each other. Therefore, the Work Programme is divided and listed in the proposed order of priority under the major categories of the Secretariat's work so that these related projects may be assessed in the order

/of their relative

of their relative priorities within those categories.

There is no attempt made, however, to differentiate priorities between the projects listed under one major category and another major category, since in the opinion of the Executive Secretary they are of equally high importance, and because inter-relationship between advancement of studies and reports in one category often have an important bearing on the advancement and successful action in others. Thus, for instance, the trade studies related to the practical and immediate task of expanding trade between Latin-American countries and countries of other regions include certain aspects of the basic analysis of trade problems in their relation to economic development.

It may be stated that the category "IV. Other Projects" has in general a relatively lower priority than other categories, however, the importance and priority of each project in this category has to be judged on its own merits, especially taking into account the practical concerted international action which may be implied in certain of these projects.

While it is desirable to adopt as firm a programme as possible, this work programme is not, and by nature cannot be, definitive since factors not now foreseeable may later make it necessary to alter or abandon certain projects or establish somewhat different priorities. The Commission, therefore, may wish to leave to the discretion of the Executive Secretary certain decisions to alter or abandon certain projects, or establish different priorities, should developments not now foreseen make this desirable in his

/opinion.

Such alterations, however, are to remain within the framework of the work programme approved by the Commission.

The resolutions, considered by the Commission at its previous sessions and at its Fourth Session and which are the basis for the formulation of the Commission's work programme, have been adopted after full discussion between the Commission and representatives of the appropriate Specialized Agencies as well as the representatives of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, preceded by and accompanied during the session with extensive inter-agency consultations at the Secretariat level. The appropriate resolutions call for cooperative effort of interested agencies, thus ensuring that none of the resolutions bearing on the work programme of the Commission will unnecessarily involve any overlapping or duplication of effort by the respective agencies.

#### WORK PROGRAMME AND PROPOSED PRIORITIES

1951 - 1952

Note: Projects within each Group (A, B, and C) are listed in the proposed order of priority. No attempt has been made to propose priorities as between major categories.

#### Category I. Recent Economic Trends in Latin America

##### Group A - Continuing Projects

1. Economic Survey of Latin America (E/CN.12/AC.12/19).
2. Economic Bulletin (a review of current economic trends in the region on a quarterly or semi-annual basis),

/Group B.

Group B. Ad Hoc Projects

None

Group C. Projects Which Might be Deferred or Eliminated

1. Cyclical Fluctuations in Latin America (E/AC.34/6).

Category II. International Trade

Group A. Continuing Projects

1. Trade between Latin American countries and the United States and Europe and Periodic Publication of Information on European-Latin American Trade, with special reference to the present emergency situation. (E/CN.12/AC.13/5 and E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1)
2. Studies on Prospects of Expanding Latin American Exports to the United States (E/CN.12/AC.13/10).
3. Study of Intra-Regional Trade (E/CN.12/AC.13/11).

Group B. Ad Hoc Projects

1. Special Interim Report on Expansion of Trade among Latin American Countries (E/CN.12/AC.13/11).
2. Meeting of experts on Intra-Regional Trade (E/CN.12/AC.13/11).
3. Studies on Maintenance of Purchasing Power of Foreign Balances during the Emergency Period, including meeting of experts. (E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1).
4. Study on Monetary Disturbances arising from Accumulation of Foreign Balances (E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1).

/Group B.

Group B. Ad Hoc Projects (continued)

5. Effects of Price Controls on Trade.

(E/CN.12/AC.13/16).

Group C. Projects Which Might be Deferred or Eliminated

1. Preliminary inquiry on the operation of the free zone of Colon, Republic of Panama, with a view of presenting recommendations to the Government of Panama. (E/CN.12/AC.13/4).

2. Implications of the European Payments Union on Latin America. (E/AC.34/6).

Category III. Economic Development

Group A. Continuing Projects

1. Economic Development Studies (E/CN.12/AC.12/19).

a) Country Studies

b) Interpretation of the Process of Development

c) Comparative Analysis of Development Problems, and

d) Analyses of Specific Development Projects and Programmes.

2. ECIA Centre for Economic Development (with the view of training economists in the specialized field of Economic Development). (E/CN.12/AC.12/1).

3. Study of the Integration of National Economies of Central American Countries. (E/CN.12/AC.12/7).

4. Arranging for and servicing the Inter-Governmental Committee on Economic Co-operation of Central American Countries. (E/CN.12/AC.12/17).

/Group A.

Group A. Continuing Projects (continued)

5. Industrial Studies (E/CN.12/AC.12/8 and  
(E/CN.12/AC.12/9).

- a) Iron and steel
- b) Wood-pulp and paper
- c) Basic chemicals
- d) Food industries
- e) Textile industries (E/CN.12/AC.12/8).

6. Meetings of Industrial Experts to examine  
Recommendations of each Industrial Study Resolution  
(E/CN.12/AC.12/9).

7. Assistance to Member Governments in the Appraisal  
of their Needs for Technical Assistance and in  
the Formulation of Requests for such Assistance  
and in the Preparation of the Development  
Programmes (E/CN.12/AC.12/15 and E/CN.12/AC.12/14).

Group B. Ad Hoc Projects

- 1. Theoretical and Practical Problems of Economic  
Growth. (E/CN.12/AC.12/13).
- 2. Domestic Savings and Investments (E/CN.12/AC.12/13).
- 3. Study on Monetary and Fiscal Policies in  
relation to Economic Development (E/CN.12/AC.12/13).
- 4. Taxation affecting Influence of Taxes on the  
Private Capital Export (E/CN.12/AC.12/13).
- 5. Study of the Organization and Structure of the  
Capital Market in Latin American Countries  
(E/CN.12/AC.12/13).

/Group B.



Group B. Ad Hoc Projects (continued)

6. Economic and Legal Status of Foreign Investments in Latin America (E/CN.12/AC.12/16).
7. Study on the Relation of Technological Research with Economic Development (with reference to adaptation of modern technique). (E/CN.12/AC.12/11).
8. Study on Immigration in relation to Economic Development. (E/CN.12/AC.12/17).

Group C. Projects which Might be Deferred or Eliminated

1. Meeting of Experts on the Study on the Relation of Technological Research with Economic Development (with special reference to adaptation of modern techniques). (E/CN.12/AC.12/11).

Category IV. Other Projects

Group A. Continuing Projects

1. Appraisal of Economic Aspects of Immigration Projects (in connection with ECLA participation in the Inter-Agency Regional Co-ordination Committee on Migration). (E/CN.12/AC.12/17).

Group B. Ad Hoc Projects

1. Preparation for and Convening of a Meeting of Agricultural Credit Experts. (E/CN.12/249).
2. Studies connected with the Opening of the Pan American Highway in Central America. (E/CN.12/AC.14/10).
3. UNESCO/ECLA Study on Measures to Increase the

/Group B.

Group B.     Ad Hoc Projects (continued)  
                 Availability of Supplies of Educational,  
                 Scientific and Cultural Materials.  
                 (E/CN.12/AC.14/13).

Group C.     Projects which Might be Deferred or Eliminated  
                 1. Preliminary Survey of Major Inland Transport  
                 Problems in Selected Latin American Countries.  
                 (E/AC.34/6).  
                 2. Inquiry on Facilities for the Training of  
                 Economists in Latin America. (E/AC.34/6).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS - 1952

In view of the increased budgetary provisions for ECLA being proposed by the Secretary-General for 1952, the Executive Secretary believes that the Secretariat can carry out within its resources all "continuing" and high-priority "ad hoc" projects listed above with the exception of the following items:

1. Study of the Integration of National Economies of Central American Countries (E/CN.12/AC.12/7) (Category III, Group A, Item 3).

The work envisaged under this resolution (E/CN.12/AC.12/7) would require technical experts in certain agricultural, industrial or transport fields as well as qualified economists trained in economic development and having an intimate knowledge of the area. Since the anticipated staff resources of the Mexican Office of ECLA will be continuously engaged on specific project assignments, primarily concerned with the northern area of the ECLA region, on behalf of the three major  
/substantive

substantive Divisions of ECLA in Santiago, the implementation of the proposed programme will involve the following financial implications:

Established posts - 3 economists (1 first officer,  
1 second officer and 1 associate officer) and  
2 secretaries \$ 18,900

Consultants - 3 for four months (each specializing  
in one of the technical studies of agricultural,  
industrial or transportation development) 17,500

Travel on official business - 5 visits in Central  
America by ECLA staff members to obtain data  
for economic studies required and to discuss  
recommendations with Government Officials 2,000

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\$ 38,400

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2. Trade between Latin American countries and the United States and Europe and periodic publications of information on European-Latin American trade, with special reference to the present emergency situation. (E/CN.12/AC.13/5 and E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1) (Category II, Group A, Item 1).

Although most of the work on this project will be performed by the secretariats of ECLA and ECE within their anticipated budgetary resources, much of the statistical information on European-Latin American trade requested in paragraph No. 6 of the resolution (E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1) would be prepared by ECE. The Executive Secretary of ECE has indicated that in order to provide this service it will be necessary for ECLA to provide on a continuing basis one junior statistician to work in conjunction with other ECE staff on this material.

/Therefore,

Therefore, since there is no suitable post available on the anticipated ECLA manning table for 1952 the financial implications of this project in 1952 would be as follows:

Established post - 1 junior statistician (assistant officer) to be stationed in Geneva for the full year	\$ 4,000
	<u>          </u>
	<u>          </u>

3. Studies on Maintenance of Purchasing Power of Foreign Balances during the Emergency Period, including meeting of experts. (E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1) (Category II, Group B, Item 3).

Since no provision has been made in the ECLA budget estimates for 1952 for the meeting of experts proposed in paragraph No. 3 of the resolution (E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1), the financial implications of this meeting would be as follows:

Experts - 3 for three months (two from the ECLA region to work possibly in Washington for two months when they would be joined by a European expert who had been working possibly in Geneva for two months; all three of them to work in Washington for one month preparing their recommendations)	\$ 14,800
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Temporary assistance - 2 statistical clerks and 3 secretaries for three months	4,200
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	<u>\$ 19,000</u>
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4. ECLA Centre for Economic Development (E/CN.12/AC.12/1) (Category III, Group A, Item 2).

Although it is anticipated that many of the activities of the Centre will be financed either from Governmental

/participation

participation, private grants or from Technical Assistance funds, it would nonetheless be necessary to provide on the ECLA manning table for the technical director of the Centre. His duties would be to work closely with the governments of the region and with the Technical Assistance Administration in the planning of and preparation for training programmes in economic development, seminars on certain specific aspects of economic development and research projects of particular interest to fellowship or scholarship holders assigned to the ECLA Centre. He would also work closely with the Specialized Agencies and with the faculties of Latin American universities in arranging more effective programmes for training in the specialized field of economic development. The financial implications of creating this new post would be as follows:

Established posts - a Director of the Centre  
(senior officer) and one secretary for the  
full year

\$ 13,900

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5. Study of Intra-Regional Trade (E/CN.12/AC.13/11) (Category II, Group A, Item 3).

Special Interim Report on Expansion of Trade among Latin American Countries (Category II, Group B, Item 1).

Meeting of Experts on Intra-Regional Trade (E/CN.12/AC.13/11) (Category II, Group B, Item 2).

The resolution on Intra-Regional Trade (E/CN.12/AC.13/11)

/would enlarge

would enlarge the scope of the work to be performed in this field to an extent that the staff in Santiago envisaged for International Trade studies would be insufficient to carry out the intent of the resolution. It would be necessary to provide for at least two additional economists for this Division and temporary help for the special report. Additional travel funds would be required to allow the secretariat direct contact with Government sources of available data. In addition no provision has been made in the ECLA budget estimates for 1952 for the meeting of experts proposed in paragraph No. 2 of the resolution. Accordingly the financial implication of the resolution would be as follows:

Established posts - 2 economists (1 first officer and 1 second officer) for the full year	\$ 16,470
Temporary assistance - 1 economist (first officer) for six months	4,530
Experts - 3 for 1-1/2 months (3 from ECLA region meeting in Santiago)	7,300
Travel on official business - 2 trips by staff members to South American capitals	2,200
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	\$ 30,400
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/RECAPITULATION

RECAPITULATION

1. Integration of national economies of Central American Countries	\$ 38,400.
2. Trade between Latin American Countries and the United States and Europe	4,000.
3. Maintenance of purchasing power of foreign balances during the emergency period - meeting of experts	19,000.
4. ECLA Centre for Economic Development	13,900.
5. Studies on intra-regional trade and meeting of experts	30,400.
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	\$ 105,700.
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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS - 1951.

If the Commission considers those projects listed above to be of sufficient urgency for the Secretariat to commence work on those projects by 1 September 1951 it will be necessary to make financial provision during 1951 for the following items:

/1. Study of

1. Study of the Integration of National Economies of Central American countries (E/CN.12/AC.12/7) (Category III, Group A, Item 3)

Established posts - 3 economists (1 first officer, 1 second officer and 1 associate officer) and 2 secretaries for four months

\$ 6,300

Travel on official business - 2 visits to Central American capitals

800

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\$ 7,100

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2. Trade between Latin American countries and the United States and Europe and periodic publications of information on European-Latin American trade, with special reference to the present emergency situation. (E/CN.12/AC.13/5 and E/CN.12/AC.13/9/Rev.1) (Category II, Group A, Item 1).

Established post - 1 junior statistician (assistant officer) to be stationed in Geneva for four months

\$ 1,300

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3. ECLA Centre for Economic Development (E/CN.12/AC.12/1) (Category III, Group A, Item 2)

Established post - a Director of the Centre (senior officer) and one secretary for four months

\$ 4,600

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/4. Study of



4. Study of Intra-Regional Trade (E/CN.12/AC.13/11) (Category II, Group A, Item 3)

Special Interim Report on Expansion of Trade among Latin American countries (E/CN.12/AC.13/11) (Category II, Group B, Item 1).

Established posts - 2 economists (1 first officer and 1 second officer) for four months \$ 5,500

Travel on official business - 1 trip by staff member to South American capitals 1,100

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\$ 6,600

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#### RECAPITULATION

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|--|-----------|
| 1. Integration of national economies of Central American Countries         | \$ 7,100  |
| 2. Trade between Latin American countries and the United States and Europe | 1,300     |
| 3. ECLA Centre for Economic Development                                    | 4,600     |
| 4. Studies on intra-regional trade   | 6,600     |
|  | <hr/>     |
|  | \$ 19,600 |
|  | <hr/>     |

The above financial implications do not include certain aspects of the above work programme which would involve ECLA's co-operation and joint action with the Technical Assistance Administration, as it is anticipated that they will be financed

/from Technical

from Technical Assistance funds. These projects which have such aspects are listed below:

1. ECLA Centre for Economic Development (with the view of training economists in the specialized field of Economic Development). (E/CN.12/AC.12/1).
2. Studies connected with the Opening of the Pan American Highway in Central America (E/CN.12/AC.14/10).
3. Appraisal of Economic Aspects of Immigration Projects (in connection with ECLA participation in the Inter-Agency Regional Co-ordination Committee on Migration).
4. Assistance to Member Governments in the Appraisal of their Needs for Technical Assistance and in the Formulation of Requests for such Assistance and in the Preparation of the Development Programmes (E/CN.12/AC.12/15, E/CN.12/AC.12/14).
5. Preliminary inquiry on the operation of the free zone of Colon, Republic of Panama, with a view of presenting recommendations to the Government of Panama (E/CN.12/AC.13/4).
6. Meeting of Experts on the Study on the Relation of Technological Research with Economic Development (with special reference to adaptation of modern techniques). (E/CN.12/AC.12/11).