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Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE REPORT SUBMITTED
TO THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AT ITS FIFTH
SESSION BY THE INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL CO-ORDINATION
COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION

The Inter-Agency Regional Co-ordination Committee on Migration held its fourth meeting at Quitandinha on 13 and 14 April; all its members attended. At that meeting the Committee decided to submit the attached report to the Fifth Session of ECLA. The report shows that the project referred to in paragraph 7 was approved, and it was decided that the Secretariat should submit the report to the Commission for its information and decision.

REPORT BY THE INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE ON
MIGRATION, SUBMITTED TO THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AT ITS FIFTH SESSION

1.I. Summary of its activities

- a) Inaugural meeting of the Committee, Santiago, Chile,
7 - 8 February 1952;
- b) Second meeting, São Paulo, (Brazil) 26-27 June 1952;
- c) Third meeting, Lima (Peru) 27-28 November 1952;
- d) Fourth meeting, Quitandinha (Brazil) 13-14 April 1953.

1. The Inter-Agency Regional Co-ordination Committee on Migration was set up under Resolution 6 (IV) relating to immigration problems, adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America at its fourth session (Mexico, June 1951). It met for the first time on 7 and 8 February 1952 at Santiago, Chile. At that inaugural meeting it was agreed that the Committee would be of an advisory nature and would help to co-ordinate the activities carried out by international organizations and agencies with regard to migration to Latin America, and to prevent duplication of effort. The International Labour Office, through its Regional Centre for Latin America, was to act as the Committee's secretariat. Some of the functions of the Committee were also outlined:

(1) the exchange of information on work in the field of migration;

(2) Consultation with non-governmental organizations on

/projects relating

projects relating to migration; and

(3) The co-ordination of activities in the field of migration by means of special meetings to be convened by the Committee Secretariat at the request of one or more member organizations.

2. Since then, the Committee has held three further meetings, in which the following participated: representatives of the United Nations, the Economic Commission for Latin America, the International Labour Office, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the Organization of American States, and the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration.
3. At these meetings, the Committee decided to arrange for periodic exchanges of information on the activities and programmes of member organizations, through the Secretariat, which after collating the information received, was to issue monthly bulletins.

The bulletin has been printed and distributed periodically at the beginning of each month, since September 1952.

4. With regard to instructions and briefing for experts assigned to technical assistance projects, the Committee recommended that in all cases, instructions and briefing customarily given in the central services of the organizations should be supplemented at the regional offices.

Where two or more organizations were concerned in a

/project there

project there were to be preliminary meetings of the experts in charge of it as well as consultations with representatives of the interested organizations.

5. With a view to closer liaison with the non-governmental organizations and national official and semi-official bodies concerned with migration, the Committee approved a list of eight bodies which were known to be active in this field in the Latin-American countries. Their representatives attend the Committee's meetings as observers and have been placed on the mailing list for the periodic exchange of information.
6. Two of the Committee's member organizations, the ILO and the OAS, received a request for technical assistance from the Government of Paraguay, requesting the services of experts in order to organize and expand its migration department.
7. The ECLA representative submitted to the Committee at its second meeting a proposal for carrying out a model project of economic development in relation to migration, in a specified region, with a view to assisting the government concerned:
 - a) in determining the number and types of immigrants whom the region could absorb and in formulating an immigration policy;
 - b) in determining other requirements in this field, to meet which the government concerned could apply to the United Nations or its specialized agencies for assistance;
 - c) in supplying

- c) in supplying information to the international organizations engaged in transferring migrants, or interested in financing development projects for which immigrant labour would be required.

The Committee's member organizations which would participate in this project have sent their comments on the proposed text to ECIA, so that these should be borne in mind in drawing up the final project.

The Committee was of the opinion that the study should preferably be conducted in a region constituting an economic unit, while the influence of the country's general economic and social conditions on the region should be taken into account.

Finally, the Committee agreed that the study (see annex) should be carried out and that it should be submitted to the Fifth Session of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

ANNEX

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Santiago, Chile
13 June 1952

PROPOSAL FOR AN ECLA/TAA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MIGRATION PROJECT

PURPOSE

This would be a technical assistance project request by the Government. Its general objectives may be stated as follows:

- a) To assist the Government in determining the number and kinds of immigrants the country may absorb and in formulating immigration policies.
- b) To define further specific technical needs in this field for which the Government may then wish to request assistance from the United Nations.
- c) To provide information to international agencies which are assisting in the movement of migrants, or are interested in financing development projects for which immigrant labour is needed.

Specifically the report of the technical mission would attempt to evaluate the economic development potentialities in the prospective region which is undergoing an intensive

/industrial and

industrial and agricultural transformation, with particular reference to its capacity for absorption of migrants, specially from foreign countries. The Survey would attempt not only to analyse the economic and social conditions under which migrants are being absorbed but also to estimate the number of migrants (according to aptitudes and skills) which could be absorbed in the different sectors of the economy consistent with the present or potential rate of economic and social development.

In the planning and in the execution of this project, use would be made of the catalogue of problems of immigration policy prepared by the United Nations and specialized agencies, to be published under the title of "Essentials of Immigration Policy". A provisional draft is available for immediate office use.

(Note: Although the project would be primarily designed to provide the kind of assistance outlined above, it may at the same time: i) evolve a method of investigation which could be used by other Latin American governments in evaluating their capacity to absorb immigrants, and ii) provide data from which general principles and conclusions may be derived with further study of this problem in other Latin American countries.)

1. General economic and demographic analysis of the region

The first problem is to obtain quantitative measures of some principal features of this expansion, and to examine their inter-relationships.

The items to be measured include: (a) the rate of
/investment during

investment during the past few years (and the present total investment) in the principal economic sectors - transport, energy, agriculture, industry, housing and services; (b) the sources of this capital - that is, the amount coming from within the region, the amount from other parts of the country and foreign capital; (c) the growth of the internal markets in each of the economic sectors and their commercial links with neighbouring markets; (d) the growth of the total population and of the active population in the major economic sectors and the sources of this growth: natural increase, immigration from other parts of the country, and immigration from abroad.

With these materials in hand it will be possible to examine in general terms the relationship of the growth of population and manpower to the rate of investment and expansion of the market. No attempt will be made in this part of the study to determine the occupational composition of the active population or to evaluate the relative contributions of the local population, migrants and immigrants (foreigners) to the general development of the region (capital formation, productivity, social welfare). But the results will permit an overall analysis of the problems arising out of differences in the rates of economic development and natural population growth: the relation of investment to overall manpower requirements and the trend of such requirements for immigrants, as well as for internal migrants.

The future prospects can then be evaluated by projecting the requirements for capital and manpower and the natural growth of the population and its economically active components, over a

/period of

period of 10 or 15 years into the future. Projections can be made on the basis of present trends in these variables, with due regard to their inter-relationships, or by means of alternative hypotheses as to the rate and directions of investment, fertility trends, etc.

Though many of the data needed for these analyses already exist in published documents, they will have to be supplemented by investigating the sources of unpublished material and the possibilities of special tabulations from the census and other statistical records, and also by obtaining data directly through field investigations. Sampling techniques would have to be worked out in order to get global data on the expansion of some of the main industries such as textiles, metallurgy, chemicals, and consumer goods, and of services (retail and wholesale trade, finance, professions, public administration, domestic and personal services). Sampling would probably be needed also in order to obtain necessary information on the factors of population change (births, deaths, immigrants from other areas of the country, and immigrants from abroad).

2. Manpower requirements and sources of labour supply

This part of the report would carry the analysis of the economically active population and of labour requirements into much greater detail than the preceding section. It would involve a major effort to estimate requirements for the different kinds and grades of labour in each major branch of economic activity, the amounts that can be supplied by the local population and by immigrants from other parts of the /country, and

country, and that which must or may come from abroad.

In evaluating the potential sources of manpower in the local population, it would be necessary to study trends in the employment of young people, of the aged, and of women in various occupational categories, of occupational mobility and aptitudes for training, and of the extent of unemployment, and particularly of under-employment, in the region. Particularly useful information could be derived from data on the changes occurring in the occupational, industrial and geographic distribution of persons who have migrated into the region after their entry into that region.

Estimates of the possible contribution of migrants from elsewhere in the country would require a study of the trends of population growth and economic opportunities in the country as a whole, and of the adaptability of potential migrants to the conditions of development in the region. Closely related to this would be an appraisal of the work aptitudes and educational levels of the migrant groups within the country, the material or financial resources contributed by such groups, the mobility of labour and the facilities within the country for moving population groups. Certain economic and social factors such as differences in real wages, availability of social services, opportunities for advancement, etc., may be taken into consideration in appraising the adaptability of migrant groups to the requirements of labour in the developing region.

3. Potentialities for economic development and immigration

a) Economic factors:

a) Economic factors:

This analysis will be based primarily on the availability of natural resources, the rate of investments within the region and within the country's economy, labour requirements (general and skilled) and other elements discussed in the first two parts of this study.

Possibilities for future development could be stated as a continuation of present trends or based on hypotheses of a higher or lower rate depending primarily on the rate of investment (as was suggested in the first section of the Survey).

An attempt should here be made to determine the amount of capital required to absorb an immigrant in each sector of the economy.^{1/} This would include the initial outlay in non-productive investments such as housing and public services, per family of immigrants, as well as the amount of productive capital required for each working immigrant. Attention should also be given to contributions to capital formation made by immigrants both in the form of capital brought into the country with them and that added to capital goods through labour. The possibilities of drawing on international financial resources to assist in economic development projects absorbing immigrant labour would be considered in this section of the study.

^{1/} The amount of capital required per worker, without distinction as to skills, could be derived from the data present in Part 1 above. The amount of capital required per immigrant might be different from that for local labour due to differences in efficiency (a more intensified use of capital), members of the family who work, etc.

Particular attention should also be given to the problem of skilled training of immigrants and the contribution which such skills are making to increase productivity. This chapter might end with an analysis of the comparative cost of training skilled labour within the country and of utilizing immigrants who are already trained for a particular trade.

b) Social factors:

(i) Manpower:

(This item to be elaborated so as to reflect the impact of the social aspects of the manpower problem on potentialities for economic development and immigration; to be elaborated with the assistance of the International Labour Office; this will include such questions as reception, placement, conditions of work, admission to employment, etc.)

(ii) Health: (including environmental sanitation and general health problems)

(to be elaborated by the World Health Organization)

(iii) Social Welfare:

(a) housing

(b) family pattern of the immigrants

(c) participation and adjustment of immigrants to community life/ (including education and naturalization)

(d) admission for residence

(e) acquisition of property

(f) social assistance (including activities of voluntary organizations)

(g) other elements affecting the standard of living of immigrants (e.g. nutrition)