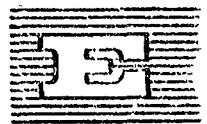


UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL

E/CN.12/AC.24/SR.1
8 February 1954

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/
SPANISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Committee of the Whole
Santiago, Chile.

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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING

Held at the Hotel Carrera, Santiago, Chile, on
Monday 8 February 1954, at 11 a.m.

SUMMARY

Address by Mr. Tobías Barros Ortíz, Minister of Foreign Affairs
of Chile

Reply on behalf of the Delegations by Mr. Hugo de Pena,
Ambassador of Uruguay

Election of Officers

NOTE

Any corrections to this record should be submitted in duplicate in any of the three working languages (English, Spanish or French), as soon as convenient, to Mr. Alfonso Santa Cruz, Secretary of the Commission, Room 1302, Hotel Carrera. Corrections should bear the appropriate symbol number and be enclosed in an envelope marked "URGENT". Corrections can be dealt with more speedily if delegations will be good enough to incorporate them in a mimeographed copy of the record.

PRESENT:

PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. GUILLERMO DEL PEDREGAL	Chile
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Mr. RAMIRO HERNANDEZ PORTELA	Cuba
	Mr. HUGO V. DE PENA	Uruguay
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. JOSE AVILES	El Salvador
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. DE LA CRUZ GUERRERO	Argentina
	Mr. ITURRALDE CHINEL	Bolivia
	Mr. VALLE	Brazil
	Mr. BONITTO	Colombia
	Mr. MOREIRA BATRES	Costa Rica
	Mr. SOTO	Dominican Republic
	Mr. PUIG VILAZAR	Ecuador
	Mr. COIFFARD	France
	Mr. MERCERON	Haiti
	Mr. GALVEZ	Honduras
	Mr. NUÑEZ Y DOMINGUEZ	Mexico
	Mr. KASTEEL	Netherlands
	Mr. HERNANDEZ	Nicaragua
	Mr. YCAZA VASQUEZ	Panama
	Mr. MALLORQUIN	Paraguay
	Mr. STIRLING	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. SANDERS	United States of America
	Mr. GONZALEZ VALE	Venezuela

/Also present:

Also present:

Representatives of specialized agencies

Mr. ROTH

International Monetary Fund
(IMF)

Mr. OSORIO-TAFALL

Food and Agriculture
Organization (FAO)

Representatives of inter-governmental
organizations

Mr. TAYLOR

Inter-American Economic and
Social Council (IA-ECOSOC)

Mr. PRIETO

Inter-governmental Committee
for the Movement of Migrants
from Europe

Representatives of non-governmental
organizations

Category A

Mr. VIDAL CARDENAS

International Chamber of
Commerce

Mr. THAYER

International Federation of
Christian Trade Unions

Mr. VARGAS PUEBLA

World Federation of Trade Unions

Representatives of the Secretary-
General

Category B

Mrs. FIGUEROA

All Pakistan Women's Association

Mr. LEITNER

Agudas Israel World
Organization

Miss CALVO

Catholic International Union
for Social Service (CIUSS)

Rev. ZOTTELLE

Commission of the Churches
for International Affairs

Dr. DRAPKIN

Dr. STEINSAPIR

Co-ordinating Board of Jewish
Organizations for Consultation
with the Economic and Social
Council of United Nations

Mr. BARROS JARPA

Inter-American Council of
Commerce and Production

/Mr. UNTERRICHTER

Category B (continued)

Mr. UNTERRICHTER	International Catholic Migration Committee
Mr. MAYNARD	International Committee of Scientific Management
Dr. DRAPKIN	International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC)
Mr. KRUHM	International Organization for Standardization
Miss JORQUERA	Liaison Committee of International Women's Organizations
Mr. IRARRAZAVAL	Pax Romana - International Movement of Catholic Students (I
Mr. SIMIAN	South American Petroleum Institute
Mrs. COLOMBO DE LAGARRIGUE	Women's International League For Peace and Freedom
Mr. FRIEDMAN	World Jewish Congress
Mr. EDO	
Mr. SANTA MARIA	World Power Conference
Mr. RODRIGUEZ	World Touring & Automobile Organization
Miss JORQUERA	World's Womens Christian Temperance Union
Mr. VERBAKEL	Young Christian Workers
<u>Secretariat</u> Mr. COHEN	Assistant Secretary General for Information
Mr. PREBISCH	Executive Secretary
Mr. SWENSON	Assistant Director
Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Alfonso)	Secretary of the Commission

/ADDRESS BY

ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHILE

Mr. FREBISCH (Executive Secretary), in the absence of the Chairman of the Commission, opened the meeting and welcomed the presence of Mr. Rooth, Director of the International Monetary Fund, who had made valuable contributions to the work of the ECLA Secretariat.

He then called upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile, Mr. Tobias Barros Ortiz, to open the session.

Mr. BARROS ORTIZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile, welcomed the delegations and pointed out that their task would not merely be routine, since ECLA's mission included not only a study of economic development but also of economic co-operation between the highly industrialized and the under-developed countries. He stressed the importance of such co-operation, both in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Charter of the American States, adding that economic security was an essential factor for the maintenance of peace not only in the Americas but throughout the world. Because of their geographic situation, the countries of the American continent had a common destiny, and the prosperity or adversity of all depended on each one of them. Their joint efforts would enable a powerful American body to be built up as an example of democratic harmony. ECLA played an important role in such efforts since, by indicating the weaknesses in Latin America's economy, it was in a position to point the way to the main factors involved in correcting such weaknesses.

In that connexion, he referred to United Nations' statistics indicating that the Latin American countries had, in 1953, been able to purchase only 60 per cent of the goods that could have been purchased in 1870 with the same volume of raw materials. Added to that, there had been a reduction in consumption and greater impoverishment which tended to favour the industrial countries.

Referring to the problem of raw material prices in relation to those for capital and manufactured goods, he pointed out that it was not merely a matter of business, since the problem had a political aspect and influenced the security of the whole continent.

He stressed the importance of adequate capital investment in Latin America in order to strengthen its purchasing power; ECLA had already

/carefully

carefully studied that question, but another of ECLA's important tasks lay in exploring the industrial possibilities of the Latin American countries with a view to indicating which industries were more important for economic development, not only at the national level but on a broader regional scale.

He concluded by welcoming the various delegations in the name of the government and people of Chile and stressed the hopes placed in the results of the meeting from the point of view of achieving broad economic co-operation, constituting an effective contribution to the cause of world peace.

ADDRESS ON BEHALF OF THE DELEGATIONS

Mr. DE PENA (Uruguay), speaking on behalf of the delegations, thanked the Minister of Foreign Affairs for his speech and assured him of the effective collaboration of the delegations present in order to make the meeting a successful one. He referred to the support given to ECLA by its member states and in particular, by the Government of Chile, which had sponsored the establishment of the Commission. He stressed the prestige acquired by ECLA during its six years of existence. The study of Latin America's potential natural resources and the indication of the immense possibilities opened up by their development had consolidated that prestige.

He pointed out that the Committee was meeting at a time when several adverse factors caused some anxiety. Such factors included the falling-off in prices for export products and its effect on the capacity to import and consequently upon economic development plans, which had received only slight support from foreign capital.

There were, by contrast, some encouraging aspects, and in particular the more responsible attitude adopted by the United States of America in its role as regulator of the economy of the free world, in seeking mutually acceptable formulae for solving problems arising out of its economic relations with other countries. Examples of that new approach lay in the recent goodwill visits of Dr. Milton Eisenhower and Senator Capehart.

In conclusion, he said that the Commission's sessions offered its members an opportunity to exchange views and to confront common anxieties and, above all, to make an objective analysis of economic problems with a view to formulating specific and feasible recommendations. In his view, the
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work of the Committee of the Whole was to chart a course based on the various trains of thought and to lay down some priority in dealing with the more urgent problems. This would be an effective contribution towards the success of the next session of ECLA to be held at Bogotá in 1955. In order to achieve that objective, it was essential to have the collaboration, not only of the Latin American countries, but of the other members of the Commission, since the welfare of the world was becoming increasingly indivisible.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Chairman

Mr. YCAZA VASQUEZ (Panamá) nominated Mr. Del Pedregal (Chile).

Mr. DEL PEDREGAL (Chile) was elected Chairman by acclamation.

Mr. DEL PEDREGAL (Chile) took the Chair.

Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr. MALLORQUIN (Paraguay) nominated Mr. De Pena (Uruguay) and Mr. Hernandez Portela (Cuba) as Vice-Chairmen.

Mr. De Pena (Uruguay) and Mr. Hernandez Portela (Cuba) were elected Vice-Chairmen by acclamation.

Mr. DE PENA (Uruguay) and Mr. HERNANDEZ PORTELA (Cuba) thanked the Committee.

Election of Rapporteur

Mr. GALVEZ (Honduras) nominated Mr. Aviles (El Salvador).

Mr. Aviles (El Salvador) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the Delegations for their fraternal gesture in electing as Chairman the chief delegate of the host country and stressed Chile's continuing interest in ECLA's activities. He recalled that it was the Chilean Delegation which had sponsored the idea of establishing the Economic Commission for Latin America to study the economic problems of the Latin American countries and to make recommendations as to the best way of solving them. In conclusion, he once more expressed his gratitude for the honour conferred upon him.

The meeting rose at 11:45 a.m.