

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



PROPIEDAD DE  
LA BIBLIOTECA



PROVISIONAL

E/CN.12/AC.49/SR.2  
13 May 1961

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
GENERAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE  
Santiago, Chile



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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND MEETING

Held at Santiago on Saturday, 13 May 1961, at 11 a.m.

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(Conference Room Paper N° 4, Conference Room Paper N° 17 and Corr.1)

Consideration of the programme of work and priorities (E/CN.12/598  
and Add.1, E/CN.12/610)

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/PRESENT

PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. KROON	(Kingdom of the Netherlands)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. LUNA SILVA	Nicaragua
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. VAILATI	Argentina
	Mr. PINHEIRO	Brazil
	Mr. ROJAS	Chile
	Mr. MENDEZ	Colombia
	Mr. CUELLAR	El Salvador
	Mr. DUFLOS	France
	Mr. PAREDES REGALADO	Honduras
	Mr. van SUCHTELEN	Kingdom of the Netherlands
	Mr. APODACA OSUNA	Mexico
	Mr. LEON CARRERA	Peru
	Mr. LAM	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. KELAKOS	United States of America
	Mr. RUOCCO	Uruguay
	Mr. FERNANDEZ	Venezuela

ALSO PRESENT:

Observers from States Members of the  
United Nations not members of the  
Commission:

Mr. BRUNNER	Austria
Mr. HOULLEZ	Belgium
Mr. VICZENIK	Hungary
Mr. SLOWAKIEWICZ	Poland
Mr. PAMFIL	Romania
Mr. PAN de SORALUCE Y OLMOS	Spain
Mr. PETERSEN	Sweden
Mr. GORGASIDZE	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

/Representative of

Representative of a specialized agency:

Mr. MOSER	Food and Agriculture Organization
Mr. SWENSON	Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLA
Mr. MALINOWSKI	Secretary of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
Mrs. BARNETT	Programme Officer
Mr. TRANCART	Secretary of the Committee

Secretariat:

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE (Conference Room Paper N° 4, Conference Room Paper N° 17 and Corr.1)

The CHAIRMAN invited comments on the draft resolution submitted by Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela concerning the establishment of an ECLA Office at Bogota (Conference Room Paper N° 4).

Mr. MENDEZ (Colombia), introducing the draft resolution, said that Colombia had for many years been interested in establishing a second ECLA Office on the continent of Latin America. As the work of the Commission's ninth session had shown, there was an urgent need to expand and intensify research on economic and social conditions, and assistance to Governments in connexion with economic development and integration. The magnitude of the new tasks was such that they could not be carried out satisfactorily unless the ECLA machinery was expanded commensurately. The establishment of an ECLA Office at Bogota, in response to the need, would provide a good geographic centre for accelerating the work to be done in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, and would serve as a counterpart to the Mexico Office, which dealt with the needs of Central America and the Caribbean countries, and to the Santiago Headquarters, which geographically had a greater effect on the countries of the southern part of the continent.

The work of the advisory groups in Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador could not be carried out effectively so long as the experts had to cover such great distances in order to be on the spot at crucial junctures. The work of the Mexico Office had conclusively demonstrated the value of establishing an Office to deal with sub-regional problems; it had served as the motive power for the whole movement of Central American integration.

For all those reasons, Colombia, supported by Ecuador and Venezuela, had decided to press for the establishment of an ECLA Office at Bogota and had accordingly co-sponsored the draft resolution.

Mr. FERNANDEZ (Venezuela) reaffirmed his country's support for the draft resolution.

Mr. LEON CARRERA (Peru) also supported the draft resolution.

The draft resolution on the establishment of an ECLA Office at Bogota (Conference Room Paper N° 4) was approved by 15 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

/The CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN invited comments on the draft resolution submitted by El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua concerning relations with inter-American agencies (Conference Room Paper N° 17 and Corr.1).

The draft resolution was approved unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES (E/CN.12/598 and Add.1, E/CN.12/610)

Mrs. BARNETT (Secretariat) explained that document E/CN.12/598 set forth the work programme as it stood at the beginning of the current session, while document E/CN.12/598/Add.1 set out the changes which were necessary as a result of the proposals made during the session. She described the position reached in the Committees with regard to the various draft resolutions and pointed out that some further changes in the work programme might have to be made, depending on the resolutions as finally adopted. In the case of section IV of document E/CN.12/598 - Economic problems of agriculture - project 12 had been modified in the light of requests to the secretariat made in two resolutions adopted by the Agriculture Committee. She also pointed out that, in part A of the document on changes, the title of the project on incidence of freight charges should be changed to: "Incidence of freight charges on the final cost of trade products, and other problems of trade policy in transport, resolutions..... and 15 (III) of the Trade Committee". The title of project 33, on page 5 of the same document, would be simply "Customs policy".

Mr. KELAKOS (United States of America) observed that it was not always easy for the secretariat to fit into its work plan all the tasks assigned to it by the Commission and to propose the necessary priorities. He wished to draw attention to the solution which had been adopted by one of the Regional Commissions. ECAFE had set up an Ad Hoc Working Group, consisting of five members of the Commission, all from within the region, who worked with the secretariat and advised it on the way in which the problem of priorities should be dealt with. In that connexion, the Working Group had adopted some interesting criteria for establishing priorities which would be found in the relevant ECAFE document and

/probably in

probably in the ECAFE report to the Economic and Social Council. It was a solution which ECLA might wish to consider for the purposes of its next session.

Mr. TRANCART (Secretary of the Committee) read out rule 26 of the rules of procedure concerning financial implications, and the CHAIRMAN drew attention to the statement on financial implications prepared by the Executive Secretary (E/CN.12/610).

The programme of work and priorities 1961-1962 (E/CN.12/598 and Add.1) was approved unanimously.

The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.