

**REPORT OF THE
SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE
FOR LATIN AMERICA**

Río de Janeiro, Brazil, 17-27 November 1962



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Roma, 1963

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	1
Organization of the Conference	1
Inaugural Ceremony	1
First Plenary Meeting	4
Agenda of the Conference	5
Special Matters	7
Closing Ceremony	7
<u>SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS</u>	
THE WORK OF FAO IN LATIN AMERICA	9
Statement by the Representative of the Director-General	9
Statements by Delegations	18
Statement by Representatives and Observers of International Organizations	39
<u>ITEMS DISCUSSED IN PLENARY SESSION</u>	
WORLD FREEDOM FROM HUNGER CAMPAIGN	51
EFFECTIVE USE OF EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE	56
Technical Cooperation Programs	56
The World Food Program	57
INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION	60
LAND TENURE AND REFORM	62
Introduction	62
Working Group on Agrarian Reform	62
Plenary Discussion	63
<u>ITEMS DISCUSSED IN COMMISSIONS</u>	
MEASURES TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC PLANNING IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROBLEMS OF COORDINATION	69
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING, INCLUDING STORAGE, PRESERVATION, PROCESSING AND TRANSPORTATION	74

	<u>Page</u>
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS TOWARDS REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND THE PROMOTION OF A COMMON APPROACH TO AGRICULTURAL POLICIES	77
PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS OF LATIN AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS AND THE IMPACT OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY	79
IMPORTANT FACTORS IN PLANNED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL MATTERS IN THE REGION	83
Land and Water Resources Development	83
Plant and Livestock Production and Protection	85
Increased Use of Fertilizers	90
Forestry and Forest Industries	91
Fisheries	93
State Services for Agriculture	96
Research training in extension, cooperatives and credit	96
Agricultural information	100
<u>SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS</u>	
FINAL SUMMING UP SPEECH MADE BY DR. HERNAN SANTA CRUZ, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO	103
The World Freedom from Hunger Campaign	104
Agrarian Reform	105
Economic Problems	105
Technical Matters	106
Cooperation and Coordination	108
The World Food Program	109
<u>LIST OF PARTICIPANTS</u>	110
<u>OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE</u>	124
<u>FAO STAFF</u>	124

I. INTRODUCTION

Organization of the Conference

1. The Seventh FAO Regional Conference for Latin America was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 17 to 27 November 1962.

2. The Conference was attended by delegations from the following countries:

ARGENTINA	GUATEMALA
BOLIVIA	HONDURAS
BRAZIL	MEXICO
CHILE	NETHERLANDS
COLOMBIA	NICARAGUA
CUBA	PARAGUAY
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	PERU
ECUADOR	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
EL SALVADOR	URUGUAY
FRANCE	VENEZUELA

3. A delegation from the Associate Member BRITISH GULANA also attended.

4. The following countries were represented by observers:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	JAPAN
ISRAEL	SWEDEN

5. Representatives of the following Organizations were present as observers:

Interamerican Committee for Agricultural Development.
Interamerican Development Bank.
Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration.
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.
International Labour Office.
Latin American Free Trade Association.
Organization of American States.
United Nations.
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
World Health Organization.

6. A list of participants attending the Conference is given in Appendix A to this Report.

Inaugural Ceremony

7. Dr. Renato da Costa Lima, Minister of Agriculture of Brazil, expressed the satisfaction of the Brazilian Government for being able to act as host to the VII FAO Regional Conference for Latin America, and welcomed the delegations attending the meeting. He pointed out the great interest that Brazil attached to this FAO event, particularly in view of the fact that his country was striving to attain economic development through social justice to foster national progress and people's welfare. The Minister congratulated the Director-General of FAO for the broad approach of the Organization to the economic and social problems of Latin America as well as to those of all the developing countries of the world, and emphasized the close cooperation ensured through the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture between Brazil and FAO.

8. Mr. José Selig Hernández, Minister of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic, in the name of all the Delegations, expressed the warmest appreciation of the Latin American countries for the kind invitation extended by the Brazilian Government to convene the VII FAO Regional Conference in Rio de Janeiro. The Minister stated that he was certain of the success of the Conference which was assured by the great interest of attending Delegations in food and agriculture development in the region. He also expressed satisfaction for the work of FAO in Latin America.

9. On behalf of the Director-General of FAO, Dr. Hernán Santa Cruz, Assistant Director-General in charge of Latin American Affairs, expressed to His Excellency the President of Brazil, the Brazilian Government officials, and the authorities of the State of Guanabara the gratitude of the Organization for the kind invitation to hold in Rio de Janeiro the VII FAO Regional Conference for Latin America. He conveyed to the Conference the personal regrets of the Director-General of FAO for not being able, as he had hoped, to attend personally because of other pressing commitments which had already been communicated to the Government. A visit to Brazil, which was warmly wished by Dr. B. R. Sen, could be possible early next year. On that opportunity the Director-General of FAO would also visit other Latin American countries to exchange views on food and agriculture problems of the region.

10. Then Dr. Santa Cruz expressed his satisfaction for the statement of Dr. da Costa Lima, Minister of Agriculture of Brazil, which has underlined not only the scope of the FAO activities but also the close cooperation existing between Brazil and FAO. This cooperation was all the more important in view of the keen interest shown by Brazil in the agricultural development problems of Latin America. FAO, in its role of UN specialized agency concerned with world progress in the critical sector of food and agriculture, was aware that particular conditions prevailed in each country and that problems often differed widely countrywise and regionwise. This was the reason for the regional specialization in several aspects of the work of FAO, the maintenance of FAO regional offices, and the holding of FAO regional conferences. At these conferences, member countries in each particular region were invited to interchange views on national and regional problems of agricultural development and on experiences concerning policies and measures aimed at raising nutrition levels and economic and social conditions within the agricultural sector. These conferences also promoted the coordination of agricultural policies at the regional level so that lines of action could be recommended to member governments and to the Director-General in relation to the future activities of FAO in each particular region.

11. Dr. Santa Cruz pointed out that the Provisional Agenda prepared by FAO for the Conference included a well rounded set of topics allowing discussion of the basic problems of agricultural development in Latin America from which useful conclusions could be drawn. Action was certainly required to improve living conditions in rural areas of Latin America, which for the most part blocked possibilities for accelerating economic development in the region. It was necessary to face these problems frankly. The dramatic truth was that in the long run agricultural production in Latin America was not keeping pace with population growth. In a region where malnutrition and hunger have always been rampant and where there were large untapped land resources, agricultural production per person was still less than in the years before the Second World War. He felt that the Conference would certainly consider the particular problems of the region which, in spite of being so rich in land resources, still had quite large numbers of its population earning incomes not above one hundred dollars per person per year. With such income levels, too many people were unable to obtain even the bare essentials and could consume only a minimum of manufactured goods. Within these population groups illiteracy was impressively high; housing was primitive; unhealthy nutrition conditions existed, with large caloric and protein deficiencies; and life expectancy was only half of that prevailing among urban dwellers in the region and about one third of that of the rural population in the more advanced countries.

12. The Representative of the Director-General emphasized that basic Latin American economic problems in recent years have been in the forefront of active international

discussions, and that governments in the region were intensifying their action to tackle those problems. The Inter-American Economic Meetings of Bogotá in 1960 and Punta del Este in 1961 have drawn a set of action guides for measures to be taken by Latin American countries with the aim of eradicating hunger and extreme poverty within a decade. Only now, however, two years after the Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Latin America had met in Mexico in 1960, an opportunity existed for the countries in the region to look deeply into the prevailing conditions in the agricultural sector which was like an Achilles' heel in the Latin American economy. They were now in a position to exchange views on trade problems concerning their agricultural exports and reach an understanding on policies of international cooperation which could lead to solutions of basic agricultural questions having serious social and political implications. The Director-General's Representative concluded his address by stating that he felt sure that the attending Delegations would make a positive contribution to finding solutions to the problems of agricultural development in the region, and assured the Conference that FAO would extend all possible collaboration to the Latin American countries to this end.

13. In the name of the Government and people of Brazil, His Excellency Dr. João Goulart, President of the United States of Brazil, welcomed the delegates attending the VII FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and greeted the high officials of FAO present in Rio de Janeiro. He stated that FAO has, in Latin America and in other underdeveloped areas, been a leader in the struggle against backward farm practices and for modernizing agricultural techniques in order to improve nutrition and rural conditions all over the world. Thanks to its prestige, FAO has become an effective instrument to help overcome prejudices and traditions that hamper an objective appraisal of the agricultural development problems and of the remedies that could solve them. He believed that the proposed Agenda clearly reflected the progressive performance of FAO which was contributing to the attainment of further social and economic progress in the less developed regions of the world. In posing, lucidly and courageously, the problems of food and agriculture in Latin America, and in stimulating studies and solutions to clear the way to forsake outdated structures, FAO was collaborating to create a clear awareness of the right that countries have to self-determination in attaining their economic and social development.

14. The Conference would debate many of those problems, the President said, from the technical and educational ones to those related to land tenure and use. Thus, agrarian reform would be reviewed once again in its many aspects. Until recently agriculture was the main link of Latin America with the international markets, enabling the region to import equipment and technique in exchange for agricultural products, and determining its prevailing economic structure, which now, however, was rapidly diversifying. The experience of the last decade has confirmed that the expansion of world agricultural trade was not keeping pace with demographic growth in the countries exporting primary products and that in the world market agricultural prices tended to decline in relation to those of manufactured goods coming from highly industrialized countries. This could explain why the development process of the Latin American countries was now being based upon a greater reliance on their internal markets. However, this new orientation of the Latin American economies, which had allowed the region to make progress notwithstanding the adverse world market conditions, especially in the past decade, had by no means led to a lesser importance of agriculture. In fact, said the President, industrialization and rapid urbanization have increased domestic demand for food products and agricultural raw materials, but in Latin American development still much depended upon the promptness with which agriculture could respond to the expanding demand arising out of a fast growing population and a larger internal market.

15. In this process the manner in which agricultural production was organized could become socially inadequate. To avoid that the rigidity of the agrarian structure could lead to tensions at high social cost, was the main goal of a policy for agricultural development. This objective could be achieved only through intensive research aimed at a better knowledge of the potentialities of each area and the techniques

most appropriate for local conditions. Equally important was a continuing analysis of the possible effects of the preferential tariffs adopted by the European Economic Community on Latin American agricultural exports.

16. The President pointed out that, inspired by the same ideas which oriented the Conference, the Brazilian Government was adopting measures to accelerate agricultural progress and improve the food situation. Along those lines, radical organizational changes had been made in the Ministry of Agriculture to foster a more dynamic action for the benefit of the Brazilian agriculture. An autonomous agency had been created to formulate a plan for agrarian reform. In the food sector, the Government's action included the establishment of an autonomous institution for fisheries, a new policy of incentives for maize production, and a campaign for the rationalization of coffee production. At the same time, the Government planned to stimulate a more efficient production, preservation, and distribution of foodstuffs; it also strove to improve agricultural credit, extending it to small and medium farmers, and to foster the cooperative organization of agricultural producers. A special effort was being made to carry out the agrarian reform measures as a means, among others, of educational, economic and technical nature, to give the farmers better facilities and improve general land tenure and use conditions and thus achieve faster rural development.

17. The President noted that it was likely that the majority of the Latin American population had a calorie and protein intake lower than that indicated in national and international statistics. This serious food situation, which arose out of economics based on primary production and traditional agriculture whose products faced stiff competition in the international market, could not be overcome by words or philanthropic measures. He stated that national forces of development had to be released so that, through better opportunities for work and a rising national product, the whole population could attain a rapid improvement of their present hunger level nutrition conditions. The wholehearted contribution of all men and women in the countries was required to this end since an action based on external assistance alone could not improve effectively the living conditions of underdeveloped nations. The President of the Republic congratulated FAO for its open-minded and constructive activities, and concluded by wishing the delegations every success in their debates which would be followed with great interest by the Brazilian Government.

First Plenary Meeting

18. Following the inaugural ceremony, the Conference met in plenary session to designate the Conference officers and to adopt the Agenda.

Dr. Renato da Costa Lima, Minister of Agriculture of Brazil, was elected Chairman. The Heads of Delegations were then elected Vice-Chairmen as follows:

Argentina
Bolivia
Colombia
Cuba
Chile
El Salvador
United States of America
France
Guatemala
British Guiana
Honduras
México
Nicaragua
Netherlands

Norbert A. Reichart
Renán Castrillo
Cornelio Reyes
Raúl Cepero Bonilla
Orlando Sandoval
Jaime Alzamora
Gerald E. Tichenor
Lucien Escard
José Arturo González
Brindley Horatio Benn
José R. Castro
Jesús Patino Navarrete
Justino Sanson Balladares
Willem Oosterberg

Paraguay
Perú
Dominican Republic
Uruguay
Venezuela

Emilio R. Chaves Egusquiza
Jesús Melgar
José Selig Hernández
Carlos Fernández-Goyechea
Alejandro Osorio

19. As a practical procedure to assist the Chairman in handling the Conference sessions, it was agreed that three Vice-Chairmen who held the office of Minister of Agriculture in their respective country would represent the general body of Vice-Chairmen. Accordingly, the following Heads of Delegation were designated for this purpose:

- 1) Minister of Agriculture of Chile, Dr. Orlando Sandoval
- 2) Minister of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic,
Mr. José Selig Hernández
- 3) Minister of Agriculture of Peru, General of the Air Force
Jesús Melgar

Agenda of the Conference

20. The following Agenda was adopted:

A) Introductory Items

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of officials
3. Adoption of the Agenda.

B) Major Questions of Policy in Relation to Agricultural Development and Planning

4. The present situation and basic problems of agriculture in Latin America.
5. Measures to improve economic planning in the countries of the region, with special reference to agricultural development and problems of coordination (+)
6. Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign in relation to economic development and the World Food Congress.

(+) This item includes reference to the place of nutrition in economic planning.

7. Significant technological factors concerning planned development of agriculture in the region:

- (a) Land and water resources development.
- (b) Land tenure and reform.
- (c) Plant and livestock production and protection.
- (d) Increased use of fertilizers:
 - (i) Needs and problems of supply.
 - (ii) Progress Report on the Fertilizer Program.
- (e) Forestry and forest industries.
- (f) Fisheries.
- (g) Government services to agriculture:
 - (i) Research, extension, education, cooperatives, and credit.
 - (ii) Agricultural information.
- (h) Agricultural marketing, including storage, preservation, processing, and transportation.

8. Effective use of external assistance

- (a) Technical cooperation programs
- (b) World Food Program

C. Regional Economic Integration and Trade in Agricultural Products

- 9. Recent developments towards regional economic integration and the promotion of a common approach to agricultural policies.
- 10. Prospects and problems of Latin American export crops.
- 11. Developments in economic integration in the European Economic Community and their impact on Latin American agricultural trade.

D. Concluding Items

- 12. Inter-Agency cooperation.
- 13. Summing up of discussions.
- 14. Adoption of the Report.

21. The Conference decided to establish two commissions, one to deal with items related to economic questions of the Agenda and the second to discuss technical matters. On the basis of this decision, the different topics of the Agenda were distributed by the Conference as follows:

- a) Plenary Sessions: Items 4, 6, 7(b), 8, 12, 13 and 14.
- b) Economic Commission: Items 5, 7(h), 9, 10 and 11.
- c) Technical Commission: Items 7(a), 7(c), 7(d): 7(e), 7(f), and 7(g).

22. The Conference appointed Mr. Alejandro Osorio, Head of the Venezuelan Delegation, Chairman of the Economic Commission, and Mr. Jesús Patiño Navarrete, Head of the Mexican Delegation, Chairman of the Technical Commission. There was

one abstention in each case.

Special Matters

23. In the third plenary session the Conference unanimously approved a motion presented by the Venezuelan Delegation to pay homage to the Government and the people of Brazil on the occasion of the Brazilian Flag Day.

24. In the fourth plenary session, the Venezuelan Delegation proposed that tribute be paid by the Conference to Mexico on the 52nd anniversary of the Mexican Revolution of 1910, stressing the importance the Mexican agrarian reform has had not only for Mexico but for the whole of Latin America. This motion received the full support of all Delegation, with the exception of Uruguay.

Closing Ceremony

25. The Chairman of the Conference, Mr. Renato da Costa Lima, the Brazilian Minister of Agriculture, opened the final session with an expression of profound grief of all members of the Conference at the sudden death of the leaders and members of the Cuban and Peruvian delegations; this tragedy had occurred only that morning, through an air disaster in the neighborhood of Lima. The Chairman voiced the feelings of the whole Conference at the loss of such distinguished men of science and action, with whom they had just spent several days of intensive and fruitful work. He asked that a minute's silence should be observed as a gesture of homage to their colleagues so untimely deceased.

26. The Chairman then addressed the delegations and took the occasion of the conclusion of the Conference to say that he regarded the 11 days which they had just spent in unremitting study and hard work as highly significant. They had very considerably deepened their awareness of the problems involved in the development of Latin American countries, both those common to them all and those peculiar to each one. He referred to the summary of their discussions which had been made by Dr. Santa Cruz, representing the Director-General of FAO; this, he said, had enabled the delegates to get a conspectus of the work of the Conference, in which every delegation had actively supported lines of policy for the successful outcome of the campaign against underdevelopment in Latin America. At the same time he observed that their discussions had revealed a general consensus on extremely useful ideas in the field of planning and directing agricultural development, as also of reorganizing the whole administrative machinery for implementing agricultural policy in a really effective manner (as was already being done in Brazil); they had been no less useful in suggesting ways of improving such services as research, extension, intelligence and supervised credit; they had contributed much towards framing and executing national programs by way of promoting the Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign, and towards carrying through schemes of land reform to replace poor systems of land tenure and use. They had highlighted the need for planning at regional level and for coordinating policies to increase agricultural, forestry and fishery production. The Chairman concluded by congratulating the delegates, in the name of the Brazilian Government, for their contribution to the study of problems and prospects for development of Latin American agriculture.

27. Mr. Hernán Santa Cruz, on behalf the Director-General of FAO, also affirmed the profound sorrow felt by all members of the Conference at the tragic death of their colleagues from Cuba and Peru. He intimated that FAO suffered a great loss by this misfortune which had overtaken two member countries, and tendered the condolence of the Director-General. Mr. Santa Cruz then turned to thank the Chairman of the Conference and the Government of Brazil for all the facilities which they had provided and the valuable help given by the Brazilian staff, particularly by the co-ordinator and assistant general secretary of the Conference, Mr. David de Azambuja; he also tendered thanks on behalf of FAO to everyone who had lent his services to the various activities of the Conference.

28. Speaking on behalf of the delegation leaders, Mr. Jesús Patiño Navarrete offered condolences in the untimely decease of the colleagues who had worked with them at this Conference as delegates from Cuba and Peru. He also expressed the gratitude of all the delegations for the warm and generous welcome which they had received from the Brazilian Government, and added his thanks to the FAO secretariat, and to the staff of the Brazilian secretariat whose unremitting labors had played a large part in the success of the Conference. He concluded by again thanking Mr. João Goulart, President of the Brazilian Republic, and Mr. Renato da Costa Lima, the Minister of Agriculture and Chairman of the VII FAO Regional Conference for Latin America.

29. Before the Conference closed, the leader of the Uruguayan delegation made a motion that the Conference should send a formal message to the Governments of Cuba and Peru conveying their profound grief and sympathy with the loss of the distinguished members of the delegations of these two countries. This motion was carried unanimously.

30. The Chairman of the Conference then formally closed the work of the VII FAO Regional Conference for Latin America.

II. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

THE WORK OF FAO IN LATIN AMERICA

Statement by the Representative of the Director-General

31. The Representative of the Director-General of FAO noted that the first subject under discussion at the VII Regional Conference for Latin America, which followed the fruitful one held in Mexico in 1960, referred to the study of prevailing trends and basic problems of food and agriculture, and the review of recent developments and prospects of agricultural progress in Latin America. He underlined the fact that Latin American agriculture continued to grow too slowly - this was the obvious conclusion when examining long-term trends. Since the first FAO Regional Conference for Latin America in 1949, this fact had been recognized now and again. In spite of the long time which has elapsed since then, it had now to be frankly admitted that not only could little progress be shown in Latin America in the field of agriculture but that there were sectors moving backwards.

32. He remarked that before examining the most recent developments, it would be useful to review the evolution of agriculture during the whole postwar period. From this angle, one could see that agricultural output had marked a gain of about 60 per cent up to 1960, as compared with the volume of regional agricultural production in the pre-war years. However, this rise in output had not kept pace with population growth and the ultimate effect had been that agricultural production per capita had declined about 5 per cent. This trend appeared even less satisfactory if the evolution of agricultural production of Latin America was compared with that of other regions of the world. With the exception of the Far East, agriculture in all other regions had expanded significantly: in Europe, for example, current agricultural production per capita was between 22 and 44 per cent higher than the pre-war levels. On the other hand, it had to be pointed out that the over-all improvement in agricultural production in Latin America reflected the situation prevailing in the region as a whole but concealed sharp differences and contrasting development for individual countries. For instance, large increases had been attained in some agricultural sectors in Mexico, whereas production per capita had fallen in other countries like Argentina and Chile.

33. Developments in the last few years had brought about an even more discouraging tendency in Latin American agriculture. In fact, it could be noted that in addition to the traditionally lagging production for the internal markets, possibilities for agricultural development were being hampered by the worsening world market conditions which had affected not only exports from the temperate areas but also those of the tropical products of the region. Besides, food production per person in the region had kept falling in the last three years to the point of being now less than in the period before the Second World War.

34. The low rate of increases of agricultural production in Latin America has had an unfavourable impact on many sectors, in particular the region's agricultural trade. Imports, especially of foodstuffs of animal origin, have followed an upward trend. At the same time, some agricultural exports have been declining as growing supplies were required for larger internal consumption. Latin America has lost ground vis-à-vis other regions of the world as an agricultural exporting area. Even for those agricultural exports in which Latin America still holds a leading position, world market developments have determined a declining price trend which, in turn, has adversely affected the region's producers and exporters of such crops. According to recent FAO information, unfavourable conditions prevailing in the world market have led to a situation where, in 1961, a volume of Latin American agricultural exports which was 29 per cent above the average for the period 1952-1953, brought a total value 5 per cent less than in the preceding biennium. Since, during the same period, prices of manufactured goods and equipment imported by Latin America

increased about 7 per cent, the net effect was that the real purchasing power of the region's agricultural exports shrank by 11 per cent. It was easy to realize how negative had been the effect of such a situation on the overall economic development of Latin America, which still depended substantially on agricultural exports as foreign currency earning products, besides having provoked the growing external debt of many countries in the region.

35. From the point of view of internal development, the situation was no better. Shortages of some basic food supplies have developed in some instances notwithstanding the growing imports; for example, meat supplies were generally insufficient, with the exception of only two or three countries. This serious situation has often been aggravated by increases of internal prices of basic foodstuffs. No doubt insufficient food supplies have contributed to the persistence of inflationary trends in many countries.

36. The Representative of the Director-General noted that this picture, negative as it was, did not reflect all the aspects of the underdevelopment prevailing in Latin American agriculture. Even though the backward situation of a large part of the rural population could not be measured entirely through figures, on the basis of some economic and social indicators it appeared that in many fields little or no progress had been made. No less than 50 per cent of the total population of Latin America still lived in rural areas; however, the contribution of the agricultural sector to the gross product of the region was no more than 20 per cent, indicating that income per capita in rural areas was, as an average, only about one fourth of that in the cities. Concentration of land, defective land use, illiteracy, traditional farming, and low level of technique were among the main factors contributing to the low productivity and income prevailing in rural areas of almost every country in the region. The mass of agricultural population had living conditions that were far below the minimum standards, with scarcity of food, almost complete lack of clothing, and unhealthy housing conditions. The attainment of rapid agricultural and economic development in Latin America was unlikely, with about one half of its population continuing to earn incomes that were incompatible with the requirements of an expanding market economy. As a consequence of this situation, morbidity and mortality rates were much higher in rural than in urban areas. There was a clear inter-relationship between illiteracy and proportion of rural population in the various countries. These backward conditions in rural areas were a most serious deterrent to social and economic progress in Latin America. Several decades of improvement of the industrial and tertiary activities had not been able to break the vicious circle of poverty in large areas of Latin America. Rather, growing industrial development and urbanization in the face of much lower agricultural progress had led to the creation of two different economic worlds sharply contrasting with one another, as could be observed not only in Latin America but the whole world over.

37. On the other hand the effects of this state of misery and stagnation go beyond the exclusive sphere of agriculture. The fact that over one hundred million Latin-Americans earn incomes which barely keep them alive is the reason for the artificially restricted demand for manufactured goods. Whilst Latin America was able to easily substitute some imported manufactured goods the extent of the demand was not of any great importance. Nowadays nevertheless the region should take energetic action towards producing capital and heavy industry goods for which greater buying power and demand are required. The economic integration of the countries in the region would provide considerable relief in this question of volume of demand, but the final solution will consist of the incorporation into consumer demand itself, of the millions of individuals who are today excluded from the currency cycle; thus securing improved competitive status for Latin-American industry.

38. Turning to the study of the motivating factors of this deplorable backwardness in agriculture, the Representative of the Director General remarked that for several years FAO has been calling attention to the burden thrust upon economic and social

progress through the existence of such agrarian policies as those prevailing in many parts of the region. The fact has been thrown into relief on many previous occasions that less than 10% of farmers in Latin America own about 90% of agricultural land in the region. Of the 30 million inhabitants actively engaged in agriculture in 1960, approximately 100 thousand, namely 0.3%, were owners of 65% of all agricultural land, whilst about 27 million were farming small holdings for their own upkeep or else were landless farm-workers. One of the most obvious results of such excessive concentration of agricultural property is the poor use made of land. Aside from a small group of medium sized farmers engaged in a commercial type of agriculture, in the same class as the large concerns engaged in the production of the export category lines, it is evident that the majority of undertakings usually consist of extensive crop and livestock farming showing a low physical and economic yield per unit of surface. For the large range farmer this is seldom a problem since the large amount of land which he has available allows him to draw an overall income above his requirements for a small capital investment and by paying very low wages. On the other hand for the smallholder who owns a small tract of land and that of very poor quality and who has scarcely any technical training the notions of soil conservation and maximum yield are quite beyond his intellectual and economic capacities. To the foregoing one must add the poor use of the available labour force which is shown by the fact that the majority of farm-workers are unemployed for more than 150 to 200 days during the year.

39. The excessive concentration of land in only a few hands -as was pointed out by the Representative of the Director General- prevents attempts at introducing more advanced technology from showing better results. The more progressive farmers undoubtedly face a whole series of obstacles in the attempt to increase their investment in the land. Often on account of unsuitable exchange policies the input called for to improve production methods leads to costs too heavy and uneconomic. In other instances the material means are not available in any area or at the right times. Not infrequently domestic price policy has been openly unfavourable to producers, and credit scarce, difficult and expensive. In the majority of countries transport, storage and marketing problems are so big that increased production might signify the risk of losing part thereof, and leave a disproportionately large part of the price mark-up of the product in the hand of the middle-men. Nevertheless the reason for backwardness in agriculture does not spring fundamentally from such questions, serious though they may be, but from the need for basic changes in the relationship between man and the land which is the requisite for any sound progress.

40. The problem becomes ever graver if, when looking into the future of Latin America, it be considered that within the next 20 years the population of the region will possibly rise from 200 to 360 million inhabitants. This means that the total demand for agricultural products by 1980 should at least be double or easily increase by 120 to 13% over present levels, if the average rate of increase of income be somewhat over 1% per annum and if there be a parallel improvement in the redistribution of national income. To arrive at this large quantity of products it becomes indispensable to make widespread use of technological advances if increased unit yields are envisaged. Under the present extensive system of production the sought-after targets will not be found since the wealth of the land, though abundant in some areas, is undoubtedly limited when taken as a whole. For instance three products basic in the diet of the Latin-American people -wheat, corn and rice- are today planted over a surface covering approximately 30 million hectares, namely about one-third of the cultivated area. Under existing yields by 1980, an area of 65 million hectares will be required to meet the foreseeable demand. Thus it is quite evident that in order to achieve the required increase in production, what is called for in Latin America is to bring about a change in structure and outlook to enable those techniques to be applied. Otherwise the already lowered nutritional levels will be forced down even further since it will not be possible to have imports make up for the lack of domestic output. The brunt of this decrease in production will fall upon the less wealthy members of the community which might mean that the whole region be thrown into a severe state of widespread economic stagnation and undergo a period of acute social tension.

41. The Representative of the Director General constantly referred to the general line of action which the Latin-American states themselves had upheld at the world and regional Conferences of FAO and other organizations, whether belonging to the United Nations or to the Inter-American system, as well as to the means of collective action which the same governments have undertaken, especially within the FAO cooperative framework. In this regard it was mentioned that the condition of Latin-American agriculture called for a real revolution in agricultural technology similar to that which had come about in the higher income countries and transformed agriculture into a prosperous activity. This technological revolution should be planned and carried out in a short space of time if it is desired to introduce it by peaceful and technical means.

42. Agricultural planning, which has been the central theme at all the FAO Regional Conferences held during the current year and at many technical and economical meetings organized by FAO in Latin America, is an essential requirement for development in this sphere and a speedier growth thereof. What has been envisaged is the planning of agriculture within the framework of the general plans for social and economic development, which would cover the needs of the national economies and those arising from the efforts towards regional integration; which would heed the demands for social improvement made by the rural population, and seek to establish an even balance between production for domestic consumption and production for export, which would have to be diversified to the utmost. FAO is actively cooperating with the Governments of the region in their agricultural development policies, detailing experts in agricultural planning to help these countries, taking part in several advisory groups on economic development sent by ECLA to such countries as Colombia, Bolivia and Uruguay, and actively participating in the missions organized by ICAD to assist certain governments in the preparation of their national plans for agricultural development (missions to Caldas, Colombia and the Brazilian Northeast). The resistance encountered in many spheres even to the concept of planning has fortunately been overcome, and recognition obtained of the fact that planning signifies the rationalization of economic and social decisions, the setting up of goals to be reached within the range of the resources available to the community, by order of pre-established priority. The Charter of Punta del Este marked the unanimity reached in Latin America with regard to the need for planning economic and social development, and nowadays foreign financial aid is also being granted in Latin America; in accordance with the Program of the Alliance for Progress, the work of which is already showing excellent results. Nevertheless, planning in Latin America has come up against an obstacle in the shortage of programmers in the agricultural field. FAO is therefore enthusiastically collaborating in the organization and operation of the Latin American Planning Institute established by ECLA with the aid of the United Nations Special Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank and the OAS.

43. FAO has consistently maintained that one of the basic reasons for agricultural stagnation and low standards of living in rural areas is the faulty agrarian framework to be found throughout nearly all the countries in the region. It is revealed in the unjust distribution of land ownership, inadequate systems of land tenure and land use involving agricultural working methods that conflict with the principles of social justice. In a whole series of resolutions adopted at FAO Conferences and other international meetings, especially that approved at the Sixth Regional Conference and reproduced almost word for word in the Charter of Punta del Este, Latin-American countries have recognized that agrarian reform is not merely a measure of economic scope, but also a social claim and an appeal in favour of the dignity of man, in order that, as expressed in both international instruments, land be the basis of stability for the man who tills it, the foundation of his social welfare, and the safeguard of a free and dignified life for himself and his family. For FAO, agrarian reform, besides being a means of increasing productivity, is the catalyst for mobilizing idle or ill-invested funds and giving the rural masses of Latin America the opportunity of sharing actively in both economic and cultural national development.

44. Apart from the agrarian reform of Mexico, Bolivia and Cuba, which signified

a total change in the agrarian framework, there are other programs of reform being developed in Latin America that reveal the widening appeal to the national conscience alluded to by the President of Brazil in his speech at the inaugural session. Venezuela has installed more than 50,000 families since the Law of Agrarian Reform was passed little more than two years ago. Colombia is also beginning to apply the legislation introduced a few days before the opening of the Conference; Chile and Peru have also promulgated their own legislation. In Brazil, there is a Bill before Parliament that the Government intends to push through with energy and determination. In other countries, the drafting of laws and programs is going ahead rapidly.

45. In spite of its limited resources, FAO is making a steady effort to help the Latin American countries in the planning and operation of programs of agrarian reform, both with the advice of their regional officers and with the aid given to various countries in problems of land tenure, agrarian reform, settlement and credit. On the other hand FAO is already carrying out Special Fund pre-investment projects of settlement and allotment, one in Ecuador and the other in Peru; the result may be of use in drafting future programs of agrarian reform in those countries. Besides, each of the agricultural planning missions organized by ICAD with the participation of FAO covers advisory services in agrarian reform and cognate matters. Likewise, FAO, together with the other bodies belonging to ICAD, is making a survey of the prevailing systems of land tenure in Latin America with the object of determining the extent to which they are hampering economic and social development, and suggesting alternative methods of reform to stimulate that development. The ICAD survey has already been started in eight Latin American countries.

46. An undoubtedly limiting factor to the success of the efforts relating to agrarian reform--affirmed the Representative of the Director General--is the scarcity of personnel and skilled technicians. Back in 1958, the Latin American governments came out in favour of a regional Institute to investigate agricultural problems and train personnel in this field. Although it has not yet been possible to bring this project into being, FAO was working towards this. Thus in Colombia, jointly with the United Nations Special Fund, FAO has aided the Valle University to develop an important program in land economics. Furthermore, the Inter-American Development Bank, together with the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Sciences and FAO, organized four short training courses in agrarian reform for professionals in Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica and Colombia. Nevertheless, these efforts did not suffice and the steps taken to solve the problem were limited and provisional. In fact, there is an imperative need to create, as soon as possible, institutes for training and research in the agricultural problems of Latin America, with the financial aid of the United Nations Special Fund. With regard to this, the Representative of the Director General observed that the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, at a recent meeting held in Mexico, had undertaken to grant a substantial loan to the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Sciences, to be used in expanding its training program in this field. Furthermore, the Chilean Government had applied to the Special Fund for financial aid for the establishment of an Institute of Land Economics with a national and regional scope, and which is to receive the cooperation of the Interamerican Development Bank.

47. The problem of training in agrarian reform led the Representative of the Director General to the subject of Latin America's need for qualified technical personnel at all levels and in all fields. This need is so great, that it has been estimated that Latin America requires about 42,000 agricultural engineers, while the number available amounts to only 16,000 many of whom are not properly qualified. In the field of forestry alone, it has been estimated that 5,000 specialists would be required for the scientific exploitation of woodlands and the establishment of thriving lumber industries, while only 700 such experts were available. At the medium and elementary level requirements are far more pressing, as may be seen from the fact that, for the region as a whole, illiteracy amounts to an average of 40%, while in the rural areas of some countries this figure goes as high as 90%, further aggravated by the fact that the teaching provided in primary schools rarely had any agricultural content. Considering

that the ultimate success of any development program depends upon the training of the farmer himself, who quite often is unable to apply the practices required by such programs, FAO has been giving its support to programs for technical education in agriculture, including training in nutrition. Besides the traditional work of the Organization, one should mention the work being carried on in centers such as the Fishery Institutes in Peru, Ecuador and Chile; the Veterinary Institute of Peru; the Vocational Training Institute of Montevideo; the National Polytechnic of Venezuela; the special program of the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Sciences of Turrialba, Costa Rica; the Forestry Research and Training Institute of Chile; the National Forestry School of Brazil; the Forestry and Waters Administration Institute of Argentina; the Agricultural Education Institute of the University of Cochabamba, Bolivia; the Latin American Institute of Agricultural Marketing of Colombia; and the Agricultural Engineering Institute of Peru. In connection with these projects, FAO has acted in the capacity of executive agency of all these institutes and centers, which were established with the aid of the United Nations Special Fund.

48. The Latin American Education and Economic Development Conference, held in Santiago in March 1961, recommended that conditions in agricultural education should be investigated at all levels. The ICAD, of which FAO is a member, has undertaken to conduct this investigation, in a joint effort with the Working Group on Education set up by the Punta del Este Charter. This program is to cover the whole area of the continent, and aims to analyze existing conditions in agricultural colleges and university departments, in senior and vocational schools, and in rural schools, as well as to determine those problems which prevent them from expanding their activities.

49. The Representative of the Director General observed that, in order to obtain effective results from agricultural development programs, it would be necessary for governments to establish efficient and well-organized services staffed with permanent technical personnel. The situation in this area - which is most unsatisfactory - was fortunately improving and quite rapidly, too. Brazil has just decided to put its Ministry of Agriculture through a radical reform, while the Chilean Government has recently passed a law reorganizing its agricultural services. Other countries have taken steps along these lines recently, not to mention those who already have experienced and well-founded services. The FAO has had the satisfaction of contributing, through its experts, to this process of modernizing institutions which orient the development of national plans.

50. In the field of agricultural research, which is of such paramount importance in the improvement of agricultural productivity, FAO has provided assistance to several countries in the reorganization of such services. At the Institutes established with the aid of the Special Fund, and mentioned above, particular emphasis has been laid upon research in the specific problems of their respective fields of study.

51. The Representative of the Director General stated that agriculture in Latin America was in need of new capital for investment and operation. In order to obtain this capital, it has been necessary to resort to official or private credit. Available credit has been scarce and costly, and generally granted under terms unsuited to the different varieties of agricultural activity. There is, thus, a need for special credit techniques, whose management requires personnel trained in subjects quite different from traditional banking procedures. It is for this reason that FAO is cooperating with the Latin American Training Center in Agricultural Credit which is maintained by the Mexican Government under the auspices of the OAS.

52. One of the most pressing problems in Latin America concerns the marketing of agricultural commodities for internal consumption. The low level of efficiency of distribution systems and the inadequate structure of marketing channels have reduced the incomes of the region's farmers to an extremely low level. The small and medium producers are the ones which have been most affected by this. The Latin American Institute of Agricultural Marketing (IIMA), organized by FAO with the financial aid of the United Nations Special Fund, is the direct result of FAO's concern on this

score; the Institute is expected to open its activities on January 1, 1963.

53. Certain other action measures of FAO were likewise mentioned, such as, for instance, the encouragement of cattle development, which has a great future before it as shown at the Conference on Livestock Production and Animal Health, held last May in Santiago under the auspices of FAO. The program includes the development of artificial grazing lands, cattle selection and improvement of animal health, a more widespread and adequate use of fertilizers, the scientific tillage of the land and utilization of water, and selection of seeds.

54. Two areas of interest deserved the special attention of the Representative of the Director General owing to the significant contribution they could make towards the economic and social development of the region, namely, forestry development and the large-scale development of fisheries. The Representative remarked that the Seventh Meeting of the Latin American Forestry Commission was being held in Santiago, Chile, the results of which were to be brought to the knowledge of the Conference. Nearly all of the top administration of the continent's forestry policies and 170 delegates are gathered at this meeting. This gathering is discussing a new and imaginative policy to be applied to Latin America's forest resources which may turn out to be one of the major factors in the economic and social development of the region, making it possible to satisfy internal housing requirements, serving as a basis for the development of thriving lumber, cellulose and paper industries, and providing a very important source of exchange from abroad. This discussion is being based upon a study on the subject of "Trends in the Production, Consumption and Marketing of Forest Products in Latin America", prepared jointly by ECLA and FAO, and other studies prepared by the Organization. These documents show that Latin America is the wealthiest region in the world as far as forest resources in the world. Nevertheless, the region produces only 10% of the lumber consumed in the world and a mere 4% of this is used for industrial purposes; its lumber consumption is only a half of the world's average; and in 25 years' time it shall require three times as much lumber for industrial purposes; two and a half times as much sawn wood, eight times as many planks and boards, six times as much cellulose and paper. Unless there is a considerable expansion of the lumber industry in Latin America, it shall spend an additional 3,200 million dollars to import these products by 1975, in comparison with a yearly expenditure of 300 million dollars today. On the other hand, Latin America's prospects as regards exporting lumber are favourable, owing to the increase in world consumption. The FAO, through its technical assistance missions, through support given to training and research institutes and forestry colleges, and through sponsorship of experts' meetings, has made its contribution towards stimulating new and promising forest policies in Latin America.

55. The exploitation of fishery resources, emphasized the Representative of the Director General, showed a situation similar to that found in forestry. Each day brings fresh evidence of the enormous wealth to be found in the seas and inland waters of Latin America, as may be seen from the example of Peru: this country, in the course of a few years, has raised itself to the condition of one of the three largest fish producers in the world. In Northern Chile there has also been a noteworthy expansion of fishing activities. One may likewise observe great interest in developing the fishing industry in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Panama, Ecuador and Central America. It is expected that the activities of the three Fishery Training and Research Institutes of Chile, Ecuador and Peru, which have already been opened or are about to be opened under the cooperation of FAO and with the aid of the United Nations Special Fund, shall have a considerable effect upon the development of fishing activities. Furthermore, a project is being prepared for the Special Fund which is to be applied in Central America. Besides, the programs drawn by the associated countries, such as Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, and by the South-West Atlantic Fisheries Advisory Commission show great promise.

56. Having passed in review the main lines of action agreed upon by the Governments and stated FAO's position with regard to them, the Representative of the Director General referred to other programs in which the Organization is taking part and which

constitute important instruments of collective action. He began by stressing that the World Freedom from Hunger Campaign had been launched by FAO for the purpose of providing support and stimulus to the individual action on the government level and to international cooperation, as well as to imbue them with the intensity and vigor required by the present state of undernourishment and malnutrition prevalent in economically underdeveloped areas. This Campaign is a kind of rededication on the part of FAO to the principles upon which its foundation as an agency devoted to the development of agriculture and food the world over was based. Nevertheless, there is a difference in methods as regards action. While in the course of its everyday work the FAO acts through the agency of its member governments, this Campaign is essentially a citizens' movement which has behind it all the living forces of the world and seeks to mobilize people throughout the world to join the battle against hunger and want. The Campaign has a universal scope: in economically developed countries, it tends to awaken their sense of responsibility in face of a situation which must be overcome through international collective action, as a result of the feelings of solidarity which arise in face of want. In developing countries, on the other hand, the purpose of the Campaign is to foster a generalized attitude favoring more dynamic and vigorous action on the part of governments.

57. The World Freedom from hunger Campaign has the enthusiastic backing of the United Nations and of all its specialized Organizations, besides the cooperation it is receiving from highly important non-governmental organizations. The Campaign is coordinated with this open attack upon the problem of economic and social backwardness initiated by the United Nations through the resolution adopted unanimously by its General Assembly in 1961, which qualified the 60's as the United Nations Development Decade.

58. Within the framework of the Campaign's different activities, the World Freedom from Hunger Week shall be launched the world over on March 21, 1963. The FAO expects that this Week shall be of great significance and that it shall play its part in making world opinion appreciate that hunger and want constitute a worldwide problem which demands a gigantic effort for many years to come. During this Week, all countries shall issue postage stamps in support of the Campaign. About 80 nations have undertaken to take part, amongst them Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay.

59. Furthermore, a World Food Congress is to be held in Washington in June 1963, organized by FAO with the cooperation of the United States Government. The object of this Congress is to draw the attention of the world to the aims of the Campaign, evaluate its progress and results, and show the ends towards which efforts should be directed. It is to be the first World Congress of its kind, since it is to gather government representatives and humanists from all over the world, men of science and researchers, economists specialized in the problems of development, representatives from farmers' associations and citizen groups taking part in world movements against hunger and want.

60. A few months ago, a new and promising undertaking was launched on the international level for the purpose of attacking the problem of hunger and fostering speedier economic and social development throughout the world. This is the World Food Program, jointly organized by the FAO and the United Nations, and which shall have at its disposal a fund of 100 million dollars for the next three years. The main object of this Program is the use of food as emergency aid to areas critically attacked by famine, the improvement of schoolchildren's diets, the execution of economic and social development programs; to stimulate the distribution of food surpluses through a multilateral system subject to certain policies and regulations in the interests of unrestricted international trade and of food-producing nations. Latin America can benefit greatly from this program, and several pilot projects are already under study.

61. The Representative of the Director General then referred to FAO's technical assistance programs. Their development has followed the amount of funds which the

Technical Assistance Board had at its disposal and which came from voluntary contributions made by governments. The FAO has been successful in concentrating this assistance upon the most vital problem of crop and stock farming development. This task was made all the easier thanks to the fact that governments had made advances along the path towards planning and had established priorities within their development plans. All the same, owing to the lack of funds, the assistance provided by FAO has been unable to meet the increasing demand for it on the part of governments, although it has received outside help in the form of FAO/UNICEF projects, a small Regular Program set up by the last Regional Conference and associate experts provided by the Governments of some developed countries. This situation is an extremely frustrating one for an organization like the FAO, which is technically equipped for increasing its assistance to the member countries in need of it.

62. In the course of the analysis of the FAO's activities in favour of the agricultural development of Latin America, mention has been made of the extremely important contribution made by the United Nations Special Fund. The FAO acts in the capacity of executive agent of the Fund in agricultural projects, and nearly all of these projects have been prepared with the aid of FAO's experts and upon their recommendation. Of these, pre-investment projects deserve mention. They include the evaluation of production possibilities and the drawing up of development programs within the scope of the general plans of a country or an area within a country, agricultural settlement and improvement, irrigation and water utilization possibilities. The São Francisco Valley project, in the Northeast of Brazil, is a successful example of this kind of project. By the middle of 1962, 27 agricultural projects of the Special Fund were under study. The countries benefited have invested or are to invest an amount equal to that provided by the Fund. As a result of the Special Fund's projects, the number of experts now working for FAO in Latin America has doubled in five years.

63. Since it is the invariable policy of the Organization, it is hardly necessary to mention the FAO's cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized Agencies, particularly WHO, ILO and UNICEF. With ECLA, FAO maintains a particularly close relationship which appears especially in the joint ECLA/FAO Division, in advisory groups, already mentioned above, in the Cellulose and Paper Study Group, and new in the Latin American Planning Institute.

64. The FAO has also cooperated actively with the Organization of American States and its specialized Agencies since it is convinced that, in view of the efforts being made by all countries in the region towards greater economic and social development, it would be foolish to waste resources by duplicating activities and acting in an un-coordinated manner. This was the reason why FAO decided to join the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development (ICAD) which was set up by virtue of Resolution A.4 of the Punta del Este Conference. Its object, according to this resolution, is to "reach conclusions with respect to the best means of bringing about early and substantial increases in agricultural productivity and of assuring that the benefits of greater productivity will be available to those who work the land". The FAO has cooperated with the ICAD with enthusiasm, since this body was the result of an almost unanimous decision on the part of American nations, all members of the FAO, and also because the objectives of the Punta del Este Charter, particularly as regards planning, policy established for the FAO by its member nations.

65. Ever since the Inter-American Development Bank was founded, it has maintained excellent working relations with the FAO. On repeated occasions, the IDB has asked FAO experts to aid its officials in loan projects for agriculture and rural welfare, or in studying technical projects for the same purposes. Recently, projects have been initiated for which FAO had carried out pre-investment studies as, for instance, the ambitious fishery development projects of the State of São Paulo, Brazil. All these projects have deserved the prompt and wholehearted attention of FAO for, as they involve pressing requirements as regards financial aid, its cooperation is of a particularly urgent nature and would be appreciated by the Governments interested in them.

Statements by Delegations

Argentina

66. The Argentine Delegation stressed the regression in agricultural production in Latin America, which was due to a wide range of factors, some of them common to the whole area and some varying to a certain extent in each particular country. Among the internal factors that had a bearing on the present structure of the divisions of agricultural production and their level of productivity, the following seemed to be worth mentioning: misuse of land and continuance of inefficient farming; defective system of agricultural taxation; defecting conditions of agricultural organization and marketing; scarce development of the industry of transforming agricultural raw materials and preserving and processing foodstuffs; too many intermediaries and a lack of competition on the domestic agricultural market; regulations detrimental to agricultural foreign trade; and a relatively low level of technology and mechanization of agricultural activities.

67. The Argentine Delegation drew attention to the way in which the above factors had influenced rural activities, not always guiding them towards the production of commodities that might have brought in a greater economic profit per production factor unit. Thus it was that while in all the more developed countries the production of cereals and cattle had decreased in inverse ratio to the rise in living standards, and in exchange the production of milk, hogs, poultry, vegetables, market supplies, fruits and other truck-farming produce had increased, in Argentina, despite the state of development of its economic structure, no decisive tendency in this direction had yet been observed.

68. Up till now the basis of tax incidence in Argentina has been fundamentally to tax production through exports; this policy has run counter to an increase in production in as much as it has cancelled out the advantages of the various sections of production according to their natural productivity indices per hectare per annum. To correct this distortion factor, the Argentine Delegation emphasized the importance of distributing taxes on production in such a way as to stimulate and sustain the interest of the producer towards the sections with a higher annual index of productivity per hectare, gradually to reach the formula considered ideal, which would be to transfer taxes from production to land. In point of fact, pointed out the Argentine Delegation, when taxes fall upon production, labor decreases while land rises in value, and consequently its rent increases, making it attractive and sought after as a capital investment. When taxation falls on land, the contrary occurs, i.e. incorporation of labor is stimulated and consequently production increases, while land loses its plus-value and intrinsic rent and becomes increasingly undesirable to investment capital, thus coming within the reach of whoever has a bent for cultivating it.

69. The lack of modern efficient industries for preservation, transformation and preparation for the markets of agricultural raw materials was highlighted by the Argentine Delegation as one of the factors limiting the increase of production and the capacity of competing on the markets. History has shown that in all developing countries, land exploitation yields the marginal income to build up the indispensable capital for industrialization. Obviously, the industrialization process begins with the transformation of agricultural raw materials, but haste in reaching a pre-fixed goal has lead many countries to develop ambitious plans (metallurgy, steelworks etc.), leaving these basic industries in a state of semi-development. The Argentine Delegation noted that agricultural materials originally have a relative value, which increases to an unlimited extent in direct ratio to the capacity and efficiency of industries that specifically serve agriculture in the process of transportation, preservation, transformation and manufacture of products, by-products and derivatives. Many countries have underestimated this fundamental premise. In Argentina, for instance, in the meat industry, which was one of the most important, out of the whole number of steers slaughtered in the country

a bare 50% were submitted to a more or less rational process of total recovery of the animal. All the other farm product transformation industries were far below even this modest standard. The Argentine Delegation pointed out how this unequal development of full recovery of agricultural products through efficient transformation industries, was creating an unfavorable situation as regards the possibilities of competition on the markets by unequal valorization of the products, making it difficult to find a sound basis for expansion of production.

70. The excess of intermediaries was considered by the Argentine Delegation as being the real drama in the economic process of production in many parts of the world, and it was pointed out that support of the producers enabling them to take over the process of preservation and transformation by means of their own economic organizations, mainly cooperatives, was one of the most advisable ways of solving the problem.

71. The prospects of Argentine agriculture have worsened even more owing to the trend towards lower prices on the world market. While Argentina evertaxed its agricultural exports, other countries exporting similar commodities subsidized and encouraged expansion of their export trade. On the other hand the countries importing agricultural products from Argentina encouraged their domestic production, seeking to substitute imports and maintain policies of commercial discrimination. In view of this situation, it became increasingly difficult to develop agriculture within a system of free enterprise and trade, creating a doubt as to how long it would be possible to maintain this system in the face of an ever more widely generalized pressure of "regulations and planned economy". The Argentine Delegation expressed the hope that an understanding between the Latin American countries with regard to other groups committed to the race to achieve regional self-sufficiency would make it easier in the future to maintain free trade in all and every one of the countries in this region. So long as these circumstances subsisted and no attempt was made to lay a sound foundation by solving the basic problems put forward, in the opinion of the Argentine Delegation, "technification" as a way of improving productivity and raising the standard of living in the rural sector would be a slow process, beset with difficulties.

72. The Delegation noted that in its endeavor to further policies for accelerating agricultural development, Latin America could make use of the new financial opportunities offered by the program of the Alliance for Progress. Nevertheless, this program should not be considered as a panacea but rather as a medicine that might assist Latin America in regaining her economic health and consequently in strengthening her moral and spiritual health in liberty; for this, it would be necessary for help to come in time and to be supplied on the basis of reliable technical advice, so as to obtain an increase in the agricultural production in each country in a coordinate form, with the object of improving economic conditions throughout the Latin American region.

Mexico

73. The Mexican Delegation referred to the problems presented by the Representative of FAO's Director General and clearly stated by the President of Brazil, and stated that since these matters were of an overwhelming importance in connection with the prosperity and welfare of the people of Latin America, the Conference's discussions should be carried out in a spirit imbued with objectiveness, responsibility and cooperativeness. The Delegation noted that only by employing its resources in a more efficient and more socially just manner could Latin America hope to face the problem raised by the ever increasing growth of its population, seeking to provide better working and living conditions in all sectors of the economy, and particularly the agricultural sector, which is the most backward.

74. The Delegation stated that in order that one may achieve the full employment of the agricultural worker's productive capacity, it would be necessary for him to own the land, since otherwise he would lack the incentive to improve the land worked by him, but owned by somebody else. This lack of incentive for improvement would result in insufficient production, an unstable occupation of the land, a low level

of income and purchasing power and, as a result, in an insignificant contribution on the part of agriculture towards general economic development. Thus, there is an urgent need to modify these unfavorable circumstances in order to avoid holding back social progress and the occurrence of social conflict. This could be done through the establishment of a different system of land tenure and the improvement of conditions in which production is carried out with the aid of technical progress and credit, agricultural investigation and publicity, practical and technical training at all levels for agricultural workers.

75. The Mexican Delegation also underlined the importance of organizing agricultural producers, of increasing the production of improved seeds, of the more intensive use of fertilizers, of providing better protection against insects and diseases, of obtaining greater amounts of milk and livestock products through the adoption of more advanced methods of husbandry and pasture utilization, of irrigating barren lands and protecting low lands against floods. All these means, if applied on a nationwide scale and with the aid of credit, would serve to encourage national economic development by ensuring better food standards to the population and a greater supply of commodities available for export, thus enabling the country to purchase abroad the capital goods it requires. For this purpose it is essential that the prices of exportable primary products, especially agricultural commodities, should be maintained at a more favorable level in relation to their cost of production, that terms of trade should be improved, and that a greater growth of industrial activities should be ensured so that they may absorb a larger portion of the present rural population.

76. The Delegation stated that results obtained in Mexico in its fifty years' experience in the field of agrarian reform have shown that the distribution of land to agricultural workers has given them freedom and dignity, while at the same time it resulted in an increase of productivity and a consequent rise in living conditions. The intense development of global agrarian reform programs has allowed Mexico to achieve self-sufficiency in food, with the aid of effective technical and financial aid, of a broader irrigation program, of the production and distribution of seed and fertilizer, of the organization of adequate marketing facilities for agricultural commodities, of the establishment of a system of guaranteed prices for agricultural products, of the stability provided by complete farm and cattle insurance, and of the rational adaptation of production to the general requirements of the internal market and to demand from abroad.

77. This experience showed likewise that complete agrarian reform had not reduced production nor had it intensified economic and social problems. Quite to the contrary, it afforded a beneficial alteration in the supply of agricultural products. In fact, the appearance of a greater number of farming establishments as a result of land allotment made it possible for agricultural workers to obtain a more abundant supply of products for their own consumption, while on the other hand, the great amount of small surpluses arising from a wider agricultural organization resulted in a greater supply of agricultural products on the market than had formerly been obtained with a small number of large producers.

78. Finally, the Delegation offered to share with other Latin American countries its fifty years' experience in agrarian reform and coordinated development in the field of agriculture, so that these countries may make use of it, according to the particular conditions obtaining in each, for the purpose of intensifying their efforts towards complete agrarian reform to the benefit of the agricultural workers of the continent.

Chile

79. The Chilean Delegation showed its agreement with the analysis of the agricultural situation in Latin America made by FAO and described so well by the Assistant General Director. It was a regrettable fact, so the Delegation stated, that the region had been unable to increase its agricultural production; not even at a rate corresponding to the growth of its population. The Delegation stated that the FAO Conference was offering another opportunity for Latin American countries to convince themselves once again of the urgency of putting into practice effective development policies. Regional unity, which was Bolivar's dream, the Delegation underlined, may only be achieved when all the region's countries decide to follow a common road which shall lead them to raise the rate of development and to seek the improvement, on an ever increasing scale, of the living conditions of all of their inhabitants.

80. The Chilean Delegation reminded the Conference that Latin America, which covers over 20% of the world's surface and owns about 25% of its forest reserves, has tremendous prospects before it for the future. With such resources and through the active development of agriculture, the prospects for industrial expansion and general economic development may continue to increase indefinitely. It was essential that the region should definitely join the process of economic development which started in the world fifty years ago. For this purpose, it was indispensable that solutions should be sought for the different problems in existence and that efforts should be made to overcome the barriers to development and to the ready achievement of production levels and per caput consumption as high as those obtaining in more advanced countries. International organizations such as those of the United Nations and of FAO are providing valuable aid in the implementation of development programs being carried out in each country of the region. In the field of agricultural development FAO's assistance to Latin America was remarkable. The contribution made by this Organization to the study of agricultural problems and the setting up of a methodology which would facilitate the drawing up and implementation of development plans in the agricultural sector was substantial.

81. The Delegation stated that a fundamental requirement for agricultural development had already been fulfilled in Chile. Thus, it informed that an agrarian reform program had been officially adopted based on the redistribution of land, the grouping together of small farms, the application of technical and administrative methods, farming, the settlement of land titles, improvement of health conditions and the education of farm workers with special attention to the small farmer. The government's program provides for the establishment and technical assistance to between 15 and 25,000 farm owners per year in the future. The Delegation stressed that supervised credit under the land reform program shall lead the low-income farmer to a better life, a future full of hope and the just fulfillment of his aspirations.

82. The agrarian reform program is only one of several measures envisaged by the Chilean national economic and social development program. This program, together with other features of the development program for the agricultural sector, is to be carried out in a coordinated and harmonious manner so that the targets which have been set may be attained in accordance with the purposes and objectives of the general development plan. The Ministry of Agriculture, which is the main agent in the program's fulfillment, shall act with adequate funds, in a dynamic way and with highly qualified technical personnel. There is to be close cooperation with all other bodies related to or responsible for agriculture in the administrative and executive side of the projects. The Delegation went on to inform that the coordination of all activities and of all stages of agricultural policy had been entrusted to a new agency, the Higher Council for Crop and Stock Farming Development. Particular attention is to be given to agricultural education, research and extension, considering that there can be no development in agriculture unless a basic element of this is the training of the large and small farmers, and of agricultural workers. The livestock development program should at least ensure that the rate of growth of the livestock industry equals that of population. The Delegation also mentioned technical and financial assistance to

farmers for the purpose of encouraging the use of fertilizers and of certain seeds. It also stressed that in order to attain the targets of the economic development plan it would be necessary to expand agricultural production and to improve, at the same time, productivity per person engaged in agriculture; to create an effective demand for goods and services among the rural population as a stimulus to industry; and the achievement of a more favourable balance of payments.

83. The encouragement of fishery and forestry activities is also part of the Chilean plan of action. The national program for the development of the fishery industry has been initiated with the aid of the United Nations Special Fund with the object of increasing fishery research, evaluating and comparing fishery resources and achieving new increases in the fisheries, such as a greater production and export of fish meal. As regards the development of forestry, the Delegation mentioned that, during the previous week, the Seventh Session of the Latin American Forestry Commission had been opened in Santiago. On this occasion, the Commission stated that the very future of agriculture depended to a great extent upon the correct handling of woods and stress was laid on the fact that Latin America, despite its great wealth in forests, was nonetheless importing over 300 million dollars of timber per year. For the purpose of encouraging the development of the forestry industry, the Chilean government had established a Forestry Research and Training Institute with the aid of the United Nations Special Fund and FAO.

84. On the other hand, the Delegation stated that the planning for rational development in agriculture implied surveying the soil and its proper utilization. For this purpose, the Agrological Research Institute had been established in Chile with the aid of the United Nations Special Fund, for conducting basic investigations in many edaphological problems. Furthermore, Chile is to participate in the World Seed Program and, with this regard, the Delegation had planned to propose to the Conference the appointment of a regional expert for Latin America who would take charge of the Permanent General Secretariat of the Panamerican Seed Seminars. After referring to the Chilean government's action to integrate its country in the Latin American Economic Community, the Delegation held that there was a need to strengthen, on a regional scale, several programs and projects of FAO, including the World Freedom from Hunger Campaign and the World Food Program. It also moved that the Conference should ask FAO to increase its action in Latin America, not only that which it develops directly, but also that being carried out in conjunction with international organizations such as ECLA, OAS and BID. It also pointed out that the Alliance for Progress program could be of assistance in the effective implementation of economic and social progress in the region to the extent that it could be integrated with regional development plans.

Brazil

85. The Brazilian Delegation declared that, in view of the importance of the problems to be discussed by the Conference its statement would be split into two parts; the first dealing with the study of the position of agriculture within the Brazilian economy; and the second being an analysis of the agrarian structure and the agricultural economy in so far as its continental meaning and its effects on the social and economic picture of Latin America are concerned.

86. Concerning the Brazilian agricultural and food situation, the delegation stressed that, in spite of the very fast rate of Brazil's economic development in the past few years, represented by a physical expansion of the internal product of nearly 100% within the past decade, the fact was that the country had as yet not been able to free itself from hunger and malnutrition. This was primarily due to the fact that Brazil's economic growth was inconsistent and unbalanced: while its industrial activities had shown an increase of 140% over the last 10 years, agricultural and livestock activities had on the other hand increased only to the extent of 50% during the same period. This imbalance was one of the determining factors of the inflation which was wasting away a large portion of the national efforts for the economic

emancipation of Brazil.

87. To overcome this situation, which was all the more dramatic because consumption levels and the purchasing power of urban population were rising intensely as a result of increased industry wages, the present government had developed an economic integration plan in which both the industrial and the agricultural sectors were dealt with in a more balanced way, with respect also to their essential mutual relationship. Unfortunately, Brazil's present food position was extremely poor in certain areas of the country, with terrific hardships to those in the lower income brackets. In the final analysis, it was to be inferred that the country's economic development, expressed through a substantial increase in the national gross receipts, did not always represent the true rise in standards of living which both the Brazilian Government and the people were seeking. The food shortage still existing in certain areas, such as in the Northeast, and in the Amazon, clearly showed the serious food situation of Brazil, which was having an unfavorable repercussion on the health and productive capacity levels of undernourished populations.

88. The backwardness of the agricultural sector, declared the Brazilian Delegation, also influenced unquestionably the expansion of the industrial sector, and had turned out to be a bottleneck for the entire Brazilian economy. To economists it was obvious that the rate of industrial expansion was beginning to feel an impact slowing down its growth, and largely caused by the limitations imposed by a backward agriculture on the national economic system. Inadequate production, and chiefly the low levels of agricultural productivity, were the factors which hampered industrial expansion, through the following mechanism: a) the lack of agricultural raw materials produced at an accessible economic cost made the industrialization of those raw materials very costly if they were to compete in the world market; b) the shortage of adequate food supplies to meet the requirements of the ever-growing labor force caused certain national industries to become uneconomic, owing to the high cost of living which made it necessary to increase wages periodically, thus imposing burdens in the ultimate cost of industrial products. If this situation were to continue, industry would tend to disappear, and unless salaries were controlled so as not to increase at the same rate as inflation, the workers would be faced with death from malnutrition and hunger.

89. The deficiency of agricultural economy was also a burden on industry, in that it encouraged rural migration to urban centers, thus creating marginal populations which had to be State-supported by costly assistance which diverted large financial resources that could have been reinvested in industrial enterprises instead of being used to ensure the subsistence of practically unproductive populations. Aware of this reality and furthermore that this situation stemmed from the outmoded and antiquated agrarian structure prevalent in the country, the Brazilian Government was making a gigantic effort to promote basic reforms capable of overcoming a situation which expressed a step in the growth and transition of the Brazilian economy. In this effort at planned readjustment of Brazil's economy, the Government looked to FAO's cooperation in order to successfully carry out that complex task, and wanted that such cooperation to be undertaken as objectively as possible, by means of plans likely to eliminate the factors which at present were hindering the development of national economy.

90. In the second part of its statement the Brazilian Delegation outlined the over-all picture of the Latin American agricultural situation and proceeded to a series of considerations based on document LARC 62/3 prepared by the FAO Secretariat, as a guide for Conference discussions. It also brought up an aspect which in its opinion was worthy of special reference. It pointed out that the above document emphasized the fact that Latin American populations grew very rapidly, making the already serious food situation far worse. Although the Brazilian Delegation considered that the situation was necessarily aggravated because of population growth, it nevertheless felt that such was not the basic factor of the food shortage in Latin America; much less did it feel that the importance given to that factor in the said

document should be overemphasized, for, from the way the problem had been approached, one might infer that the problem of hunger in Latin America was due to overpopulation, a statement very far from reality and which merely revived Malthusian tenets with the purpose of justifying social and economic failures with an irremediable natural contingency. Hunger and malnutrition in Latin America, stressed the Brazilian Delegation could not be explained by natural conditions, since this continent possessed huge reserves of untilled land, and most of the land under crops was but inadequately or precariously cultivated, with the lowest productivity levels in the world. If it was considered that the Latin American Continent represented 16% of emerged land on this planet and that only 6% of the world population was concentrated on this Continent, and that, furthermore, Latin America's average demographic density was only 8 persons per square kilometer, it could not be affirmed that this was an overpopulated area, but, in fact it was one of the more thinly peopled and semi-deserted areas in the world. For there to be no doubt that FAO was not in favor of the Malthusian concept which falsified the social truth of the world, the Delegation of Brazil strongly urged the Conference not to place those concepts on record since they had been expressed without the necessary additional explanations and were therefore likely to result in misinterpretation of the meaning of the document.

91. The Brazilian Delegation went on to deal in broad lines with the Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign, which it felt should be carried out on a more concrete basis so as to meet its real aims. The Delegation emphasized that of the three major objectives of the Campaign-development of an awareness to the problem, research into the social phenomenon represented by hunger and the objective achievements designed to overcome that social calamity - the Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign had only fulfilled the first objective, thus far. It had been just a far reaching debate towards the development of a world consciousness of the social reality of hunger and to the hazards which such a situation could bring to the peace and tranquillity of the peoples. But it does not suffice to say that hunger was there; nor was it enough to designate suitable remedies; what was also necessary was to develop efficient means to use such remedies to change the existing situation. As far as Latin America was concerned, the Campaign could carry out a highly significant task, by integrating its projects into the over-all framework of the Alliance for Progress Program, so that the legitimate development requirements of this region could be met. In this connection, the Brazilian Delegation stressed that, more important than the so-called international aid, would be what it termed international respect for underdeveloped and developing countries, with reference primarily to economic respect. Respect for the work of underdeveloped peoples, represented by the primary goods and raw materials which up to date had not fetched fair prices on the international markets of industrialized areas of the world, on equal terms with the prices of industrial goods, and much less the stability of those prices, bringing serious difficulties to the underdeveloped world. From the Brazilian Delegation's standpoint, that was the basic factor of the backward situation of underdeveloped countries' agriculture and economy. In a nutshell: fundamentally, that was why, in a world that claimed to be well developed and civilized, two-thirds of mankind still went hungry.

92. In support of its viewpoint, the Delegation of Brazil remarked that it was therefore necessary to revise the technical assistance programs and chiefly to arrange for an improved coordination of FAO's efforts with those of other international agencies in order to avoid an unproductive overlapping, as well as conflicts and antagonisms which hinder the output of those efforts and that cooperation, without the necessary coordination. The Delegation concluded by calling on the Conference to put forward suggestions as to the best form of coordinating, on a continental level and within a universal perspective, the efforts of each country and those of international agencies, so as to rid the Latin American Continent of the tragedy of hunger and malnutrition.

Venezuela

93. The Delegation of Venezuela expressed its satisfaction at the opportunity provided by the Conference for this exchange of views on the agricultural development policies in force in each of the participating nations as well as in connection with the problems which the region has to face in the sphere of the international trade of plant and livestock products and that of economic integration in another continent. It declared its agreement with the statement that the agricultural problem in Latin-America is so serious that it was worth the trouble to openly debate thereupon and thus seek to allay the desperation and unrest reigning throughout Latin-America.

94. The Delegation declared that in fact among the Latin-American people hunger, more so than growth of population, was the main disturbing influence, whether economically, socially, or politically speaking. The Governments of the region should seek to formulate policies which would provide for the increase of plant and livestock production within the region, at the rate of 4% per annum, at least, in order to secure increased quantity and better quality of foods and thus to supply both the towns and the rural areas more satisfactorily. Otherwise, traditional ways and the economic structure and the democratic regime which has been fought for and defended would be placed in jeopardy. Venezuela believes that this is the time for action. What the people of Latin-America anxiously cry out for is an agricultural policy and sound plans of action which would provide bread and work for the under-nourished and ill-clad masses. They sincerely believe that their miserable living conditions can be improved, since clothing, electric light, and a roof above their heads, etc., are lacking, but it is imperative that there should be no delay satisfying these urgent needs.

95. An important scene of action in Venezuela is the agrarian reform program. During the space of 3 years it has been possible to provide workable lands to 60,652 country families who have thus been made the owners of 1,699,734 hectares. Thanks to such achievements one could now reckon that agrarian reform had already provided relief to about half a million persons in the rural areas of Venezuela. The Delegation went on to say that it would like to frankly declare, especially before the representatives of some of the Latin-American countries which were only now codifying their agrarian law reforms, that Venezuela believes that therein lies a good part of the secret of speeding up the economic growth demanded by agriculture in this continent. Venezuela had inherited from colonial times a system of land ownership and tenure based on the existence of very large-scale farming, which fact she was convinced would need to be substantially modified in order to hasten the development and to achieve the rapid expansion of the production of foods and agricultural raw materials, both for the domestic and the foreign markets, and thus raise income derived from agriculture. Venezuela could vouch for the fact, the Delegation went on to say, which was already mentioned by Mexico, that an agrarian reform energetically carried out would not only reduce overall production and productivity per surface unit and per capita engaged in agriculture, but would on the contrary serve to increase both. Indeed the rate of growth of agricultural produce had reached 5% per annum in the decade of 1950-1960 and during 1960 to 1962 this figure had been 7% per annum.

96. The Delegation wished to note however that in order to carry out a courageous agrarian reform program it was not necessary to renounce democratic and peace-loving principles, neither to adopt drastic measures quite opposed to political ideals and to the social idiosyncrasies of the region. In Venezuela the agrarian reform program was responsible for starting to put an end to unfarmed or badly managed farms by paying the owners thereof a compensation of 10% in cash and 90% in kind, a method compatible with democratic government and which showed respect for the rights of rural property and its useful social significance. Thus without causing unrest among the capital in productive effort, the desire of the farm-worker to own the land upon which he labours has also been met.

97. The Delegation of Venezuela declared that in accordance with Resolutions numbers nine and thirty-five adopted at the Sixth FAO Regional Conference held in Mexico, which specified that agrarian reform as required by Latin-America would need to be integrated in nature, and to which notion Venezuela seconded its support, aid had materialized throughout the country in the shape of speedy and low rate credit and of technical assistance for the farm-workers who were being given land. Out of a total of 100 million dollars credit extended between the years of 1960 and 1962 about 52% thereof was granted to farm-working areas of the country. In this connection it stressed the fact that the programs of agrarian reform and of agricultural reform and of agricultural improvement in Venezuela had been given financial and technical assistance from programs such as Alliance for Progress and from bodies such as the Inter-American Development Bank, FAO, OEA, and others.

Ecuador

98. The Delegation of Ecuador declared that the defective agrarian policy is the key question at the root of Ecuador's troubles. This fact gives rise to the harmful effects which influence the several aspects of the general economy and the general standard of living. Low productivity indexes, the lack of opportunities for employment the consequent low levels of income, savings, and investment represent a serious obstacle to economic and social development within the country. The rapid growth of population and the urban development have already been the cause of serious upheavals in the economy of Ecuador and it has become absolutely necessary to provide opportunities for work in all sectors, the better thus to cope with the drift of population from the country to the towns. Nevertheless this movement of surplus labour from the country to industry and other activities, is relative on account of the limited and poor structure of the domestic market. The extremely low average rate of income and its unequal distribution is due to a weak market demand whose rate of expansion is extremely slow. In order to speed up industry and to increase market demand it will be necessary to bring about large investments of capital directly related to the actively engaged members of the community. The Delegation declared that in point of fact increased investment results in increased demand which seeks on the one hand nationally manufactured goods and on the other imported ones. Thus it becomes necessary to also increase appropriately the available foreign exchange, i.e., the power to buy foreign goods.

99. With further reference to investment per farm worker, it is evident that this figure is extremely low in the country; moreover under the present state of affairs it is difficult for Ecuador to bring about an increase of those funds required for capital investment owing to the low level of national savings which is a consequence of the poor average rate of income per caput and also partly due to the unequal distribution of such income within the various sections of the population.

100. Though the agricultural sphere is the most important means of occupation and income within the national economy, the extremely low rate of productivity involved is the cause of a level of income per caput employed in agriculture which is much lower than that earned per caput employed in non-agricultural activities. The poor structure of land tenure arrangements, the low level of scientific approach, and the preservation of systems of rewarding agricultural labour in kind etc. rather than cash, signifies that the actual income of the farm worker in Ecuador is even still lower than that shown under the estimate of production per caput in the agricultural sphere. With regard to the distribution of income in agriculture a very large proportion thereof finds its way into the hands of the landowner or the agricultural contractor. The farm-worker and the agricultural wage-earner have always been rewarded with merely a small portion of such earnings.

101. In addition to the defects in the agrarian policy and in the contracting and rewarding of the farm-worker the Delegation stressed the fact that there were other points also contributing towards the further advancement of agricultural

activities such as, for instance, the credit policy which has failed to provide adequate credit on medium and long range terms required to improve the working of the land and the rewarding of agricultural workers, especially where the average and small farmer are concerned. Also noteworthy is the fact that little heed has been given to the home market problems and to the fact that little has been done to put a stop to the importation of raw materials and foods which could quite easily be produced by the domestic farm-workers.

102. The Delegation declared that as a consequence of the defective agrarian policy the country required to adopt measures which would result in a more efficient use of the land and a better distribution of income and generally permit the overall economic development of Ecuador already considerably overburdened by unsuitable policy. It declared that it would be possible to achieve this by means of Agrarian Reform. Long and short range agricultural planning is being handled by the National Board of Economic Planning and Coordination which has started to undertake this task. The Delegation wished to put on record that in the case of these activities directed towards planning and guiding domestic agricultural improvements the cooperation of FAO and other specialized international bodies is of vital significance.

British Guiana

103. The Delegation of British Guiana pointed out that their country was in Latin America and was still a colony of a European nation. This fact had to be taken into consideration when discussing the work done in recent years and the problems faced by the territory. The Delegation stated that it was encouraging that some countries have carried out agrarian reform programs and that, as a consequence, their agricultural production has increased somewhat. However, production had not really kept pace with the increase in population, and the conditions described in the book by Dr. Josué de Castro "Geography of Hunger" still existed. Recent achievements in the field of agrarian reform had been reported to the Conference. As for British Guiana, it was interesting to note that over the past four years the Government had distributed some 150,000 acres of land to landless farmers. As a result of this and other programs of rural development, there had been in the country a sizeable increase in agricultural crops and in national income. The Delegation disagreed with the view that the Latin American peasant is poor because he does not know how to use his resources. The important fact was, as stated by the Assistant Director-General of FAO, that most of the land in Latin America was concentrated in a few hands, and that 90% of the peasants owned only about 10% of the land. Therefore, the Latin American peasants were poor because they had no resources to develop. Their poverty was not due to ignorance. In the case of British Guiana, partly illiterate peasants have been able to increase the rice production considerably with land put at their disposal, because of the encouragement and credit which were made available to them. Land under rice had been increased also from 116,000 to 220,000 acres in 5 years. As for the problem of compensating the owners of the land to be distributed through a program of agrarian reform, the Delegation felt that, in view of the already noted bad distribution of land and the need for the developing countries to progress rapidly in a fast evolving world, the procurement of financial resources with which to compensate landlords should not be considered as a reason for delaying the implementation of agrarian reform.

104. Passing on to discuss the question of increase of agricultural production in general, and of sugar production in particular, the Delegation remarked that in British Guiana the sugar output had increased in recent years, raising from 284,000 tons in 1959 to 334,000 tons in 1960. However, this increase in production had not meant an increase in employment; because of increasing mechanization of the sugar industry, thousands of people lost their jobs and had to be settled in land provided by the Government for the production of rice and other crops. In effect, in the past 20 years the number of persons working in the sugar industry had declined by 25% whereas, at the same time, the population had increased by about 3% a year. In this connection, the Delegation pointed out that, contrary to often expressed views,

mechanization without an accompanying overall development of economy does not necessarily lead to the improvement of living and working conditions of the mass. This was tremendously significant in British Guiana where rice industry could be said to be over-mechanized. Many of the so-called illiterate farmers had been able, with some financial assistance from banks or other government credit organizations, to purchase tractors and other implements; however, it had been found that in one area where the government had spent the equivalent of \$16,000,000 to develop 27,000 acres of land to settle rice producers - on the basis of 17.5 acres of land to each farmer, very few of these farmers worked more than 30 days per year. Therefore, mechanization has to be very carefully examined, and if the agricultural economy is not properly developed with appropriate crop diversification and changes in the agrarian structure, mechanization can have the opposite effect to that it is intended to have. Besides, unless mechanization is carefully controlled, importation of expensive machinery in developing countries reduces employment opportunities and leads in fact, to inefficiency if those who have to use the imported equipment have not been trained to handle it properly. Mechanization in the present circumstances of Latin America also results in a large outflow of foreign currency that developing countries could hardly afford.

105. The Delegation of British Guiana was very concerned about the external trade pattern of the region and the terms of trade in the world market. Most of the Latin American countries produce raw materials for the developed countries which are used to manufacture goods that are in turn imported into Latin America. There is, therefore, a double loss as far as the Latin American countries are concerned. In addition, whereas some years ago most of the agricultural products of those countries were exported to European and other developed countries, to-day there is in these areas a growing competition between locally produced agricultural goods and products imported from Latin America; therefore, the Latin American region must face increasing difficulties and problems. On the other hand, as aforementioned, raw materials such as bauxite, iron, and oil are exported out of Latin America to developed countries, to be in part reimported as finished products. In the light of this serious challenge to Latin America, the region should find ways and means to protect its natural resources, and countries should cooperate among themselves in order to benefit, to a greater extent, from the raw materials they exported.

106. The Delegation of British Guiana stressed that one of the great problems facing agriculture was the need for capital resources to carry out the required improvements and reforms. Since the new Government took office in British Guiana about five years ago, many efforts were made by it in almost every European country and the United States, including international financial organizations, to obtain funds for carrying out agricultural and other development plans. British Guiana needs substantial financial assistance, in as much as most of the people live on the coast and the land of the coast suffers from both drought and floods, and it may cost up to US\$10,000 to settle a farmer there. Money to implement some development projects was obtained from the United Kingdom and local sources; but in other cases, as for example, a settlement scheme for which the preinvestment and engineering surveys had been carried out, capital in the order of US\$20 millions has still to be secured. The UN Special Fund in collaboration with FAO was also doing a preinvestment survey of a large area. Money will have to be found to implement the scheme. British Guiana has been unable to raise international capital to carry out even a single development project; in other instances, as it was in the case of credit for 2.5 million dollars, very precise stipulations were made as to the use of that money. In the light of these facts, the Delegation of British Guiana suggested that the Conference consider the creation of a Latin American organization to provide loans to Latin American countries by means of funds raised in all countries of the region, through special export taxes on mineral resources exported to the developed countries. The United Nations and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development could possibly give assistance in this respect through special agencies. In other words, the Delegation recommended that the Latin American countries depend not only upon external

sources for investments in agriculture but that a Latin American organization, without any outside interference, be set up to provide member countries with the financial assistance they need.

107. The Delegation then noted that other matters of great importance to the region were improvement of rural education and regional integration of agricultural resources. There was in Latin America the need for improvement of agricultural technique, and to get the necessary know-how the Delegation suggested an interchange of technical staff among the countries of the region so as to benefit mutually all national experiences. With respect to the integration of agricultural resources, the Conference should consider ways and means to solve the problems of production and trade of food and agriculture, manufactured goods and non-renewable natural resources within a larger Latin American common market. In conclusion, the Delegation said that significant progress had been made in British Guiana with the help of international agencies, such as FAO, and other friendly countries. British Guiana, however, hoped to achieve even more in the future.

Bolivia

108. In the first part of the discussion, the Bolivian Delegation drew attention to an unwarranted assertion in one of the work documents prepared for the Conference by FAO, to the effect that the steps taken by the Bolivian Government to initiate agrarian reform were described as hasty. Other statements in this and another FAO document were adduced to counter this statement and it was recognized that Bolivia had indeed proceeded to timely action in preparing the agrarian reform, which had taken on the aspect of an essential element in the progress made by the country since 1952.

109. The Delegation then alluded to the need of recognizing every citizen's right to vote, and doing away with every kind of racial discrimination.

110. This led the Delegation to remark that certain problems posed by agrarian reform, above all that of the appearance of small holdings in very densely populated regions of the high plateaux and the valleys, were successfully solved by relocating the excess rural population, encouraging cooperative initiative and taking other suitable steps that, in one way, amounted to a reform of the agrarian reform.

111. The Delegation asserted that, as a result of the Bolivian revolution and agrarian reform, the country was approaching selfsufficiency in farm products. Sugar and rice consumption, that used to have to be very largely covered by imports, were now supplied to the extent of 75% and 60% respectively by domestic production and new areas were progressively being brought under these crops.

112. As a groundwork for these programs of reallocation of the rural population and production, the Bolivian Government had commissioned extensive soil research.

113. Finally, the Delegation put on record its agreement with the statement of the Cuban Delegation to the effect that in order to plan agricultural development, it was first necessary to lay a sound foundation for it in the shape of the necessary agrarian reforms, adding that, in their own country, with 60% of the population engaged in farming, agrarian reform, that had earned its fair share of criticism at the time, was undoubtedly an act of social justice.

Uruguay

114. The Uruguayan Delegation stated that the course of agricultural development in Latin America during the last few decades was truly and significantly unfavorable. The same situation as that reported by the Argentinian delegation for its country obtained in Uruguay, where there has been a certain tendency towards the excessive

control and regulation of economic activities with an adverse effect upon investment in agriculture and upon the prospects for expanding important branches of agricultural production. It should be recognized that many of the evils which afflict the agricultural economy of Latin American countries may be traced to errors in policy which allowed the persistence of problems which must be overcome if the rate of agricultural development in the region is to be increased.

115. It was stated that Uruguay could be considered as an example of a country whose economic welfare depends to a great extent upon agricultural activity. In this country, 16 million hectares are devoted to agriculture, which produced practically all the food required by the country and exported a significant portion of its output covering commodities such as wool, meat and other products of animal origin, seeds, linseed oil and rice. In spite of the country's agricultural potentialities, policy measures during the last decades have unfortunately exerted an unfavorable effect upon its economy. Besides an excessive regulation of trade and exports of agricultural commodities, there occurred an exaggerated expansion of the administrative and bureaucratic machinery and an entire system of social legislation was established which favored unduly workers in urban areas.

116. The result of this was to intensify the trend to leave the land for the towns. This trend was possibly favored not only by the natural attractiveness of living conditions in the cities, but also by the benefits provided by the above-mentioned social legislation. In spite of the overall increase in population, the net effect of this trend has been to contain the growth of rural population. At present, for a working population of over a million people, less than 30% are engaged in the primary sector, while about 70% are engaged in industry and services. The increase in urban population which has occurred in the last decades has encouraged an ever increasing shift of savings and investment funds away from the agricultural sector towards non-agricultural sectors. This great urban growth also brought about an accelerated expansion of the supply of food in towns. The pressure of urban demand for food stimulated upward trends in prices, which in turn resulted in the adoption of measures for regulating retail prices and the establishment of subsidies as well as restrictions to the export and import of agricultural commodities through the setting up of discriminatory exchange rates which reduced the incentive to produce for export.

117. The Uruguayan Delegation stated that one of the consequences of this policy during the last few decades was that a great portion of government revenue was allocated to ends which did not favor the formation of social capital nor the improvement of the infrastructure required for encouraging progress in rural areas. What happened was a disorganized, unorganic and unplanned support given to the industrialization process. This support and this industrialization process were not coordinated with the requirements of rural economy. The establishment of industries was encouraged with the purpose of broadening opportunities for work in towns, but no attention was given to the need to link up and integrate the industrialization process with the need for improving living conditions in rural areas, whose standard of living has a decisive importance in the extent to which the demand for the products of national industry may be expanded. Thus, public investment acted in a manner which may be defined as anti-economic, seeing that it discouraged balanced development in the different sectors of the economy and did not favor progress in rural areas.

118. The Delegation stated that the Uruguayan government was keenly interested in executing a policy which would definitely favor the growth of the country's agricultural economy. Several measures have been put into practice, the first of these consisting in the improvement of the organization and working methods of agricultural research and extension services. FAO experts have provided assistance in this task. This country has also received assistance from other international organizations, as well as credit for crop and stock farming development granted by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. This development plan is being carried out through a pilot plan for the improvement and establishment

of pastures. This plan not only furnishes advice to producers, but also finances the purchase of equipment required for improving their livestock production, often in conjunction with the production of farm crops, with the purpose of achieving an optimum utilization of land resources, increasing the productivity of the agricultural worker and raising as much as possible income levels in rural areas. The Uruguayan Delegation mentioned likewise that among other measures aimed at developing the national economy, an Investment and Economic Development Commission had been created at the ministerial level, whose function is to perform studies and to maintain an economic investigation service, with the technical assistance of international agencies, for the purpose of drawing up economic development plans and programs. It is expected that these studies shall result in programs which shall meet the requirements for the granting of financial aid by the Inter-American Bank for Development and Alliance for Progress.

119. The Delegation stressed that its country's point of view was that the process of ever increasing development should take place in an environment free from social conflict and in accordance with legal principles. The people of Latin-America are freedom-loving and respectful of human rights, and this continent should pursue the course of social and economic development without forced alterations to its fundamental way of life. The Delegation also stated that there was apprehension as to the fact that nowadays industrial countries are pursuing international trade policies which are often in conflict with the interests of countries exporting primary commodities and which rely to a great extent upon those exports for the purpose of carrying out their development.

Peru

120. The Head of the Peruvian Delegation expressed his gratitude for the cordial hospitality he had received from the Government of the United States of Brazil. He congratulated FAO on the wisdom of organizing a conference whose debates would no doubt furnish a valuable contribution to the economic and social development of the rural population of the countries concerned.

121. He added that, to improve the standards of living of the people and create sources of occupation that would absorb the growth in population, Peru would endeavor to keep up a corresponding rate of economic expansion. To provide greater incentive, a system of planning had recently been established that laid emphasis on agricultural activities, because they were the most important from an economic and social point of view and, moreover, aimed at meeting the domestic demand for foodstuffs.

122. He stated that the Basic Law of Agrarian Reform that had just been passed in his country was inspired in common welfare and the use of landed property in accordance with social interests.

123. He went on to say that the close ratio between man and land in Peru was leading them to turn over new land to tillage, with the use of irrigation and road-building to open up hitherto unused areas, but that domestic savings were insufficient to cope with these projects fast enough without the help of international credits. Furthermore, he pointed out that it was necessary to increase soil productivity with the aid of suitable technical assistance which should be dispensed to a far greater number of farmers, it being better for yields to be raised to average levels over a wide area than for high levels to be attained, but by only relatively few producers. This technical assistance would not give fully successful results without the firm support of credit, especially long-term credit, which, being capital investment, was what created wealth.

124. The Head of the Peruvian Delegation added that, in order to reach a greater number of small farmers, a system had been started in which the negotiation, transaction and control of loans was operated collectively and subject to joint responsibility.

125. He mentioned, moreover, that in the course of the last few years, Peru had been intensively exploiting marine resources so as to enable that country, as pointed out by the Assistant Director General of FAO, to take a place among the leading world producers of fishery derivatives. The fisheries industry had created a new source of labor and income, contributing appreciably to the economic and social development of the country.

126. He wound up by affirming that this development was closely linked up with the planning of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign sponsored by FAO, for the successful transformation of fish into protein concentrates for human consumption could not fail to contribute handsomely to the success of the Campaign.

Cuba

127. The Cuban Delegation stated that it was a discouraging fact that Latin American agriculture has shown little development during the last few decades. The description of the situation made by FAO's Assistant Director-General was impressive and showed that there had been no advance in the region's agriculture but, quite to the contrary, a retrocession since production was not keeping up with the growth of population. The Delegation considered that a major factor in this retrocession was that production was in the hands of large landowners and also under the control of foreign monopolies which drew off the region's primary products at a price less than the value of the labor used to produce them. It also expressed its agreement with the Brazilian delegation's view that there could be no political independence without economic independence, that neither health nor education could be achieved unless large landholdings were done away with, and that Latin America, far from being overpopulated, was being subject to over exploitation and consequently undernourished.

128. The Delegation expressed the view that natural factors alone cannot account for the backward growth of Latin American agriculture in comparison with the development to be seen in other regions such as Europe. One cannot believe in lack of manpower, when one sees that over 54% of the region's population lives in rural areas. In postwar Europe, for instance, there was a striking advance in agriculture in spite of the fact that agricultural population amounted to only 30% of the whole population. The Delegation stated that the lack of development in Latin America is attributable to a characteristic feature of underdeveloped regions: large land holdings. According to the Delegation's view, the adverse effects on the region's agriculture deriving from the semi-feudal systems of land proprietorship, so characteristic of many Latin American countries, range from the inefficient and only partial use of areas suitable for farming, to the lack of sufficient investment in agriculture, from the prevalence of chronic underemployment to the determination of an income level for rural areas often so low that it is unable to provide the minimum conditions required for maintaining decent and human living conditions. The Delegation stated that the maintenance of such an archaic system of land tenure, besides constituting a barrier to economic progress and a factor in agricultural backwardness, exerts an adverse effect upon the entire economic, social and political system of a country.

129. The Delegation held that industrialization, which is a dynamic factor in economic development, is held back wherever there exists an inadequate agrarian structure. The Delegation pointed out that in the course of history economic growth has always gone hand in hand with industrial development. It is for this reason that nations with the highest per capita income are also those which are most highly industrialized. On the other hand, the predominance of agricultural activities and traditional-type agrarian structures are a typical feature of poorer countries. The Delegation held that structural factors were responsible for holding back industrial development in Latin America. Together with the permanence of big landownership, another basic factor was foreign economic penetration. The Delegation stated that investment possibilities in the region were drastically reduced as a result of the drawing off of dividends and funds which are sent abroad, so that the region is

deprived of a considerable portion of its product. Another serious form of income and investment fund reduction results from the phenomenon known as "the deterioration of the terms of trade". In order to illustrate the adverse trend in the flow of investment funds between Latin America and the United States, the Delegation stated that between 1946 and 1951 the United States invested 1,629 million dollars in Latin America, while during the same period they withdrew a total of 3,078 million dollars from the region. Thus, stated the Delegation, during these six years, Latin America contributed 1,449 million dollars to the formation of capital in the United States or, in other words, an average of 270 million dollars per year. According to the Delegation, in 1960, 310 million dollars left the region in this way.

130. With reference to the deterioration in terms of trade, the Delegation mentioned that these had declined by 21% between 1950 and 1959. The Delegation stated that this decline may be estimated at an average loss of 1,700 million dollars in 1959 to Latin America, valued at 1950 prices. The Cuban Delegation pointed out that the unfavorable facts shown above contrast strongly with certain offers of foreign aid, particularly such as the Alliance for Progress whose program proposes to provide loans to Latin America totalling 20,000 million dollars in a period of 10 years, i.e., an average of 2,000 million dollars per annum. The Delegation stated that, even if these funds were to really enter Latin America, the region would certainly continue to export capital to the capitalist world and the United States in particular, since at present the region was exporting about 2,000 dollars annually through the combined effect of the deterioration in the terms of trade and remittance of profits.

131. The Cuban Delegation stated that the need was for introducing basic changes which would modify the structures of the region's countries so that conditions favoring development could be created. The Delegation pointed out that there was a need for: a) agrarian reforms which abolish large landed property; b) nationalization of the property of foreign monopolies c) basic changes in the State's functions; and d) expansion in trade with all countries of the world with the object of overcoming the persistent deterioration in the terms of trade. The Delegation added that, in its opinion, such measures would ensure the continued growth of the region's economy and, as a result better standards of living for the people of Latin America.

132. The Cuban Delegation then passed to the subject of how its country has faced the problems of development and what measures were being applied in order to improve conditions for agricultural workers and conditions in general in agriculture. The government passed a law in May, 1959, whereby a radical reform of land tenure was introduced. Under this law, all landowners and producers who worked farming units of less than 2 "caballerias" (26.8 hectares) were given the land free. Landowners and producers working areas up to 5 "caballerias" were given the opportunity of owning their land through payment of land in excess of the limit of 2 "caballerias" of free land. Large holdings were abolished, and the limit for landownership was reduced to a maximum of 30 "caballerias" (403 hectares). The Delegation also mentioned that on nationalizing the large holdings which existed in the country before the reform, the government reserved for itself some of this land, without breaking up the holdings, for use as cooperatives and State farms. This was the way the new People's Farms and Sugar Cane Cooperatives came into being. These Cooperatives were later converted into State Sugar Cane Cooperatives on the decision of their members. The Delegation also informed that, as a result of the agrarian reform, 59% of the land is presently in the hands of private owners, amongst whom at least 140,000 own units of less than 2 "caballerias", about 60,000 owning units running from 5 to 30 "caballerias". The State-owned farms, which are divided into Cane Plantations and People's Farms, account for the remaining 41% of the country's agricultural land. One of the most significant effects of new agrarian system introduced in 1959, explained the Delegation, was the opportunity it provided for achieving full employment of the working population in rural areas. The Delegation mentioned that these new conditions brought about a dangerous effect for agriculture

in that full employment in rural areas was combined with a massive migration of rural workers towards the towns as a result of the creation of new jobs through industrial and construction plans put into practice by the government.

133. The Cuban Delegation stated that another remarkable effect of the new situation in agriculture was an increase in the value of the product forthcoming from the agricultural sector, which has been increasing since 1959 at a rate of not less than 90 million pesos per annum. The Delegation informed that not only had the product of the agricultural sector increased, but that of other sectors as well. It is estimated that the growth of the product amounts to an increase in consumer income shall bring about a corresponding and rapid rise in demand. The Delegation stated that in spite of the tremendous efforts being made to substitute imports of food and other agricultural commodities, which is accompanied by the difficulty in importing, national production has been able to provide an increased supply to meet growing demand. The Delegation stated that in spite of the tremendous efforts being made to substitute imports of food and other agricultural commodities, which is accompanied by the difficulty in importing, national production has been able to provide an increased supply to meet growing demand. An example of the way in which agricultural demand and consumption are increasing, stated the Delegation, is the fact that between June, 1960 and June, 1961 no less than a million head of cattle were slaughtered. Before 1959, annual slaughters and consumption amounted to only half of this figure. The Delegation submitted a series of statistics showing the increase obtained in the production of a great variety of agricultural commodities. It also informed that great progress had been made in the diversification of production, with considerable progress in the output of commodities which were imported formerly. It was also informed that agricultural output in 1961 in Cuba was the highest ever. It was also mentioned that, according to the targets of the 1963 agricultural plan, it was expected that the volume and value of agricultural production shall increase by over 20% in comparison with 1961.

134. The Cuban Delegation thought it worth mentioning that agricultural conditions for the 1962 harvest had been unfavorable, due to a great extent to an intense drought. It was also explained that some of the unfavorable results in this year's output were the result of mistakes in the implementation of agricultural programs in certain farms. It was shown likewise that the drop in sugar output in 1962, in comparison with 1961, was largely due to the lack of rain. The drop in output attributable to this cause is estimated at half a million tons. The Delegation informed that some of the adverse results of the 1962 harvests, such as in the production of certain tubers (malange, beniate, yucca), are certainly attributable to the difficulties and disorganization inevitably arising from the changes brought about in many establishments in the course of the transition from private production to State and cooperative forms of production. The lack of administrative experience, the shortage of experts and the survival of certain vestiges of several centuries of colonial obscurantism and 60 years of semicolonial obscurantism acted as contributing factors. The decline in rice yields at the end of 1961 and in early 1962 were attributable to these causes.

135. The Delegation stressed the fact that this negative trend in some products is of a transitory nature and shall be easily overcome. Thus, for example, it was informed that the rice harvest for the last months of 1962 is to be the largest yet in the agricultural history of Cuba. It was also informed that a few weeks ago the harvesting of tubers was started, and that quantities of it are arriving in Havana and other towns in amounts greater than required to supply demand.

136. The Delegation clarified the fact that the rationing system in force for certain foods and other consumer goods is due not to a lack of progress in agriculture and in rural living conditions but to the rapid rise of workers' income levels in the country as well as in the towns, which has brought an effective, larger, and more rapid demand than the corresponding growth of supplies. The progress which is being made in increasing the volume of production means that soon supply will be able to cope unreservedly with the remarkable growth of demand.

137. The Delegation observed that among the programs intended to favour progress and to increase scientific farming the steady establishment of the fertilizer industry was worthy of mention. The quantity of fertilizer employed in 1961 which was about 490,000 tons, was very much greater than the 225,000 tons which were employed in 1958. Nevertheless there are problems to overcome before the total amount of fertilizer required in modern agriculture is found. It was stated that Cuba expected, within the space of two years, to reach a point in the manufacture of fertilizers where it would be able to apply chemical fertilizers to the extent of millions of tons whilst at the same time it would continue seeking to increase the use of organic fertilizers whereof the use in the past has been practically nil.

138. The Delegation stated that its Government is going to put into force an active reafforestation program. The new Government has already planted 154 million trees for the wood industry. This program intends, during 1963 and 1964, to plant a further 62.5 million trees. The execution of this program has placed Cuba at the forefront of world reafforestation work. Another no less spectacular side of the programs of the new Government, it was explained, is the planting of 6 million fruit trees since 1959. It was stated that there are at present 14 million fruit-tree seedlings in the nurseries and that the plan to 1965 includes the planting of a total of 24 million fruit-trees.

139. Referring to another field, the Delegation declared that the increase in the production of fresh fish for consumer use will be 38% by 1963 compared with 1962. The target is an annual output to consumers of 200 million pounds by 1966.

140. The Delegation declared that there has been considerable progress in various other sectors which will benefit progress in agriculture and improve rural living conditions. There is a program to increase the demand for agricultural products. Similarly programs and work in connection with the subject of extension has shown good results. The preparation of experts and specialists in production and agricultural administration is being actively pushed forward in Cuba. During 1961/1962 1,000 young people were sent to the Soviet Union for training in agricultural subjects. For the same purpose 2,000 Cubans will be sent to the Soviet Union for the courses to be held during 1962/1963. The School of Agricultural Administration in Cuba is training 3,000 students - the youth of the People's Farms. The agricultural credit expansion programs has also been pushed forward and will continue to develop more and more and with greater effect. The small land-owners have the benefit of credit at a low rate of interest. For example the owners of undertakings smaller than 5 "caballerias" (one caballeria equals 33 1/3 acres) are called upon to pay interest at a rate equivalent to that which is charged to state-owned undertakings, i.e., 2% per annum. The Delegation explained that this is the first time in the agricultural history of Cuba that the small land-owners have had access to such abundant and cheap credit.

141. The Cuban Delegation announced that it viewed with satisfaction the fact that at the Conference the question of the adoption of measures to improve planning and to properly coordinate agricultural development policy within the framework of the development programs in other sectors was being dealt with. It stated that it wished to express the view that in the opinion of the Delegation it should be stressed that economic planning could not show proper results if it did not go hand in hand with the socializing of industry. It did not believe that there were any other methods which could replace centralized planning which could only be achieved within a social system wherein investment is guided and policies formulated with the nation's future in view and not the interests of groups and specific individuals.

142. The Cuban Delegation ended up by pointing out that the agrarian reform program had not yet reached its climax. It was explained that there are shortcomings and mistakes to correct. However the aim of the Government in the next few years is to go forward at a faster and safer rate. It was stated that Cuba does not fear

foreign restrictions placed upon its agricultural trade, nor the commercial blockade, and that an atomic war could impede but not stop the growth of Cuba.

Guatemala

143. The Delegation of Guatemala declared that it treasured the hope that the discussions and resolutions broached at the Conference would enable it to secure the guidance required to lay down lines of action intended to provide a solution for the problems which hinder domestic agriculture. Nevertheless Guatemala was also interested in the essential aspects of economic and social development in the whole of Latin America, since the region as a whole was bound together in its ideals and problems as well as in its successes and failures.

144. Guatemala has suffered and continues to suffer the consequences of inadequate agricultural development, a morose campaign against illiteracy, a poor system of irrigation, electrification, and communication, in addition to the scarcity of economic resources required to face up to the problems of hunger and sub-nutrition. Notwithstanding the technical assistance provided by several international bodies in latter years, economic and social progress has not risen to the heights required to achieve the desired rate of development.

145. Even though it has now been proved - as stressed by the Delegation of Guatemala - that, within the bounds of possibility, the distribution of land to the agricultural workers had been an effective measure taken, and had revealed a sincere attempt to make a start on agrarian reform, the appropriate legal background had still not yet been drawn up, which fact was a constant source of embarrassment to the Government of Guatemala. It was particularly desirable to do away with the large-scale farming concerns still existing in the country and to set up thousands of land-owners in order thus to take the first sound step towards improving the lot of the farm-worker. It would then be necessary to make available to the agricultural workers the required technical and economic aid and to this end the guidance offered by the Conference would be of prime importance. Thus it would be possible to battle efficiently against hunger and show better results in the illiteracy campaign for the agricultural workers and in the improvement of the domestic rural economy.

Colombia

146. The Delegation expressed its satisfaction with the special emphasis laid on the topic of agrarian reform in the Conference and for the energetic way in which the agricultural problems of Latin America had been tackled. It went on to point out the timeliness of this new opportunity for Latin American countries to come into contact with one another and also with countries from other regions, to which of course they were bound by many a tie. In the opinion of the Delegation, a frequent exchange of experiences in the field of agricultural development was increasingly desirable so as to learn therefrom how to correct mistakes, put situation to rights and follow channels of closer cooperation and mutual understanding. The Delegation applauded the fact that the Conference had met in Brazil, a country whose people were an example to Latin America by reason of the efforts they had been making to improve their economic situation and the way they were endeavoring to install social justice.

147. The Delegation felt that it was lamentable to find that the people of the region were still living in such backward conditions; that it was hard to foretell with any accuracy how long it would take them really to emerge from that situation; and that, in a way, statements and resolutions like those of the Charters of the United Nations, OAS and Punta del Este, in which there was so much talk of a better world, were palliatives rather than development factors. To their mind, there were many good intentions that, transposed to the practical plane, resulted in experiences of little real impetus. Magnificent projects existed, thought the Delegation, citing the example of the Alliance for Progress, but adverse trends in the

international economy affected the value of such proposals. While on the one hand Latin America could boast of eminent men like Dr. Juscelino Kubitschek, ex-President of Brazil and inspirer of the Pan-American Operation, and Dr. Alberto Lleras Camargo, ex-President of Colombia, men who sought to carry the problem of regional development a step further, infusing new life and strength into it, and adopting a more humane approach; on the other hand the prices of basic commodities continued to pursue their downward tendency in opposition thereto. The Delegation pointed out that what might be won with the Alliance for Progress was liable to be lost on the international market, either because there was no suitable mechanism to guarantee prices or through a lack of international cooperation stemming from a failure to understand that aid to developing countries was not an act of charity but a duty of solidarity with global significance.

148. The Delegation noted that the situation set forth above obliged Latin Americans to revert once again to the conviction that they ought to stand on their own feet as soon as possible and that foreign aid should be welcomed, but as a complementary but not a substantial element in stimulating the development of each country. It seemed that, among the basic factors of development, there should be included, above all, the reshaping of the faulty structures, both economic and social, that amounted to anachronisms in many countries of the regions. The Delegation went on to refer to the various achievements and well-directed efforts of the different Governments, related by the corresponding Delegation in the course of the Conference. Among them, attention should be drawn to the impressive increase in the output and export of fish meal obtained by Peru in a few short years. Likewise, it would seem that Mexico had succeeded in operating a remarkable program of self-sufficiency with regard to agricultural products. Bolivia, also, was making headway with the operation of a highly interesting project of agrarian reform. A critical examination of these experiences, pursued the Delegation, led one to think that if regional cooperation were to be sought in LAFTA, which it termed a magnificent attempt at Latin American integration, and an efficient common market successfully set up, economic and social progress could be attained without subordinating the possibilities of improving the region to the vague and variable contingences of foreign aid.

149. The Delegation expressed a favorable opinion with regard to the decisions of the Conference dealing with structural reforms, above all with the intention of improving the systems of land use and tenure. It pointed out that the evils of land tenure were a heritage from colonial times that the first century of independent life had not yet succeeded in erasing. It reported that a program of agrarian reform was underway in Colombia. In as much as 3.5% of the landowners had title to 55% of the land, an Agrarian Reform Law had been passed aimed fundamentally at redistributing the inadequately cultivated areas of the large estates and eliminating minifundia. To this end an organization had been set up that bore some resemblance to Cuba's INRA, and appointed to carry out the agrarian reform. Properties that were not being properly worked were to be expropriated and redistributed. It was further intended to purchase lands of private ownership, starting by those that were lying fallow near to large cities with access to ways of communication, going on to those that were insufficiently worked, but cultivated by tenants and share croppers. Considerable purchases had already been made in the past year. Finally, the idea was to also expropriate land that was being adequately worked, when this should prove to be socially necessary according to the nationally plans for agrarian reform.

150. The Delegation explained that the object of the Colombia program of agrarian reform was not merely to hand out land, but to plan its distribution and suitable use. It was not a question of sharing out marginal or unproductive land, but rather should the agricultural improvement and development projects be coordinated within the national economic planning. Technical assistance and controlled credit for the new farmers would go along with the allotment of the holding. As regards landowners' compensation, a way of payment had been adopted

that conciliated the extremes of expropriation without indemnity and expropriation to punish the idle landowner. The terms and conditions of payment depended on the use to which the land was being put on estates liable to expropriation. Part was paid in cash and part on long term with low interest. Where untilled land was concerned, by far the greater part of the value was paid in bonds. This avoided payment on the basis of a theoretical commercial value that might give rise to speculation in connection with the land purchase program, and also avoided confiscation, so as to comply with the tenets of a social philosophy that respected private property. In this connection, the Delegation wished to make it quite clear that Colombia did not share the opinion expressed by the Cuban Delegation in favor of collectivization in farming, since such a contention had philosophical overtones involving the very principles of the system of property. Moreover, the Delegation did not believe that agrarian reform could be exported from one Latin American country to another, inasmuch as every one of them had to build up its own agrarian system anew in accordance with its peculiarities and the nature of its own particular problems, starting, however, from the principle that there can be no agrarian reform without redistribution of land.

151. Recognizing the far-reaching interest of the subject, the Delegation maintained, however, that the Conference discussions could not be expected to cover every aspect of the problem, and for this reason it wished to call upon the Latin American countries, as well as the more advanced countries of North America and Europe, to keep in close and unbroken contact for research into their mutual problems. Periodical exchanges of ideas was useful in studying the best way of developing cooperation and mutual assistance, considered the Delegation, adding that financial aid was not always the most effective, rather would the countries of Latin America reap a better profit from moral aid and spiritual stimulus. In the opinion of the Delegation, the Latin American people should be told that their Governments were not afraid of proceeding to revolutionary structural changes in the antiquated systems that were hampering the development of agriculture and the economy. With a clear grasp of the meaning of progress, the peoples of Latin America could be brought to an awareness of agrarian reform as an imperative moral duty that was going to be carried out decidedly, because it formed part of a current of thought and a policy of action that were universally worthwhile.

152. The Delegation concluded with the statement that initiatives like the World Food Program and inter-agency cooperation, and valuable activities such as those being pursued by the international organizations, would be frustrated and undermined if the peoples of Latin America failed to pledge themselves to act forcefully and effectively at this crossroads in history. These efforts should be accompanied by a sweeping change in the Latin American outlook, which should be directed fundamentally towards the fulfilment of the hopes of attaining standards of living ever more worthy, more elevated and more ennobling.

United States

153. The United States Delegation did not make a statement on this subject because it was considered desirable that the lead be taken in its analysis by the delegates of the Latin American countries themselves. It considered, in a written statement given to the Secretariat that advance judgement was more than vindicated by the objectivity, keenness of analysis, and high caliber of the statements made on this subject by all of the delegations except Cuba. The United States Delegation deplored the injection into this technical conference by the Cuban Delegation, both in the statement on this subject and in other plenary and committee deliberations, of misleading, political, and propagandistic statements referring directly and indirectly in a derogatory manner to the United States. The Delegation of the United States considered that such statements have no place in a technical conference dedicated to the betterment of the people of America, through programs soundly based on democracy and respect for the individual, and the United States Delegation deplored and took exception to them wherever they may appear in the records of this conference.

Statement by Representatives and Observers of International Organizations

UNITED NATIONS (Economic Commission for Latin America)

154. The ECLA Representative stated that he brought the compliments of the Economic Commission for Latin America, which within the over-all framework of the United Nations has joined efforts with FAO a long time ago for the purpose of facing the development problems of our region.

155. He conveyed the compliments and best wishes for success sent by Dr. Raúl Prebisch, Executive Secretary of ECLA, who was unable to attend the Conference due to force majeure.

156. He said that the address made by his Excellency the President of the Republic of Brazil and that made by the Assistant Director General of FAO, were a stimulating guide and an incentive for discussions and analyses to be undertaken.

157. He stressed that, in his opinion, the consideration and background information conveyed in the inaugural speeches had left an apparently contradictory impression. On the one hand, they brought up clearly and frankly the difficult conditions surrounding the present status of the Latin American development and particularly its agriculture. Here the traditional obstacles lying in the way of expansion combined with the negative gravitation of external factors, some old and others which had come up as a result of the integration process of large commercial areas. The testimony of facts and the reasonable expectation of short term perspectives presented undoubtedly an unfavorable balance, not very promising for optimistic expectations.

158. Nevertheless, in the light of this hard though not clear reality, another fact emerged, perhaps more important, namely, the gradual "taking of conscience" on the part of the people, their leaders and their intellectual power in respect to the nature, the dimension and urgency of the tasks which have to be approached and solved.

159. One should not underestimate this process of rapid and subjective maturation which has taken place in the past few years, and which has been stimulated by domestic tensions and international repercussions. Until a short time ago, a sort of "providentialism" predominated at many responsible levels, which in the best of cases and sporadically, gave way to pragmatic and fragmentary efforts, but which sometimes created problems as serious as those that one wished to solve. In this empire of "providentialism", there were those who turned their face to the past, running away from a present which they could not figure out, and harked back with longing to return to the old system of Latin American development or placed their faith - more than their confidence - in that foreign aid could set the stagnant Latin American economy in motion.

160. He stressed that in its principal aspects, these attitudes and positions were vanishing in the air under the pressure of present problems and the activity or perhaps the preaching of the United Nations agencies has played a significant part in that change. Because to them - no one can deny - has corresponded primarily the task of eliminating ancient myths and prejudices, to adequately review the regional reality and to sustain the effort towards a growing rationalization of theory and practice in Latin American development.

161. He recalled that recently, at the time of inaugurating the training courses of the Planning Institute, Dr. Raúl Prebisch had referred to this question by recollecting that in 1954, i.e., eight years ago, at the Conference held at Quitandinha, in this country, some of the most pertinent aspirations to approach regional development had either been turned down or shunned, such as the

establishment of the Inter-American Bank, long-term planning and assistance, the need to intervene in the international market in order to safeguard the position of primary goods.

162. Today, what was considered as heretical until recently, is now being accepted without reservation by most Inter-American leaders and constitutes an essential backbone of programs under way, including of course the Alliance of Progress.

163. But while fully recognizing the importance of that virtual subjective resolution, it should be coldly compared with that objective picture outlined by the leading speakers. And from that comparison emerged the unequivocal proof that the challenge posed by circumstances was indeed a formidable one and that it put to a hard test that which had been achieved through the "taking of conscience".

164. One more concrete plan should bring out the fact that one had advanced much in the diagnosis and the cognizance of our problems and possibilities. The cooperation of governments and international agencies had permitted the breaking of many taboos. A substantial documentation has been amassed, although still inadequate, but which has enabled the taking of decisions and the establishing of policies with a degree of certainty which had been impossible heretofore.

165. The ECLA representative remarked that concurrently a strenuous effort has been made to train and prepare technicians in different fields, which however formed only a small group in the various countries. He added that in both aspects, the United Nations agencies had played an outstanding role.

166. On the other hand, he considered that there was an over-all awareness that one had still not been able to establish the nature of those general conditions which furthermore were different in each country and could not be defined as a fruit of national considerations.

167. He stated that the United Nations, through its specialized and regional agencies, had not withdrawn their responsibility nor haggled over its contribution. He stressed the growing emphasis placed by ECLA on the study of social aspects of development, including those covering the organization and functions of the mechanism of a modern State, as well as the systematic work carried out by FAO on the question of land tenure system and agrarian reform.

168. He added that in this key problem the root and possibility of changes were not linked to the techniques and did not depend on the rationality that was imparted to action. He quoted from Dr. Prebisch's speech in Mexico: "the great human enterprises could not have been carried out had it not been for the decisive contribution of deep emotional movements. Without them, man could not have reached unsuspected extremes of subordinating nature forces to his goals, nor could these goals have been fulfilled without calculation. We need them in this great task in which we are engaged to act over the forces of economy and social life in our countries, so as to achieve the goals of Latin American man. It is therefore necessary to combine emotional strength which moves us with the strictness of calculation and rationality which we need".

Organization of American States

169. The Representative of the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Institute of Agriculture Sciences reviewed in their statement, the latest activities covering agriculture and rural life, which had been carried out by the Secretariat General of the OAS (Pan American Union) and by the Technical Cooperation Program of said Organization. He stated that those activities were generally divided into three classes: studies, technical assistance and training of technical personnel.

170. The major studies already carried out by the Pan American Union or those under way covered the following fields: annual report on the economic and social situation of Latin America (in cooperation with ECLA); marketing of basic Latin American agricultural products; recompilation and evaluation of the agrarian legislation of Latin American nations; agricultural taxation; community development programs; principles and methods of community development; social work schools; extension of social security benefits to rural populations; medical care, including for rural workers; rural social structure and mobility (in cooperation with the Latin American Center for Research of Social Sciences of Rio de Janeiro); the role played by cooperatives in agrarian reform programs. In addition to these studies, the Pan American Union was carrying out others on the social aspects of agrarian reform, the working relations of rural workers, etc. and published a series of papers dealing with various socio-economic aspects of the Latin American rural milieu. The OAS Representative added that insofar as cooperation with the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development was concerned, three important studies started by ICAD (CIDA) with Pan American Union support were worth mentioning: the basic information survey for programming agricultural development; the study of land tenure conditions in Latin America and its impact on agricultural development; and the study of the agricultural education position and its relationship to the social and economic development of Latin America.

171. In referring to the Technical Assistance provided by the Pan American Union, the following missions were mentioned: two in Ecuador, one active in the preparation of the agricultural sector program and the basis for a study on the integrated development potentialities of the Guayas River Watershed; and another which will assist in the preparation of a program designed to grade and record Ecuador's land resources and other basic data. A mission had also been sent to Mexico and Central American countries in connexion with the stability of coffee prices, and another to Honduras on agrarian reform, the latter having already completed a preliminary report on the subject and has assisted in the drafting of a colonization project for the Aguán Valley. Other missions assisted the Dominican Republic to set up the Faculty of Agronomics and the Sociology School of the University; Brazil and Chile, in the development of their programs of cooperatives; Honduras and Panama, in the development of short-term agricultural and livestock programs, and various Latin American countries in community development programs. Furthermore, the Pan American Union had participated in the OAS/ECLA/IDB Tripartite Committee Missions to Uruguay, to prepare a long-term development program; in Haiti, to carry out a study for the development of this country.

172. The Pan American Union cooperated with the ICAD in a mission to Colombia which provided technical assistance in the preparation of an economic diversification and social improvement program of the Caldas Department, as well as in an exploratory mission to Venezuela, which was sent out for the purpose of surveying the needs of the Andes region, with a view to a specific economic and social development project in that region.

173. The OAS Representative stated that the Pan American Union training programs are mainly carried out through the Technical Cooperation Program established by the IA-ECOSOC in 1950, which is a permanent activity of the OAS.

Its purpose is to foster and carry out projects in the member countries in the field of advanced training, including research and exchange of technological knowledge and experience, with a view to stepping up the economic and social development process within the framework of the Alliance for Progress. Major projects related with agriculture and rural life include the following: Project no. 26 - Inter-American Center of Rural Education (CIER), at Rubio, Venezuela; Project no. 102 - Inter-American Program of Administration of Social Welfare Programs in Buenos Aires; Project no. 104 - Inter-American Program for Training of Post-Graduates in Applied Social Sciences, in Mexico; Project no. 205 - Urban and Regional Planning Project (PIAPUR), in Lima; Project no. 208 - Inter-American Program of Training of Personnel in Indian Community Development, in Guatemala and Bolivia.

174. In addition to the projects carried out by the Technical Cooperation Program and other cooperating bodies, the OAS Representative mentioned the following: Project no. 29, Inter-American Center for Evaluation of Natural Resources (CEPERN), carried out in collaboration with the Pan American Institute of Geography and History and now transferred to the Government of Brazil; Project no. 39, Technical Education for Improvement of Agriculture and Rural Life, headquartered at San José, Costa Rica, with the collaboration of the Institute of Agricultural Sciences; Project no. 77, Pan-American Foot and Mouth Disease Center, with the cooperation of the Pan-American sanitary Bureau; Project no. 201, Latin American Center of Rural Credit in Mexico, in cooperation with the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences and CEMLA; Project no. 206 - Training and Studies on Agrarian Reform, jointly carried out with the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences.

175. The Pan American Union has carried out other training programs through the granting of scholarships to the direct organization of specialization courses. The scholarship program stressed the Regular Continental Scholarship Program which began five years ago and which has granted 330 scholarships every year for advanced studies of specialization or research held in any country within the Continent. A large portion of said scholarships involved training in agriculture and rural life; and intercontinental scholarships of specialization awarded by countries in Europe, Asia and Near East. Up to this date Spain has offered 25 scholarships (reforestation and colonization programs); Italy, 26 scholarships (economic development and land reform programs); Israel, 200 scholarships (land reform, agriculture in dry zones, cooperativism, etc.). The Representative added that the award of scholarships by Holland, Japan, Switzerland, Nationalist China, France, Germany and Belgium is under consideration.

176. Referring to the specialization course program, he said that the Pan American Union operates two specialization courses also connected with rural life aspects, namely, the Pan American Center of Housing and Planning (CINVA), in Bogotá; the Inter-American Program of Higher Studies of Social Sciences in the Caribbean Region (FICSES), in Puerto Rico. The Representative wound up his report by stating that OAS' efforts in the field of training of technical personnel in the field of agriculture and rural life had resulted in the training of 8,790 professionals since 1951 through its Technical Cooperation Program and 225 professionals beginning in 1958 through its Regular Scholarship Program, which made up a total of 9,015 professionals. He stressed furthermore that many of these training programs as well as the Technical Assistance Missions referred to, had been assisted by several organizations, chiefly FAO, AID and other governmental agencies of Latin American countries.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

177. The UNESCO observer took the floor to report that all persons of the region devoted to education share UNESCO interest in agricultural education.

178. Even so, he expressed UNESCO's primary interest in "all forms and levels of agricultural education" in the Latin American countries, including the Special Fund and the Expanded Technical Assistance Program projects. He also referred to the cooperation between FAO and UNESCO in the development of agricultural training programs.

179. "The social, cultural and economic development of Latin America will be better served by a policy of collaboration than by a rigid limitation of fields, which is impracticable, owing to the complex human, geographic and economic reality of this Continent.", said the observer.

180. He also discussed the programs maintained by UNESCO in cooperation with the Special Fund or with the Inter-American Association of Agricultural Development in Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua and Venezuela, as well as those which will probably be undertaken in Trinidad and Jamaica.

181. Finally, he ended up by urging the countries represented in the Conference, as well as the FAO Secretariat, upon the need to hold meetings with the appropriate UNESCO organizations on a national or regional level when it comes to establishing or changing programs relative to agricultural education in any of their forms and/or levels.

Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development

182. The Executive Director of the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development (CIDA) explained that this Committee had been created on the basis of Paragraph 3 of Resolution A- 4 of the meeting of the IA-ECOSOC of August 1961 which recommends: "That the task force on land reform and agricultural development, in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, reach conclusions with respect to the best means of bringing about early and substantial increases in agricultural productivity and of assuring that the benefits of greater productivity will be available to those who work the land, and, in general, to attain the objectives set forth in Title I, Chapter 1, Paragraphs 5 and 6, of the Charter of Punta del Este."

183. In compliance with the aforementioned Resolution A.4, the Secretary of the OAS, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, the Assistant Director-General of FAO for Latin America Affairs and the Director-General of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences set up, on August 14, 1961, a coordinating Committee for the carrying out of a program of studies of agriculture in Latin America, which was designated the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development. The IDB joined CIDA in December 1961.

184. The magnitude of the tasks imposed by the Alliance for Progress in the fields of agrarian reform and agricultural development made coordination of the activities of the various international organizations carrying out programs in those fields a matter of urgency. The members of CIDA therefore viewed the agreement reached as a step of momentous importance which will undoubtedly benefit both the Latin American countries and the international organization to which they belong.

185. The Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development has determined as its objective the carrying out of a program of studies of agriculture in Latin America in order to define and evaluate the principal and most urgent problems which retard its growth and to determine possible solutions to those problems within the framework of the programs of balanced social and economic development. In addition, the Committee will assist the Latin American governments in the agricultural aspects of their general development plans and in the preparation of specific projects for submission to international credit organizations. This approach will be the first necessary stage of positive action in the preparation of the programs envisaged by the Alliance for Progress.

186. The Executive Director stated that within the framework of the Act of Bogotá and the Charter of Punta del Este, CIDA proposes to tackle the short - and long-term institutional, economic, social and technical problems by undertaking three kinds of activities:

187. The first on which a start has already been made, has as its aim the compilation and organization of data, and the study of the basic problems affecting agricultural development in Latin America, as a basis for a more extensive program of action in the later stages.

188. The second is aimed at collaboration by CIDA with the various governments in the drawing up of the programs for areas where measures or decisions are being taken which reveal a definitive intention to undertake structural and institutional reforms and where benefits will be distributed more widely among those who work the land and a greater and more efficient utilization obtained of natural and human resources.

189. Many of these programs could be submitted for consideration by the international credit organizations. On request by the governments, the scope

of the Committee's activities may also be extended to assistance in the direction and supervision of national programs during their execution. CIDA proposes that assistance furnished to countries in the field of planning shall involve an obligation on the part of the governments to participate in this work by supplying local technicians who will, if necessary, be trained by experts made available by the Committee.

190. Third, CIDA will be able to act as a consultative and coordinating organ for the work of its member organizations to unify purposes and resources, as regards the clarification of the agricultural problems of the region, the formulation and execution of the plans, projects and programs that are required to solve them.

191. The Executive Director explained that as a basis for the initiation of its activities, it had been decided by CIDA that it would be of benefit to call a meeting of independent high-level experts who would put forward specific suggestions relative to the most practical approaches to the study and solution of these problems and their coordination in the orientation of the Committee's program of work. This meeting had taken place in October 1961.

192. The views of the group of experts had been unanimous on the following important points, *inter alia*:

1. Generalized treatment of the agricultural problems of Latin American countries is of no practical value except in the case of a common problem or when similar conclusions have been reached in regard to the various countries studied. Apart from these exceptions, the problems of agricultural development should be studied separately, country by country or area by area, as the case may require.
2. Study of national programs must be comprehensive and no important factor affecting development should be neglected, even though it is recognized that in the execution of the programs it may be necessary to lay down priorities.
3. The shortage of technical staff makes it imperative to carry out training programs at all levels and on a very large scale.
4. Agrarian reform implies profound and far-reaching changes in the legal relationship between the individual and the land, though not necessarily redistribution of lands in all cases. It is recognized that agrarian reform must be accompanied by measures in the fields of taxation, credit, marketing, prices, research, expansion and other matters. Adoption of these and other measures is not a substitute for redistribution of rights over the land.
5. The legislation relative to agrarian reform must be of general application, even though actually implemented in stages.
6. It is desirable in the application of agricultural programs to pay due attention to optimum exploitation and utilization of already developed lands before extending cultivation to virgin isolated areas.

193. Explaining the present activities, the Executive Director said that CIDA has started an inventory of basic data; the broad objectives are a conclusive evaluation of present basic knowledge on natural resources and farming problems, ascertainment of the gaps in this knowledge which must be filled before embarking on development programs and determination of existing basic services and availability of technically trained agricultural staff at the various levels.

194. A second study aims at the preparation of a report of a general nature in the field of land reform and agricultural development and the formulation of conclusions with respect to the best means of bringing about increases in agricultural productivity and of assuring that the benefits of greater productivity will be available to those who work the land.

195. The principal working hypothesis of this study is that existing land tenure systems in Latin America, dominated by latifundia and minifundia, can be modified to encourage more rapid economic and social development; the corollary of this is that existing land tenure systems constitute major obstacles to development. It is expected to complete this study by the middle of 1963.

196. The executive director continued to say that CIDA had been conscious since the very start of its activities that full and proper implementation of the programs of agricultural development and agrarian reform proposed in the Punta del Este Charter will be contingent on the existence of technical staff and organizations capable of initiating them and that if these are not available the countries concerned will find it difficult to achieve the objectives in spite of the financial resources which they may be able to mobilize.

197. CIDA has consequently agreed to initiate jointly with the OAS Task Force on Education a study aimed at objective and analytical appraisal of the state of agricultural education in Latin America, both formal (schools and universities) and informal (extension and special courses), in order to determine the orientation to be given to educational programs and the measures that will be necessary in this field in conjunction with Latin American social and economic development programs. The proposed study was welcomed by the UNESCO Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development in Latin American, held in Santiago, Chile, from March 5 to 19, 1962 and it was discussed at the Conference on Higher Agricultural Education held in Medellin, Colombia, from May 8 to 19, 1962.

198. The first phase of the study, which includes Chile, Colombia, Nicaragua, and possibly Costa Rica, should get under way shortly and come to an end in the middle of 1963. During a second phase, if the necessary resources are available, the study might be extended to another group of countries.

199. With regard to country missions, the Executive Director explained that the first request had been the one of Chile. It had, however, suffered a delay since in August, 1962 the Government of Chile reiterated its firm interest in the Mission, but expressed that it could not give its final approval to the project as legislation concerning agrarian reform programs in the country had not received congressional sanction as yet.

200. The second request had been received from Colombia and referred to a mission to advise the Coffee Federation, the Corporación Financiera de Caldas (Caldas Finance Corporation) and the Banco Cafetero (Coffee Bank) in connection with the preparation of a program of economic diversification and social improvement in the Department of Caldas.

201. The economy and living standards of this predominantly coffee-producing department have suffered as a result of the fall in coffee prices. The Department has, however, ample natural and human resources and the organizations mentioned above have been taking action to arrest these effects by a comprehensive program of rural development. They had come to the conclusion that the time had come to fuse the individual projects into a coordinated program extending over several years and linked to the aims of the Alliance for Progress.

202. The Mission is directing its attention to a wide variety of aspects of the

social and economic structure of Caldas, including land tenure, taxation systems, population characteristics, infrastructure works and production methods. These and other aspects are being studied closely with a view to the drawing up of a 5-year plan which coordinates the various schemes being carried out in Caldas not only with each other but also with the plans of the Colombian National Development Program.

203. The Mission had already prepared several preliminary reports and reached important conclusions, which furnished a basis for the preparation of concrete action projects. These projects contemplate the arrangements for and coordination of investments by the various agencies involved in the Caldas region, which will be financed by either local funds or funds from the outside. A basic part of the scheme is the organization of a system of supervised credit, which will be started in 1963 on 1200 coffee farms.

204. The Executive Director then referred to the request received from Brazil. Agriculture at present constitutes one of the sectors of weakest growth in the economy of Brazil, and this is a retarding factor in the general economic development of the country. There exists the urgent need for a complete and comprehensive investigation that would make it possible to identify the bottlenecks that are impeding agricultural development and holding back the improvement of the standards of living among the rural population of Brazil. In order for this development to be sustained it is essential that it be based upon careful planning of the general economic and social development of the country.

205. CIDA approved the sending of a mission whose objective will be to advise the Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture, the Office of Superintendent of Economic Development of the Northeast (SUDENE), and other offices, for the particular purpose of identifying and defining the main economic, technical and social obstacles to agricultural development and improvement of the standard of living of the rural population and on the planning of agricultural activities within a balanced economic and social development. Besides the assistance at the national level, the Mission will devote particular attention to the specific agricultural-economic and social problems of the North east of Brazil. These will include the possibilities for diversification and increased agricultural production in the humid regions with particular reference to the improvement of sugar cane productivity and the production of basic food crops; the possibilities for the development of agricultural production in the semiarid region; and the possibilities and methods for establishing new production units in areas at present not being farmed.

206. The Executive Director noted that a further request had been received from the Government of Bolivia which referred to the necessity of coordinating and integrating the various agencies concerned in programs within that country's Economic and Social Development Plan. The functions of the Mission shall be to advise the Government in the drawing up of its agricultural development plans, chiefly in regard to those aspects conducive to improvement of the standard of living of the peasant population, both in the country as a whole and in specified areas. It is expected that the Mission will begin its work in January 1963 and that it will have a duration of two years.

207. The Executive Director said that the Government of Venezuela had requested CIDA to send an exploratory mission of short duration to identify the principal problems of the Andean region of that country and to make recommendations that would serve as a basis for the organization of a full-fledged mission to advise on the preparation of an agricultural development program for that area. The exploratory mission in question had pointed to the urgent need to relieve the population pressure in the Andean region by settling the surplus in the adjacent lower lands and recommended that the Government of Venezuela should immediately initiate an action program in a chosen area which should consist of the settlement of population in the adjacent lower lands and the improvement of the Andean region itself.

208. In view of this the Government has requested that CIDA should send a mission made up of specialists in land tenure, soil conservation, land use, farm management, rural sociology, zoning, cadastral surveys, agronomy, rural administration, livestock raising, drainage, agricultural credit and cooperative marketing for a period of two years.

209. The sending of the Mission, referred to above will depend on whether CIDA has the necessary resources as well as on corresponding administrative and financial arrangements to be made by the Venezuelan Government.

210. The Executive Director concluded by saying that further requests or expressions of interest for missions had been received from Uruguay, Peru and Colombia and that these were being considered by CIDA.

Inter-American Development Bank

211. The Inter-American Development Bank representative declared that, after the statements made by FAO's Assistant Director General for Latin America, the representatives of American countries and those made by observers of various international agencies, there was little he could add with regard to the contribution which FAO had been making towards promoting agriculture in the region. He stressed the IDB's satisfaction on learning about the efforts being developed to put an end to the problems posed by hunger, economic poverty, social misery and cultural backwardness, among others. He conveyed the salutations of the President of IDB who entrusted him with the task of telling the Conference with what interest the IDB saw this gathering and its hope that its deliberations would result in concrete policies leading to the stepping up of economic changes and social advancement in Latin America. He emphasized that the Inter-American Development Bank could not remain indifferent to the problems affecting the development of Latin American people, whether these were of an economic, social, cultural, educational, technical or political nature.

212. With regard to the activity developed by IDB, the observer remarked that in the field wherein IDB's action coincided with FAO's functions - the field of technical assistance - the following amounts had been invested: Reimbursable Technical Assistance, Own Funds: \$7,433,181; Social Progress Trust Fund: \$874,000; Non-Reimbursable Assistance (free technical assistance): Own capital funds: \$2,684,468; Social Progress Trust Fund: \$1,881,613. He emphasized that these figures showed IDB's concern in discharging the responsibilities which had been confided to it by the various countries and in living up to the hopes of the peoples. He complained that the IDB's action was substantiated in a paragraph of the address delivered by the President of his Institution at the IA-ECOSOC meeting recently held in Mexico; contribution to the establishment and the financial and administrative strengthening of 9 national agricultural development and rural credit agencies, 12 national or regional housing institutions and 15 entities charged with the administration of water supply and sewer systems; cooperation with various countries in the Region to help them implement agrarian reform programs; in operations with private enterprise, by promoting the democratization of companies, and by establishing as a prerequisite for concession of aid by IDB, the broadening of bases for capital formation and for industry management.

213. He further stated that IDB had established special courses such as that which was being carried out in cooperation with CEMLA (Center for Latin American Monetary Studies); had awarded scholarships and was participating in the financing of agricultural development planning programs, as well as in specialized seminars on technical and administrative matters, in special studies and in other projects.

214. He ended up by reaffirming IDB's determination in carrying on a consistent and coordinated policy along with the other international technical and financial

cooperation organizations and institutions, not only in the study, but also in the implementation of development programs and specific work projects. In closing, he expressed his best wishes for the success of the Meeting.

International Labor Organization

215. The Representative of the International Labor Office expressed his satisfaction upon witnessing the work and deliberations taking place in the course of the Seventh FAO Regional Conference for Latin America. He stated that FAO, the same as the ILO, are specialized agencies of the United Nations Organization which devote their whole attention to the possibility of bringing about greater economic development. In the course of its work, the attention which FAO dedicates to aiding the nations of Latin America is laudable. He declared that the ILO, in its capacity as a agency devoted to labour problems, has many points in common with FAO. Both these organizations work under close cooperation in several important projects for Latin America.

216. The Representative explained that in its working program for 1963, the ILO shall continue to give due importance to the Program for Rural Development. This program, whose object is to study specific problems of rural work, has as its ultimate object the discovery of solutions to the problem of increasing incomes in rural areas and improving living conditions in developing countries.

217. Among the activities of the ILO which are related to the interests of the FAO, the Representative referred to the program for studying the problems of under-employment in rural areas. Projects which lead to an increase of employment opportunities in rural areas should be given due prominence in any program for rural and economic development. The Representative also stated that the ILO was greatly interested in the World Food Program initiated by the FAO. With regard to this program, the inclusion of some pilot projects for increasing the employment of labor within the context of economic development programs would be interesting. The implementation of such programs afford the possibility of cooperating with the FAO, and joint consultation and studies have already taken place between WFP and ILO officials at Geneva. The Representative also drew attention to the fact that the ILO is particularly concerned with several features of economic and social planning, especially those connected with employment and its opportunities. He stated that this concern was in agreement with the matters to be discussed under Item 5 of the Seventh Conference's Agenda. On the subject of Item 6 of the Agenda, ILO's Representative also stated that his organization was taking part in the action and the aims of the World Freedom-from-Hunger-Campaign. The ILO has already made known its support of this Campaign through a resolution passed at its Conference held in 1961.

218. Regarding Item 7, which concerns land tenure and agrarian reform problems, the Representative stated that the ILO's interests is likewise directed towards the problems that derive therefrom. The importance which the ILO attached to these matters is reflected in a resolution which was adopted by the Seventh ILO Conference of Member Nations, held in Buenos Aires in April 1961. This resolution, on referring to the living conditions of rural workers, paid special attention to matters affecting tenant farmers and others who have no land tenure, and land distribution systems. The Representative stated that it was important to mention the ILO's contribution to the United Nations' report on "Developments in Agrarian Reform" which was submitted to the 34th Session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

219. The Representative also referred to the joint activities of the ILO and FAO such as, for instance, the Latin American Forestry Training Center. In the field of government service to agriculture and to the benefit of agricultural workers, vocational training is a feature which deserves the special attention of the ILO.

The Representative informed that the ILO's rural development program included a Latin American seminar on vocational training to be held in 1963, and concerned with agrarian reform. The Representative concluded by stating that the points of common interest between the ILO and FAO are numberless, and that there has always existed close cooperation and understanding between these two agencies. This team spirit, to which Item 12 of the FAO's Agenda refers, is particularly important owing to the effects which it may have upon improving conditions in the rural sector of Latin America.

ITEMS DISCUSSED IN PLENARY SESSIONS

WORLD FREEDOM FROM HUNGER CAMPAIGN

220. The Representative of the Director-General of FAO spoke on the subject of the 'World Freedom from Hunger Campaign'. He declared that during his tour of Latin America to promote this Campaign he found that there was a certain amount of concern over the name which had been chosen and he had been told in several places that there was really no hunger in a particular country. He therefore proceeded to explain what constitutes hunger in the opinion of FAO. In point of fact, when reference was made to the banishment of hunger this did not involve physical hunger alone, but in a much wider sense it inferred sub-nutrition and malnutrition, that is to say such a lack of food as to prevent a human being from achieving normal physical development, which would affect his state of health, lessen his ability for work, or shorten his normal life span or his physical or intellectual ability. A human being requires a certain intake of calories, according to sex, age, environment and nature of activity, and at the same time a balanced diet. He pointed out that FAO had recently examined the world picture with regard to such needs and had arrived at the conclusion that 300 to 500 million people are subject to serious under-nourishment and over one thousand million are ill-fed in varying degrees of intensity. Naturally these one thousand five hundred million men and women live almost entirely in the under-developed countries.

221. He also stated (in full agreement with the assertion made by Dr. Josué de Castro a few days ago) that for Latin-America the Campaign was similar to the struggle for economic and social development and that people were convinced that the solution of the problem as outlined would only be found in a balanced social and economic development, to wit: the uniform development of the potential of a country, of its agriculture, its industries, the products brought up from its sub-soil and from its sea, and a fair distribution of the national income, so that all the people - to use the words of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - may enjoy "a suitable standard of living, which will secure them as well as their families, the health and well-being and especially the food, dress, shelter, and the appropriate social services and assistance" and, generally speaking "the satisfaction of their economic, social and cultural rights, indispensable for their dignity and the free development of their personality".

222. A few days ago the Alternate Chief of the Brazilian Delegation, Dr. Josué de Castro, thought he perceived in a FAO document the expression of a Malthusian idea. Possibly the document had not been written quite in the way which may have been wished for; however, in fact FAO draws its inspiration from a source quite contrary to the Malthusian. It is convinced that hunger can be banished in the world. This can be achieved because humanity has an enormous capacity for work (a large portion of which is not fully employed) since it has achieved enormous technical progress and has amassed an impressive amount of wealth. More foresight in the face of surrounding perils, greater imagination, a keener sense of responsibility towards the future, improved human relationships, are alone lacking. For, only 10% of the surface of the earth is cultivated, another consists of bog-lands and natural pastures, about 30% is natural forest, and about 43% (almost half) is unfarmed or fallow land. Vast areas could be placed under cultivation but only by concerted and coordinated action of the governments, since large investments would be required and in many cases considerable survey because enthusiastic prospects of increased yield on existing lands under cultivation is entertained, through the better employment of water, the struggle against erosion, fertilization of the soil, the improvement of seeds, the control of plant pests and diseases, the use of more modern implements and machinery, better breeding, feeding, and livestock safeguarding methods, etc. In some parts of the world surprising results have been obtained through use of such measures. In recent years Mexican agriculture, for instance, has shown an annual rate of

increase between 5 and 10%, whilst its population increases at a pace which is not one-third of this figure. Such progress has been achieved mainly through a policy embracing irrigation, credit, agricultural expansion, speedier marketing, and prices.

223. He added that FAO had suggested the formation in all the countries, of National Committees for the World Freedom from Hunger Campaign, and many of them had set them up. FAO considers these to be indispensable for the Campaign and hence the reason for having requested that they be set up as soon as possible by the Latin-American countries. Up to the present five countries have taken steps towards doing this; however merely two have done it effectively. One of these is Brazil who, since two years ago, has been carrying out a considerable campaign and is actively engaged in drawing up sound projects, and the other is Chile which set up its National Committee only two weeks ago.

224. Within the World Freedom from Hunger Campaign, FAO has organized other important activities. One of these is the setting up of the World Freedom from Hunger Week which will start on the 21st of March of next year. The World Week will have fixed main objectives, namely: (1) to stress the world-wide nature of the hunger and malnutrition problem as well as the need to make a universal attempt to solve it; (2) as a simultaneous gesture of world-wide sympathy it will encourage to a great extent those countries intent upon solving the problem; (3) completion of the first half of the Campaign may give added impetus to efforts expended on the second half thereof; (4) it will help towards cultivating public opinion for the proposals which the World Food Congress will make nine weeks later directed at fighting world hunger; (5) when stressing the integrated and long-range nature of the struggle against hunger and malnutrition it will give the people a good opportunity to take part in the United Nations Development decade.

225. Summing up he declared that the Week would not be an isolated effort but rather just one more step towards rousing public conscience to the problems of hunger, malnutrition and poverty in the world.

226. Simultaneously, it has been decided to propose to the Governments that a special issue of Campaign postage stamps be made during the Week. This philately plan would be the only international effort which all the Governments could undertake simultaneously throughout the world during the Week. Up to the present moment eleven Latin-American countries have announced their wish to take part in this stamp issue, viz. Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama and the Dominican Republic. At least a further six nations have expressed their interest in this philately scheme. FAO hopes that all the Latin-American countries will support this plan of commemorative stamps which would serve to express that feeling of world-wide sympathy which has been referred to.

227. He declared that FAO attached much importance to the World Food Congress which will be inaugurated in Washington on 4 June 1963. Whilst sharing in the Campaign the Congress will approach the spokesmen for public opinion, the men of science, teachers, leaders of non-governmental and voluntary organizations and men and women renowned in all spheres of human activity, in order to ascertain the actual state of the world in its struggle to ensure future supplies of food and the means available wherewith to achieve this. The Congress will provide a single opportunity to set unofficial debates going on these questions, since it will be a thing of the people, so to speak. It is hoped that steps will be taken so that those persons from Latin America present at the Congress on their own account may assemble together and with groups from their country, i.e. at a meeting or a national conference called by the National Committee for Freedom from Hunger. This meeting would allow the persons present at the Congress to benefit through relationship with the leading citizens of their country which would undoubtedly serve as an indication of national opinion and hopes.

228. He ended by stating that the Director-General of FAO had commissioned him to point out to the Latin-American countries the advantages of taking part in the Congress, not merely through the means of Government representatives but also through non-government bodies.

229. Following this, there was an animated discussion initiated by the declarations of Dr. Josué de Castro, delegate of Brazil, who stated that the Campaign was a unique opportunity for the world and reiterated that Brazil was giving it its most enthusiastic support. He said that he was pleased to see that the Campaign continued to gather impetus and that it was already entering upon the phase of practical action. Nevertheless he insisted that it was necessary to define all the concepts connected with the Campaign, with the utmost clearness, in order to avoid misunderstandings.

230. He added that to him it was a source of great satisfaction that FAO had evolved and was no longer Malthusian as she had been in her early days. He considered that the problem was primarily social and economic in nature, whilst the physical aspects of production could be considered as of lesser importance. The Brazilian delegate declared that the cause of hunger should not be sought in the growth of population and that the work paper submitted on this theme by the Secretariat had overstressed this point. Hunger is not the result of natural factors. This continent is too rich in resources of all types. It is not an over-populated continent but, on the contrary, an under-populated one.

231. He thanked the Assistant Director-General of FAO for having clarified the issue that hunger was not only physical hunger but also invisible hunger and he added that hunger should be considered essentially as an expression of under-development. To fight against it, as FAO is doing, means in consequence that FAO is fighting against economic and social under-development. If up to now it had not been possible to achieve more progress he considered that the reasons lay in egoism and in the refusal of Governments to admit the existence of hunger. Before, he added, the word hunger was a taboo respected by rich and poor alike, the former for fear of letting loose a nightmare, and the latter through shame at admitting that they might be hungry. Now, he said, FAO had managed to make people aware of this hunger problem but that its objectives were only just beginning to become evident. In his opinion it was necessary that the proposals of this conference should be straight to the point, precise and clear and that they should lead to clearly seen results. He ended up by requesting a united effort of planning in order to succeed in the objectives of the Campaign. The delegate from Mexico added that the banishment of hunger also called for better land distribution without which the people would be unable to exist.

232. He concluded by proposing that the Congress should send a special message conveying its greetings to the Director-General of FAO, Dr. B.R. Sen, and commending the initiative shown in launching this Campaign.

233. The Chilean delegate declared that this country was profoundly impressed by the Campaign and that this government had the deepest interest in supporting it. He called upon all the Latin-American countries to follow it saying that it was imperative that all countries should unite in the struggle against hunger.

234. The Conference declared its complete agreement with the foregoing declaration and adopted the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,
CONSIDERING:

That the Latin American Countries participating in this Conference recognize the high aims of FAO in creating the Freedom from Hunger Campaign;

That these countries wish to support and cooperate intensely with the objectives set forth in the Resolution that created this Campaign and that they desire, furthermore, to utilize with the utmost efficiency the ways of action available to this Campaign to free the Latin American continent from the clutches of hunger and malnutrition;

That Latin America undoubtedly represents a demonstration area that is extremely well fitted to the action to be developed within the scope of this Campaign;

And that this Conference was convened with the express purpose of coordinating efforts and disciplining national and international initiatives and actions designed to eliminate hunger and malnutrition from this continent;

RECOMMENDS TO FAO:

That it endeavor to give high priority to the action to be developed in Latin America within the scope of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign through the operation and coordination of demonstration projects, carried out in strict collaboration with other international bodies operating on the Latin American continent.

That FAO, having developed, in this first stage of the Campaign, effective action in favor of education and training, should seek in a second stage to intensify research into the determining factors of hunger and the coordination of action programs which, through the promotion of harmonic and balanced economic development, contribute efficiently to the struggle against the scourge of hunger in Latin America;

TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

That they seek to create, as soon as possible, the National Committees of the Campaign recommended at the Tenth FAO General Conference, which set up the Campaign, as being the indispensable liaison and implementation instrument in every country of the action of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, and likewise in those countries that already have established such Committees that they intensify their action in this phase which is particularly suitable to such activities in view of the resolution recently adopted by UN to proclaim the Development Decade;

That the Latin American countries endeavor to assign top priority to the goal of freedom from hunger when formulating the planning of their respective economies and coordinating national efforts in favor of the economic and social emancipation of their peoples;

That the governments of this region seek to hold the World Freedom from Hunger Week from March 21 1963, as recommended at the 39th Meeting of the FAO Council;

That, during the celebration of this week, those governments organize educational programs to support the Campaign and take advantage of the opportunity to adopt administrative measures or propose legislation designed to further the aims of the Campaign;

That the governments of the region that have not yet taken any decision in this matter, promote the issue of postage stamps in favor of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign;

That governments should encourage the participation of scientists, farmers and non-governmental organisations in the World Food Congress scheduled to be held

in Washington from 4-18 June 1963;

That the Latin American governments intensify their endeavors in favor of universal progressive disarmament and recommend the increasing use of the savings thus made, in the operation of programs and projects capable of freeing the developing world from the scourge of hunger and malnutrition.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That, according to estimates by FAO, more than half of the world's population suffers hunger and malnutrition and that measures of prohibition of international trade would aggravate this disastrous situation by decreasing the rate of supply of food-stuffs which is already below the rate of increase of the population in several continents, including Latin America, and;

RECOGNIZING:

The convenience of an unrestricted international trade to achieve an adequate balance between population and supplies;

RECOMMENDS TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

Not to adopt measures of prohibition of international trade in particular those which directly or indirectly, in one or another direction, prevent or jeopardize the normal flow of food supplies.

The Delegation of the United States of America requested to put on record in the report of the Conference its vote against this recommendation.

EFFECTIVE USE OF EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE

a) Technical Cooperation Programs

235. It was pointed out that in spite of the different meanings which have been given to the idea of "development" and the number of standards against which it has been compared, the existence of economic and social inequality among the Latin American countries is obvious. Latin America as a geographical whole could be considered on a world scale as a typically under-developed country without, however, disregarding the fact that there are distinct signs of development bound up in it. Though there are countries which lack natural resources and are extremely poor there are also others which are able to provide a part of their people with consumption patterns similar to those which exist in the industrialized countries of Europe.

236. In addition to this unequal development, there is a further fact which is common to all Latin American countries - the contrast between an expanding economy and the degree of development of its institutions. Much inertia has to be overcome before the institutions adapt themselves to modifications of economic policy which is a serious handicap to development.

237. This point can only be portrayed thus, for under-development indices only reflect it indirectly. It is more noticeable in departments of the government. The gradual intervention of the State in the sphere of economy had not been accompanied by the corresponding and indispensable training of those departments engaged therein, and thus efficiency was impaired. Furthermore such intervention rarely goes unheeded by the dominant social classes whose interests are at stake, and which do not always coincide with those of the population in general where notions of progress and welfare are involved.

238. It should be noted that such institutional backwardness is also to be seen in private enterprise where the assimilation of technical advances, the replacement of executives and the training of experts is a slow process which interferes with the introduction of new methods of production, the best use of foreign teams of experts and rationalization of work.

239. In many Latin American countries the lack of technical training and the scarcity of specialized staff represents a serious obstacle to economic progress even more instant and grave than the need for capital. The technical assistance given by the more advanced countries could hence greatly contribute towards a speedier and more stable development. The main problem consists of organizing and applying technical and scientific knowledge in such a way that effective and quick-acting results are obtained. By virtue of a thorough understanding of such facts FAO has always paid special attention to programs of technical assistance in this Region and has set aside a large proportion of its funds for this purpose.

240. Throughout the years the tendency has been for maximum diversification of technical assistance programs, not only having regard to the nature thereof but also to the types of projects involved. Nowadays assistance is given in the separate spheres of planning, training, pre-investment, and development. FAO's recent granting of such assistance has always been accompanied by the mention of the important fact that its main function is to encourage national effort towards creating its own technical staff and to assimilate the technical knowledge provided by the more advanced countries. In point of fact, an excessive and protracted reliance on foreign capital and experts would impede development instead of hastening it. Hence the less developed countries of Latin America have been reaping the benefit, throughout the years, of the technical assistance provided by FAO and other specialized bodies of the United Nations though they have not always considered that the final aim of such assistance is the technical self-sufficiency of the Latin-American countries. FAO assures that it has always been led by this guiding principle and that it has employed strict discrimination in recruiting the best available experts from all over the world.

241. It was declared that it was up to the delegates to assess the worth of the technical cooperation provided by FAO to the countries of Latin-America, at the same time pointing out defects and adjustments required and suggesting modifications. Its continued guidance and efforts towards establishing specific plans for economic development was, however, to be recommended. The type of assistance which favors isolated projects, detached from any coordinated plan of economy, appears to have been superseded. In compliance with such concepts FAO at its Conference held in 1961 had approved a program providing for fellowships and planning experts, intended for those Member Nations interested therein, which was covered by an allocation of 400,000 dollars for 1962/63. Furthermore the countries as a rule can apply for technical assistance under FAO's Regular Program, or under the regional training centres engaged in agricultural development programs, and from the planning consultants who pay visits to the several countries. It was considered unnecessary to labour this point any further since nowadays Latin America was fully aware of the disparity between its vast technical assistance requirements and the limited human and financial resources of FAO and of other bodies, and that it is therefore obliged to seek to plan in all directions, be it for national economy or for foreign aid.

242. In summing up FAO was of the opinion that, in future, technical assistance should be ever more closely bound to planning.

b) The World Food Program

243. The item was introduced by Mr. A.H. Boerma, Executive Director of the World Food Program who expressed his satisfaction for having the opportunity to present this Program, which has been jointly established by the United Nations and FAO. He indicated, however, that discussions on this problem were started more than 15 years ago and were the result of two major phenomena; the accumulation of surpluses in some parts of the world and the prevalence of hunger and malnutrition in others.

244. The Program was a first attempt to do something under the auspices of the United Nations to permit the consumption of surpluses accumulated in several developed countries, perhaps in a better and more coordinated way than through bilateral programs. It was of an experimental nature and it was proposed for the moment that it should last for three years. The limit of \$100 million dollars in resources had been almost reached in the Pledging Conference which took place in New York in September last, at which a total of more than 86 million dollars had been actually pledged in commodities, services and cash.

245. Many commodities had been pledged and only some perishable foodstuffs such as tobacco and alcohol had been considered not acceptable. However, two very important commodities have not been received, i.e. rice and sugar. Pledgings for the former are very important mostly for the projects to be developed in the Far East; without rice the Program will lose flexibility. Also not enough shipping facilities or cash contributions have been made. This type of contribution was planned to be one-third of the total and so far countries have pledged only the equivalent of one-sixth of the total. This was regrettable because the availability of food will be of no use if it cannot be moved from the donors to the recipients, and efforts are being made to persuade countries to make donations in cash instead of in kind. The Executive Director remarked that an interesting aspect of the program is that contributions are offered not only by the wealthy countries, but also by small and poor countries. Even some small African countries have contributed.

246. The Program - stated the Executive Director - will have three lines of action: a) to meet emergency situations of famine or chronic malnutrition including the shipment or the building-up of food reserves; b) to contribute to pre-school and school feeding programs; and c) to implement, in an experimental way, projects in which food is used as a means to attain social and economic development, mostly by inducing the use of labour in projects for rural welfare,

helping to establish settlement projects, or contributing to meet the cost of public works through payment in kind of part of the labour remuneration. However, with food alone it will not be possible to keep this program going and it will cooperate in bilateral development programs and also in multi-lateral projects based on international cooperation and with the ones financed with funds collected by the Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign.

247. The Conference expressed its unanimous solidarity with the objectives of the World Food Program. Special mention was made of the fact that this Program represented the maturing of ideas on this subject which had been first stated many years ago when it had been proposed in FAO that a World Food Reserve should be created. The delegations gave their support to the three objectives of the Program as stated by the Executive Director and declared that the utilization of the World Food Fund to fight hunger was a noble purpose which did not admit discussion.

248. With regard to the utilization of the food fund to help programs aimed at complementing feeding, it was considered that, whenever possible, local or regional foodstuffs should be utilized and also that such programs should aim at the donation of food on the basis of a balanced diet. This could serve the purpose of promoting healthy eating habits and the better physical development of children who represented the human capital of the future.

249. The utilization of the World Food Program for development purposes was considered by the Conference as of the highest interest. The difficulties which handicapped social and economic progress could only be overcome with the work and the efforts of the people and consequently the partial financing of development projects through the contribution of foodstuffs was of the greatest importance. Brazil had already presented several projects of this type for the Northeastern region of the country which were being considered by the Direction of the World Food Program to select those which best fitted the purposes of the Program.

250. Some delegations, however, wanted to be on record to the effect that they supported the Program on the condition that its implementation did not interfere with the agricultural development of the recipient countries; that it should take into account local consumption habits; and, particularly, that it should not affect the normal international trade of foodstuffs. These three conditions were considered as fundamental for the future agricultural development of Latin America and it was underlined that the ideal targets of these countries to achieve their development was to strengthen their foreign trade and to improve the terms of trade for agricultural products. The Conference also considered, in the same connection, that the program should for the time being have a temporary and experimental character, with which the Executive Director concurred; the Program was considered to be a good alternative to bilateral negotiations regarding the utilization of surpluses of foodstuffs, but it still had to prove its usefulness if it was to be considered the complement of an ideal objective. As long as the usefulness was not clearly shown, the program was to be considered with some reserve. Attention was drawn to the need that in the implementation of the program for the purpose of promoting development it should be coordinated with all international organizations working in the same field, so as to avoid an isolated action.

251. In view of the objectives and importance of the program, some delegations announced that their governments, in addition to the general support which they were giving to the Program, were also studying the possibility of making direct contributions to increase the operational capital. The Delegation of Brazil declared that it had already offered such a contribution at the Pledging Conference but the exact amount had not yet been established; Brazil will make

its contribution in coffee, since much to its regret it could not at this moment contribute rice, as the Director of the Program would have wished. Negotiations on this subject could possibly be reinitiated at a later date. The Delegation of Argentina declared that its Government would certainly make a contribution to the Program if, as it was expected, it would show its usefulness through its activities. The Delegation of Cuba stated that its country was willing to cooperate with the Program in the measure of its possibilities. One delegation expressed the view that the Program could give a certain assistance to small countries by purchasing foodstuffs from them at special prices. The Director declared that he had some doubts regarding the possibility of utilizing the small cash resources available in this manner, as well as regarding the advisability of negotiating on the basis of special prices as had been suggested.

252. The Conference adopted unanimously the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

OBSERVING WITH SATISFACTION:

That the World Food Program has been established and has commenced operations on an experimental basis,

1. Notes with appreciation

that 40 Member States of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies have pledged \$88.7 million in cash, services and commodities for the World Food Program;

2. Invites

Latin American Member States which have not already done so to consider making pledges to the Program so that the goal of \$100 million envisaged in General Assembly resolution 1714 (XVI) may be attained as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

That they prepare projects for implementation.

INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

253. The Representative of the Director-General of FAO stated that he had included Item 12, "Inter-Agency Cooperation", in the Agenda of the Conference for the purpose of informing the Conference about the action of FAO in a field that was of basic interest to the Governments, viz., the coordination of everything to do with agricultural development. It was believed that the only interest of Governments and peoples was the efficient work done in tackling the problems of agricultural development. What the countries wanted was that there should be the fullest possible cooperation and coordination between the numerous organizations that were working in the field of economic and social development, because it was the countries themselves that financed the international programs and they had a right to insist on those endeavors and those resources being properly employed.

254. He said that he could assure the Delegates that, so far as FAO was concerned, a special effort has been made to fulfill the just expectations of their governments. The coordination mechanisms between the United Nations agencies were working better from day to day and naturally those mechanisms were also applied within Latin America. Furthermore, it might be said that they were working very well in Latin America, for there had been continuous contact between the United Nations agencies and a very close similarity of viewpoints among the directors of the regional services of those organizations.

255. He explained that the FAO Regional Office worked in strict collaboration with ECLA, because, agricultural development being a decisive factor in economic and social development, it was necessary to cooperate very closely with the United Nations Agency charged with orienting the economic development of the Region. For many years a joint program of agricultural economies had been in cooperation with ECLA and had been transformed two years ago into a Joint Agricultural Division, made up of ECLA and FAO economists and run by an officer of FAO. Nearly all the papers of an agricultural type presented at the Conference had been prepared by this Joint Division. FAO has also cooperated in the advisory groups working on planning in various countries, providing technicians in the various skills and sometimes assisting their regional officers.

256. He pointed out that there was a Work Group in combination with ECLA in the field of cellulose and paper, which had turned out to be an efficient element in the promotion of timber industrialization in that part of the continent.

257. Finally, FAO was collaborating with ECLA in the Latin American Planning Institute and had a part both in the preparation of training programs in the agricultural sector and in carrying them out.

258. With regard to the cooperation of FAO with other agencies in the system of the United Nations, mention should be made of the activities that FAO, WHO and UNICEF had been pursuing in the sector of applied nutrition. In these programs, already extended to the greater part of the Latin American countries, FAO had been paying particular attention to good education through the production, distribution and consumption of foodstuffs; WHO has been dealing with the prevention and treatment of nutritional deficiencies with a view to health improvement especially of the vulnerable groups; and UNICEF, on the other hand, had been collaborating in the form of providing the necessary equipment and materials for carrying out these programs.

259. Thus, the community development activities that were pursued through a regional program of the Andean Mission (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia) were another example of the cooperation of United Nations agencies. Those programs were sponsored by ILO, with the assistance of FAO, WHO, UNESCO and the program of Technical Operations of the United Nations.

260. Likewise attention should be drawn to the activities related to basic education being developed in CREFAL (Regional Center for Basic Education in Latin America), an institution established by UNESCO and the Mexican Government to train instructors and technicians for community development programs in which FAO has also collaborated.

261. Cooperation has also been ensured with United Nations agencies through seminars, study centers and International Conferences, like that held this year in Santiago on "Education and Economic Development".

262. He then went on to point out that FAO maintained active cooperation with the agencies of the inter-American system through ICAD, an organization in which FAO participates together with OAS, IDB, IIAS, and ECLA, in the first place because Resolution A 4 of the Charter of Punta del Este obliged it to do so, and secondly because there had been seen to be a community of objectives as regards agricultural development and planning, and agrarian reform, in the Punta del Este Charter, FAO and the policy of government agencies. He assured the delegates, however, that in none of the programs operated in common had there been any kind of departure from the principles and purposes set forth in the Constitution of FAO or those that had been recommended by the Conference or by the competent United Nations agencies. In closing, he asked the delegates for their frank opinion on the efforts made so that any possible defect might be made good.

263. The Conference received the statements of the representative of the Director-General of FAO with the utmost interest and adopted the following recommendation on Item 12 of the Agenda: Inter-Agency Cooperation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Committee of Agricultural Development (CIDA) performs an important function of coordination for purposes of promotion and planning of agricultural development in Latin America;

That this coordination goes beyond the mere object of avoiding duplication and contradiction between the international agencies that are engaged in regional agriculture and has rather, as principal end in view, a conjugation of efforts;

RECOMMENDS:

To the agencies constituting CIDA, viz. OAS, FAO, ECLA, IDB, and IAIAS, that they continue to give it all their support.

The Conference discussed the draft recommendation and the Delegations of Venezuela, Chile, Uruguay and Mexico declared their full support for the activities of CIDA, and consequently for the recommendation.

This recommendation was approved by the Conference, Cuba voting against it.

LAND TENURE AND REFORM

Introduction

264. The discussion was introduced by a summary of recent developments in land tenure and agrarian reform in Latin America. FAO's recent activities in the field were discussed under three headings, technical assistance, the CIDA Study of relationships between land tenure and economic and social development, and agrarian research and training. FAO's efforts to create the agrarian research and training institute requested in previous regional and general conferences were also briefly reviewed.

265. Several of the delegates expressed their agreement that agrarian reform be given an important place on the Agenda. They emphasized that important progress in formulating agrarian reform programs for Latin America had been made at the Sixth FAO Regional Conference in Mexico and they hoped that the present Conference would result in further advances. The delegates also presented to the Conference a synthesis of progress being made in land reform in their respective countries and some of the problems being encountered.

266. There were several differences in opinion over the concept and objectives of agrarian reform, some delegates maintaining that it was essentially a revolutionary process, while others held that it should be orderly and evolutionary, developing in accordance with each country's established legal and constitutional framework.

Working Group on Agrarian Reform

267. The Conference accepted the Brazilian suggestion that a special working group be established to discuss agrarian reform programs in more detail and to interchange experience in this field. The working group included delegates from Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, the United States and Venezuela. Also observers from the OAS participated actively in the group's deliberations. The group named the Delegate from Ecuador as Chairman.

268. The Representative of the Director-General of FAO presented the working group with a review of some of the resolutions and recommendations in the field of agrarian reform at previous FAO and inter-American conferences. He particularly pointed out the efforts made by the Director-General to establish a regional agrarian research and training institute and he called attention to the recent statement by the UN Special Fund that it was prepared to support national efforts along these lines. A document containing the resolutions and discussions cited by the Representative of the Director-General was made available to the group.

269. There was an informative questioning of the Venezuelan and Cuban delegates concerning their recent experiences with agrarian reform programs. These delegations recounted to the group in considerable detail the evolution and problems of their countries' agrarian reforms. Also the Mexican and Bolivian delegates made valuable contributions to the discussion through a review of some of these two nations' salient experiences in land reform. One conclusion that emerged from these discussions was that although the reform programs actually carried out in each country differed in many significant respects, there were also several common problems. One of the most important of these has been the acute shortage of adequately prepared technicians and professionals to direct and implement the reforms.

270. Following these general discussions, the group considered specific recommendations which it could present for adoption by the Conference. The consensus was that a coordinated regional program was needed with emphasis on

training, research, direct interchange of experience, technical assistance and general education of the public and governmental authorities of the need for agrarian reform. The group agreed to ask the Director-General of FAO to take the initiative in requesting a report outlining such a program before 30 April 1963. The Resolution containing these ideas was unanimously accepted by the working group.

271. Some of the delegates believed that this resolution should be complemented by a second resolution calling for the rapid creation of the regional agrarian reform institute recommended by previous conferences and requesting the governments to pledge resources to support this effort. Other delegates, however, believed that such a resolution would be premature. The group recommended that the Director-General continue to consider the necessity of creating an agrarian reform institute and that the governments consider the possibility of giving the institute effective support.

272. The OAS observers and some of the delegates stated that there should be better coordination with active OAS programs in the field of agrarian reform. The Cuban delegate objected that he could not support any recommendations of coordination with organizations from which his country was excluded. Other delegates, however, agreed that it was important to strengthen cooperation between the international and regional agencies working in this field.

Plenary Discussion

273. The Chairman of the working group presented the Plenary with a summary of the group's deliberations. He mentioned particularly that the group took careful note of past FAO resolutions, that there had been a long interchange of ideas and opinions with the Venezuelan and Cuban delegates, that the other delegates had participated in a most helpful and cooperative manner. He explained that the group was presenting three resolutions because it has been impossible to prepare a single comprehensive resolution that met the approval and satisfied the aspirations of all of the delegates.

274. The Colombian Delegate singled out agrarian reform as being essential for programs in Latin America. He gave a highly informative summary of the progress which Colombia has recently made in adopting basic legislations for agrarian reform and invited all of the Latin American countries to maintain close contact with the rapidly developing agrarian reform program in his country.

275. The Venezuelan Delegation proposed that the working group on agrarian reform be reconvened to rewrite the resolutions presented to the Plenary. He objected that the present resolution calling for the Director-General to continue to consider the need for a Latin American agrarian reform training and research institute was merely a repetition of similar resolutions adopted at the FAO regional conferences in Costa Rica and Mexico. The Delegation insisted on the need for a strong resolution calling for the immediate establishment of this institute.

276. The Ecuadorian Delegate, as Chairman of the working group, replied that the main purpose of the group had been to exchange ideas and experiences and that he regarded the preparation of the resolutions as a byproduct of these discussions. He pointed out that the three resolutions presented had been arrived at after considerable deliberation on the part of the group, and that he was convinced that they represented a good presentation of the group's conclusions. He also pointed out that the Venezuelan representative at the working group had agreed to the resolutions. For these reasons he opposed the proposition of Venezuela to reconvene the working group.

277. The Brazilian Delegate pointed out that the three resolutions were complementary and he added that while the Venezuelan proposal had great merit, time was too short for the working group to meet again. The Mexican delegation agreed with Venezuela over the importance of advancing the agrarian reform

research and training institute as rapidly as possible. He suggested that the Venezuelan delegate withdraw the request to reconvene the working group and that the Mexican resolution adopted by the working group be modified to recommend that the Director-General of FAO present a concrete plan before April 30, 1963 for the creation of the institute. On this basis, Chile also expressed the hope that Venezuela would withdraw its original proposal. On the assumption that Mexico would make this proposal, the Venezuelan delegate said that he would not insist on his motion to reconvene the working group.

278. The Conference considered the working group's resolution requesting the Director-General of FAO to prepare a coordinated agrarian reform program of education, research, technical assistance and interchange of personnel. The United States delegate stated that he hoped that the study requested of the Director-General would result in an effective and unified program in agrarian reform by the agencies working in Latin America. He added that while he supported the resolution, he could not at this time support creation of an agrarian reform institute as the only means to achieve the objectives for an effective agrarian reform program. The Cuban delegation expressed their support of the resolution but stated that they had reservations about its implementation because some of the organizations involved in the program excluded Cuba from participation and had a political orientation.

279. There followed a general discussion in which the Colombian delegate suggested an amendment which recognized that present Latin-American land tenure structures constituted one of the most important obstacles to development and appealed to the governments to adopt as rapidly as possible measures to reform present land tenure systems. This amendment was accepted with a slight modification suggested by Argentina and Cuba. These delegations pointed out that defective tenure structures did not necessarily exist in all of the countries and the resolution should take this into account. Also they asked that the recommendation for reform be qualified to apply only to those cases where it was necessary. With this amendment the resolution was unanimously approved.

280. The Conference considered the resolution presented to the working group by the Mexican delegation calling for the creation of the agrarian reform training and research institute. The Mexican delegate withdrew the amendment he had previously proposed to this resolution, saying that he would later present another resolution calling for concrete plans for the immediate creation of the institute. The working group's suggested resolution was approved with the abstention of Venezuela.

281. The Conference then discussed the resolution which had been presented to the working group by Ecuador recommending that the VII Regional Conference support previous resolutions of FAO and OAS and coordinate the agrarian reform programs recommended by this conference with the various agrarian reform programs of the international organizations, the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development and the OAS. The Cuban delegate reiterated his objections to this resolution saying that Cuba was not only excluded from many organizations mentioned but that also the inclusion of non-technical OAS organizations in the program would make its effective operation impossible. Venezuela expressed its abstention, as the resolution constituted no real advance towards the immediate creation of an agrarian reform institute. The resolution was approved with Cuba opposed and three abstentions.

282. The Cuban delegation then presented a recommendation, calling for the nationalization of foreign owned agricultural enterprises. There was an extended commentary on this recommendation in which many of the other delegates expressed their intention either to oppose the recommendation or to abstain. Those abstaining argued that the subject of the recommendation should not be considered by the conference. The recommendation was defeated.

283. The Cuban delegation presented another recommendation, recommending that the member countries in their agrarian reform programs maintain intact large operating agricultural units and exploit them collectively. This recommendation was criticized by several delegates. Some of them expressed their misgivings about the suitability of collective land tenure for Latin American conditions. Other delegations were of the opinion that this question should not be discussed at the FAO Conference but was a problem which each country would have to decide in the light of its own conditions and preferences. The recommendation was defeated.

284. The Conference adopted the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That the present land tenure systems are, in most countries, one of the main obstacles to development;

The different resolutions on agrarian reform adopted at specialized meetings and international conferences for Latin America;

The need of promoting and accelerating the establishment of programs of agrarian reform in Latin America;

That in spite of the effort made hitherto by the various international bodies in connection with activities of technical and financial assistance in the field of agrarian reform, there does not yet exist any effective coordination thereof;

That there exists an agreement on coordination between the various international agencies with regard to agricultural development, to be pursued through the inter-American Committee on **Agricultural Development**;

RECOMMENDS TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO:

1. that contact be made with the national and international bodies operating in Latin America in the field of agricultural development and agrarian reform, with the object of establishing a coordinated program of more effective promotion in the following sectors;
 - a) training of personnel at the different levels;
 - b) interchange of experiences and technical information;
 - c) formulation of methodology for planning agrarian reform;
 - d) technical advice on the formulation, operation and assessment of programs of agrarian reform;
 - e) operation of campaigns for the dissemination of the necessity and advisability of promoting a change in defective agricultural structures;

2. That this program should consider the utilization of the resources and the technical and financial participation of the various agencies operating in this field in Latin America;
3. That the draft of this program should be available by April 30, 1963 at the latest, due account being taken of the following basic aspects:
 - a) preparation of a work plan of short, medium and long term;
 - b) that organizational and operational mechanism be set up for carrying out said program;
 - c) that the necessary manpower and financial resources for its performance be duly specified;
 - d) that the operational site or sites of same be indicated.
4. That, for the formulation of this program, it will be advisable to appeal to the competent international organizations for the necessary cooperation therein;
5. That the present program could serve as experience and make possible the establishment of the Latin American Institute of Agrarian Reform.

RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

That when necessary they should adopt and implement as soon as possible all measures required to modify the present land tenure system.

That they reinforce and promote the creation of national agencies to pursue the aims of the present program, to which end they may apply for cooperation to the United Nations Special Fund and other institutions that render assistance in this domain.

The Delegation of Cuba voted in favour of this recommendation but expressed its fears that its implementation could lead to a type of solution which would exclude Cuba, not only because of the nature of the recommendation but also because of the orientation of some of the organizations charged with carrying it out.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That the Latin-American Governments, in the Fifth and Sixth Regional Conference and in the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference, requested the Director-General of this Organization to examine the possibilities of setting up a Regional Institute of agrarian reform of a permanent nature;

That said Institute has not yet been set up;

That several Latin American Governments are now operating, or plan to start operating in the near future, programs of agrarian reform that may be seriously affected by a lack of sufficiently reliable information and technical personnel trained in such matters;

NOTES WITH SATISFACTION:

The efforts made by the international organizations in favor of improving research and training in problems of agrarian reform in the region;

The availability of the United Nations Special Fund to assist the Governments in establishing institutes of research and training in agrarian reform;

The initiative taken by some governments of applying to the United Nations Special Fund for support in setting up national organizations of agrarian reform;

RECOMMENDS TO FAO:

That the Director-General conclude the negotiations he has been carrying on in accord with the resolutions of previous conferences and coordinate the efforts of the member countries in order to prepare before 30 April 1963, or as near this date as possible, with the aid of relevant international organizations a concrete project for the establishment of a Regional Agrarian Reform Research and Training Institute. In developing this plan FAO should take into account the agrarian reform activities that have been planned. The plan should put special emphasis on the contribution that the Institute ought to make more effective and active agrarian reforms in Latin America.

RECOMMENDS TO THE GOVERNMENTS:

That they consider the possibility of supporting the said Regional Institute of Agrarian Reform with financial and personnel resources.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That in the various inter-American conferences, the importance and need of proceeding to changes in the defective agrarian structures of the Latin American countries has been highlighted;

That, in various resolutions of FAO conferences and in the Charter of Punta del Este, among the objectives of the Alliance for Progress, it is recommended that special emphasis be laid on the operation of this type of program in each country in accordance with its peculiarities;

That, by Resolution A-7 of the First Annual Meeting of the inter-American Economic and Social Council at the Ministerial Level, held in Mexico City from October 22 to 27 of this year, a Commission on Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform was created for the purpose of reviewing, analysing and reporting to the governments the progress achieved and the difficulties encountered in this field;

That, at the said meeting, by Resolution D-4, approval was accorded to the expansion of the inter-American Program of Training and Research in Agrarian Reform, with the object of offering basic training in this field to the Latin American countries for a period of six years, starting from 1962;

That the present Conference has recommended the establishment of a Regional Program of Agrarian Reform;

That it is advisable to avoid the duplication of efforts, and profit in the best possible way from activities already under way that are related to important aspects of the said regional program;

RECOMMENDS:

1. To welcome the afore-mentioned recommendations;
2. That in the Regional Program of Agrarian Reform agreed upon in this Conference, account be taken, with due coordination, of the Inter-American Committee on Agricultural Development, and the Inter-American Program of Training and Research, both mentioned above, as well as the recommendations and guidelines of the OAS Commission of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform and of the competent governmental authorities of FAO.

ITEMS DISCUSSED IN COMMISSIONS

MEASURES TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC PLANNING IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE
REGION, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
AND PROBLEMS OF COORDINATION

285. The Conference noted with interest the documents submitted by FAO and the introductory exposition read by a member of the Organization. It noted that Latin America, in order that its agriculture may be able to meet the great demand for food and other agricultural products resulting from rapid population growth and increase in incomes, shall have to make better use of its ample physical resources and of its limited availabilities of trained manpower, finances and administrative capacities through better planning. It was shown that in recent years advances have been made in the region in the field of economic and social planning, since many countries have been drawing up and executing organic development plans.

286. The Conference took note likewise of the advances made by some countries of the region with regard to planning in the agricultural sector and was informed of the way in which planning and coordination machinery was being organized in several of them. Thus, it was informed of the functions and organization of the National Production Boards and the Agrarian Reform Coordinating Committee of Venezuela, the Central Planning Board and the National Agrarian Reform Institute of Cuba, the Planning Secretariat of Salvador, the Planning Board of Bolivia, the Higher Council for Agricultural Development of Chile, and the National Planning Institute of Peru. It was also informed concerning the coordination mechanisms established in Brazil and Mexico, and the increasing growth in the latter of its National Council for Agriculture as advisory body to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock in the field of planning. It also noted the legislation on agricultural orientation applied by France in its Latin American department.

287. Amongst other features, it analysed the role of private enterprise in the planning process and considered a few experiences in the matter recorded in the region. The majority of the countries recognized that it was important to link up the private sector with the planning process right from the outset. As regards the problems involved in coordinating the different agencies which draw up and carry out agricultural development plans, which constitutes a basic factor in ensuring the success of such plans, the solutions applied by some countries with differing economic, political and social structures were analysed. There was general agreement also as to the need for planning in a coordinated way the development of agricultural, forestry and water resources and that, in general, the conservation of renewable natural resources should be given a prominent position among the objectives of economic and social development planning. It was noted, furthermore, that there should exist a close relationship between the overall planning of agriculture and agrarian reform programs, since agrarian reform should be one of the tools for achieving increased incomes for rural populations and the improvement of their living conditions.

288. The Conference examined also the conditions of agricultural statistics in the countries of the region and concluded that their improvement and expansion were essential as a basis for planning agricultural development. It was recognized, furthermore, that it was necessary to standardize and coordinate the agricultural statistics of the different countries of the region, to promote a greater exchange of information amongst them, and to strengthen the national organizations charged with the compilation of data and the preparation of agricultural statistics. The Conference noted with great interest FAO's establishment of regional commissions in Africa and the Near East charged with the standardization and coordination of national agricultural statistics, and agreed to request the Director-General of FAO to take the necessary steps to

establish in Latin America a system for coordinating the work of the different regional and international organizations which operate in the field of agricultural statistics.

289. Next, the Conference examined the nutritional features of agricultural planning and recognized that better food and nutrition should be made a basic objective of agricultural development planning in the countries of the region. Such an improvement could be achieved not only through raising incomes and the food supply, but also through educating consumers in the nutritive value of the different food items available to them. The Conference took note, furthermore, that in 1963 a Conference on Food Problems in Latin America is to be held under the auspices of FAO and WHO, and during which several problems connected with the planning of food and nutrition programs are to be discussed.

290. Finally, the Conference analysed the problems connected with the shortage of qualified personnel for agricultural planning. It was unanimously agreed that Latin America urgently required a far greater number of experts in agricultural programming to work in the drawing up, execution and evaluation of farming, livestock, forestry and fishery plans and projects. With regard to this, the Conference noted with satisfaction the efforts which FAO, ECLA and other international and regional organizations are devoting to the training of agricultural planners, and, in particular, to the establishment, at the Latin American Institute for the Planning of Economic and Social Development, of special courses on agricultural planning, in which several FAO officials have taken part as teachers. It was considered necessary to give the highest priority to the training of such specialized personnel, as well as to the editing and diffusion of texts and manuals on agricultural planning.

291. The Conference passed the following recommendations on Item 5 of the Agenda:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The recommendations adopted on previous FAO Regional Conferences and General Conferences on the need for planning crop and stock farming development within the scope of the economic and social planning of the countries of Latin America, and reaffirmed in the Act of Bogotá and the Charter of Punta del Este;

CONSIDERING;

That it is urgent to accelerate the rate of development of crop and stock farming in Latin America, for which a concerted effort of planning is required;

That the formulation and operation of crop and stock farming plans and projects requires the training of a great number of agricultural planners;

That considerations of a nutritional nature should figure outstandingly in the formulation of crop and stock farming development plans and in the adoption of food policies;

That it is indispensable to strengthen the national agricultural planning bodies, and likewise to improve the internal structure of public services for agriculture and perfect the machinery of coordination between them;

NOTES WITH SATISFACTION:

The activities exerted up to date by FAO, ECLA and other international and regional agencies for the promotion of crop and stock farming planning, formulation of a methodology of planning to suit the Latin American environment and training of skilled personnel to program development;

NOTES FURTHERMORE WITH SATISFACTION:

The recent creation of the Latin-American Institute of Economic and Social Development and the starting, therein, of special courses in crop and stock farming planning, and the establishment of the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development (ICAD), entrusted, amongst other things, with coordinating the work done by FAO, ECLA, OAS, IIAS and IDB in the field of crop and stock farm planning.

RECOMMENDS TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO:

That it continue studying the problems of crop and stock farming planning and aiding the countries that apply for assistance in establishing, operating and coordinating the mechanism of crop and stock farming planning, in formulating and carrying out plans and in training skilled personnel, and that, in those activities, it continue to seek the cooperation, or coordination, as the case may be, of ECLA, the Latin American Planning Institute and other competent organizations, both of the United Nations system and of the Inter-American system;

TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

- a) That the economic and social planning bodies pay increased attention to the sectorial programming of agriculture;
- b) That they seek to achieve maximum coordination between the planning bodies and the staff charged with operating the plans;
- c) That in the formulation of crop and stock farming development plans, they accord due priority to aspects of a nutritional character, seeking to adopt a coherent food policy in harmony with the economic and social development aims of Latin America;
- d) That they take full advantage of the opportunities of technical assistance offered by international organizations with regard to agricultural programming and the training of personnel with this end in view, and give their entire support to and make proper use of this assistance.

This recommendation was approved by the Conference with certain reservations made by the Cuban Delegation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

The importance of agricultural planning for the balanced economic growth of Latin American countries;

The need for permanent specialized institutions for planning;

The need to be aware of and to spread the progress made in the planning techniques for the agricultural sector of the Latin American countries;

The need to make comparative studies through which a wider knowledge of the economic and social problems can be obtained and, furthermore, to promote a better understanding among the countries;

The need to improve services and institutions in order to fulfill the objectives of planning;

The lack of experienced personnel trained in agricultural planning techniques;

That, to achieve these purposes, a preliminary step is the standardization of methods, techniques and scientific processes used by the countries in the field of statistics;

RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

- a) The advisability of adopting measures towards strengthening or establishing permanent offices for agricultural planning, within the conditions of each country;
- b) To preserve, as far as possible, freedom of choice in planning, so as to achieve a greater flexibility in economic evaluation;
- c) The interchange of personnel and experiences in the agricultural planning sector in order that, by means of the study of the results and the comparison of methods, the countries of the continent may improve the means and processes of programming in the primary sector.
- d) The formulation of plans to improve continuing statistics with the object of providing an adequate basis for economic planning of the agricultural sector;
- e) The use of sampling methods to obtain the main data of continuing statistics required to frame economic development plans for the agricultural sector;

TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO:

- a) That he consider in cooperation with the OAS and the Inter-American Statistical Institute the possibility of setting criteria for the standardization and coordination of statistical data referring to the agricultural sector of Latin American economies, taking into account the need for technical assistance, exchange of information and experience, and finally the preparation of comparative studies.
- b) That to meet partially these objectives he appoint as soon as possible experts in sampling techniques to:
 - i) spread methods of statistical inquiry based on sampling techniques;
 - ii) assist in the preparation of samples and the analysis of the results so that member countries of the region can face up to the need to obtain immediately the basic agricultural statistics required for the purpose of planning.

The Delegation of Cuba, although it was in agreement with the subject of the recommendation, abstained from voting in its favour due to the fact that mention is made of organizations from which Cuba has been excluded.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That the private sector of the economy is largely concerned with the task of carrying out general plans for economic development as it is directly involved with the fulfillment of the production goals;

That its collaboration is of great importance in a consultative capacity, within the national planning system, in order to improve the preparation of those plans to adjust them better to prevailing conditions;

That on those matters successful experiences have been achieved by several countries in the region;

RECOMMENDS THAT MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

- a) Seek to establish a permanent advisory system within their general planning bodies, wherein both public and private interests are represented;
- b) That in doing so they take advantage of previous experience in this respect gained by other countries within the region;

This recommendation was approved by the Conference with the exception of the Cuban Delegation, which voted against it.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 11

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That reliable and up-to-date food and agricultural statistics are indispensable for agricultural planning;

That previous FAO Conferences and Latin American Regional Conferences have emphasized in various resolutions the promotion and improvement of food and agricultural statistics such as those related to production, consumption, income, prices, agricultural census, etc., some of which are yet to be fully implemented;

That the Eleventh Session of the FAO Conference, with a view to accelerating the improvement of agricultural statistics, strongly recommended the strengthening of the regional statistical set-up, and

OBSERVING:

That as a result of these recommendations, regional commissions on agricultural statistics have been established in Africa and the Near East, and that in the American Continent ECLA, OAS and as the specialized agency the Inter-American Statistical Institute, are engaged in the promotion of these statistics.

RECOMMENDS THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO:

- a) make the necessary efforts to establish, in cooperation with the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Statistical Institute, the Economic Commission for Latin America and other interested organizations, a regional permanent machinery on agricultural statistics for Latin America with the purpose of:
(i) reviewing continuously the state of food and agricultural statistics of the member countries; (ii) providing advice to countries on the improvement of these statistics within a standardized coordinated framework; (iii) convening specialized groups of national experts to discuss technical statistical problems posed by the particular conditions in the region, and
- b) provide, within the framework of the approved budget of the Organization or from other possible sources, the funds required for the setting up of such machinery.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING, INCLUDING STORAGE,
PRESERVATION, PROCESSING AND TRANSPORTATION

292. The Conference noted the activities and achievements of FAO in the marketing field during the two years following the last Regional Conference held in 1960. Among these, the following deserve special mention: the publication of new marketing guides for some products; the performance of a study concerning the technical and economic aspects of the building of storage facilities and silos; the compilation and analysis of data on the organization of marketing in new zones opened to agricultural development; and, finally, the assistance provided by FAO in these matters to Colombia and Peru.

293. Particular interest was awakened by the announcement concerning the establishment of the Inter-American Agricultural Marketing Institute (ILMA) whose organization is to be completed by early 1965. It is expected that teaching activity shall start in the middle of the same year. The Conference noted with satisfaction that among the faculty members there shall be eight international specialists in market research, marketing of durable agricultural products, marketing of perishable products, organization of cooperatives, marketing boards and supermarkets. The ILMA is to function as part of the National Colombian University at Bogotá, as an affiliated institute, and will also have the cooperation of that University's teaching staff. Favourable comments were made concerning the consultation and research services offered by ILMA. These services will be of great help not only to member countries, but also to independent organizations, private commercial undertakings and other possible users, not only in Colombia or Latin America, but from all over the world. There was general agreement as to the value of the services which the Institute is to provide.

294. The need for proper organization of marketing services and channels in order to ensure orderly marketing of the production from new areas of settlement and of the new farms arising from improvements in land tenure systems, also deserved the attention of the Conference, which commented favourably on FAO's project for convening a technical meeting on the subject.

295. Attention was drawn to the advantages of setting up long-term markets as a means for ensuring the seasonal stability of supply in relation to demand. Particular mention was made of the fact that such a system would facilitate the solution of problems connected with the financing of harvests, and it was proposed that long-term markets should be organized in the region.

296. The need for the following was also emphasized:

- 1) The study of the prevailing unrealistic systems and structures and their effect upon the operating costs of preserving and processing agricultural produce, so that the necessary action may be taken, when required, to encourage production and expand markets.
- 2) That due attention should be given to the setting up of industries for preserving, processing and packing agricultural produce within the scope of economic development planning programs.
- 3) That official agricultural credit should be directed towards the marketing of crops, and in such a form that it may reach the producer and his cooperative organizations directly, thereby ensuring a maximum of benefit to both producers and consumers.

297. Former resolutions on marketing passed at previous Regional Conferences of FAO were recalled, particularly those which originated at the Regional Conference held in 1960 in Mexico and stress was laid on the need for implementing those recommendations.

298. Owing to the close relationship between food technology and the marketing of agricultural products, especially where perishable foodstuffs are concerned, the Conference noted with approval the activities being developed by FAO in this field and the Organization's intention to organize, late in 1963, a regional seminar on the subject and, in due course, a regional food technology centre.

299. Furthermore, FAO has helped some governments of the region to establish, with the assistance of the United Nations Special Fund, national institutes of food technology.

300. The Conference recommended that other countries of the region take advantage of the possibilities to establish similar institutes.

301. The following recommendations were discussed and passed:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 12

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

WHEREAS:

The systematic coordination of marketing is important as being the most reliable method of ensuring the supply of food and fibers at a reasonable cost without injuring the producer;

The effective organization of marketing and markets presupposes the availability of advisers, executives, specialists and recognized experts in the competitive branch of marketing agricultural produce, with a thorough theoretical and practical training, and such technicians are lacking in Latin America;

The various projects designed to develop agricultural economy in this region generally involve a need for research, study and consultation with regard to the marketing of farm products, for the pursuance of which there are at present no bodies cognizant of the environment and peculiarities of Latin America;

The adaptation of the national agricultural marketing systems to the development of programs for the liberation of intraregional trade under the Free Trade Association and the General Treaty of Central American Economic Integration requires study and technical advice;

CONGRATULATES:

The Government of Colombia, the United Nations Special Fund and FAO upon their initiative in creating and financing the Latin American Institute of Agricultural Marketing (ILMA), which is scheduled to start operations early in 1963, and

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the Member Governments of FAO take the necessary steps to facilitate the sending of their **personnel requiring agricultural commercial training** to said Institute.
2. That they utilize the contractual advisory services of the Institute whenever they require pre-investment studies for silos, wholesale and retail markets, and other marketing installations, organization or reorganization of **related** undertakings or services, investigation of national or international markets, publicity campaigns or any other form of commercial agricultural advice;
3. That they collaborate with ILMA in its educational endeavours on a regional scale.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 13

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That purchasing and storing of some agricultural products may be entrusted to Agricultural Banks and other similar organizations sponsored by the Government so that producers may be able to sell their produce at guaranteed minimum prices when there are no buyers:

That these government organizations often receive crops from producers in payment of loans granted for their production, which may tie up a good portion of their funds for a considerable period while the produce is being gradually placed on the market.

That with the setting up of systems specialized in storage, the financing and marketing of agricultural produce shall thereby become easier and encourage the entry of private concerns into these activities.

RECOMMENDS:

The establishment of private, state or mixed storage companies, with the purpose of specializing in storage operations, authorized to issue "storage certificates" so as to increase the availability of financial resources for agriculture.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 14

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That the application of the food codes of the importing countries can scarcely be avoided;

That requirements as to the quality and condition of agricultural products already prevail on the international market, in accordance with fully known and satisfactory standards;

That these requirements represent a high degree of evaluation and perfection reached by international trade:

RECOMMENDS:

That the countries of Latin America adopt equivalent specifications in accordance with the standards already known and accepted on the international market, in order to facilitate the export of their agricultural products and achieve, in this way, greater expansion for their foreign trade.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS TOWARDS REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION
AND THE PROMOTION OF A COMMON APPROACH TO AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

302. The Conference took notice with interest of Document 62/15 on this subject submitted by FAO. In the course of the discussions, it was shown that, during the last two years, significant events had occurred as regards the process of economic integration of Latin American countries. In 1962, Costa Rica joined the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration and it is likely that Panama shall also join this Program. Recently, agreements were signed with reference to the Standardization of Import Duties and the Standardization of Tax Incentives for industrial development, both of which shall contribute significantly towards the speedier growth and development of the Central American Common Market.

303. As regards the Latin American Free Trade Association, set up by the Montevideo Treaty in February 1960, and which has a membership of 8 South American countries and Mexico, the results of the first negotiations held in 1961 were analysed. It was shown that a great number of tariff concessions had been granted for agricultural and livestock products and that, although it was still too early to evaluate the effects upon the volume of inter-regional trade, it could be presumed that these preferential tariffs have had a positive effect upon the exchange of these products. Nevertheless, the great number of concessions granted does not constitute such a great advance as it may seem at first sight, owing to the great number of repeated items and the application of restrictive clauses. There was general agreement as to the need for promoting an increase in the exchange of agricultural products amongst the member countries of the Association which at present is only a very small percentage of the total exports of the group. It was considered that there were good prospects for increasing this trade through the substitution of imports from outside of the region and in view of the forecast increase in the internal demand of the region. With regard to the substitution of imports it was noted that during the period running from 1958 to 1960, the member countries of the LAFTA imported agricultural products from outside Latin America amounting to or about 235 million dollars, many of which could have been replaced by products originating within the Association itself. Attention was also drawn to the need for promoting a vigorous policy for promoting better marketing and transportation for the purpose of facilitating trade amongst the countries of the region. Generally speaking, the need was recognized for eliminating or reducing the obstacles which hinder the development of trade in agricultural

commodities to a greater extent than could be achieved on the basis of tariff concessions. There followed a lively discussion as to the applicability of Clause 28 of the Montevideo Treaty which allows member countries to restrict imports of agricultural commodities under certain circumstances. Several delegations, as well as the representative of LAFTA, mentioned the fact that the indiscriminate use and incorrect interpretation of this safety clause could affect the volume of trade, and that its purpose could be none other than to allow member countries to adjust gradually their agricultural economies during the transition period without reduction of consumption or the encouragement of uneconomic activities in production. Attention was also drawn to the need for defining more precisely what constitutes an agricultural product. This would avoid a great number of commodities being treated as agricultural, and therefore subject to the restriction provided for in Clause 28, which would properly be classified as industrial.

304. There was general agreement as to the need for coordinating national policies and that, for this purpose, member countries should start to introduce gradual adjustments in their agricultural economies in order to avoid serious damage, when the period of transition established by the Montevideo Treaty ended, to a great number of marginal and semi-marginal products in different countries as a result of free circulation of agricultural commodities within the area. It was considered indispensable that studies and investigations should be initiated in order to provide the countries of the region with the data needed to carry out the above-mentioned adjustments. Among such studies mention was made of the investigation of the regional demand for agricultural commodities, and the study of the comparative advantages of each country with regard to its production. These last studies would serve as a basis for the subsequent zoning of rural production. The Conference noted with satisfaction the work developed in this field by the joint FAO/ECLA Agricultural Division, and agreed to make a request that these studies be continued and expanded in the light of the recommendations issued by the present Regional Conference. Notice was taken, furthermore, of the studies being performed by the Executive Secretariat of the LAFTA in connection with some of the problems mentioned above.

305. The Conference also considered that the resolutions on economic matters which were adopted regarding the promotion of trade between the countries of the region should pay due attention to the animal health and plant protection policies of the member countries as expressed in their corresponding laws and regulations.

306. The Cuban Delegation expressed its complete agreement with the aims of economic integration of Latin America and its desire to take full part in this process, but it recorded its protest against its country's admittance into the LAFTA having been rejected on the grounds that the political system in force in Cuba was not compatible with those prevailing in other member countries, a criterion which did not regulate the admittance of countries by GATT. The Delegation of Cuba considered that LAFTA, by excluding Cuba, had proved to be an instrument of political discrimination and not of regional integration. This opinion was not accepted by the other delegations present.

307. The following recommendations were passed on the subject:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 15

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

The importance of the trade in agricultural products between the countries of Latin America, and the possibility of appreciably increasing such trade;

That the removal of those obstacles acting in opposition to the increase of inter-regional trade in agricultural products can be effectively achieved through an integrated agrarian policy, which involves the coordination of national agricultural development plans:

That such coordination can be made easier if the comparative advantages of each country, and the conditions under which agriculture operates as well as its potentialities, are fully known.

RECOMMENDS TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO:

That FAO, in cooperation with ECLA and other international and regional organizations, whichever be the case, continue and expand the required basic studies and research for the coordination of national policies and plans for agricultural development in the Latin American countries, with the aim of establishing an integrated agrarian policy.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 16

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That it is necessary to progressively facilitate creation of the effective integration of Latin America which is the ultimate goal proposed in the Treaty of Montevideo;

That, where agriculture is concerned, and by Art. 28 of said Treaty, application is permitted, within certain limits, of adequate measures designed to establish certain import limitations or else to bring prices of the imported commodity on a level with those of the national product;

That, whereas this clause in the Treaty may well be necessary to the process of adaptation of national economies to purposes of integration of Latin America, yet its application according to an excessively restrictive criterion to imports of agricultural commodities may, on the contrary, lead to real damage, not only to the integration in pursuance, but also even to the agrarian economy of the country that applies it.

RECOMMENDS:

To the countries that, before falling back on the measures they are entitled to take by Art. 28 of the Treaty of Montevideo, they should seek, by every means in their power, to adopt other ways of promoting productivity and readjusting the national economy, so as to make such measures unnecessary, for which purpose they can request the collaboration of FAO, ECLA and LAFTA.

PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS OF LATIN AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS AND THE IMPACT OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

308. The Conference noted with interest the study on "Prospects and Problems of Latin American Export Crops" (LARC 62/16). Exports of coffee, cocoa, sugar, meat, grains contribute 20 to 80% of the export earnings of a large number of Latin American countries, and developments in the demand for, and prices of these commodities are consequently of vital importance to all the countries of the region.

309. The Conference expressed interest in the "Projections for 1970" prepared by FAO, which it considered an important contribution to long-term agricultural planning. It noted that the outlook for the six or seven agricultural commodities

which constitute the bulk of Latin American exports, is not particularly encouraging, although in the case of coffee, cocoa and sugar the outlook is somewhat better than was the situation a year or two ago. In some instances, much of the improvement is due to the development of effective international consultation, either in FAO study groups or international commodity councils, for discussion of national and production policies; and the Conference expressed the hope that such forms of international consultation and cooperation should be continued and strengthened.

310. Many delegations expressed deepest concern over the fact that during the past few years, the overwhelming majority of Latin American countries have suffered severely from declining export prices, and worsening of their terms of trade. Although the volume of their agricultural exports has been well maintained - and frequently, as in the case of coffee and sugar, even increased - export earnings have either been stationary or have fallen, depending on the commodity. The free market price mechanism has not operated efficiently in the case of many commodities of interest to the region.

311. Much concern was expressed by the Conference over the effects of the eventual trade policy of the European Economic Community on the future of Latin American exports of agricultural products. Many delegations expressed the fear that agricultural policies being developed by the E.E.C. will result in increased domestic production of such products as meat, cereals and sugar, which will reduce Latin American export opportunities, and may even lead to surpluses for export which will compete with Latin American exports. Reference was made to a study by European experts which showed that in wheat the E.E.C. countries will attain self-sufficiency by 1965, as compared with imports of almost 2.5 million tons in 1960. While imports would continue for blending purposes, these will be compensated by surpluses of other types which will be available for exports. Imports of feed grains are expected to decrease from 8.6 million tons in 1960 to 5.5 million tons in 1965.

312. The threat to Latin American exports would become enhanced if the U.K. and other countries of Europe were to join the Common Market. In addition, many delegations expressed the fear that policies with regard to the Associated Overseas Territories will result in restriction of the market for coffee, cocoa, cotton and other tropical or semi-tropical products.

313. Finally, great concern was expressed about the effects of customs duties and other taxes which are restricting imports and consumption of Latin American products. Member countries of GATT have applied restrictions of various kinds to 600 articles which constitute 80% of Latin American exports. The restrictions in imports as a result of high consumption taxes have cost countries in the region many hundred million dollars.

314. Various delegations called attention to the resolutions on those matters adopted at various international fora such as the General Assembly of the United Nations (Resolution 1707), GATT, CEPAL, FAO Regional Conference for Latin America, OAS and other organizations. The Conference noted a study on the effects of Latin American export crops made by a group of experts convened by ECLA, as well as the analysis published by FAO in the series of commodity policy studies.

315. In view of the uncertain and in some cases sombre outlook for the agricultural exports of the region, the Conference laid special emphasis on the work of FAO in the commodity field. It pointed out, first of all, that provision of timely information on analysis of developments and trends was of great importance in facilitating government planning and policy formulation. The Conference requested the Director-General to keep under constant review developments, especially in high income countries, with regard to duties, taxes

and other fiscal imports - as well as various types of quantitative administrative regulations - which have substantial effects on consumption. The Conference requested the Director-General to bring the information to the attention of member governments and the CCP, and to cooperate with the various international organizations, such as GATT and specialized commodity bodies, in seeking ways to remove these impediments to consumption.

316. The Conference noted also the valuable contribution of commodity bodies, whether study groups within FAO or autonomous commodity councils, towards price stabilization, dissemination of information, promotion of consumption, and other forms of cooperation between producers and consumers, and it expressed particular satisfaction at the efforts made by the Director-General in those fields. The Conference expressed appreciation of the work done by the Cocoa Study Groups, the Grains Committee, and other FAO commodity study groups and requested the Director-General to establish similar bodies for other commodities of interest to Latin America.

317. In particular, the Conference reiterated and endorsed the recommendation of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council of the Organization of American States, that a study group on bananas should be set up in FAO and requested the Director-General to bring the resolution of the OAS (Resolution C-8 of 27 October, 1962) to the attention of the CCP at its next session.

318. Some delegations emphasized that experience demonstrated that unilateral negotiations by Latin American countries with the E.E.C. were not enough. There was need for collective action to promote Latin American interests and some delegations pointed to the advisability that the Latin American countries should adopt a system of consultations regarding trade policy and that they should negotiate jointly with other groups of countries such as E.E.C.

319. The Conference requested the Director-General to communicate to the E.E.C. the concern felt by Latin American countries over the expansion of agricultural production in Europe and the Associated Territories.

320. The following recommendation was approved:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 17

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

The great importance that its traditional markets in the zone of the European Economic Community continue to have for Latin America, and the need not only of maintaining, but also of expanding its exports of food products thereto, in satisfactory conditions as regards volume and prices;

That, however useful the promised financial and technical assistance of the countries belonging to that Community may turn out to be, this cooperation cannot take the place of an increase in the flow of trade, in view of the size of the investments required to promote a rate of economic growth in a region where the state of underdevelopment tends to worsen owing to the high index of demographic expansion;

That the Latin American exports to those markets have diminished in relative terms; that they are those that show the lowest index of increase in the world; and that, even so, they are being cancelled out by the drop of their unit value;

That the trade policy announced by the Community tends to limit and even to reduce the possibilities of building up trade with Latin America, either as a result of trends towards agricultural protectionism and preferential treatment accorded to the associated countries and territories, or by the rate of domestic taxation imposed on the consumption of commodities imported from Latin America;

That the purposes of economic integration of Latin America, which forms the indispensable groundwork for its full economic and social development, will be seriously affected by the deterioration of trade with the European Economic Community, and that the formation of common markets, according to the provisions of the Rome Treaty, should increase the possibilities of international trade rather than reduce them; and,

That the defence of the commercial interests of the Latin American countries becomes vulnerable owing to the lack of coordination and of mechanisms to safeguard them effectively against countries or groups of countries from other regions:

RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

- a) That through the Action Groups created in agreement with Resolution C-3 of the Inter-American ECOSOC (Mexico, October 1962), GATT and other machinery which may be considered necessary in the light of future developments, the Latin American countries address themselves jointly to the Council of Ministers of the E.E.C. with the purpose of avoiding that the common agricultural policy which is being adopted should give rise to additional restrictions of imports against the primary products of the temperate zone, thus preventing Latin American exports increasing in volume and value to an extent compatible with the increase of income within E.E.C.
- b) That, in the same manner, they should make every effort to obtain from the E.E.C. the exemption from customs duty on imports of tropical products and the elimination of other restrictions and practices which affect adversely the entrance and competition of tropical products from Latin America into the markets of the E.E.C.
- c) That they continue working with the consumer countries regarding products which present problems, so as to find the means to reach, at reasonable levels, a higher price stability, export incomes and supplies.

TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO:

That he continue to study the effects that the above export restrictions of agricultural products may have on the economies of the countries of the region;

That he transmit to the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community the message from this Seventh FAO Regional Conference regarding the Latin American anxiety and desires expressed in the text of this recommendation.

IMPORTANT FACTORS IN PLANNED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL MATTERS IN THE
REGION.

a) Land and Water Resources Development

321. The Conference recognized the serious problems of land misuse which lead to soil erosion, exhaustion of fertility and low productivity and income on land now in agricultural use. It also recognized the vast opportunities for improved production and income through better land use and rational development of the water resources of the region.

322. Lack of sufficient numbers of trained personnel with experience to deal with many of the problems of land and water development was considered one of the main obstacles to more rapid progress. The Conference emphasized the need for including more courses dealing with land use and water development in the curriculum of agricultural colleges and that programs for training of technicians in land and water use at all levels be intensified. It was also suggested that, inasmuch as several countries in the region have had considerable experience in handling difficult problems of land and water development, it would be useful for countries to supply information on their experiences and arrange for exchange of technicians.

323. The need for additional legislation in many countries for protection of soil and water resources was emphasized, with the suggestion that forestry legislation of the countries include provisions for erosion control, land and water use and torrent control.

324. The Conference agreed on the need for surveys and studies on the production potentialities of soil and water resources and the importance of basing land and water development and colonization programs on such studies, considering the possibility of having a group of FAO experts work with governments in planning such studies and in preparing requests for assistance from the UN Special Fund. In this connection the need for close coordination of FAO's activities with that of the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development (ICAD) was emphasized. The following recommendations were passed on the subject:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 18

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

That there is a serious misuse of land and water resources in the region, leading to soil erosion, degradation and exhaustion, flood damage and consequently a drop in productivity and low farm income;

That there is a lack of adequate knowledge about practical techniques for dealing with some of the more difficult problems in land and water development in some countries; and

That the scarcity of well trained technicians is a major obstacle to more rapid progress in land and water development;

RECOMMENDS TO GOVERNMENTS:

That they introduce special courses in irrigation methods, water economy and land development in the curricula of schools of agronomy and other institutions for training personnel at the intermediate, professional and advanced levels;

The various institutions of agricultural research develop research programs dealing with land and water development including integral use of water;

They stimulate the exchange of technical personnel and information on the experience obtained in irrigation, drainage and land and water conservation, with other countries having similar problems;

They include experts on soil and water conservation, control of torrents and watercourses, and watershed management in their forestry commissions;

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO

To assist the Pan-American Center of Natural Resources established in Rio de Janeiro in intensifying its program for training experts in surveys, use and conservation of land and water resources.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 19

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

The necessity for carrying out studies on soil and water resources and their production potentials as an essential basis for successful programs of colonization and development;

RECOMMENDS TO GOVERNMENTS:

That they ensure that adequate pre-investment studies are made as a basis for selecting settlement areas and determining rational land use and methods of land development;

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO :

To provide the member governments, at their request, with a small group of experts to advise them on the usefulness of surveys already carried out as well as those which are necessary. These experts would also assist Governments in preparing projects to be submitted to the United Nations Special Fund so as to obtain necessary financing for the technicians and equipment needed for carrying out these pre-investment studies.

To appoint, as soon as possible, a regional specialist in land and water development to supervise and coordinate the work of the teams of experts and assist member governments on programs for land and water development.

To coordinate the work of FAO with other organizations through the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development (ICAD).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 20

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

CONSIDERING:

The importance of passing and enforcing special legislation as a means of preventing misuse and stimulating rational development of land and water resources; and

The recommendations made at the recent Latin American Forestry Commission at Santiago (Chile) to the effect that each country should establish legislation governing the use and development of forest resources;

RECOMMENDS TO GOVERNMENTS:

That they also include suitable provisions for conservation of soil resources and watershed management in their forestry legislation.

b) Plant and Livestock Production and Protection

325. Upon studying this subject, the Conference considered that there were many aspects worthy of interest though on this occasion it would only pay special attention to the following:

a) the need to increase livestock husbandry in the region; b) the advantages of integrating livestock and crop husbandry within agricultural activity; c) plant and livestock health problems, and d) the need to intensify activity in connection with plant and livestock testing and research stations, with special regard to the question of quarantine.

326. During the debate the delegates made reference to the major problems which each country has to face in these spheres of activity. It was agreed that though good research stations and efficient extension services do exist in some countries in many of them such activities call for considerable expansion and better financial support.

327. With regard to livestock husbandry and protection the need was emphasized (1) to increase work in connection with genetic introduction and improvement of animals, especially in tropical areas (2) to intensify experimental activity connected with animal nutrition in order to achieve the desired increase in productivity, which is still low in many stock rearing regions of Latin America, where the improvement and better management of meadow-land is a prime factor in livestock husbandry.

328. With regard to diseases, foot and mouth disease was especially stressed, mention being made of work carried out in Mexico, and in the Rio de Janeiro Pan-American Foot and Mouth Disease Centre, and the advantage to be gained by creating national bodies to widen research connected with this disease. The need was also stressed to increase and improve national cattle production and to establish appropriate control over quality and use.

329. With regard to plant production the following was discussed: (1) the many problems bearing on the survey and testing of plants; (2) the need for FAO intervention in order to ensure better use of the existing germ plasma banks such as those connected with corn in Mexico and Brazil, (3) the great loss brought about by pests and the consequent need to intensify control measures and to create regional plant protection bodies, and (4) the advantages of providing greater support and stability for the Pan-American Seeds Seminars Secretariat.

330. The crops most referred to were (1) rice where the advantages of a closer relationship between the Latin American countries and the International Rice-Commission of FAO, and better collaboration within the bodies which are concerned with the improvement of this cereal in this region, was stressed, and (2) rubber (Hevea) - emphasis having been placed on the advantage of carrying out two projects proposed in document PE i/vi B2 at the FAO Technical Meeting which made reference to the search for new sources resistant to Dothidella, and to the reestablishing of a station for the testing and research on resistance to this fungus.

331. Continuing, the Commission approved the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 21

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA,

HAVING DULY CONSIDERED:

The debate and the recommendations made at the FAO Technical Meeting connected with plant testing and research and those proposed at the Fifth Latin-American Plant Health Session;

AWARE OF :

The urgent need to coordinate and develop research, testing, and plant appraisal work - the fundamental basis of any plan for the improvement and expansion of production in agriculture;

CONSIDERING:

That in many cases the production improvement projects are limited on account of the availability of a sufficient variety of species and types which would expedite the introduction of new crops and improve the existing ones.

RECOMMENDS TO MEMBER NATIONS:

The establishment and the improvement of national assistance and testing, introducing, preserving (germ plasma banks) and appraising plant stations, equipped with their respective quarantine services;

That due consideration be given to the problems consequent upon the setting up of a regional program for the research and introduction of plants, especially with regard to the methods and means adopted to carry it out, to the setting up and equipping of preservation centres in the areas most suitable for the requirements of the different cultivated and wild species worthy of interest, without taking into account political borders thus avoiding unnecessary duplication by means of proper coordination among the countries;

REQUEST THE DIRECTOR GENERAL :

To continue support in the task of research and introduction of plants, having in mind at the same time the organizing of regional technical meetings on the subject;

To appoint as soon as possible, employing funds from the Regular Program, Expanded Technical Assistance Program, or any other available source, a regional consultant in Plant Research and Introduction work to help the member countries in the development of a relevant and practical regional program and to coordinate at international level the national effort put forth by the countries of the region.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 22

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING:

That rice represents an important crop in most of the South American countries for the population of which it is a very important food;

That increased production of this grain is called for in this region;

That research work, regional trials, and technical assistance to the producers of this grain should be expanded in order to achieve increased productivity;

That such tasks would greatly benefit from wider international cooperation and especially through a closer connection with the International Rice Commission, up to the present limited on account of the distances involved;

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO:

To create a Latin American Sub-Committee to the aforesaid Commission which would be in charge of establishing closer technical cooperation not only in those interested Latin American countries but also between them and those of other continents, through the International Commission,

That in the meanwhile the Regional Agricultural Assistant to the Plant Production and Protection Division should act accordingly in order to establish contacts and to undertake those tasks required to effectively organize the coordinated Latin American effort of those countries concerned with improvement of the production of rice.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 23

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING:

The interest displayed by some of the countries of the region in the increase of rubber (cautchouc) to meet the growing demand for this raw material;

The need to intensify research work with the aim of establishing new highly productive and especially disease - resistant varieties; and

The advantage of supporting some of the research work through international collaboration, which matter is referred to in document PE i/VI b 2 submitted at the First FAO Technical Meeting on Plant Research and Introduction (Rome, 1961), which considers this question, and that FAO and IICA are the most appropriate bodies to carry out this task;

RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER COUNTRIES:

That the proposals referred to in Document PE i/VII b 2 submitted at the First FAO Technical Meeting concerning the Research and Introduction of Plants be adopted;

- (a) That the collecting of samples of the genus Hevea in its natural habitat be intensified;
- (b) That a testing center be set up again at IIAS for trials in resistance to the leaf disease caused by the fungus *Dothidella Ulei*, which will also to undertake basic research work on this disease, as well as - to develop a program for the genetic improvement of *Hevea* with a view to obtaining disease-resistant and high-yielding varieties which would possibly not require the present grafting methods for propagation; and

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO:

That through the Plant Production and Protection Division an its regional expert for Latin America the necessary steps be taken to carry out these proposals, and

RECOMMENDS:

As a first step, to enter into contact with the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences and with all the producing countries and interested bodies to work out the details of these projects and their respective budgets.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 24

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING:

The great economic importance of the harm caused to crop and livestock husbandry by pests of various biological, animal, plant or virus origin;

The need to coordinate the required measures and for a combined effort of all the countries for the defense of their natural resources, in such a way as to prevent such pests becoming a real obstacle to the development of their crops and the purity of these products.

The value and the far-reaching effects which might be expected from a closer international cooperation in the field of research, experimental combat methods, and in the important aspect of controlling the spread of pests, whereby the interchange of plant material will be promoted and facilitated, whatever their ultimate use, thus avoiding the introduction of new pests or their propagation in areas already under control.

The progress achieved in this respect by the existing regional bodies, such as OIRSA, in Central America, and CIPA, which is engaged in coordinating the locust campaign in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia;

And finally that the conclusions of the 39th meeting of the latter body, held in Buenos Aires in September 1962, recommended the expansion of CIPA activities in relation to the Inter-American Plant Health Convention, signed in 1948, for the purpose of incorporating programs for combating other pests of common interest to neighbouring countries;

RECOMMENDS TO MEMBER COUNTRIES:

Strict adherence to the measures arising from the conventions signed up to the present in connection with plant health;

Strengthening the institutions for research, campaigns and quarantine in Latin-American countries;

Inviting those countries which are not parties to the international agreements to join them without delay;

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO:

To act in an advisory capacity in the formation of a regional plant protection body which would unite the efforts of the countries in solving the most important problems, providing, for this purpose, an expert, as in the case of OIRSA, under the technical assistance program.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 25

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING :

That there is a growing world demand for animal proteins;

That Latin America affords extraordinary possibilities towards increasing and improving its livestock production; and

That in order the more speedily and easily to bring this about, it becomes necessary to intensify research work in connection with fodder, the management and improvement of pasture land, and of livestock, production, including aspects of hygiene and also extension, training and development programs connected with such problems;

SUPPORTS :

The proposals put forward at the Fifth Inter-American Livestock Production Meeting held in Santiago, Chile, in 1962, in favor of the establishment of regional groups of pasture and livestock experts;

PROPOSES:

That FAO should set up through the Regular Program, the Expanded Technical Assistance Program, or any other body, teams of experts trained by specialists in the management and improvement of pasture lands, and in livestock production, and also in the aspects of hygiene, in each of the largest areas of population in Latin America, for the purpose of assisting the Member Nations, collaborating in the solving of national problems, and expediting work which is of interest to various countries or regions.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 26

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING :

That the low protein content in natural and man-made pastures is, especially in the tropics a serious limiting factor to livestock production;

RECOMMENDS :

That well controlled and extensive research work be carried out on the use of urea as protein content substitute in the diet of ruminants, and if positive results be manifest, that the governments should arrange to set up urea producing industries or make arrangements for its importation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 27

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING :

The importance of such seminars for the intensification, production, distribution and use of selected seeds;

The advantage of providing greater stability to the executive staff of such seminars; and

The suggestions made in this regard at the Eleventh Session of the Conference (Rome, 1961) and the World Seeds Meeting (Rome, 1962);

RECOMMENDS:

That the Permanent General Secretariat of these seminars be strengthened; and

That FAO be requested to study the possibility of providing a regional seeds expert who would in turn act as secretary of such a body.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 28

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING:

The importance of preserving, protecting and studying wild fauna in its multiple biological and economical aspects, and in its particular connection with agriculture, having regard to plant and animal health;

The advantage of improving the administration of this important natural resource, within each country and also of setting up regional coordination of such activities;

RECOMMENDS:

That FAO cooperate with those governments interested in the preservation and protection of useful wild fauna, and also in the control of the species harmful to plant and livestock husbandry.

c) Increased Use of Fertilizers

332. The Conference was informed of the progress made in Northern Latin America on the fertilizer program organized by FAO under the Freedom From Hunger Campaign. The program is financed by the fertilizer industry and carried out partially in the cooperating Member Countries and partially in FAO Headquarters. The Headquarters program consists of overall planning of the program in coordination with an advisory panel set up by FAO and the fertilizer industry and marketing and development studies of fertilizer use, based on the results of the field program and other information. The field program is aimed at demonstrating to farmers the value of fertilizer use and determination of the value of the responses obtained with various crops.

333. The Conference agreed that the approach taken in this project, whereby demonstration and field trials were carried out on farmers' fields, was very suitable. It was agreed, however, that much additional research work was needed on soils and their responses to fertilizer before an adequate basis was established for proper recommendations on rate of fertilizer applications and that the great variations in soil conditions throughout the region required recommendations related to the particular characteristics of each area.

334. The reasons for low consumption of fertilizer in some countries of the region were discussed. The principal reasons considered were the high costs of fertilizers, present land tenure patterns, the lack of understanding of the role of fertilizers in crop production, the lack of an adequate basis for making useful recommendations to farmers regarding fertilizer use and the lack of properly trained personnel for advising farmers. Other important factors in encouraging increased use of fertilizers are the development of more abundant supplies of fertilizers at reasonable prices and the development and introduction of machinery and equipment for

the most effective and economic application of fertilizers.

335. It was agreed that much of the improvement in fertilizer use would depend upon a sound basis for fertilizer recommendations and that this required intensified efforts in soil classification and fertilizer research correlated with soil classes. In this connection the importance of establishing a uniform system of classification and standardized nomenclature was emphasized. The efforts of FAO in producing a soils map of the world was commended.

336. It was also emphasized that research and personnel training in relation to soils and fertilizer use needed to be intensified. It was pointed out that four years ago the regional conference requested FAO to set up a center for soil research and training in Latin America. The Conference urged that FAO take action as soon as possible in implementing that proposal.

337. The Conference approved the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 29

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

RECOGNIZING :

The importance of inorganic fertilizers in increasing agricultural production and the present low level of fertilizer use in this region,

RECOMMENDS TO GOVERNMENTS :

That they intensify their studies of soils in relation to fertilizer responses so as to provide a suitable basis for fertilizer recommendations to farmers.

Expand and improve their programs for training the personnel required for various aspects of soil fertility improvement.

Take appropriate measures for stimulating the production of fertilizers and the reduction of costs for importation and distribution of fertilizer supplies.

Encourage the manufacture or imports and economical distribution of machinery for effective application of fertilizer on various crops.

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO :

To speed up the FAO program in Latin America for developing a uniform system of soil classification and a standardized nomenclature in agreement with the integrated soil map of the world.

To help establish as soon as possible a Regional Soils Institute in Latin America for research and training in various aspects of soils and soil fertility along the lines proposed in the Vth Regional Conference in 1958.

d) Forestry and Forest Industries

338. The Conference noted with satisfaction the paper brought out by FAO and ECLA on the Future and Prospects of Forestry Products in Latin America, the preparation whereof was proposed by the Fifth and Sixth FAO Regional Conferences and wherein the magnitude of the problems being faced by the countries of the region engaged in forestry activities, was stressed. On the other hand the continuous destruction of natural woodlands and the consequent disappearance of this wealth, and the reduction of production potential in a relatively short space of time, is a problem of extreme gravity. Conversely the growing demand for forestry products in Latin America, as shown in the FAO/ECLA paper and the export opportunities apparent in other

areas, particularly in Europe, call for urgent planning towards the mobilization of both natural and artificial forest resources in the region, to meet future prospects.

339. The Conference acknowledged the fact, however, that in most Latin American countries a national forestry policy, clearly stated and coordinated to the general economic and industrial development programs, is lacking. If an appropriate forestry policy is not urgently laid down and a national forest service set up, suitably qualified and endowed, it will be impossible to avoid the long-lasting ill-effects of present inactivity.

340. Several delegations stressed the urgent need to achieve coordination and harmony between land use, land settlement and agrarian reform programs, and the interests of forestry at a level similar to that achieved in the case of agriculture, bearing in mind the importance of woodlands in agricultural production and in the preservation of soil and water resources, towards the economic and social development of the region, and the welfare of future generations.

341. A study of the financial implications connected with forestry development, to meet future demand, and a review of the funds required to achieve such development, revealed to the Delegations at the Conference the need for urgent forestry development financing, and proper plans for its use, at each different stage, the setting up of banking and credit facilities which would cater for the special interests of all forestry activities, from reforestation and production to the manufacturing of products and their marketing.

342. The Conference noted the important debates throughout the VII Meeting of the Latin-American Forestry Commission held between 13 and 19 November 1962, in Santiago, Chile, and in view of the great importance of the conclusions and proposals made at that meeting it decided to adopt them.

343. The Conference thanked FAO and the United Nations Special Fund for the increasing interest displayed towards forestry problems in Latin America, some of which are being solved satisfactorily.

344. The Conference approved the following recommendations on the subject:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 30

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

RECOMMENDS:

1. TO THE MEMBERS GOVERNMENTS

a) That the utmost consideration be given to putting into practice the proposals set forth at the Seventh Meeting of the Latin-American Forestry Commission, viz.:

- i) That in organizing the national forestry services they be guided by the basic principles laid down by the chiefs of forestry services participating in the Eighth Meeting of the Latin American Forestry Commission;
- ii) That they give high priority to forest inventories in the national programs of economic development;
- iii) That they take into consideration the basic principles drawn up by the Eighth Meeting of Latin American Forestry Commission and exempt from programs of agricultural settlement, stockraising and agrarian reform, all land suited to forestry of present or future economic interest,

whether in its productive aspects or as protection for other natural resources, allowing such activities to be planned only for virgin soil that is permanently suited to profitable farming;

- b) That forestry activities, in their widest sense, be included in the national and regional economic development plans, at the same level as plant and stock-raising activities.
- c) That they make representation before the international bodies, and induce the national bodies engaged upon development programs to regard forestry activities on an equal footing with plant and stock-raising activities, by granting the former suitable financial aid;
- d) That when formulating tax policy they attempt to reduce or eliminate the burden borne by both forest and cut-over land for the sake of production or protection aims;
- e) That the Seed Banks expand their activities to include forestry seeds,
- f) That they instigate the introduction and establishment of quick-growing and recognized industrially important species;
- g) That they give their energetic support to the proposal made at the Fifth World Forestry Congress by promoting the "Woods for the Year 2000" campaign.

2. TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO:

That FAO keep the Governments of the Region permanently abreast of occurrences which might make it difficult for Latin America to supply the countries of the European Economic Community with forestry products.

e) Fisheries

345. The Conference considered the situation as regards fisheries and was pleased to observe that recently there has been an increase in production in Latin American countries, due to a great extent to the rapid expansion of the fish meal industry in some countries, although there has been a substantial increase in the production of fish for direct consumption.

346. Nevertheless, this advance was not uniform. Several countries have shown great interest in the further development of fisheries with the object of obtaining better nutritional levels for the population, as well as a higher standard of living for fishermen, and improving their balance of payments. In the last few years, plans for developing this activity have been introduced, although it is evident that the success of some of these projects has been limited by insufficient knowledge of the potential of the resources and by institutional, technical and economic problems, which must be overcome if the rational exploitation of these resources is to be continued. Deficient markets and the lack of adequate means for ensuring a better distribution and supply of fish production in the region are still further problems directly affecting the fishing industry. In many countries, this limitation of fishery development has its root also in the deficiencies shown by government fishery services which have never been organized to the same degree as other government departments and which are unable to establish regular professions owing to the lack of qualified, scientific and technical personnel. The efficiency of existing personnel is also reduced as a result of the great number of organizations intervening in fishery and similar activities, even though they are not qualified to do so.

347. The Conference once again urged governments to take the necessary action to ensure the coordination and integration of its fishery services, and to seek the

ways and means of supplying these services with qualified personnel by providing the necessary incentives. In this respect, the Conference also emphasized the importance of the existing lack of coordination with development programs belonging to other economic sectors and insisted on the need for incorporating the economy of this resource in the general economic planning of the countries. The conference noted with satisfaction that laws and regulations have been recently passed in Brazil and Uruguay for the purpose of overcoming these problems, as well as the advances made by other countries such as Argentina and Chile.

348. The Conference discussed national programs for fishery development in relation with the technical assistance available through different international programs. It also considered a proposal for holding a Regional Seminar on Fishery Development, Planning and Administration and urged the different governments of the region to cooperate in the sending of specialized personnel to this Seminar which is to be held in Lima in the middle of next year.

349. It was also recommended that the recently established Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning should include, on a permanent basis, fishery development and the training of specialized personnel among its activities. Such personnel would be able to give advice to governments based on the results of its research in fisheries.

350. As for the planning of fishery development in general, it was recognized that governments are encountering great difficulties in evaluating the potential of their marine resources and also in estimating future demand for those products, particularly in the case of areas where they are not consumed regularly at present. The Conference emphasized that two countries, Ecuador and Peru, had introduced measures for the purpose of organizing pre-investment studies and investigations with the assistance of the United Nations Special Fund. It was considered that this kind of investigation would be capable of providing a solid basis for the planning of fishery development and that this initiative in soliciting the aid of the Special Fund deserves attention on the part of governments. Another point which was discussed was the study of an appropriate mechanism for carrying out specific development surveys and projects up to the investment stage. In this regard, it was considered that international, regional and national financing agencies devoted to the promotion of economic and social development should consult FAO before initiating the investment stage of fishery development projects.

351. The Conference noted and discussed the important contribution which fisheries may make towards the improvement of nutritional standards in the region and was informed concerning the results of the International Meeting on Fish Meal, Rome 1961, and of the International Conference on Fish in Nutrition, Washington 1961, both concerned with the use of fish proteins in the manufacture of concentrates for human consumption, using processes employed up to now only for animals.

352. The Conference was also informed of the recent project which is being organized at the request of the Peruvian government within the framework of the Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign and whose primary objective is to introduce the consumption of fish protein concentrates in those areas of Peru where there is a deficiency of animal protein in the people's diet. It was considered that the results of this project are of great interest to the remaining countries of the region. Still on the same subject, and considering also trade in fishery products, it was shown that some countries of the region are already large-scale producers, although they were so only potentially until recently, while other countries, where protein deficiencies in nutrition still persist in certain areas, have only small prospect of achieving a significant increase in their fishery production.

353. The need for regional and subregional consultation and cooperation was shown, especially with regard to the investigation of existing resources and the market for them. Reference was made to the work of the ABU group, composed of FAO

experts, which is carrying out a joint investigation program in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Other possibilities for the future were also mentioned. The urgent need for setting up agreements for the protection and conservation of fishery resources in continental waters, as between interested neighboring countries was also emphasized. Thus, the Conference noted with approval the establishment of FAO's South-West Atlantic Fisheries Advisory Commission, whose inaugural session shall be held in Rio a few days after the closing of this Regional Conference. The Conference urged governments to free their trade in fishery products, hoping that such a measure shall be encouraged by the Latin American Free Trade Area within its jurisdiction.

354. The Attention was also devoted to the importance of the development of river fisheries in Argentina which is based upon the abundant resources of this country's rivers and lakes and which is to bring improvements in the diet of inland populations. Thus, it was proposed that river fisheries should be included in FAO's technical assistance programs in the case of countries which may derive benefit from such resources. This proposal was seconded by several delegations which emphasized the importance of fisheries in the diet of their rural populations. Thus, it was agreed to recommend that governments should request FAO to include river fisheries in its technical assistance programs.

355. Considering the interesting papers submitted by several delegations, whose points of view with regard to the future of the region's fishery industry, together with the document and verbal report of FAO's representative, met with the approval of the delegations present, the Conference approved unanimously the following motion:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 31

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING :

That the greatest obstacle to be faced by the various countries of Latin America in developing their fishery industries and in rationally exploiting the fishery resources arises from deficiencies of the various official bodies charged with the management of the fisheries and, frequently, from the lack of coordination between them;

That the said deficiencies arise not only from organizational defects in these institutions, but even more from a lack of technical personnel in the fields of biology, technology, economics and fishery administration and from the impossibility of training such skilled personnel unaided;

That in spite of the remarkable fishery potential in some of the countries of the Region and the repeated efforts of the respective Governments, it will not be possible to reach the degree of development in fisheries that is so badly needed unless there is coordination of the work and endeavors of the various bodies and groups with jurisdiction in this matter, able to plan and establish national programs of research and appraisal of this source of wealth, based on up-to-date methods of developing fishery resources;

That in spite of the recommendations in the Final Report of the Fifth Inter-American Conference on Agriculture and the Sixth FAO Regional Conference for Latin America, held jointly in Mexico City in the year 1960, only limited progress has been achieved in fishery administration owing to the lack of technical equipment and financial means to effect the suggested changes quickly;

That some of the Governments of the Region have turned for the solution of of these problems to the United Nations Special Fund, formulating rational fishery

development projects that are being already being carried out successfully in some of these countries;

That the Government of Brazil, concerned over the precarious situation of its fishery industry and the urgent need for stimulating it, in view of its significance as a permanent source of food for the population of Brazil, has just created a Superintendency of Fisheries (SUDEPE), an institution that it wishes to organize in accordance with the most advanced administrative and technical guidelines in this field;

That it is the basic purpose of these fishery development projects of the United Nations Special Fund to create conditions encouraging the investment of capital in projects of specific fishery development, as an outcome of the investigations carried out and the results achieved;

That, as an outcome of these development plans, some of which are already in operation while others are about to start, it is possible that before the next session of the Latin America Regional Conference convenes in two years time there will already have arisen in one of these countries opportunities for channeling investments in this sense by the selection of specific projects;

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the Latin American countries with a known fishery potential which have succeeded in organizing a substantial production from this resource, study and formulate fishery development projects to be submitted by their Governments for consideration by the United Nations Special Fund;
2. That the interested Governments apply to the United Nations Special Fund for the highest priority possible to be accorded to fishery development projects that have already been submitted or may be submitted in the immediate future, if they meet the requirement of that Organization;
3. That FAO consult with the competent international and regional bodies and the interested Governments on the best way of taking the necessary steps in order to make operational the specific projects mentioned in one of the above considerations.
4. That the recently established Latin American Institute for the Economic and Social Planning include, among its activities and on a permanent basis, the development of fisheries and the training of specialized personnel capable of advising governments, in accordance with the outcome of their fishery research.

f) State Services for Agriculture

i) Research training in extension, cooperatives and credit.

356. The presentation of the subject provided an opportunity to discuss several topics that had to do mainly with the activities of state services dealing with the promotion of agriculture.

357. An adequate structure of services and institutions charged with the promotion of development is the primary prerequisite for the efficiency of such action. The Conference was informed of the advance made by some countries of Latin America in the reorganization of their agricultural services. Attempts have been made to introduce greater flexibility and autonomy into administrative aspects, amongst other things the concentration of personnel to produce more efficiency. The creation of autonomous and semi-autonomous bodies has, on certain occasions, facilitated the working of such services, but in others this has meant duplication of activities and disruption of the general agricultural policy of the country.

358. The Conference agreed on the necessity that the process of structural reorganization of agricultural official services be subordinate to the basic criterion of correct classification and delimitation of the functions that the various departments have to perform in relation to the purposes of the national agrarian policy.

359. It was decided that it would be advisable for each country to have a Planning Office in which the public bodies connected with agricultural development should have a share, together with an adequate number of representatives of private initiative. This office should be an integral part of the National Planning System.

360. Several delegates supported the suggestion that basic research should be undertaken in order to formulate agricultural development plans and to this end the Conference considered that both FAO and other international bodies could participate in the research, training national personnel and advising the national agencies that execute the programs.

361. The Delegations drew attention to the fact that the budgets for agricultural services are very small as compared to those of other Ministries or branches of public administration, in spite of the enormous importance of agricultural activities in the economic and social development of the countries represented. This circumstance hampers any expansion of technical assistance, of which agriculture stands in increasing need; at the same time it leads to a loss of efficiency, originating in the flight of skilled technicians to private activity.

362. The Conference was of the opinion that as perfect as possible a system of coordination should be established among the activities of agricultural promotion having emphasis on the following aspects:

- Making the fullest use of the results of Research in Education and Extension programs;
- Directing research towards a solution of the urgent problems that agricultural extension workers come up against in field work;
- Integrating crop and livestock research in order to achieve results that promote a maximum land yield, since in many cases the two branches are unjustifiably separated;
- Calling to mind the insistence that has been put in previous conferences on the advisability of Faculties and Schools of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine giving extension courses, which should likewise be given by educational centers on the intermediate level; these courses should cover the training of home economists;
- Linking extension and farm credit program, especially when they are intended for small to medium farmers.
- Clearly separating the activities of technical assistance to the farmer, from those that imply supervision and control.

363. To achieve effective agricultural development in Latin America, all educational programs must be reinforced, from elementary education, including reading and writing, up to the university and postgraduate levels. At this level, special importance should be assigned to specialization in the fields of research, extension, agricultural economy, rural sociology, planning and information. For the attainment of these ends, the efforts made in some countries that have Rural Universities with various specialization faculties are considered recommendable.

364. It is deemed advisable for FAO and other international bodies to continue cooperating in training programs. It is also necessary for each country to promote the contribution of private funds to this end.

365. The delegates were informed about the working of postgraduate Colleges in Mexico and other countries, where specialized education is provided, in various disciplines, and even attended by professionals from other continents.

366. The Conference was fully informed about the work of technical assistance that is being done in various countries by the extension and dissemination services. In this connection, special importance was attached to the participating of young people in the agricultural development movement, to achieve which use should be made of the successful results obtained in some countries, where private associations, in which private bodies take part as well as the State, sponsor and provide financial backing for the organization of juvenile agricultural programs, was recognized.

367. The Conference was informed of the success obtained in Venezuela, Peru and other countries that have used the help of rural leaders to complete and expand the work of professional extension workers. For the same purpose, it is deemed advisable to make use of technicians of intermediate grades in providing technical assistance to farmers.

368. Stress was laid on the experience obtained in assigning to crop farmers and stockraisers a share in planning and operating the programs in their own zones; likewise, on the advantages of decentralizing state institutions, reinforcing the responsibility placed on agencies established at the regional and local levels.

369. Community development forming part of technical assistance, the efforts made by some countries to bring cultural and artistic events to the rural workers are considered praiseworthy.

370. The Conference was informed of the progress obtained in various countries where cooperation has been applied to different stages in the agricultural cycle, including marketing. It has been ascertained that this work should be based on educational campaigns rather than compulsive action, it being the duty of the state to organize, advise and watch over them. The importance of cooperation in economic and social development plans was brought out especially in connection with agrarian reform. Likewise, the Delegates stressed the way in which cooperation facilitates the access of small to medium farmers to the sources of credit.

371. Attention was called to the proposals made at the FAO Regional Conference of 1960, in which it was recommended to promote the establishment of stock and crop insurance with the support of the Government, as being one of the most important ways of facilitating the granting of agricultural credit.

372. The Conference examined certain problems related to agricultural credit, outstanding among them being: the lack of coordination existing in some countries between the different institutions engaged in this activity; the little advantage taken of it in country districts, a problem which is being tackled by the use of traveling units; the insufficient number of professionals specializing in this field; and the centralization that makes it difficult to grant the loans when needed.

373. Thus the Conference adopted the concepts on the matter contained in basic document BARC 62/12 (a).

374. In view of what has been set forth hereinabove, the Conference adopted the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 32

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

RECOMMENDS

1. TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS:

- a) That they revise the frameworks of the government services and institutions charged with agrarian promotion, so as to fit them, when necessary, to perform their functions with greater efficiency, requesting, if they deem it advisable, the cooperation of FAO and other organizations.
- b) That agricultural planning offices be established with due representation therein both of the public sector with its departments of education, technical assistance, plant and animal protection, credit and agrarian reform, and the private sector.
- c) That basic research be undertaken for the formulation of agrarian development plans, with the technical cooperation of FAO and other international agencies, when considered to be advisable.
- d) That in their national budgets they earmark the necessary funds for agricultural services to expand and improve the important work they have to perform in the social and economic development of their countries.
- e) That they make efforts to secure maximum coordination of the agencies engaged in agricultural promotion, especially among the following activities:
 - Agricultural research, education and extension or dissemination;
 - Agricultural credit and extension;
 - Crop research and livestock research
- f) That they reinforce the system of education, at all levels, from reading and writing up to agricultural university and postgraduate education for the training of specialists.
- g) That they support the organization of private Associations, designed to sponsor the operation of Juvenile Agricultural Clubs, to the end that they may benefit from credit transactions, and also to reinforce programs for the improvement of the rural home;
- h) That the rural worker himself be incorporated as an assistant in the work of Agriculture Extension, by means of intensive practical training, within the natural conditions of each region, suitable use being made of the experiences obtained in countries where this has been put into practice with positive results;
- i) That they seek to decentralize the activities of the state institutions charged with agrarian development, delegating greater authority and responsibility to the executive units, with stock and crop farmers being given a share in the planning and operating of the programs in their respective zones;
- j) That they give their support to agricultural cooperativism, as has

been repeatedly recommended; in particular where programs of Agrarian Reform or settlement are being carried out;

- k) That they endeavor to provide the farmer with a wider range of credit and that it be made more accessible, adequate and timely;
- l) That they seek to have their credit establishments adopt a classification of their credit assignments, that enables them to grant preferential treatment to small farmers, and that as far as possible such establishments should confine their activities to credit transactions;
- m) That they entitle their farm credit institutions to pursue other banking transactions, such as deposit and savings banking, in order to increase their resources earmarked for agricultural development;
- n) That they incorporate in their legislation specific provisions on agricultural credit granted by private banking.

2. TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO:

- a) That FAO act in an advisory capacity in the organization and operation of agricultural planning offices and collaborate in the basic studies necessary for the formulation of plans of agrarian development.
- b) That FAO continue to cooperate with the Member Countries in the programs of agricultural education at all levels.
- c) That FAO continue to pursue its regional programs of agricultural extension, credit and cooperativism. For one of these purposes, it is proposed to appoint a specialist in agricultural credit to its Regional Office for Latin America.
- d) That FAO include among its activities of assistance to the region those related to the advice of establishing agricultural insurance systems;
- e) That FAO consider, in a future regional meeting on agricultural credit, the possibility of reviewing the resolutions already passed in previous meeting in order to examine the evolution of agricultural credit in the Latin American countries.

ii) Agricultural Information

375. The Conference showed keen interest in the Resolution adopted at the Eleventh FAO Conference which proposes assistance to countries in the development of their agricultural information services. The Nations represented at the Conference consider it of extreme value and urgency that information on agriculture be disseminated through mass information media and through public information organs of all types. Some countries already make ample use of the radio, cinema, and television to communicate new agricultural techniques, and results have proved highly satisfactory. Development programs will especially derive considerable benefit from the use of mass methods to achieve their objectives and new techniques which it is intended to introduce. Certain countries are already well-equipped with services engaged upon such activities which are able to provide technical data to those controlling information media or themselves producing films, information bulletins, or publications and periodicals of interest to farmers. Recognizing the need to examine the relative efficiency of the diffusion media and of the individual ways in which they may be put to use, when intended for rural areas, the lack of such research should not retard the dissemination of agricultural information.

376. The Conference approved the following recommendation on the subject:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 33

THE SEVENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA

CONSIDERING:

1. That the remarkable development achieved by information media: newspapers, radio, television, audiovisuals, etc., has made them very important instruments in developing agricultural programs, especially those on extension, research, education and agrarian reform;
2. That the complexity of the problems resulting from this development of information media demands of the personnel in charge of Agricultural Information services a high level of technical training;
3. That such media are not available to all countries, which, without appropriate international assistance, are not in a position either to provide Agricultural Information services with qualified personnel or with suitable equipment;
4. That it is necessary to strengthen the work of international assistance being carried out in this field;
5. That the Eleventh Session of the FAO Conference (November 1961), recommended that the Organization help its Member States to improve their Agricultural Information services;
6. That the Report of the Thirty-Ninth Session of the FAO Council (October 1962) set out in detail the action to be taken by the Organization in this matter;

CONCURS:

with the action program set out in the Report of the 39th Session of the FAO Council (Dec. 62/12 (b) - Sup. 1, paragraph 50).

REQUESTS:

the Director General to include in the Program of Work and Budget for the biennium 1964/65, provision for the expansion of the services of FAO's Regular Program on the field of Agricultural Information as far as may be necessary to render assistance to the Member Governments on a long term basis; and

RECOMMEND:

1. That the Governments of the Latin American Region with the collaboration of FAO make a study of the effectiveness of the agricultural information services existing in their respective countries and communicate the results to the Director General for advice on the further action that may be needed to achieve the purposes defined in the Council Report mentioned above (LARC 62/12 (b) - Sup. 1, paragraph 41);
2. That, on the basis of the advice thus given, the Member Governments include in their next requests to the United Nations Expanded Technical Assistance Programs and to other programs of international technical aid, applications for assistance to reinforce or create

Agricultural Information services;

3. That the governments of the Member Nations, with assistance from international organizations, look into the possibility of promoting national agricultural information meetings as a preliminary to convening a First Inter-American Conference on Agricultural Information Services, and that the next FAO Conference consider the possibility of proclaiming the year 1964 as the Agricultural Information Year.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS

FINAL SUMMING UP SPEECH MADE BY DR. HERNAN SANTA CRUZ,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO

377. The Conference has come to the end of the most significant part of its work and according to established practices it falls upon me to make a rapid review of the discussions which have taken place and the conclusions arrived at, and at the same time, in the name of the Director-General, to state the position of FAO having regard to the possibility of accomplishing the various recommendations included in the resolutions addressed to the Director-General. It is well known by the Delegates to this Conference that a Regional Conference is not invested with the power to vote on the allocation of fresh funds, this being a privilege of a General Conference only, which is exercised at bi-annual meetings upon approving the budget of the Organization. Nevertheless I might add that a considerable part of the motions adopted can be put into practice without the need for further funds.

378. It is very satisfying for the officials of FAO to find that in general the delegations were in agreement both with the Agenda which had been drawn up and with the general reviews submitted as working papers to the Conference. We have also noticed with keen interest the remarks which have been made. Thanks to these we shall be able to improve upon our efforts and to cooperate more efficiently with the various Governments. We have also been very pleased to see that very high ranking delegations have graced this meeting, nearly all of them made up by the leading officials of agrarian policy in their respective countries. Such a fact, in addition to giving considerable weight to the conclusions arrived at makes for better understanding between the Governments and FAO and enables us the more clearly to discern the hopes of the Member Nations and the policies of the various Governments.

379. The exchange of views and opinions which has taken place has been undoubtedly extremely useful towards securing speedier and more efficient agricultural development in Latin America and ensuring the progress in rural areas, indispensable to the economic advancement of these countries. FAO is an organization consisting of governments and it is their responsibility to lead and guide the executive bodies subordinated to the Director-General. If the FAO Conference has decreed that regional meetings shall be held every two years it is because it feels that the world is undergoing constant change at a very rapid rate owing to the prodigious advances in science and technology and to the surprising evolution of society in general. Hence the need to review at not very long intervals the status of agriculture and the means and methods of action to be taken.

380. The Conference deemed it opportune to open with a discussion of point 4 of the Agenda under the heading of "General outline and problems of agricultural development in Latin America". Debates on this point developed into a very edifying exchange of views concerning the true facts of Latin-American agriculture and the manner in which to tackle the fundamental question. It also afforded the opportunity for delegates to make known the main difficulties which afflict their respective countries and to bring to light some of the measures that had been adopted in their solution. Thus possibly the experience of some was made use of by others and at the same time combined action was made easier and more efficient every day. A striking note about the speeches made by the representatives was that euphemisms were avoided, the grave nature and seriousness of the problems having been kept in mind. Generally speaking, the majority of the delegates agreed with the searching enquiry which FAO had made into the situation, which was presented in the form of working papers, and in the address delivered by the speaker on this theme in the name of the Director-General. I am certain that the frankness which has been evinced in dealing with the dramatic conditions of agriculture in the

region will lead to highly constructive results. In this way the governments will be able to secure much more vigorous public support for the policies they may adopt, from a public opinion informed and aware of the seriousness of the problems.

381. The Conference was fully in agreement with the point of view held by FAO that, in order to rescue Latin-America from the state of prostration of her agriculture and those who work on the land, what was most needed was to adopt a forceful and courageous policy which would imply a profound revolution in technical matters and which would be based on reforms and other institutional measures such as the planning of agricultural development and of the progress of the communities in the country, the carrying out of structural modifications which would replace the archaic systems of land tenure predominant in the majority of the respective nations, the putting into force of a huge program for elementary education and technical training and agricultural extension work in the rural areas, the remodeling of the national and local services which direct agricultural policy in order to render them more elastic and efficient in the face of modern conditions, the improvement of research in agriculture, the setting up of cooperatives, the establishment of quick and cheap agricultural credit, and the organization of agricultural information services, etc. The resolutions affecting such subjects show a firm desire to push forward a thoroughly dynamic policy of agriculture capable of making up for the time lost over the last few decades. FAO will cooperate within the full extent of its abilities in national policies which tend towards the above-mentioned sense for, as I have just said, they coincide with the main gist of the programs of this Organization.

The World Freedom from Hunger Campaign

382. The World Freedom from Hunger Campaign found enthusiastic support at the Conference. The importance was acknowledged of securing the active participation of the people in the struggle against hunger, misery and want. The Governments realize that such participation is indispensable in order that the changes which must be made may be done with the speed and the urgency which the situation demands. The resolution which was approved concerning the Campaign was to us an excellent guide with regard to the manner in which it should be conducted in this part of the continent. It so happens that Latin-America - which on account of the special fact of its vastness, embraces large problems and promising possibilities by virtue of its exceptional resources, both natural and human - may serve as the scene for a highly propitious demonstration of the action which should be taken in this Campaign. We are also much in favour of the recommendation that the aforesaid resolution should stand, and that top priority should be given to the carrying out and the coordinating of trial projects acting in unison with other international bodies. As a matter of fact we have for a long time been looking into the possibility of entering upon this type of activity together with the other bodies which make up the Inter-American Agricultural Development Committee.

383. The resolution likewise recommends intensifying research work into the factors connected with hunger. This is also contained within the general plan of action mapped out by the Director-General. The World Food Congress which will be held in Washington on the 4th to 18th of June under the auspices of FAO, attaches much importance to this aspect of the question, and FAO hopes that distinguished men of science who labour in the sphere of food and nutrition and who have been invited to the Congress, will offer their contribution to the further advancement of scientific research.

384. We feel sure that the recommendation on the setting up of National Committees under the Campaign will be carried out by the Governments of Latin America. This recommendation was suggested to the Conference by the delegation of a country who has already been able to profit from the results of participation by the people in agricultural development policy. In point of fact the National

Committee of Brazil has not only contributed towards mobilizing public opinion around this very serious problem but has also suggested carrying out sound projects to attack it at its very source.

385. The support afforded by this resolution to the activities planned during the World Freedom from Hunger Week is a good portent for the active participation therein of all the countries of this region. We support the suggestion that Governments should make use of this week to organize educational programs in support of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign and to take administrative steps towards proposing the legislation required to achieve the aims of the Campaign.

Agrarian Reform

386. I should like to make special reference to the resolutions adopted on agrarian reform. It is clear that in the general debate, as well as in the comments recorded by the Working Party on Agrarian Reform and in the resolutions adopted here, the opinion of the majority favoured giving added impetus to integrated agrarian reform consistent with the notion of remodelling the land tenure system and aiming at increasing agricultural productivity and dignifying the peasantry, fully incorporating it within the social and economic activities of the countries concerned. The fact should be mentioned that a Working Party discussed without any formality the experience of the countries which had carried out such reforms. It was undoubtedly encouraging to note that each of the representatives of these latter countries spoke about its own program and then at the request of its colleagues answered a series of questions on various aspects of the agrarian reforms in force in its country, describing the results achieved and the obstacles which had to be overcome.

387. Of the three resolutions adopted, one of them specifically urges the Governments to put into practice the necessary steps to alter, wherever required, the systems of land tenure at present in force, and recommends the need to take steps to change the defective agrarian structure. I am certain that the Director-General of FAO will favour your recommendation that he should contact those organizations in order to carry out this joint program. In fact for several years we have been struggling for a combined effort in the various organizations in order to obtain speedier and better results in the field of agrarian reform. Our activities in CIDA and the training programs under way today, which we have organized together with BID, OEA and the Inter-American Agricultural Sciences Institute of Turrialba, serve to show our concern in this connection. The other two resolutions regarding agrarian reform specifically refer to training, and one of them, especially, mentions the work which the Inter-American system is carrying out in this field. We have noted that the Conference continues to support and encourage the efforts of the Director-General to widen, increase and improve the training of experts and field personnel engaged in agrarian reform and correlated activities. We have been untiring in pointing out that the making and executing of plans and programs was handicapped enormously by the almost absolute lack of specialists. The Director-General did everything possible by carrying out the recommendations that a Regional Agrarian Reform Institute should be created, but satisfactory results were not forthcoming. However, he has encouraged the setting up of national institutes financed by the Special Fund of the United Nations. We treasure the hope that the so obvious wish of the delegations present, concerning such institutes, will accelerate the preparation of projects by the Governments, as well as the decisions taken by the Special Fund of the United Nations concerning requests submitted or to be submitted.

Economic Problems

388. We have viewed with satisfaction the keen interest with which such

problems were discussed. In the field of planning and marketing, as well as in that of regional economic integration and in the export of agricultural products, the Conference has thoroughly analysed the existing problems and has determined the future policy which should act as framework for action to be taken by the member governments and FAO.

389. The notion that it is necessary to strengthen the agricultural planning machinery in Latin America in order to channel and hasten the social and economic development in these countries, was strongly applauded by the Conference. The resolutions approved in this regard reveal the anxiety of the countries of this region to improve the statistical basis whereupon the planning is built, to improve the coordinating mechanism for the formulating and executing of the same, and to train a larger number of specialists in these subjects. FAO could do no less than give such measures its full approval since they are in complete agreement with its own line of thinking, and it will endeavour to increase the aid which it is giving to those countries in these matters, be it through its Regular Program or be it through the Technical Assistance Program and in unison with the other Organizations which operate in this field.

390. It has been equally satisfactory to perceive the firm support which the Conference has given to the creation of the Inter-American Agricultural Marketing Institute. It is unnecessary to dwell on its importance - the keen interest displayed by all the delegations serves to show that this Institute will play a very important role in the solution of the marketing problems of agricultural products and that in the course of its labors it may depend on the unstinted applause of all nations. FAO will continue to afford all possible cooperation in this matter as well as in the field of food technology and processing of farm products, which are so closely linked to the former.

391. There is no doubt that the debates on regional economic integration and relationship with the European Common Market were of the greatest interest to the Conference. The Latin-American countries, truly alarmed at the continued deterioration of their export outlets and in view of the not very encouraging prospects for many of their principal agricultural export products, have declared the intention to join efforts in order to secure a more equitable reception of such exports which represent in most cases vital sources of export income. The Director-General of FAO, I have no doubt, will relay the anxiety of the Latin-American nations in this matter to the Board of Ministers of the European Economic Community, in compliance with the request of the Conference. Notwithstanding this, I feel certain he will give a favourable reception to the request for continuing to increase the work in this field, which FAO has undertaken, both through the Division of Basic Products at Rome Headquarters and the FAO/CEPAL Joint Agricultural Division. Included in the schedule of work of this Division for the next few years will be the important point to be investigated and studied which consists of the integration of national agricultural policies and the effect which other economic blocks may have on their agricultural exports; thus the recommendations approved by this Conference, as well as those drawn up at the last meeting of CEPAL, will be complied with.

Technical Matters

392. The matters referred to as technical - though they may involve many economic and social aspects - were examined with keen interest and efficiency by the Conference, especially through the Technical Commission. The resolutions connected with these questions denote a great knowledge of present day needs and of the corresponding most convenient solutions. Nearly all of them request fresh FAO action or the buttressing of that which is at present being given. I am sure that the Director-General will regard with great interest the recommendations and will do everything in his power to comply therewith. Some of them request that FAO detail further specialists to the region, in a specific field. As Chief of Latin American Services, I will regard it a duty to support such requests as both I and my advisers consider to be very

reasonable. Certainly some of the requests of this Conference will be met right away, within the limit of existing resources, but others may have to wait upon the ruling of the General Conference, when the 1964-65 budget will be brought up for consideration. The Latin-American countries are also members of the Conference and are represented on the Council and on the Program and Finance Committees. There they will be financing of the voice programs in which they have an interest.

393. The Conference adopted three resolutions of a very constructive kind connected with land and water resources, fully conscious of the fact that in the region the most gross mismanagement of natural wealth has been perpetrated, which no other continent has ever before been guilty of, and that it is imperative that the effects of an inexcusable negligence be repaired. Millions of acres of good land have been eroded or have become barren. The aforesaid resolutions recommended that forestry legislation should cover proper regulations on the conservation of soil resources, request the cooperation of FAO to approach the Pan-American Institute of Natural Resources for the purpose of intensifying the training of experts in the study, preservation and use of natural resources, request the Director-General to place at the disposal of the Governments a small group of experts who would direct them in these problems and would help them to prepare projects to be submitted to the Special Fund of the United Nations, to appoint as soon as possible a regional specialist in land and water use, and to coordinate the activities of FAO in this field with that of other organizations through the medium of CIDA. I am in the position to state that the group of experts referred to one of the above resolutions will be ready within a short space of time.

394. The problems directly connected with the increase and the improvement of agricultural production and its protection have been the object of lengthy and constructive debate. During the course thereof the fact was exposed that in spite of the progress achieved in some countries FAO should continue to improve upon technical assistance and especially continue contributing towards the unison and coordination of national efforts through the means of experts or teams of regional experts. The need to increase animal production was unanimously admitted as well as the fact that in order to achieve real impact in this field the path to be followed would lie in the improved management and care of pastures as well as the control of cattle diseases, particularly foot and mouth disease.

395. The appropriate integration of plant and animal production within farms was also agreed upon as a means to make better use of the land also the undeferrable coordination of research and action against agricultural pests of regional interest, the revising of quarantine measures in order to make scientific and commercial exchange more easy also the importance of interested countries and FAO helping in a substantial manner the Pan-American seed seminars, and the indisputable value attaching to research and testing services, the introduction of plants and animals to improve plant and livestock production in Latin America, in all of which this continent could contribute considerably to the betterment of production in other parts of the world.

396. Lastly, FAO was requested to provide aid with respect to two kinds of crops, namely rice and rubber, the former being considered a basic item of diet and the latter of great economic importance. In both cases FAO is prepared to provide the required cooperation.

397. The Conference has approved the publicity which the World Freedom from Hunger Campaign has given to its project to encourage the greater use of fertilizers through the means of demonstrations and experiments on the land in direct contact with the farmers. Nevertheless it would seem best to wait until more dependable technical advice is available before contacting the farmers. Hence FAO will assist in intensifying research into fertilizers, soil analysis and training of personnel in the countries of Latin America, with the object of drawing up regional plans and

providing technical assistance to farmers.

398. The question of public indifference to forestry, of the systematic destruction of woods and the virtual disappearance of forest wealth on the one hand, and the extraordinary prospects of development on the other (FAO/CEPAL study) were subjects that were tackled by the Conference, based upon the important conclusions arrived at by the VII Meeting of the Latin-American Forestry Commission held at Santiago on the 13th to the 19th of this month. At that meeting the protective, economic and social worth of forests was stressed, and the importance of financial and investment problems was recognized in the industrializing of timber, and the close connection between forests and the success of colonization plans and agrarian reform. The Governments were called upon to include forestry in all national plans for social and economic development, the industrialization, training, research, and suitable legislation connected therewith, and the proper services to put these into effect.

399. The recent success of some countries in increasing the production of fisheries serves to show that the inclusion of a fisheries program in the general planning of the countries involved would ensure an abundant supply of protein foods which would be capable of substantially improving the nutritional levels of the population. Consequently the governments were exhorted to coordinate and integrate their services for the promotion of fisheries and to create adequate incentives to attract suitably qualified personnel who would have to be trained, and whereof there is urgent need. Obviously such programs would depend upon research in line with the importance of the fishing industry and the possible demand for this product. The Conference has recommended the drawing up of projects to be submitted to the Special Fund of the United Nations in order to completely fulfill the pre-investment requirements. The importance of regional cooperation and advice was stressed by delegates and this was borne out by the interest shown at the creation of a FAO Advisory Committee for the countries of Latin America, the opening session of which will take place in this same city immediately after this present Conference.

Cooperation and Coordination

400. The resolutions adopted, and the previous debates, clearly show the wish of the Governments to ensure close cooperation with all international organizations responsible for assisting countries in their policies of agricultural and rural welfare development. The Governments want to make the maximum use of the opportunity of international cooperation which is financed by contributions from all the Member Nations. We are thus pleased to see that the Conference has approved our participation in the Inter-American Agricultural Development Committee and even that CIDA given the task of increasing its programs and develop some specific types of work. FAO has supported with the greatest enthusiasm the creation and the operation of this coordinating body and the Director-General is willing to continue doing so. It seems to us that the three-party CEPAL/OEA/BID Committee and with the creation of CIDA, an international cooperation mechanism will gradually be perfected, which will effectively ensure that the Latin-American Governments gain their objective of planning agriculture within the balanced framework of social and economic development, which is envisaged in accordance with the Charter of Punta del Este and the other international institutions. FAO, on account of its world-wide experience and the great variety of specialists which it has available, is particularly in a position to provide the technical core of such joint programs as are in agreement, of course, with the decisions of the Governments.

401. The many resolutions serve to show that the Conference is aware of the exceptional importance which the United Nations Special Fund is beginning to acquire in the field of pre-investment. In this connection the excellent work carried out in the agricultural sphere, and the further one which is in the process of being prepared, was noted by the Conference. It is natural that the Special Fund should devote the major part of its activities to Latin-America on projects dealing with agriculture

and rural welfare, since this sphere is the one which nowadays requires special attention. Many of the resolutions passed by the Conference expressed the hope that the Special Fund will favourably receive the projects dealing with a particular type of activity or recommend that the governments make use of the opportunity afforded by this institution of the United Nations. It was particularly to be noticed in the case of the agrarian reform institutes, and those for the development of fisheries and for forestry. FAO will continue to cooperate with the Governments of Latin America in the locating of new projects for the Special Fund which would seem suitable to it for the improvement of production and rural welfare, and also in the preparation of such projects. The experts detailed to the missions in each country and our regional specialists - who have already gained considerable experience in such matters - are, as ever, at the disposal of the Governments to carry out such tasks.

The World Food Program

402. The Conference listened to the speech delivered by Mr. Addeke Boerma, the Executive Director of the Program (a joint FAO/United Nations effort). In the same way as before at other FAO Conferences held this year in other regions, a resolution was passed expressing satisfaction at the setting up of such a Program and an appeal was made to the governments of the Latin American countries for a promise to contribute, if they had not already done so, in order to arrive at the required Fund of one hundred million dollars which was decided upon for the initial phase of the Program. It is encouraging to see the unanimous support given this scheme and wherein FAO has placed much hope.

403. I believe, Mr. Chairman, that I have touched upon the majority of the most relevant points covered by the debates at this Conference and the resolutions adopted. I should like to repeat, Mr. Chairman, that it is the wish of FAO to base herself upon such resolutions to the extent that its resources will permit and the rules of its constitution will allow.

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