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## **REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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### **ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

The Secretary General of the OAS has started to implement his proposals to ensure coordination between the activities of the General Secretariat and other international agencies operating in the Latin American area. The first of these have been devoted to improving the coordination procedure with the United Nations and the Inter-American Development Bank, giving special emphasis to the area of technical assistance.

On March 4, the Secretary General met with the president of the Inter-American Bank and exchanged views on matters relating to that institution. As a result of that meeting, it was agreed to hold periodic meetings, to exchange information, and to cooperate in carrying out technical studies of mutual interest on Latin America, particularly in the following areas: (1) manpower requirements, (2) basic studies on the scientific and technological situation, (3) preparation of national, multi-national, or subregional programs and projects for regional economic development and integration, at the request of member states, (4) studies on the development of tourism, and (5) coordination of information and data processing systems.

From March 10 - 12, the Secretary General attended a meeting of U. N. representatives in Latin America and officials of the U. N. Development Program, held in Santiago, Chile. At that time, it was agreed to exchange information and to adopt uniform procedures for channeling technical assistance, with the governments playing a decisive role.

### **BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD OF THE OAS**

At the Second Meeting of the Business Advisory Board of the General Secretariat of the OAS, held in Mexico City, November 29-30, 1968, several important measures were adopted with a view to strengthening the participation of the private sector in the development and integration process of Latin America. According to one of those measures it was de-

cided to request the General Secretariat of the OAS to carry out studies on the system of multinational enterprises in the Latin American area.

To this effect, the Department of Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat of the OAS undertook a survey and an exchange of information with various international and private agencies in order to ascertain the status of the studies and of the projects on this subject. As a result, meetings have been held with officials from the Inter-American Development Bank, the Institute for Latin American Integration, LAFTA, SIECA, Andean Subregional Group, United Nations, and agencies representing the private sector such as CICYP, ADELA, Council for Latin America, Chambers of Commerce, and others. In the same manner, close relations were established with universities and institutes of academic research.

As a result of these preliminary steps, the possibility of convoking a special meeting is being considered at which time representatives from various governments, the private sector, the academic world, and the international agencies will have the opportunity to discuss the possibility of undertaking a complete program on this vital question.

#### UNITAR SEMINAR

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research organized an important seminar in Quito, Ecuador, during the month of February, to discuss various current problems in Latin America at the academic level. This seminar, which was supported by the OAS and the Inter-American Institute of International Legal Studies, brought together specialists from Latin America, the United States and Europe, as well as representatives from governments and international agencies.

*Discussions centered mainly on multinational enterprises, with important papers being presented on the subject, on the law of the sea and on the use of the international rivers and lakes. The Seminar was opened by the President of Ecuador who emphasized the role of a new international law.*

#### INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Regional Educational Development Program and the Regional Scientific and Technological Development Program, approved by the Inter-American Cultural Council (CIC) at its Fifth Meeting in Maracay, Venezuela in 1968 are underway. During the past year the Executive Committee of the CIC and its respective Committees concentrated their efforts on the preparation and organization of these programs.

The Regional Educational Development Program includes various multinational projects, among which mention should be made of those for the improvement of specialized personnel in the field of education; the development of educational research, experimentation, and innovation; adult education; educational television; textbooks and audiovisual materials; technical and vocational education; and the strengthening of various national and regional entities. The program also contains a plan for adopting study programs to the goals of Latin American integration and to the Program of Postgraduate Studies on the Legal and Institutional Problems of Central American Integration, under the auspices of the Inter-American Institute of International Legal Studies.

On the other hand, the Regional Scientific and Technological Development Program, includes numerous multinational projects in the field of basic sciences, especially in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biochemistry, genetics, and basic agricultural sciences. Included in the area of natural resources are projects on the soil sciences, and, in the area of technology, those on nuclear energy, pulp and paper, minerals, metallurgy, use of raw materials, technology of dietetics and nutrition, and management.

The total budget for the first semester of the current year amounts to US \$7,643,594.

#### HAGUE ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Hague Academy of International Law is organizing its first regional course for Latin America, to be held in Bogota during June of this year. This renowned teaching institution will offer, in addition to its regular courses at The Hague, various regional courses in developing areas. The Inter-American Institute of International Legal Studies is actively participating in this effort.

Dr. Emilio N. Oribe, Ambassador of Uruguay to the OAS, will be in charge of the course on the Inter-American system for the peaceful settlement of disputes, and Drs. Francisco Garcia-Amador, Director of Department of Legal Affairs of the OAS, and Francisco Orrego Vicuña, Special Advisor in that Department, will be responsible for the courses on the law of Latin American integration. Approximately twenty Latin American professors of international law will attend the course.

#### PROTOCOL OF BUENOS AIRES

Brazil became the twelfth nation to ratify the Protocol of Amendments in the Charter of the OAS. Nations still to ratify are: Barbados,

Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru and Uruguay.

#### CENTRAL AMERICAN COURT OF JUSTICE

The project to create a Central American Court of Justice to deal with legal issues arising from the economic integration of Central America has met with stiff opposition, and is, for the time being at a standstill. Strong objections have been made by the private sector while others close to the integration movement view with misgivings its supranational character. Others charge it with the potential to weaken Central American integration if the governments refuse to abide by its decisions.

#### AIR POLLUTION CONVENTION

The II Latin American Conference on Air Pollution took place in Buenos Aires in late 1968.

#### LATIN AMERICAN COORDINATION

The Special Commission on Latin American Coordination (CECLA) is scheduled to meet in mid-May. The Commission was created at the urging of Brazil to spell out the interests and concerns of Latin America to the Nixon administration.

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS

The Commission continues its activities in Latin America. A member of the Secretariat's legal staff is presently making an extensive tour through Latin America and will visit a total of fifteen countries. His overall objective is to promote future cooperation and common plans of action.

In Mexico, the Institute of Legal Research of the University of Mexico sponsored a seminar in April, 1969 which dealt with legal problems relating to human rights.

#### AID

The Agency for International Development is again accepting applications for AID guaranties to insure new United States investments in housing projects in Latin America. Countries for which applications will be received starting in September, 1969 are: Argentina, Barbados, Colombia and Ecuador.

Dates for filing applications and the tentative amounts allocated to each country are:

Barbados, Sept. 1 through 15, 1969 — \$3 million

Argentina, Oct. 1 through 15, 1969 — \$6 million

Colombia, Nov. 1 through 15, 1969 — \$6 million

Ecuador, Dec. 1 through 15, 1969 — \$3 million

Application dates for guaranties in other countries in Latin American will be announced at a later date.

AID has also made a five year \$750,000 grant to establish an international center capable of assisting less developed countries utilize food and other resources from the sea. The new center to be established at the University of Rhode Island has five basic objectives.

1. Conduct a series of multi-discipline studies on the role of marine resources, particularly fisheries, in less developed countries.
2. Organize courses and seminars related to the role of marine resources and how they might meet the food and nutritional needs of an emerging nation.
3. Increase the capacity of the University to provide administrators and researchers from less developed countries with advanced, general and special education in various aspects of marine resource utilization.
4. Provide training and educational opportunities for professional staff members of AID, the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, and other interested public and private agencies through short courses, symposia, and course work.
5. Enable Rhode Island faculty members to become involved in technical consultation, research, and assistance programs on marine matters in less developed nations for AID and agencies with similar interests.

## HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY

The OAS has agreed to convene a special inter-American Conference to adopt a hemisphere treaty on human rights. The two-week conference will open on September 1st, 1969 at San Jose, Costa Rica.