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**THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OF LATIN AMERICA  
and its principal problems**

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UNITED NATIONS

*Economic Commission  
Latin America*

*(E/CN.12/89/Rev.1)  
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***THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OF LATIN AMERICA  
and its principal problems***

*L.N.*  
**ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR LATIN AMERICA**



**UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
Lake Success, New York, 1950**

JX1977  
A64E26  
DOCUMENTS  
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### DOCUMENTS

E/CN.12/89/Rev. 1\*  
27 April 1950  
Original text: Spanish

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATIONS  
Sales No.: 1950.II.G.2

JX1977  
A64  
etc  
Dre Dept  
9/4/50

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## Letter of Transmittal

Santiago, Chile

9 October 1949

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith an essay entitled "The Economic Development of Latin America and its principal problems", by Professor Raul Prebisch.

In creating the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Economic and Social Council stated that one of its main purposes would be to "make or sponsor . . . investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Latin America . . .".

Having regard to the importance of fostering research along these lines, and in agreement with the Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Economic Affairs, Mr. David Owen, the undersigned Executive Secretary has sponsored the preparation of a paper on "The Economic Development of Latin America and its principal problems", which has been written by Professor Raul Prebisch.

It is hoped that its publication may arouse further interest in economic investigations in the Latin-American countries and that it will prompt the writing of similar works which aim at finding a solution to the basic problems confronting Latin America, the correct presentation of which has become a matter of immediate concern.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GUSTAVO MARTÍNEZ CABAÑAS  
*Executive Secretary*

MR. TRYGVE LIE  
*Secretary-General of the  
United Nations*  
Lake Success, New York