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Notes and explanation of symbols

The following symbols are used in tables in the Review:

(...)	Three dots indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.
(—)	A dash indicates that the amount is nil or negligible.
	A blank space in a table means that the item in question is not applicable.
(-)	A minus sign indicates a deficit or decrease, unless otherwise specified.
(.)	A point is used to indicate decimals.
(/)	A slash indicates a crop year or fiscal year, e.g., 1970/1971.
(-)	Use of a hyphen between years, e.g., 1971-1973, indicates reference to the complete number of calendar years involved, including the beginning and end years.

References to "tons" mean metric tons, and to "dollars", United States dollars, unless otherwise stated.
 Unless otherwise stated, references to annual rates of growth or variation signify compound annual rates.
 Individual figures and percentages in tables do not necessarily add up to the corresponding totals, because of rounding.

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Issue No. 50 of *CEPAL Review*

When the *Review* began publication in 1976, its purpose was twofold: it was to carry on the *Boletín Económico de América Latina*'s long tradition of exploring a variety of subjects relevant to Latin American and Caribbean economic development for a reading public who very probably cover a broader spectrum than does the readership of official ECLAC documents, and it was intended to give professional staff members of the Commission, who usually work anonymously as part of a team effort, the rare opportunity to publish their work under their own name.

Today, after nearly 17 years of continuous publication—first under the direction of Raúl Prebisch and then, from 1986 on, under the guidance of Aníbal Pinto—ECLAC is publishing the *Review*'s fiftieth issue. Thanks in large measure to these men, who have been so integral a part of the Commission's life as an institution, and to their respective collaborators, including the *Review*'s technical secretaries, from Adolfo Gurrieri on to Eugenio Lahera, this publication has ably performed those functions. The *Review* has indeed served as a forum open to all schools of thought, primarily for staff members of the ECLAC system but for others as well, and in so doing has managed to maintain its standards of technical excellence along with the relevance afforded by the analysis of topical events. Furthermore, both its Spanish-speaking and English-speaking audiences have been growing steadily.

We are therefore gratified to be marking this milestone in the life of a valuable publication which, we trust, will maintain and further enhance its present stature.



Gert Rosenthal
Executive Secretary

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