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MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

REPORT OF THE SENATE DELEGATION ON THE TWELFTH MEETING, HELD AT NEW ORLEANS

BY

Senator MIKE MANSFIELD, Chairman

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SEPTEMBER 11, 1972

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SENATE DELEGATION

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

SEPTEMBER 11, 1972.

Hon. SPIRO T. AGNEW,
President of the U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. VICE PRESIDENT: Pursuant to Public Law 86–420, approved April 9, 1960, I transmit herewith a report on the 12th meeting of the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group which was held in New Orleans, Louisiana and St. Croix, Virgin Islands, May 16–21, 1972.

Representative James C. Wright, Jr., acting chairman of the House delegation, is submitting a separate report on behalf of his group to the Speaker of the House.

Sincerely,

MIKE MANSFIELD,
Chairman, Senate Delegation.

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TWELFTH MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE

I. Background

U.S. participation in annual parliamentary conferences with Mexico was authorized by Public Law 86–420, approved April 9, 1960. The first such conference was held in Guadalajara in February 1961. Subsequent conferences have been held in the United States in even-numbered years and in Mexico in odd-numbered years.

The U.S. delegates attending the 12th Conference, which was held in New Orleans and St. Croix May 16–21, 1972, were:

From the Senate:

Mike Mansfield, of Montana, Chairman.
Gaylord Nelson, of Wisconsin.
Joseph M. Montoya, of New Mexico.
Lawton Chiles, of Florida.
George D. Aiken, of Vermont.
Marlow W. Cook, of Kentucky.

From the House:

James C. Wright, Jr., of Texas, Acting Chairman.
Eligio de la Garza, of Texas.
Abraham Kazen, Jr., of Texas.
Hale Boggs, of Louisiana.
Peter H. B. Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey.
Charles E. Wiggins, of California.
Manuel Lujan, Jr., of New Mexico.
Charles Thone, of Nebraska.
J. Herbert Burke, of Florida.

The Mexican delegation was headed by Senator Enrique Olivares Santana of Aguascalientes. Deputy Alfredo V. Bonfil Pinto of Querétaro was the coordinator of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies delegation. Other Mexican delegates were:

From the Senate:

Victor Manzanilla Schaffer, of Yucatán.
Alejandro Carrillo Marcor, of Sonora.
Oscar Flores Tapía, of Coahuila.
José Rivera Pérez Campos, of Guanajuato.
Enrique Gonzalez Pedrero, of Tabasco.
Martin Luis Guzman Franco, of the Federal District.
Ramiro Yañez Córdoba, of Zacatecas.
Gilberto Suarez Torres, of Oaxaca.
Miguel Barberena Vega, of Aguascalientes.
Guillermo Morales Blumenkron, of Puebla.
Germán Corona del Rosal, of Hidalgo.
Francisco Aguilar Hernández, of Morelos.
Javier Garcia Paniagua, of Jalisco.
Guillermo Fonseca Álvarez, of San Luis Potosí.
Aurora Ruvalcaba Gutíerrez, of Colima.
Carlos Perez Cámara, of Campeche.

From the Chamber of Deputies:
Santiago Roel García, of Nuevo León.
Marcos Manuel Suarez Ruiz, of Morelos.
Salvador Resendiz Arreola, of Michoacán.
Guillermina Sanchez Mesa de Solis, of the Federal District.
Luis Horacio Salinas Aguilera, of Coahuila.
Francisco Zarate Vidal, of Baja California.
Oscar Hammeken Martínez, of the Federal District.
Hilda Anderson Nevares, of the Federal District.
Jose Peniche Bolio, of the Federal District.
José Carlos Osorio Aguilar, of Jalisco.
Ignacio F. Herrerias Montoya, of the Federal District.
Antonio Melgar Aranda, of Chiapas.
Enrique Soto Resendiz, of Hidalgo.
J. Jesús Yañez Castro, of Zacatecas.

II. Program of the Conference

The Mexican delegation arrived in Washington, D.C., at 1:30 p.m. May 16, where it was met by members of the U.S. delegation. The two delegations went directly from the airport to the White House where they were received by President and Mrs. Richard Nixon. The group then proceeded to wreath-laying ceremonies at the Benito Juarez statue and the Lincoln Monument. The two delegations proceeded separately to New Orleans where the meetings of the conference proper were held Wednesday, May 17, and Thursday, May 18.

The conference was organized in three committees which dealt with political, economic, and social affairs and which covered the following agenda:

Committee I—Political Affairs

1. Mexico-United States relations.
2. Ratification of the first protocol of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco).
3. Project for sea water desalinization.
4. Salinity of the Colorado River water.
5. Pollution.
6. Law of the sea.

Committee II—Economic Affairs

A. Bilateral Matters:
   7. Mexico-United States trade in agricultural products.
   8. Mexico-United States trade in industrial products.
   9. The border economy.
B. Multilateral Matters:
   10. Mexico and the United States in the world economy.
      a. Balance of payments.
      b. Monetary policy.
      c. World trade policies.

COMMITTEE III—SOCIAL AFFAIRS

11. Education, science and technology.
    a. Draft agreement for Mexico-United States scientific and technical education program.
    b. Draft convention for the prevention of the import, export, and transference of cultural property.
    c. Treaty for the recovery of cultural property.
    d. Others.
12. Campaign against the illegal production and traffic in narcotics and dangerous drugs.
13. Cultural interchange.
    a. Educational cultural interchange.
    b. Scholarships.

The Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Conferences never take votes or pass resolutions, but in most years the chiefs of delegations have issued a joint statement. The statement issued in New Orleans is printed elsewhere in this report, as are the reports of the U.S. rapporteurs of each of the three committees.

On Friday, May 19, the two delegations proceeded jointly to St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, in accordance with the tradition of the conference that delegates visit parts of the host country other than the site of the conference. On Sunday, May 21, the United States delegation returned to Washington.

As noted in the letter of transmittal, a separate report is being filed by the House delegation. The Senate delegation wishes to extend its deep appreciation to President and Mrs. Nixon for receiving the delegations; to Mayor Moon Landrieu of New Orleans, and Governor Melvin H. Evans of the Virgin Islands, and both their staffs for their hospitality and assistance; to the Department of the Air Force for providing transportation and escort services; and to the Department of State for providing administrative support.

III. Reports of the Working Committees

A. Committee I—Political Affairs

U.S. members: Senators Mansfield (rapporteur), and Aiken, and Representatives de la Garza, Wright, and Burke.

Mexican members: Senators Olivares, Manzanilla, Carrillo, Barberena and Guzman (rapporteur), and Deputy Roel.

Senator Mansfield's report is as follows:

Report of Committee I—Political

(By Senator Mike Mansfield)

Senator Enrique Olivares, the Chairman of the Senate delegation from Mexico, opened the discussion on Political Affairs with an eloquent statement on Mexico-United States relations. Although mention was made of certain trade issues and Mexican laborers entering the United States, it was apparent that the most pressing problem between Mexico and the United States continues to be the salinity of the lower Colorado River.

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Under the terms of the Water Treaty of 1944, the United States Government agreed to deliver to Mexico annually 1,500,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water. Beginning in 1961 the water being delivered became so salty that Mexico formally protested and since that time the matter has been the subject of discussions and negotiations between representatives of our two countries. A member of the American delegation stated that, in his opinion, Mexico has a strong case and that the United States delegates should do whatever they can to try to reach a reasonable and practical solution to the salinity problem which would be satisfactory to both the United States and Mexico. He added that the longer the salinity problem remains unsolved, the more likely it is that the matter will be referred to international adjudication and this is one of the measures the two countries should try to avoid.

With respect to pollution, a member of the American delegation reviewed what our government had accomplished in this area. He stated that the U.S. Congress passed the first Water Pollution Abatement Act in 1956. The act authorized an appropriation of $50 million annually for matching grants to assist municipalities and states to clean up their wastes and thus preserve and enhance the quality of our streams. By contrast, he pointed out, the proposed Federal Water Pollution Control Act which has been acted upon by both the Senate and House of Representatives would authorize a total of $27 billion to combat pollution of our waters.

Unfortunately, he said, pollution does not respect national boundaries and probably those responsible for most of it are the industrialized countries of the world. In this connection, he felt that the United States would certainly want to join with all of the other countries of the world, especially the industrialized nations, in adopting mutual agreements to assure that everyone abides by the same rules. For the United States, he added, it is a matter of economic survival. We have required the installation of extremely costly equipment on the part of our manufacturers, and unless this is done in other countries as well, we face the prospect of placing our manufacturers at a severe disadvantage with their international competitors.

This American delegate also mentioned another problem which arises in all countries, including Mexico and the United States, and that is the increasing density of population in certain localities. For example, he said, if the present trend of population growth in the United States continues unabated, we face the prospect that within approximately 15 or 20 years almost 90 per cent of our total population will reside in four megalopolitan areas—one along the East Coast, one along the West Coast, one around the Great Lakes, and one around the Gulf of Mexico. As a result, he said, the rest of our country, constituting 90 per cent of our land area, will be providing sustenance, homes and job opportunities for only about 10 per cent of our population. He suggested that the United States, as well as Mexico, should begin to think about long range solutions such as offering some sort of preferential tax treatment to industries to expand to areas throughout the country which are still capable of absorbing additional people without degrading the environment.

He concluded by saying that all of us need to recognize the severity of the lower Colorado River salinity problem and he assured our Mexican colleagues that we are not only cognizant of, but sympathetic with,

their position. On behalf of the American delegation, he stated: "All of us want to assure you we will redouble our efforts because we recognize how deeply the Mexican delegation feels about this and I think we would feel as deeply if the situation were reversed."

Another American delegate suggested that, in view of the potential pollution problems along the Mexico–United States border, the Mexican and American delegations might wish to consider recommending to their respective governments that the two countries take initial steps toward international cooperation in this area.

In commenting on Mexico-United States cooperation to establish a desalinization plant, one American delegate made the point that, although such a project had been referred to as a political problem, it requires a technical and scientific solution and he felt that since it had been determined to be technically feasible some means could be found to make it a reality. After all, he said, we have sent men to the moon, explored the bottom of the sea, and achieved many other scientific and technological objectives. Therefore, in his opinion, a way could be found to convert sea water into fresh water and produce electricity for use by the United States and Mexico. Moreover, he added that, if the United States can cooperate with Russia on space exploration, there is no reason why we cannot cooperate with Mexico on the desalinization project.

In remarks on the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which relates to the prohibition of nuclear weapons in Latin America, an American delegate emphasized the necessity of reaching agreements relating to the use of nuclear weapons. He said, however, that he was in favor of the use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes, such as the production of energy, desalinization of water, and matters relating to health.

Another delegate stated that in his Congressional District there exists one of the finest examples of the peaceful uses of atomic energy—the plant in Mission, Texas, which participates in a bilateral program for the eradication of the screw worm that afflicts cattle and wildlife in both the United States and Mexico. He said that in addition to providing work for the citizens in the area, the plant is also a good example of the way the United States and Mexico cooperate jointly for the betterment of the peoples of both countries.

A member of the American delegation who serves on the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and whose Congressional District borders on the Gulf of Mexico touched briefly on some of the problems dealing with shrimp operations in his area. Although he indicated that the problems related to this industry were not always satisfactorily resolved, especially insofar as individual shrimp boat operators are concerned, he expressed appreciation to the Mexican delegation for the cooperation extended by the Government of Mexico. In this connection, however, he stressed the importance of concluding agreements between the United States and Mexico for the mutual benefit of the people who harvest the fruit of the sea.

This delegate also pointed out that some problems had arisen in individual cases because of differences in the American and Mexican legal systems. He stated that United States fishermen are not always familiar with the laws of Mexico and he expressed the hope that the differences in our two systems would be made known to them in cases involving future infractions of Mexican law—not only on the seas but on land as well—so that justice might prevail.

One member of the American delegation reported on the progress which has been achieved on the construction of the highway through the Darien Gap to link the Inter-American highway with the Pan American highway. He said that for the current fiscal year the United States appropriated $5 million to finance the completion of the engineering study, and that there is a $20 million request for the construction of this highway. He mentioned that the President has personally asked that the work be expedited so that the construction might be completed in a maximum of five years. To that end, he added, the Congress has cooperated.

Concurrently with this, he added, at the meeting of the Pan American Highway Congress in Ecuador last November, a resolution was adopted calling upon the OAS to create a joint committee whose purpose would be to explore and make recommendations for ways to improve the cooperation of all the nations of the hemisphere for the maintenance, preservation and improvement of this highway and for the construction of lateral roads so as to make it an even more important artery than it is today. Among other things to be explored by this committee of the OAS will be means of providing abundant safeguards against the intrusion of hoof and mouth disease that has been a concern to people north of the Darien. Thus, our Department of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture and Quarantine of other nations will be working together in an effort to establish a good strong system of safeguards to prevent the intrusion of this disease.

Secondly, the committee of the OAS will be concerned with attempting to encourage among all the countries through which the highway passes the simplification of customs procedures at their respective borders in order that the delays that sometimes occur at the borders may be minimized and that commerce between these countries might be enhanced. Finally, that committee is directed to explore means of encouraging some system of uniform tariffs on the travellers over the highways to pay for maintaining and constructing lateral roads and maintaining the arterial highway.

B. COMMITTEE II—ECONOMIC

U.S. members: Senators Chiles (rapporteur) and Cook, and Representatives Kazen, Lujan, and Thone.

Mexican members: Senators Yanez, Flores, Corona, Perez (rapporteur), and Deputies Bonfil, Sanchez Mesa, Resendiz, and Salinas.

Senator Chiles' report is as follows:

Report of Committee II—Economic

(By Senator Lawton Chiles)

The principal themes of the discussion in Committee II were: (1) Mexican concern over the prospect of growing protectionism in the United States; (2) the Mexican desire for trade preferences by the United States; (3) United States concern about its domestic economy and its world economic position; and (4) the Charter of Economic Duties and Rights of States, proposed by President Echeverria in his April speech to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Santiago.

The first and second of these themes are two sides of the same coin: although Mexico would like very much to see U.S. barriers to its exports lowered, it is perhaps even more concerned that existing barriers not be raised. Mexican delegates pointed out that Mexico's process of industrialization based on substitution for imports is not as dynamic as formerly and that more industrial products must be exported. This was one of the reasons Mexico strongly supported the UNCTAD position in favor of generalized trade preferences by the industrialized countries for the manufactured and semimanufactured products of the less developed countries. Certainly, in the Mexican view, it would be a step backward for the United States to put even more restrictions on its imports. The Mexican delegates were particularly apprehensive over possible passage of the Burke-Hartke bill.

Yet it was not only trade in industrial products which concerned the Mexican delegation. One of their number pointed out that since 1940, Mexico has financed its industrialization through agricultural exports and that these encounter a variety of tariff and nontariff barriers to the United States market. Mexican delegates were particularly concerned about seasonal tariffs, the application of plant and animal health and sanitation regulations, and the use of P.L. 480 to compete with Mexico in third countries. They particularly urged the elimination of seasonal tariffs, so that tariffs on agricultural products (tomatoes were cited as a leading example) would not increase during the season of peak production.

Members of the United States delegation generally sympathized with the Mexican point of view, but set forth some of the difficulties faced by the United States. Chief among these difficulties were unemployment, inflation, and a deficit in the balance of payments. It was a fact, U.S. delegates said, that these problems have given rise to protectionist sentiment in the United States. Speaking as individuals, several members of the American delegation predicted that the Burke-Hartke bill would not pass; on the other hand, the times were not propitious for pressing trade preference legislation. It was pointed out that the Nixon Administration is committed to trade preferences in due course.

United States delegates also noted that in many cases, Mexican restrictions on trade, both tariffs and nontariff barriers, were greater than those of the United States.

The Mexican delegation strongly urged support of President Echeverria's proposed Charter of the Economic Duties and Rights of States, consisting of ten points as follows: (1) control of natural resources; (2) respect for the right of each country to adopt the economic structure which suits it and to impose on private property the regulations which the public interest requires; (3) renunciation of economic pressure against the political sovereignty of states; (4) subjection of foreign capital to the laws of the country; (5) prohibition of transnational corporations from intervening in a country's domestic affairs; (6) abolition of domestic practices which discriminate against the exports of non-industrialized countries; (7) economic advantages proportional to levels of development; (8) agreements guaranteeing the stability, at a just level, of prices of basic commodities; (9) faster and cheaper transmission of technological and scientific advances to less developed countries; and (10) greater resources for financing development—at long maturities, low interest rates, and without strings.

These proposals inspired considerable discussion. Some members of the United States delegation thought most of them acceptable; other U.S. delegates thought that no more than two or three would be acceptable to Congress, or indeed would be within the jurisdiction of Congress. In addition, the point was made that the proposals did not deal with the question of what industrialized countries would get in return—for example, the problem of compensation in cases of expropriation and the need for stable rules of the game.

C. COMMITTEE III—SOCIAL

U.S. members: Senators Montoya, and Nelson, and Representatives Boggs, Frelinghuysen, and Wiggins (rapporteur).

Mexican members: Senators Gonzalez and Suarez Torres, and Deputies Hammeken, Zarate, Anderson, Peniche, and Suarez Ruiz (rapporteur).

Representative Wiggins' report is as follows:

Report of Committee III—Social

(By Representative Charles E. Wiggins)

Discussion focused on five principal topics: the prevention of the illegal export of cultural artifacts from Mexico to the United States, educational exchange between the two countries, reduction of drug traffic, problems related to tourism, and the question of temporary migrant labor.

The Mexican delegation expressed its concern over the loss of archeological, historical, and cultural artifacts stolen or illegally removed from Mexico. It particularly emphasized the importance of the bilateral treaty, for cooperation between the two countries in the recovery of stolen cultural objects. The United States delegation emphasized the concern of the Congress and indicated that several steps, besides the bilateral treaty ratified last year, are being taken to prevent the importation of stolen cultural artifacts into the United States and to facilitate their recovery. It pointed out that the Senate is expected to ratify the UNESCO Convention on stolen cultural property, which was recently submitted to it by the President; that it is a crime under United States laws to transport stolen goods worth over $5,000 in interstate or foreign commerce; that stolen goods can be recovered under present laws; and that the House of Representatives has passed and passage by the Senate is expected shortly of legislation authorizing the Treasury Department to prohibit import of certain pre-Columbian artifacts illegally removed from the country of origin. The United States delegation also mentioned that demand for cultural and historical objects could not be eliminated by law but that the traffic could be shifted into legal channels. Both delegations emphasized the need for multilateral cooperation in this area.

On the question of cultural interchange, the Mexican delegation stressed its desire for increased educational exchange with the United States. Its primary concern was for the signing of a bilateral agreement on technical cooperation and for changes in the Lincoln-Juarez Scholarship program which would increase the number of students served and improve the administration of the program. The United States delegation expressed support for increased cultural, scientific,

and technical exchanges between the two countries with more active participation at the official level. The United States delegation noted that Mexican students have made a significant contribution to the American universities they have attended and that American students have much to gain from studying in Mexico. It cautioned, however, that the vast majority of Mexican students in the United States will continue to be supported by non-government sources. From 3,000 to 4,000 Mexican students and 2,000 technical and business personnel are normally studying in the United States at any given moment. Many Americans are also studying in Mexico. Given the scale of this educational interchange, it is unlikely that the Congress would feel justified in approving a substantially increased exchange program financed by public funds.

Both delegations expressed great satisfaction in the effectiveness of the cooperation between the two countries in the campaign against the illegal drug traffic. The United States delegation congratulated the Mexican delegation on the strenuous efforts being made by Mexico and lamented that the American public was not aware of the extent and success of these actions. It promised to make a strong effort itself to inform the Congress and the American public. Both delegations agreed on the need to seek even closer cooperation in the fight against this serious problem.

During this discussion, the American delegation raised a problem which sometimes faces young Americans arrested in Mexico for violation of drug laws: a long delay between the time the charge is made and the trial, during which time an attorney bargains for the release of the person charged. Frequently, after the payment of a fee arranged by the lawyer the person is released without having come to trial. The American delegation stressed that it approved of the strict drug laws in Mexico and did not want special favors for North Americans. But it felt that this particular practice damaged the image of Mexican justice in the United States. For its part, the Mexican delegation indicated that United States customs inspectors should show more respect for the dignity of Mexicans entering the United States. The United States delegation asked for more details and promised to investigate the problem.

With respect to tourism, both delegations agreed on the need for equitable air fares between the two countries. On the other hand, the United States delegation indicated that there seemed little possibility of increasing the duty free allowance for Americans visiting Mexico. It indicated, however, that this should not be a major problem for Mexico, because income from tourism is more dependent upon the availability of facilities than upon the size of the duty free allowance.

The two delegations expressed their concern for the prompt and humane solution of the complex problem of temporary migrant workers. The United States delegation showed great sympathy for the plight of those involved. It indicated that one of the reasons for the repeal of the bracero program was mistreatment of many of the laborers entering under it. Unfortunately, repeal of the bracero program has not eliminated all abuses and further action is required. The United States delegation indicated that a new program of temporary migrant labor will require agreement between the two governments as to standards of treatment, inspection by the United States government, and coordination with the Mexican government.

The delegation noted that the Congress is beginning to study the possibilities of loosening immigration restrictions but that because of political realities in the United States it is not probable that a large program of contract labor could be instituted in the near future. The delegation hoped, however, that the interests of the two countries could be quickly reconciled within a framework of respect for human dignity.

D. JOINT DECLARATION

The following is the text of the joint declaration issued by the heads of delegations at the conclusion of the Conference:

JOINT STATEMENT

Interparliamentary Conferences between Mexico and the United States were designed to provide a forum for a free exchange of points of view between the members of the respective Congresses on matters of common interest. Each delegate attends in his capacity as a member of the Legislative Branch of his respective country, and expresses his own personal opinions on the various political, social and economic matters that make up the working agenda.

The Chairmen of the Mexican and United States Delegations to the XII Interparliamentary Conference, at the conclusion of the working sessions, make the following joint statement:

FIRST. Relations between Mexico and the United States are excellent, because they are based on the principle of nonintervention, the recognition of the right of peoples to self-determination, and the equality of nations under law. Both sides take pride and satisfaction from the contribution made by the various Interparliamentary Conferences to maintaining of relations between the two countries within this framework of mutual understanding and respect.

SECOND. Both delegations recognize that at the present time, the main problem between the two countries that awaits resolution is the salinity of the waters of the Colorado River, and agree that there is a need for the Governments of the United States and of Mexico to find an effective, prompt, practical and non-litigious solution to this problem.

The Mexican Delegation stated clearly for the record that Mexico expects the United States to comply with the Treaty of February 3, 1944, and deliver to Mexico water that, logically, is not contaminated as a result of actions taken by man.

The members of the United States Delegation heard with great interest two proposals made by the Mexican Delegation, as follows: the first, of a juridical nature, to the effect that a study be made of the possibility of changing the 1944 treaty in order to specify that the waters of the Colorado River that Mexico is entitled to and which it will receive from the United States in the Morelos Dam shall be of the same quality as those received in the Imperial Valley; and the other, of a practical nature, to the end that the United States Government build and line a diverting canal which will take contaminated waters coming from the Wellton-Mohawk Valley, without this being charged to Mexico's account, in order that they may be discharged in the Gulf of California or in the Salton Sea. The United States Delegation offered to transmit these proposals in writing to the President of its country.

The Mexican Delegation stated for the record that in its opinion Mexico reserves its right to present claims for damages caused by the high salt content which for several years has seriously and adversely affected a large agricultural area within its territory.

THIRD. When the Mexican Delegation made a presentation concerning cooperation for the protection of cultural property belonging to the national patrimony, the United States delegates stated that supplementary legislation to the Bilateral Treaty now in effect had been approved by the House of Representatives and was before the Senate for study. They also stated that the UNESCO Convention on the illicit shipment of cultural property is now before the Senate for consideration.

On the other hand, there was an expression of agreement on the part of the delegates to increase cultural, scientific and technical exchanges between the two countries, with a more active participation on the official level, through programs such as the Lincoln-Juarez scholarships.

Both Delegations found a source of satisfaction in the effectiveness with which Mexico and the United States have been cooperating in the campaign against the drug traffic, and express the hope that there will be even closer cooperation between the two nations in their fight against this serious problem, which affects all mankind.

The Delegations expressed their interest in having their respective governments find a prompt solution for the complex problem of temporary migrant workers, which will reconcile the interests of the two countries, within a framework of respect for human dignity.

FOURTH. The United States and Mexico both face the problems of environmental pollution, in the air, the soil, the seas, and the water we share along our border. The Conference studied means of bilateral cooperation, and preliminary points of view were exchanged concerning the world conference on the human environment which will be held, under U.N. auspices in Stockholm, in June of this year.

Both delegations accepted the idea of sponsoring, through proper channels, the creation, as soon as possible, of a border committee, composed of representatives of both governments, dedicated exclusively to study and try to prevent or to control environmental pollution, be it in the air, the soil, or in the waters of the rivers that make up our territorial border, with the understanding that, whenever necessary, it would be possible to count on the cooperation of any or several of the official agencies that already are in existence and that might have a bearing on this specific problem.

FIFTH. Both delegations recognize that matters pertaining to the subject of the Law of the Sea at the present time are of vital importance, and they will therefore offer their good offices to the representatives of the Executive Branch of their respective governments with a view to removing any existing barriers that might represent a delay in the discussion and approval of a common international juridical system that will regulate the various aspects of the Law of the Sea with justice, equity, and effectiveness.

SIXTH. Both delegations undertook an analysis of the problems related to trade between the two nations, having carried out a joint review, and in particular dealt with certain specific issues pertaining to protectionist measures, generalized preferential tariff systems for the importation of manufactured and semimanufactured goods origi-

nating in less developed countries, as well as various aspects related to tourism, trade in agricultural products, seasonal tariffs, and regional plant and animal health certificates.

Among the various points of view that were expressed, both delegations stated their great interest in seeing that the two countries arrive at fair and just formulas that will be translated into an increase in trade and the solution of pending problems.

The Mexican Delegation included in its general presentation on economic matters an extensive reference to the proposal presented by President Luis Echeverria to the III UNCTAD Assembly, to the end that the Charter of the Economic Duties and Rights of States be accepted, a matter which the United States Delegation took due note of.

The Mexican Delegation expresses to the Distinguished United States Delegation the satisfaction felt by its Government because of the cooperation that the United States has been giving to international organizations, among them especially the Inter-American Development Bank. This latter organization occupies a place of special importance in the economic and social development of the Latin American nations, and therefore both delegations agree to keep in mind, in connection with any program, the usefulness of utilizing this Bank as an instrument of financial support for Mexico.

Finally, both delegations express their appreciation to the Honorable Moon Landrieu, Mayor of New Orleans, and to the people of this beautiful city, for the many courtesies and the hospitality offered to us during our visit here.

APPENDIX

Financial Statement

At the time of the filing of this report, the estimated total of the Senate delegation's official expenses for the 12th Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Conference came to approximately $14,000.00. A consolidated report showing all expenditures of the delegation at the conference will be filed later with the Senate in accordance with law.

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