

May 27, 1988

SECRETARY'S CIRCULAR NO. 88/52

To: Members of the Executive Board

From: The Secretary

Subject: Report on IMF-World Bank Regional Seminar on Local Government
Statistics held in Caracas, Venezuela

Attached for the information of the Executive Directors is a report on the IMF-World Bank regional seminar on local government statistics held in Caracas, Venezuela from March 14-18, 1988.

Att: (1)

Other Distribution:
Department Heads

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Report on IMF-World Bank Regional Seminar on Local
Government Statistics held in Caracas, Venezuela 1/

March 14-18, 1988

Prepared by the Bureau of Statistics

(In Consultation with the IMF Institute)

Approved by Werner Dannemann and Gérard M. Teyssier

Introduction

As a part of the joint Fund-Bank program for the compilation of statistics on local government, a regional seminar on local government statistics for 18 Latin American countries was conducted in Caracas, Venezuela, during March 14-18, 1988 under the joint auspices of the Fund and the World Bank. 2/ The Caracas seminar was conducted by a Fund mission consisting of Messrs. Levin, Ortiz and Gala-Palacios of the Bureau of Statistics, with the participation of Mr. Blazic-Metzner of the World Bank. Participants included 36 officials from 18 countries, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, and the United Nations. The Central Bank of Venezuela provided valuable administrative assistance.

Participants, who were generally officials involved in either the compilation of statistics on local governments or in their use, came from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela (see Appendix I for list of participants). A large group of Venezuelan participants was included, as Venezuelan authorities took the occasion to initiate a coordinated effort for the improvement of local government statistics with representation of all agencies involved. Air fare and per diem were paid for one

1/ This seminar was conducted as part of the Fund's external training program coordinated by the IMF Institute.

2/ The first Fund-Bank regional seminar on local government statistics was conducted for 15 Asian countries in Bangkok, Thailand, on January 19-23, 1987.

participant from each country. To avoid daily transportation problems, participants were housed in a single hotel, where the seminar sessions and group lunches were held.

Materials Used

All basic documentation for the seminar was prepared by the Government Finance Division of the Bureau of Statistics, sent to Venezuela in advance, and distributed at the beginning of the seminar (see Appendix II for list of materials). Among these materials were the Spanish version of A Manual on Government Finance Statistics and a Spanish extract from the 1987 Government Finance Statistics Yearbook covering the world tables and the presentations for countries attending the seminar. Five case studies were distributed sequentially as needed during the seminar. Participants were requested to complete in advance of the seminar an extensive questionnaire on local government statistics in their country, and responses, along with data available in the 1987 Government Finance Statistics Yearbook, were subsequently summarized for distribution to participants during the seminar. A copy of the summary is attached as Appendix III.

Organization of the Seminar

Following an opening lecture on the Fund's government finance statistics system and its application to local governments, the seminar was organized around five case studies covering successive stages in the process of establishing a program for the collection of statistics on local government operations (see Appendix IV for the seminar program).

All case studies were based on a description and narrative of a hypothetical country Z, where a sequence of events in the establishment of a system for compilation of local government statistics posed a series of issues participants were called upon to resolve, first for country Z, then for their own countries, and finally, with a generally applicable statement of principles.

Each case study was introduced by a brief lecture by a member of the staff team, after which participants separated into seven balanced working groups of about five persons each. Following working group discussions leading to consensus on questions posed in the case study, participants serving in turn as group coordinators reported each group's findings and recommendations to reassembled plenary sessions. A committee composed of the coordinators met early on the morning following completion of each case study to prepare written conclusions on the issues covered, which were then typed and distributed to participants.

The case studies were supplemented by participants' presentations to plenary sessions on the structure of local government and data collection procedures in their countries. In addition, staff team members met with individual country delegations to discuss possible improvements in the collection of local government data and reporting to the Fund.

At the conclusion of the seminar, participants prepared a document containing the conclusions and recommendations emerging from the week of discussions for transmittal to the governments of participating countries. Conclusions and recommendations are shown in Appendix V.

Other Activities

The Fund and World Bank hosted a reception for participants and Venezuelan officials on Monday evening and provided a city tour and a cable ride on Wednesday afternoon.

Conclusion

The regional seminar appears to have succeeded in gaining recognition among participants of the need for improved compilation of local government statistics and in generating active consideration of the means by which improved collection may be carried out. Contributing to the seminar's success were a number of elements drawn from experience with the earlier Asian local government statistics seminar: (1) exclusive concentration on local government statistics as the focus of the meeting; (2) use of the series of stimulating case studies to hold participants' attention and move discussion from stage to stage of the data compilation process; (3) the formation of small working groups, fostering cooperation and discussion with peers from other countries to reach applicable solutions on the basis of varied country experience; (4) participants' prior completion of country questionnaires and their preparation of oral presentations on their countries, resulting in enhanced readiness; (5) intensive involvement of participants at all stages of the seminar, in working group discussions, oral presentations, one-on-one meetings with seminar staff, and agreement on the final conclusions and recommendations; (6) promotion of a favorable physical and social setting through arrangement for residence and seminar sessions at the same hotel, group lunches, a Fund-Bank reception, and a mid-week outing; and (7) effective administrative assistance provided by a host country institution, in this case the Central Bank of Venezuela. (8) In addition, as the seminar was conducted entirely in Spanish, the shared language and the commonality of many Latin American experiences served to heighten agreement on means and objectives. (9) Supplementing other elements, finally, in enhancing participants' involvement, was the completion of personal action plans for future work on the development of local government statistics.

As with the previous seminar on local government statistics, any lasting effect in raising the level of available local government data in the region to a desirable standard will require concerted follow-up, including responses to any resulting technical assistance requests, as noted in the participants' conclusions and recommendations. To sustain participants' interest and encourage persistence toward the development of local government statistics meeting analytical and policy needs, continued communication to participants and other concerned officials is planned, including information on follow-up actions in other participating countries, as a means of carrying forward the seminar's good effects.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Argentina	Mr. Carlos Rafael Fernández	Director of Provincial Budgets Ministry of Economy Hipólito Yrigoyen No. 250 Third Floor, Room 306 Buenos, Aires Argentina
Bolivia	Mr. Carlos Pacheco Enriquez	Advisor to the Treasury P. O. Box 20641 La Paz, Bolivia
Brazil	Mrs. Lia Marcia Alt Pereira	Senior Economist Getulio Vargas Foundation Praia de Botafogo, 190S/S.1101 Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
Chile	Mr. Pedro Ortiz Gálvez	Subdivision of Reports and Statistics Office of the Comptroller General Teatinos No. 56 Santiago, Chile
Colombia	Mr. Jorge Humberto Calderón	Department of Economic Research Bank of the Republic Public Finance Division Bogotá, Colombia
Costa Rica	Ms. Alicia Obando Solano	General Directorate of Budget Technical Secretariat of the Budgetary Authority Fiscal Statistics Section San José, Costa Rica

Dominican Republic	Ms. Dulce Baez	Public Finance Division Department of Economic Studies Central Bank of the Dominican Republic Santo Domingo, D.N., Dominican Republic
Ecuador	Mr. Marcelo Sandoval Anda	Directorate of Budgetary Statistics National Council of Development Quito, Ecuador
Ecuador	Mrs. Virginia Villacrés de Yerovi	Secretariat of the Budget Ministry of Finance Quito, Ecuador
Ecuador	Mr. Cesar Medina Arauz	Chief Analyst Central Bank of Ecuador Quito, Ecuador
El Salvador	Mr. Jorge Alberto Rodas	Department of Government Finance Statistics Ministry of Finance San Salvador, El Salvador
Guatemala	Mr. Pedro Francisco Garrido E.	Chief Financial Sector Technical Directorate of the Budget 8a. Avenue and 21 Street, Zone 1 Civic Center Guatemala, C.A.
Honduras	Mr. Claudio Raúl Salgado	Department of Economic Studies Central Bank of Honduras Tegucigalpa, Honduras, C.A.

Mexico	Mr. Alejandro Ordoño Perez	Director of Finance Statistics Directorate of Finance Statistics National Palace Building 5, First Floor México 1, D.F.
Nicaragua	Mr. Pablo Miranda P.	Fiscal Sector Director Central Bank of Nicaragua Managua, Nicaragua
Panama	Mrs. Elfrida de Arauz	Office of the Comptroller General P. O. Box 5213 Panamá 5, Panamá
Paraguay	Mrs. María de los Angeles Yegros Vda. de Martínez	Chief Department of Accounting Municipality of Asuncion E. V. Haedo 347 C/Chile Asunción, Paraguay
Peru	Mrs. María Jesús Gamara de Fernández	Director General of Budget Ministry of Economy and Finance Lima, Perú
Peru	Mr. Eduardo Alegría Rios	Advisor to the National Institute of Municipal Development Lima, Peru
Uruguay	Mr. Vicente Pereira	Economist General Accounting office of the Nation Ministry of Economy and and Finance Montevideo, Uruguay
Venezuela	Mr. Luis Enrique Maíta	Deputy Director Directorate of Regional Budgets Central Budget Office Caracas, Venezuela

Venezuela	Mr. Luis Guerra Orsini	Director General Central Budget Office Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mrs. Nancy Cardot	Director General Regional Budgets Central Budget Office Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Alfonzo Rangel	Directorate of Regional Budgets Central Budget Office Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Ivan Giner	Economist Public Sector Division National Accounts Department Central Bank of Venezuela Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Ms. Ana María Martínez	Economist Public Sector Division National Accounts Department Central Bank of Venezuela Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Jesús Anibal Salazar	Economist Department of Macroeconomics Studies Central Bank of Venezuela Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Luis Ceballos	Economist Department of Monetary and Financial Studies Banco Central de Venezuela Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mrs. Enza Lazio	Director of Planning of the Public Sector Central Office of Planning and Coordination Caracas, Venezuela

Venezuela	Mr. Antonio Guillén	Economist Department of National Accounts Central Bank of Venezuela Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Juan Testa Mendoza	Analyst Directorate of Regional Budgets Central Budget Office Caracas, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Marcos Vinicio Larreal	Economist Conzuplan-OAS Project Conzuplan Las Laras Building Maracaibo, Venezuela
Venezuela	Mr. Michele Sebastiano	Department of National Accounts Central Bank of Venezuela Caracas, Venezuela
IDB	Mrs. Luisa Carballo Rains	Interamerican Development Bank 1300 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20577
IBRD	Mr. Boris Blazic-Metzner	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development Washington, D.C.
OAS	Mr. Juan Astica	Organization of American States Washington, D. C.
IMF	Mr. Jonathan Levin	
IMF	Mr. Gustavo Ortiz	
IMF	Mr. Javier Gala-Palacios	

Seminar on Local Government Finance Statistics
Caracas, Venezuela

(March 14-18, 1988)

Documentation for Participants

1. Spanish version of A Manual on Government Finance Statistics
2. Spanish version of a 1987 Government Finance Statistics Yearbook Pamphlet

(Containing front matter, world tables, and presentations of individual country pages for Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.)
3. Five Case Studies
 - Case Study 1. Uses of Data
 - Case Study 2. Formulating the Questionnaire
 - Case Study 3. Sampling
 - Case Study 4. Collecting Data
 - Case Study 5. Processing Data
4. Four tables containing a summary of questionnaire responses for countries attending Latin American Seminar on Local Government Finance Statistics
5. Seven tables containing summarized intercountry comparable data on local government operations extracted from the 1987 Government Finance Statistics Yearbook.

Table 1. Summary of Information Available on Local Governments in Latin America

Country	Population (Millions)	Area (Square Kilometers)	Population Density	Structure of Regional Provincial, State and Local Governments	Data in 1987 CFS Yearbook	
					Regional Governments	Local Governments
Argentina	31.00	2,776,900	11.2	22 provinces, 1 national territory 1617 municipalities	1978-84	
Bolivia	2.78	1,098,000	2.5	9 departmental prefectures 9 regional development corporations 9 municipal councils of departments and numerous municipalities	1980-84	1980-84
Brazil	135.90	8,512,000	16.0	24 state governments, 1 federal district 3991 municipal governments	1976-85	1976-85
Chile	12.20	756,626	16.1	317 municipalities		1977-86
Colombia	28.60	1,141,748	25.0	capital district, 26 capital district agencies 23 departmental governments 9 intendencias and commissaries 244 departmental govern- ment and intendency agencies and commissions' commissaries 967 municipalities and 90 municipal agencies	1976-84	1976-84
Costa Rica	2.50	50,900	49.1	81 municipalities and 4 district councils		1978-85
Dominican Republic	6.30	48,400	130.2	95 municipalities and 31 municipal districts		1976-85
Ecuador	9.40	281,341	33.4	19 provincial councils 136 municipal councils	1976-80	1976-80

Table 1 (concluded). Summary of Information Available on Local Governments in Latin America

Country	Population (Millions)	Area (Square Kilometers)	Population Density	Structure of Regional Provincial, State and Local Governments	Data in 1987 GFS Yearbook	
					Regional Governments	Local Governments
El Salvador	5.10	20,987	243.0	262 municipalities		1978
Guatemala	8.30	108,889	76.2	328 municipalities and other local authorities		1978-83
Honduras	4.30	112,088	38.4	281 municipalities		1972-76
Mexico	78.50	1,958,201	40.1	1 federal district, 31 governments 2376 municipal governments	1976-84	1976-84
Nicaragua	3.40	148,000	23.0	138 municipal recon- struction authorities, including Managua		
Panama	2.19	77,082	28.4	66 municipalities; San Miguelito district	1976-85	1976-85
Paraguay	3.80	406,752	9.3	Capital and 192 municipalities		1976-80 and 1984-85
Peru	20.30	1,280,000	15.9	155 provincial councils, 25 capitals with departmental councils and 1578 district councils		
Uruguay	3.00	187,000	16.0	19 departmental governments		1977-84
Venezuela	17.80	912,050	19.5	20 states and 2 federal territories 189 municipalities including federal district		1976-79

Source: 1987 GFS Yearbook, IMF.

Table 2. Latin America: General Government and Regional and Local Governments
Percentages of GDP in each Country
(In Year Indicated)

	Consolidated General Government				Regional, Provincial or State Governments					Local Governments				
	Total Revenue and Grants	Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments	Total Expenditure	Deficit or Surplus	Total Revenue and Grants	Grants	Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments	Total Expenditure	Deficit or Surplus	Total Revenue and Grants	Grants	Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments	Total Expenditure	Deficit or Surplus
1 Argentina (1984)	20.28	30.62	27.47	-10.33	5.67	0.00	10.85	10.70	-5.18	....	....	....	....	....
2 Bolivia (1984)	5.23	33.51	33.43	-28.28	1.58	0.13	1.46	1.37	0.11	0.54	0.26	0.60	0.60	-0.06
3 Brazil (1985)	33.24	45.98	33.23	-12.74	8.14	1.59	9.55	9.00	-1.41	2.52	1.82	2.88	2.87	-0.16
4 Chile (1986)	29.99	30.91	21.42	-0.92	....	....	....	....	....	2.51	0.00	2.46	2.45	0.05
5 Colombia (1983)	16.53	17.38	17.40	-0.85	4.79	2.66	4.30	4.30	0.49	1.65	0.69	1.59	1.59	0.06
6 Costa Rica (1985)	22.11	23.18	23.18	-1.08	....	....	....	....	....	0.93	0.13	0.90	0.89	0.03
7 Dominican Republic (1985)	12.13	13.94	13.81	-1.81	....	....	....	....	....	0.69	0.51	0.70	0.70	-0.00
8 Ecuador (1980)	....	....	....	....	0.26	0.06	0.27	0.27	-0.01	0.62	0.04	0.57	0.57	0.05
9 El Salvador (1978)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.73	0.00	0.89	0.89	-0.15
10 Guatemala (1982)	10.48	15.29	15.06	-4.81	....	....	....	....	....	0.57	0.03	0.68	0.68	-0.11
11 Honduras (1976)	15.50	18.13	18.04	-2.63	....	....	....	....	....	1.10	0.08	1.35	1.35	-0.26
12 Mexico (1984)	20.40	27.61	27.19	-7.20	3.09	0.11	3.03	3.03	0.07	0.82	0.02	0.80	0.80	0.02
13 Nicaragua	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
14 Panama (1985)	29.25	32.44	32.97	-3.20	....	....	....	....	....	0.68	0.02	0.65	0.65	0.04
15 Paraguay (1984)	10.06	11.78	11.28	-1.72	....	....	....	....	....	0.54	0.03	0.54	0.55	-0.00
16 Peru	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
17 Uruguay (1984)	11.79	14.72	14.44	-2.93	....	....	....	....	....	1.22	0.10	1.21	1.21	0.01
18 Venezuela (1979)	24.81	22.66	21.52	2.15	....	....	....	....	....	0.78	0.48	0.54	0.52	0.24

Source: 1987 GFS Yearbook, IMF.

Table 3. Revenue Collection of Local Governments in Latin America
Percentages of GDP in each Country

Country	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
1 Argentina	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
2 Bolivia	....	....	....	....	1.14	1.10	0.60	0.37	0.28	....	....
3 Brazil	0.98	0.88	0.91	1.06	1.00	0.92	0.85	0.89	0.80	0.70	....
4 Chile	....	0.51	0.67	0.61	1.02	0.18	2.08	2.75	2.67	2.58	2.51
5 Colombia	0.71	0.60	0.64	0.68	0.77	0.90	0.87	0.96	....	....	....
6 Costa Rica	....	....	0.80	0.75	0.78	0.70	0.58	0.73	0.73	0.79	....
7 Dominican Republic	0.37	0.41	0.36	0.16	0.25	0.24	0.19	0.23	0.20	0.19	....
8 Ecuador	1.98	1.83	1.78	1.52	2.20	....	....	....	....	....	....
9 El Salvador	....	....	0.66	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
10 Guatemala	....	....	0.52	0.55	0.52	0.54	0.54	0.53	....	....	....
11 Honduras	1.02	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
12 Mexico	0.34	0.32	0.33	0.37	0.43	0.45	0.54	0.65	0.80	....	....
13 Nicaragua	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
14 Panama	0.90	0.86	0.73	0.70	0.68	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.66	0.67	....
15 Paraguay	0.52	0.50	0.51	0.48	0.52	....	....	....	0.51	0.45	....
16 Peru	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
17 Uruguay	....	2.01	2.15	2.02	2.22	2.25	2.63	2.50	1.98	....	....
18 Venezuela	0.30	0.33	0.32	0.30	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

Source: 1987 GFS Yearbook, IMF:

Table 4. Structure of Regional, Provincial and State Government Revenue in Latin America
Percentages of Total Revenue and Grants in each Country
(In year indicated)

	Total Revenue and Grants	Total Revenue	Grants	Tax Revenue	Income Tax	Property Tax	Tax on Goods and Services	Other Taxes	Nontax Revenue
1 Argentina (1984)	100.00	100.00	0.00	77.78	22.44	16.15	31.02	8.17	21.07
2 Bolivia (1984)	100.00	91.74	8.26	85.63	....	0.06	83.29	2.27	6.11
3 Brazil (1985)	100.00	80.47	19.53	67.61	....	1.15	62.11	1.53	12.80
4 Colombia (1983)	100.00	44.56	55.44	31.30	....	....	27.77	0.56	13.19
5 Ecuador (1980)	100.00	77.35	22.65	59.44	....	....	2.51	56.93	17.50
6 Mexico (1984)	100.00	96.60	3.40	80.43	1.75	....	0.61	0.55	16.18
7 Peru	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
8 Venezuela (1979)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

Source: 1987 GFS Yearbook, IMF.

Table 5. Structure of Regional, Provincial and State Government Expenditure in Latin America
Percentage of Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments in each Country
(In year indicated)

	Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments	Total Expenditure	General Public Services	Education	Health	Social Security and Welfare	Housing and Community Services	Transport and Communications	Current Expenditure	Wages and Salaries	Interest	Subsidies and other Current Transfers	Capital Expenditure	Lending Minus Repayments
1 Argentina (1984)	100.00	98.65	24.43	27.40	10.09	9.80	7.21	3.96	75.65	47.70	0.12	20.22	23.00	1.35
2 Bolivia (1984)	100.00	93.87	....	....	....	....	....	....	40.72	28.53	0.79	2.45	53.14	6.13
3 Brazil (1985)	100.00	94.27	....	....	....	....	....	....	81.78	30.24	10.49	31.99	12.48	5.73
4 Colombia (1983)	100.00	100.03	13.12	47.99	14.46	5.86	1.07	3.09	91.00	63.14	1.43	12.23	9.03	-0.03
5 Ecuador (1980)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	12.05	5.68	0.46	0.40	87.95	0.00
6 Mexico (1984)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	69.24	....	....	27.72	30.76	0.00
7 Peru	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
8 Venezuela (1979)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

Source: 1987 GFS Yearbook, IMF.

Table 6. Structure of Local Government Revenue in Latin America
Percentages of Total Revenue and Grants in each Country
(In Year Indicated)

	Total Revenue and Grants	Total Revenue	Tax Revenue	Property Taxes	Taxes on Goods and Services	Other Taxes	Nontax Revenue	Grants
1 Argentina (1984)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
2 Bolivia (1984)	100.00	52.16	37.41	3.36	25.86	8.19	14.48	47.84
3 Brazil (1985)	100.00	27.82	21.05	5.91	15.13	....	6.56	72.18
4 Chile (1986)	100.00	100.00	31.95	....	31.95	....	67.27	0.00
5 Colombia (1983)	100.00	57.91	43.52	20.87	....	21.73	13.83	42.09
6 Costa Rica (1985)	100.00	85.52	84.74	23.21	23.60	....	37.93	14.48
7 Dominican Republic (1985)	100.00	26.69	16.14	....	....	....	9.76	73.31
8 Ecuador (1980)	100.00	93.70	78.33	11.49	1.85	64.99	13.27	6.30
9 El Salvador (1978)	100.00	100.00	92.91	....	....	....	....	0.00
10 Guatemala (1982)	100.00	95.05	86.53	....	....	....	8.51	4.95
11 Honduras (1976)	100.00	92.57	44.59	....	....	....	....	7.43
12 Mexico (1984)	100.00	97.28	77.79	6.03	2.51	1.44	19.49	2.72
13 Nicaragua	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
14 Panama (1985)	100.00	97.60	76.95	....	....	....	17.96	2.40
15 Paraguay (1984)	100.00	94.75	47.46	....	....	....	43.39	5.25
16 Peru	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
17 Uruguay (1984)	100.00	91.59	....	....	....	....	....	8.41
18 Venezuela (1979)	100.00	38.62	....	....	....	....	....	61.38

Source: 1987 GFS Yearbook, IMF.

Table 7. Structure of Local Government Expenditure in Latin America
Percentages of Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments in each Country
(In year indicated)

	Total Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments	Total Expenditures	General Public Services	Education	Health	Social Security and Welfare	Housing and Community Services	Transport and Communications	Current Expenditure	Wages and Salaries	Interest	Subsidies and other Current Transfers	Capital Expenditure	Lending Minus Repayments
1 Argentina	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
2 Bolivia (1984)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	94.77	78.30	0.16	7.18	5.23	0.00
3 Brazil (1985)	100.00	97.99	....	....	....	....	....	....	76.73	33.71	5.30	11.97	21.26	2.01
4 Chile (1986)	100.00	99.64	63.96	34.14	1.42	0.12	0.00	0.00	84.40	44.09	0.00	15.30	15.24	0.36
5 Colombia (1983)	100.00	100.25	32.68	16.51	10.65	3.24	6.59	12.73	74.40	49.98	2.27	9.14	25.85	-0.25
6 Costa Rica (1985)	100.00	99.27	....	....	....	....	....	....	65.03	37.59	0.96	7.15	34.25	0.73
7 Dominican Republic (1985)	100.00	100.50	....	....	....	....	....	....	66.81	56.44	2.57	8.51	11.68	-0.50
8 Ecuador (1980)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	47.85	33.85	0.38	1.12	52.15	0.00
9 El Salvador (1978)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.00
10 Guatemala (1982)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	52.22	31.80	2.97	5.27	47.78	0.00
11 Honduras (1976)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.00
12 Mexico (1984)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	61.77	....	....	3.81	38.23	0.00
13 Nicaragua	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
14 Panama (1985)	100.00	100.00	66.35	0.63	....	6.35	21.59	....	96.19	....	0.63	11.43	3.81	0.00
15 Paraguay (1984)	100.00	102.61	....	....	....	....	....	....	56.52	34.60	1.02	4.57	46.08	-2.61
16 Peru	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
17 Uruguay (1984)	100.00	100.00	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.00
18 Venezuela (1979)	100.00	97.49	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2.51

Source: 1987 C.I.S. Yearbook, IMF.

Table A. Latin America: Characteristics of Local Governments
Questionnaire Data

Countries	Type of local government	Responsible for accounting	Budgets are submitted to:		Closed accounts are submitted to:		Standardized reports are submitted to:		Identical reports are submitted to the central and the regional governments
			Central Government	Regional Governments	Central Government	Regional Governments	Central Government	Regional Governments	
Argentina	1st cat. Municipality 2nd cat. Municipality 3rd cat. Municipality Comunes								
Bolivia	Prefectures Mayoralties Development Corporations	Financial Dept. Financial Dept. Financial Dept.		Directorate Council Directorate	Min. of Finance Office of the Controller General Office of the Controller General	Directorate Council Directorate			No No No
Brasil	Municipalities	Secretariat of Finance	Legislative assembly			Municipal audit board	Secretariat of Economy and Finance Ministry of Finance		No
Chile	Municipalities	Chief Finance Official	Ministry of the Interior	Mayor's Office	Office of the Controller General Min. of the Interior Min. of Finance	Mayors' Offices Governors' Offices	Office of the Controller General Min. of the Interior Min. of Finance	Mayors' Offices Governors' Offices	Usually
Colombia	Municipalities Magistracies Police Inspectorates	Treasury Treasury Treasury		Sectat. of the Interior Sectat. of the Interior		Office of the Controller General		Governor & Council	
Costa Rica	Municipality Distr. mun. council	Accountant Accountant	Office of the Controller Gen. Ministry of Planning						No
Dominican Republic	City governments Municipal councils	Accountant Treasury	Legislative Chamber Legislative Chamber	Municipal Corporation and Dominican Municipal Federation	National Office of the Presidency	National Office of the Presidency Dominican Municipal Federation			No
Ecuador	Municipality	Accountant	National Development Council Central Bank		Office of the Controller General Central Bank		Office of the Controller General Ecuadoran Development Bank Nat'l. Dev. Council Central Bank Ministry of Finance		

Table (concluded). Latin America: Characteristics of Local Governments
Questionnaire Data

Countries	Type of local government	Responsible for accounting	Budgets are submitted to:		Closed accounts are submitted to:		Standardized reports are submitted to:		Identical reports are submitted to the central and the regional governments
			Central Government	Regional Governments	Central Government	Regional Governments	Central Government	Regional Governments	
El Salvador	Municipality	Department of Accounting	Audit Office of the Republic		Audit Office of the Republic		Audit Office of the Republic		No
Guatemala	1st cat. Municipality 2nd cat. Municipality 3rd cat. Municipality 4th cat. Municipality	Fin. Direct. Treasurer Secretary Secretary	Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst.		Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst.		Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst. Mun. Dev. Inst.		There are no regional governments
Honduras	Municipalities	Municipal Treasurer	General Direct. of Audit and Municipal Assist.	Departmental Councils	General Direct. of Audit and Municipal Assist.		Office of the Controller General of the Republic		Yes
Mexico	Municipalities	Municipal Treasurer		Municipal Council		General Accts. and Audit Office			Yes
Nicaragua	Municipalities								Yes
Panama	Municipalities Communal Councils	Treasurer Treasurer	Office of the Controller General Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy		Office of the Controller General Ministry of Planning and Econ. Policy		Office of the Controller General Ministry of Planning and Econ. Policy		Yes
Paraguay									
Peru	District Government Town Village	Accountant Accountant	Dirat.-General of Programming and Budget Min. of Econ. & Fin. Nat'l. Planning Inst.		Accounting Officer		Dirat.-General of Programming and Budget Min. of Econ. & Fin. Nat'l. Planning Inst.		No
Uruguay									
Venezuela									

Table 8. Latin America: Reports from Local Governments

Countries	Type of report	Subjects	Agencies to which the information is sent	Public agencies using the information	Types and numbers of governments reporting	Who processes the information	Interval between reports
Argentina							
Bolivia	Operational program	Short-term goals and targets	Ministry of Finance Ministry of Planning	National Statistical Institute Central Bank		Planning	Variable
Brazil	Balance sheet	Execution of budget and financing	Audit Office Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Finance Get. Vargas Foundation	Municipalities	Accountant General	One year
Chile	Financial operations Budget information	Revenue, expenditure and debt	Controller General Ministries of Finance and Interior Office of the Controller General	Controller General Ministries of Finance and Interior Office of the Controller General	325 Municipalities 400 Municipal districts	Chief financial official of the municipality	30 days
Colombia	Budget execution Financial reports	Revenue, expenditure and public debt	Office of the Departmental Controller Municipal Council	Bank of the Republic DNP, DANE 1/	All municipalities	Treasurer Office of the Controller General	One year monthly and annual
Costa Rica	Budget execution	Financial situation	Office of the Controller General	Technical Secretariat			two months
Dominican Republic	Monthly accounts	Public expenditure	LMD; Office of the Controller General, Audit Office 2/	Office of the Controller General Internal revenue agency	97 Municipal governments municipal boards 39 Districts	Treasurer	One month
Ecuador	Budgetary balance sheet Accounts and balance sheets	Accounting, financing Financing	Central Bank Nat. Dev. Council Office of the Controller General	Various agencies Controller and others	136 Municipal councils 17 Enterprises	Financial Directorate Financial Directorate, Audit Office	One year One year One quarter
El Salvador							
Guatemala	Budget execution Material and operational execution Material execution of investments	Revenue and expenditure Services rendered Works progress	INFOM 3/ INFOM INFOM	INTE, DTP, National 4/ Institute of Statistics Bank of Guatemala SECEPLAN	329 Municipalities 329 Municipalities 329 Municipalities	Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Unit Chief	3 months 6 months 3 months
Honduras	Revenue and expenditure budget	Budget forecast and execution	DGA and AM 3/ Departmental Council	Central Bank Municipal Bank Secretariat of Planning and Budget	All municipalities	Municipal Secretariat Municipal Treasurer	One month

Table B (concluded). Latin America: Reports from Local Governments

Countries	Type of report	Subjects	Agencies to which the information is sent	Public agencies using the information	Types and numbers of governments reporting	Who processes the information	Interval between reports
Mexico	Public accounts, revenue and expenditure	Budgetary and real revenue and expenditure	Municipal authorities State Governor State Legislature			Municipal Treasury	One month
Nicaragua	Income and expenditure		Central Government	SPP, Central Bank, 6/ INSSMI, SAM	138 Municipalities	Municipal accounting office	6 months
Panama	Budget execution	Revenue and expenditure	Office of the Controller General and Ministry of Programming and Budget	Office of the Controller General Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy	Municipalities	Treasurer	3 months
Paraguay							
Peru	Semiannual evaluations Gen'l. balance sheet Operat. statements Asset statements Statements of financial condition	Revenue and expenditure Origin and use of resources Changes in accounts	DGPP, MEF, INP 7/ Office of the Controller General	DGPP, MEF, INP 7/ Office of the Controller General	180 Municipalities 1578 districts	Office of Budget and Accounting or Accountant	6 months one month one month
Uruguay	Revenue, expend financing Budget Budget modification	Financial transactions Financial transactions Financial transactions	Planning and Budgeting Office General Accounting Office	Planning and Budgeting Office General Accounting Office	19 departmental governments		one year one year one year
Venezuela							

1/ DNP: National Planning Department. DANE: National Administrative Department of Statistics.

2/ LMD: Dominican Municipal Federation.

3/ INFOM: Municipal Development Institute.

4/ INE: National Institute of Statistics. DTP: Technical Budget Directorate. SEGEPLAN: Secretariat-General of Economic Planning.

5/ DGA and AM: Directorate-General of Assistance and Municipal Technical Assistance.

6/ SPP: Secretariat for Planning and Budgeting. INSSDI: Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute. SAM: Secretariat for Municipal Affairs.

7/ DGPP: Directorate-General of Programming and Budget. MEF: Ministry of Economy and Finance. INP: National Planning Institute.

TABLE C: LATIN AMERICA: DATA REQUIRED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

APPENDIX III

COUNTRY	PUBLIC AGENCY REQUESTING DATA	TYPE OF DATA REQUESTED	PURPOSE	FREQUENCY	TYPE OF REPORT CURRENTLY USED	OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF DATA REQUIRED	AGENCY WHICH CURRENTLY COMPILES DATA	ARE THERE PLANS TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL REPORTS?
ARGENTINA								
BOLIVIA	Min. of Planning Min. of Finance Office of the Controller General	Investment plan Budget	Planning Financial programming Audit	Semiannual Semiannual Annual	Government Accounting Program Structure Gramatica	Type of project Program structure	Investment Directorate Budget Directorate	yes yes yes
BRAZIL	Get. Vargas Found Sectat. of Economy & Finance; IBGE 1/	Financial Balance Sheet	Statistics	Annual			Sec. of Econ. Finance Get Var. Found IBGE	yes
CHILE	Office of the Controller General	Budget and Accounting	Statistics Accounting	Monthly	Financial Operations		Office of the Controller Gen	NO
COLOMBIA	Bank of the Republic Nat. Admin. Dept. of Statistics Directorate of Plan. Off. of Reg. controller Off. of Nat. controller Banco Central Hipot.	Revenue and Expenditure Id. Id. Id. Id. Id. Debt	Fin. Programming National Accounts Special Studies Audit controls Statistics Debt capacity	Annual Annual Annual Monthly and annual Annual Occasional	Financial report Financial report Indirect sources Vouchers Budget execution Survey		Regional Controller Regional Controller Regional Controller Regional Controller Regional Controller	yes
COSTA RICA	Min. of Planning	Investment	Planning	Annual			Office of the Controller General	
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Off. Controller Gen Audit Office Domin. Municipal Fed.	Financial data	Audit	Monthly	Biweekly report	Daily reports	Off. of the Controller Audit office Dominican Munic Federat	
ECUADOR	Off. of Controller Gen Central Bank Min. of Finance Nat. Dev. Council	Operational and financial statement Budget documents Balance sheets; budget and balance sheets	Legal Statistics Statistics Planning, Reports	Annual and Quarter Annual Annual Annual		Reports and Balance sheets. Budget exec. reports	Office of the Controller Central Bank Planning agency	yes
EL SALVADOR	Min. of Finance	Investment Grants from abroad	Planning Coordination	Annual			Planning and technical assistance unit	
GUATEMALA	Mun. Dev. Inst Min. of Finance Min of Urban and Rural Dev. Congress of Republ	Financial data Fin and Material data Material data Operations	Planning Audit Planning Statistics	Quarterly Quarterly Annual Annual	Budget execution Financ. statements Budget execution		Inst. of Munic dev. Nat. Inst of Statistics	yes
HONDURAS	Central Bank Sectat Budget & Planning Municipal Bank	Balance sheet Statements of revenue and exp. budget exec.	Fin. Programming Credit capacity Statistics	Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly	Budget and revenue and expen- diture listings		Dir. General of Municip. tech. assistance	
MEXICO	Nat. Institute of Statistics	Revenue and expenditure statements						
NICARAGUA	Central Bank	Revenue, expenditure, Investment		Bimonthly	Revenue and Expenditure	Revenue and Outlays	Municipal assistance sector	yes
PANAMA								
PARAGUAY								
PERU	Min of Economy and Finance; Dir. General of Programming and Budget	Revenue and Exp. by item and specific allocations	Analysis	Semiannual	Budget evaluations	Material and financial advancement. Debt information	Min of Economy and Fin Accounting Gen Off. Nat. Inst of Planning Congressional cttee	yes
PARAGUAY	Planning and Budg Office Gen Accountant Office Dir. Gen Stat and Census Accounting cttee	Financial data Budget Financial data Budget	Statistics Statistics, accounting Statistics Audit	Quarterly Quarterly Annual Annual		Cash basis	Planning and Budg Office Gen Accountant Office Dir. Gen Stat and Census Accounting cttee	yes
PARAGUAY								
PARAGUAY								

1/ Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics

TABLE D. Part 1: SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

COUNTRIES	DIFFERENT TYPE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	TYPE OF UNITS INCLUDED IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT	LEGAL RELATIONS BETWEEN LOCAL AND REGIONAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS
ARGENTINA	1st category municipality 2nd category municipality 3d category municipality Communes	Provincial and municipal governments can perform all functions except national defense	Based on Provincial and National constitution
BOLIVIA	Prefectures Mayoralties Development corporations	Health posts, school construction roads, water supply, public transport	
BRAZIL	Municipalities	1st grade schools, hospitals public transportation, sanitary services, communities develop ment	Municipalities are autonomous
CHILE	Municipalities	Public education, public health facilities, housing construction, graveyards	Municipalities are decentralized institutions.
COLOMBIA	Municipalities Magistraties and Police Inspectorates, both without fiscal autonomy	Schools, hospitals	President of Colombia appoints regional chief or governor, who appoint mayors. Beginning in 1988 constitutional reform gives more powers to local governments
COSTA RICA	Municipalities District municipal councils	Public health, urban planning, garbage collection, water supply	Municipalities have administrative autonomy
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Municipalities or municipal councils, Municipal districts	Water supply, garbage collec public markets,	Municipalities have administrative autonomy
ECUADOR	Municipal councils	Water supply, sewerage, telephone services, slaughter houses, schools	Municipalities have administrative autonomy

TABLE D. Part 2: SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

COUNTRIES	DIFFERENT TYPE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	TYPE OF UNITS INCLUDED IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT	LEGAL RELATIONS BETWEEN LOCAL AND REGIONAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS
EL SALVADOR	Municipalities	Health facilities, nursery school graveyards, urban development, personal identities,	Administrative autonomy of municipalities in process. ISDEM (Salvadoran Municipal Development Institute) will administer development fund.
GUATEMALA	Municipalities of first, second, third and fourth category, according to its importance and population size	Water supply, nursery schools health facilities, schools, slaughter houses, medium level education, electricity supply	Municipalities have administrative autonomy. Municipal Development Institute is official channel with the executive
HONDURAS	Municipalities	Garbage collection, slaughter houses, graveyards, public markets, water supply, and sometimes electricity supply	Municipalities have administrative autonomy. Elected assembly. The executive appoints governors
MEXICO	Municipalities	Water supply, sewerage, public lighting, graveyards, parks, gardens, public security, parking lots	Municipalities have administrative autonomy. Elected mayors.
NICARAGUA	Municipalities grouped in six regions and 2 special zones	Water supply, municipal hospitals primary and secondary education	Municipalities are regional branches of President of the Republic
PANAMA	Municipalities and communes councils		Local authorities have own resources and taxing powers
PARAGUAY	Municipalities and municipal councils	Desarrollo de la comunidad parques, jardines, etc.	Local governments have administrative autonomy
PERU	Provincial municipalities, Distrital municipalities and municipal agencies	Health facilities, primary education, water supply, sewerage public markets, public lighting, libraries, public markets	Municipalities have administrative and political autonomy.
URUGUAY	Local councils	Museums, hotels, parks, theaters, parks, casinos	Municipalities have decentralized functions, excluding public security and industrial and commercial services
VENEZUELA	Municipal councils	Public transportation, public education, public markets, parks	The president of the republic appoints governors, who appoint local authorities
=====	=====	=====	=====

TABLE D. Part 3: SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

PAISES	FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOVERNMENTS	ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES STANDARDIZED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS	GOVERNMENT AGENCY IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	INFORMATION COORDINATION UNITS
ARGENTINA	Few relations with Central Government Provincial governments control local govts. and share provincial taxes with municipalities	No, attempts at the provincial level	One in every province	Provincial governments
BOLIVIA	Transfers from central government Royalties to development corporations	Yes standardized accounts		Ministry of Finance
BRASIL	Transfers from central government to states and municipalities. Transfers from states to municipa- lities.	Yes, accounting rules for budget and for revenue and expenditure classification by economic type and function	Regional Authorities	
CHILE	Ministries of Interior and Finance emit rules to regional authorities for municipalities budgets. Federal transfers for specific programs	Yes Uniform classification	Ministry of the Interior	General Comptroller Ministry of the Interior National Planning Office
COLOMBIA	VAT sharing from central to local governments. Also transfers from central to local governments	Yes, standardized classification	Ministry of the Interior	National Administration and Statistics Department National Planning Dept Departmental Comptroller
COSTA RICA	Local gov. budgets approved and monitored by Comptroller of the Republic. Central gov. current and capital transfers to municipalities	Yes, comptroller specifies accounting classification	Municipal Development and Advisory Institute (IFAM)	
REPUBLICA DOMINICANA	Central gov. gives monthly transfers according to population size, from 20% of internal revenue In some cases also transfers	Yes, standard accounting and revenue-expenditure classification	Dominican Municipal League (LMD)	Office of the Comptroller National Treasury Municipal League Budget Office
ECUADOR	Central government transfers to municipal councils. State banks provide loans to municipal councils	Yes, standardized accounting systems under way	National Development Council (CONADE)	National Planning Agency Ministry of Finance Ecuadoran Development Bank

TABLE D, Part 4 : SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

PAISES	FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOVERNMENTS	ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES STANDARDIZED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS	GOVERNMENT AGENCY IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	INFORMATION COORDINATION UNITS
EL SALVADOR	Central government transfers to municipalities	No	Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Planning	
GUATEMALA	Central government transfers 8% of current revenue to municipalities. Sharing of 50% of property tax.	Yes	Ministry of the Interior Urban and Rural Development Ministry Ministry of Finance	Municipal Development Institute
HONDURAS	Central gov. transfers and loans for development projects. International trade taxes shared with some municipalities. Export tax on coffee shared with producer municipalities	Yes	Ministry of the Interior and Justice	
MEXICO	Transfers and revenue sharing Some programs receive federal and state transfers. Loans from state banks	No	Ministry of the Interior	National Institute for Geography, Statistics and Information
NICARAGUA	Current and capital transfers from central government	Yes	Ministry of Municipal Affairs	Regional Offices
PANAMA	Central government transfers for investment projects	Yes	Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy	Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy and the General Comptroller Office
PARAGUAY	Revenue sharing from central government	No	Ministry of the Interior	Planning Secretariat
PERU	Central government has transferred the administration of some taxes to the municipalities. (General sales tax, property tax) Also transfers from central government to the municipalities	Yes, standard formats for balance sheets, statements	Ministry of Economy and Finance Departmental Development Corporations National Institute of Planning National Institute of Public Administration	
URUGUAY	Revenue sharing	Yes, through accounting and administration rules	General Accounting Office Planning and Budgeting Office	
VENEZUELA	Transfers (situado) from central to state gov. Transfers from state gov. to municipalities	Yes, through formats and rules issued by Mins of finance	Ministry of the Interior Municipal Development Fund	
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

TABLE D. Part 5 : SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

	FINANCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT			STANDARDIZED					COORDINATING		AGGREGATE		
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH ADMINISTRATIVE AUTONOMY	CENTRAL GOV	REGIONAL GOV	REVENUE	PROCEDURES	DATA ON	DATA ON	MAIN RELATIONS BETWEEN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THROUGH:		AGENCY FOR	SEVERAL	DATA PROVIDED	PLANS	
	TRANSFERS TO	TRANSFERS TO	SHARING	ESTABLISHED	CASH	ACCURAL			INFORMATION	INFORMATION	TO LOCAL GOV.	FOR IMPROVING	
	LOCAL	LOCAL	SYSTEMS	BY CENTRAL	BASIS	BASIS			REQUESTED TO	TOPICS	FOR COMPARISON	DATA	
	GOVERNMENTS	GOVERNMENTS		GOVERNMENTS			MINIST. OF FINANCE	MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR	OTHER	LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	COMBINED	PURPOSES	REPORTING SYSTEMS
			ARGENTINA					ARGENTINA					
	BOLIVIA			BOLIVIA		BOLIVIA			BOLIVIA		BOLIVIA	BOLIVIA	
BRASIL	BRASIL	BRASIL		BRASIL		BRASIL		BRASIL 1/					
CHILE	CHILE			CHILE	CHILE	CHILE		CHILE		CHILE		CHILE	
	COLOMBIA	COLOMBIA	COLOMBIA	COLOMBIA	COLOMBIA	COLOMBIA		COLOMBIA		COLOMBIA		COLOMBIA	
COSTA RICA				COSTA RICA		COSTA RICA		COSTA RICA 2/				COSTA RICA	
REP. DOMINICANA	REP. DOMINICANA			REP DOMINICANA	REP DOMINICANA			REP DOMINICANA 3/					
ECUADOR	ECUADOR	ECUADOR				ECUADOR		ECUADOR 4/	ECUADOR				
	EL SALVADOR					EL SALVADOR		EL SALVADOR				EL SALVADOR	
GUATEMALA			GUATEMALA	GUATEMALA	GUATEMALA			GUATEMALA		GUATEMALA			
HONDURAS			HONDURAS	HONDURAS	HONDURAS			HONDURAS				HONDURAS	
MEXICO	MEXICO		MEXICO		MEXICO			MEXICO 5/			MEXICO		
	NICARAGUA			NICARAGUA	NICARAGUA			NICARAGUA 6/	NICARAGUA				
PANAMA	PANAMA			PANAMA	PANAMA	PANAMA		PANAMA 7/	PANAMA				
PERU			PERU	PERU		PERU						PERU	
PARAGUAY			PARAGUAY		PARAGUAY			PARAGUAY	PARAGUAY	PARAGUAY			
URUGUAY			URUGUAY		URUGUAY	URUGUAY 8/		URUGUAY 9/	URUGUAY 10/			URUGUAY	
		VENEZUELA				VENEZUELA		VENEZUELA				VENEZUELA	

BRAZIL 1/ REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENCIES. COSTA RICA 2/ MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE. DOMINICAN REP 3/DOMINICAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

EQUADOR 4/ NATIONAL PLANNING AGENCY; MEXICO 5/ NAL. INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS, GEOGRAPHY AND INFORMATION; NICARAGUA 6/ MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

PANAMA 7/ PLANNING AN ECONOMIC POLICY MIN. 8/ EXPENDITURE ON ACCRUAL BASIS, REVENUE ON CASH BASIS.

URUGUAY 9/ GENERAL NATIONAL ACCOUNTANT

URUGUAY 10/ COUNCIL OF MAYORS

LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE STATISTICS
Caracas, Venezuela
March 14-18, 1988

AGENDA

MONDAY, MARCH 14

8:30 - 9:00	Registration of Participants
9:30 - 10:00	Welcome and Introduction
10:00 - 12:00	The GFS System
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 17:00	Case Study 1, Uses of the Data
19:00	Reception

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

9:00 - 12:00	Case Study 2, Formulating the Questionnaire
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 14:30	Case Study 2 (continued)
14:30 - 17:00	Country Presentations by Participants

Paraguay	El Salvador	Mexico
Peru	Dom. Republic	Panama
Venezuela	Nicaragua	Uruguay

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

9:00 - 12:00	Case Study 3, Sampling
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
AFTERNOON	Visit to the City

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

9:00 - 12:00	Case Study 4, Collecting Data
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 17:00	Country Presentations by Participants

Brazil	Bolivia	Ecuador
Argentina	Chile	Guatemala
Costa Rica	Colombia	Honduras

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

9:00 - 12:00	Case Study 5, Processing Data
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 17:00	General Recommendations and Conclusions

Note: - There will be coffee breaks each day at 10:30 and 15:30 hs.

- IMF staff discussions with country delegations are scheduled for 30 minutes each on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday between 17:15 hs and 18:45 hs. as follows:

MONDAY

17:15 - 17:45	Brasil	Bolivia	Ecuador
17:45 - 18:15	Argentina	Chile	Guatemala

TUESDAY

17:15 - 17:45	Costa Rica	Colombia	Honduras
17:45 - 18:15	Paraguay	El Salvador	Mexico
18:15 - 18:45	Peru	Dominican Republic	Panama

THURSDAY

17:15 - 17:45	Venezuela	Nicaragua	Uruguay
---------------	-----------	-----------	---------

LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE STATISTICS

(Caracas, March 14-18, 1988)

PARTICIPANTS' CONCLUSIONS AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Though some progress has been achieved, varied and complex problems persist in the participating countries in the collection of local government finance statistics that can be used in the formulation, execution and evaluation of tax policies, national and local development plans and projects, the credit policies of international organizations, etc. This is due, among other factors, to the lack of standardized information, delays in the receipt of information, improper use of existing data, insufficient resources devoted to the development of information systems, inefficiency of compiling entities, geographical and political constraints, and also, on occasion, the lack of training for officials in local governments and the rest of the public sector.

In these circumstances, to contribute to the solution of these problems, the participants in the seminar recommend:

a. Implementation of a system of regional and local government finance statistics involving the adoption of measures to improve the compilation and processing of the data at their source, through the introduction of common standards for all governments, supported by accounting procedures and a uniform classification.

This would permit the building of a data base quantitatively and qualitatively adequate to meet the needs of the various users. The system should be constructed on the basis of simple and detailed criteria, with local government participation, and should be implemented gradually and evaluated continuously. Implementation should be supported by all the levels involved.

As a minimum, the system should include:

- a body responsible for standardization and consolidation of the data at the aggregate level;

- coordinating mechanisms, particularly between the central government and local governments, to ensure its smooth functioning.

b. Introduction of a permanent national program to train officials involved in the compilation of data and the preparation of government finance statistics and to increase awareness of the importance of this task.

c. Considering the need for completion of a survey of all units, and taking into account the time and costs involved in compilation of so large a volume of information, it would be advisable to establish in appropriate cases a stratified sampling technique sufficiently representative of the financial management of the universe of units as a whole.

d. To maximize its usefulness, information should be submitted on a timely basis, covering predetermined periods, with continuous follow-up.

e. The group would welcome increased efforts by the international organizations concerned to provide financial and technical support on a permanent basis to those countries participating in the seminar which request such support, and in particular to those experiencing the greatest difficulty in obtaining local government finance statistics.

f. Action should be taken to impart to those in all political circumstances sufficient motivation for the implementation of government finance statistics.

g. Lastly, it is recommended that the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank communicate to national authorities the conclusions and recommendations of this seminar and call their attention to the importance attached to the improvement of local government finance statistics.

Caracas, March 18, 1988, 6:10 p.m.

