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# **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

(23 April 1978 – 27 April 1979)

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1979**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 12**

VOLUME I

**UNITED NATIONS**

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.  
Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

E/1979/47  
E/ECE/983

CONTENTS

VOLUME I

	<u>paragraphs</u>	<u>page</u>
INTRODUCTION .....	1	1
CHAPTER		
I ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY, OR ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL .....	2	1
II WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION		
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies .....	3	1
B. Other activities .....	4- 5	2
C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations .....	6	2
III THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION		
A. Attendance and organization of work .....	7-20	3
B. Agenda .....	21	4
C. Account of proceedings .....	22-420	6
Review of the economic situation in Europe .....	22-41	6
The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978	}	
and		
The work and future activities of the Commission and the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-state conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy (Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII)); and the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding implementation of Part II ) of this resolution .....	42-70; 82-126	9
Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly 71-73		17

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>paragraphs</u>	<u>page</u>
Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries	74-76	13
Co-operation with other international organizations	77-81	13
Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work .....	127-139	27
Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission .....	140-306	29
Committee on Agricultural Problems .....	141-149	29
Chemical Industry Committee .....	150-162	34
Coal Committee .....	163-172	37
Conference of European Statisticians .....	173-184	40
Committee on Electric Power .....	185-202	44
Committee on Gas .....	203-213	49
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning .	214-224	53
Inland Transport Committee .....	225-240	57
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems .....	241-249	61
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology .....	250-257	63
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments .	258-266	71
Steel Committee .....	267-273	73
Timber Committee .....	274-296	75
Committee on the Development of Trade .....	297	81
Committee on Water Problems .....	298-306	82
Development of trade and industrial co-operation	307-323	85
Follow-up action to the relevant Commission decisions		
The economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region .....	324-329	88
The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980 .....	330-336	89
Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction .....	337-338	90
The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference .....	339-340	90
The contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development .....	341-347	91

CONTENTS (continued)

CHAPTER		paragraphs	page
	Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE .....	348-354	92
	Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region .....	355-362	93
	Standardization .....	363-368	95
	Automation .....	369-377	96
	Engineering industries .....	378-394	98
	Recommendations by the Sessional Committee and action taken thereon by the Plenary .....	395-402	101
	Programme of work for 1979-1983 .....	403-414	102
	Other business .....	415-418	105
	Adoption of the Annual Report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council .....	419-420	106
IV	RESOLUTION AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE .....		107
	* * *		
ANNEXES	I. Statements of financial implications of actions and proposals of the Commission		108
	II. List of meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies held in 1978/1979		109
	III. Publications and documents issued by the Commission		110

VOLUME II

V	PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1979-1983 .....	
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## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council covering  
the period from 23 April 1978 to 27 April 1979

### INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), which covers the period 23 April 1978 to 27 April 1979 inclusive, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at the fifteenth meeting of its thirty-fourth session on 27 April 1979. It is presented to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its second regular session, 1979, in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Commission's terms of reference, which states: "The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year ...".

### CHAPTER I

#### ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY, OR ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2. At its fifteenth meeting held on 27 April 1979 the Commission approved the following draft decision for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action:

"The Economic and Social Council decides:

To take note of the report of the Economic Commission for Europe for the period 23 April 1978 to 27 April 1979, of the views expressed during the discussions in the Commission and of the resolutions and other decisions adopted by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session contained in Chapters III and IV of that report, and of the Commission's programme of work contained therein."

### CHAPTER II

#### WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

##### A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. The list of meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies held in 1978/1979 can be found in Annex II to this Report. It contains the dates of the meetings, the names of the officers and the symbols of the reports adopted. These reports give a full account of discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies contained in addition the programmes of work adopted by these bodies; these programmes have been incorporated in the Commission's programme of work for 1979-1983 pursuant to operative paragraph 4 (b) of Commission resolution 5 (XXIV), (see Chapter V of this Report).

B. Other activities

4. Pursuant to the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary submitted to the thirty-fourth session a number of reports on the work done on projects included in category 01 of the Commission's programme of work, i.e. those carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. A list of these reports and their symbols can be found in Annex III.

5. During the period under review, the secretariat serviced the session of the Commission, the meetings of its subsidiary bodies as well as special meetings held under ECE auspices. The publication of periodic surveys and reviews, including the annual Economic Survey of Europe, the Economic Bulletin for Europe, and a series of specialized statistical bulletins, covering general energy, coal, electric power, gas, housing and building, steel, engineering, chemicals, timber and transport, as well as the issuance of monthly and weekly statistical indicators of short-term economic changes in ECE countries, was continued. The secretariat of the Commission maintained close and regular liaison with the secretariat at United Nations Headquarters and co-operated with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, as well as with other units of the United Nations Secretariat, on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

6. In a Note submitted to the thirty-fourth session (E/ECE/967) the Executive Secretary described the co-operation of the Commission and its secretariat with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations as well as with their secretariats.

### CHAPTER III

#### THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

##### A. Attendance and organization of work

7. The thirty-fourth session of the Commission was held from 27 March to 27 April 1979. At the opening of the session the Commission heard statements by the outgoing Chairman, Mr. E. Kulaga, by the newly elected Chairman, Mr. F. Benito, by the Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, Mr. L. Cottafavi, who read a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and a statement by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Mr. J. Stanovnik.

8. The thirty-fourth session was attended by representatives from Albania; Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; Canada, Cyprus; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Luxembourg; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America; and Yugoslavia.

9. Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under Article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

10. A representative of Israel participated under Article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.

11. Representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and of the following specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organisation (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO); International Monetary Fund (IMF); Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT); Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA); European Economic Community (EEC); World Tourism Organization (WTO).

12. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Chamber of Commerce; International Council of Women; International Organization for Standardization; World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU); International Bar Association; International Law Association; International Electrotechnical Commission.

13. Also present at the invitation of the secretariat were representatives of the secretariats of the Council of Europe and of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).



14. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.4.
15. At its second meeting, the Commission unanimously elected Mr. Fernando Benito (Spain) Chairman, and Mr. Constantin Oancea (Romania) Vice-Chairman, of the Commission.
16. The Commission unanimously elected Mr. Vadim Ivanovitch Loukianovitch (Byelorussian SSR) Chairman, and Mr. Garth Castrén (Finland) Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee.
17. Mr. Ian de Jong (Netherlands) and Mr. Günter Schumann (German Democratic Republic), were appointed Rapporteurs.
18. The Commission decided to pass to the Sessional Committee, in addition to agenda item 4 (f) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission - the following agenda items for preliminary consideration:
  - 4(e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work
  - 7(b) - The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980
  - 7(c) - Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction
  - 7(d) - The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference
  - 7(e) - The contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD)
  - 7(g) - Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region
  - 7(h) - Standardization
  - 7(i) - Automation
  - 7(j) - Engineering industries
  - 8 - Programme of work for 1979-1983
19. The Sessional Committee met from 28 March to 4 April 1979.
20. The account of the consideration by the Sessional Committee of item 4(f) can be found in paragraphs 141 to 306 below. The account of the discussion on those items which had been assigned to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, referred to in paragraph 18 above, are contained in paragraphs 127 to 139, 330 to 347, and 355 to 394 below. For the recommendations of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary and the action taken by the Commission on these recommendations, see paragraphs 395 to 402 below.

#### B. Agenda

21. The Commission had before it the provisional agenda (E/ECE/963). At its first meeting, it decided to amend the formulation of item 5 and adopted the agenda as amended (E/ECE/963/Rev.1). This read as follows:

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of Officers
3. Review of the economic situation in Europe

4. Work of the Commission as a whole, including:

- (a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978 (Commission resolution 2(XXV)) E/ECE/964
- (b) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly E/ECE/965
- (c) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries E/ECE/966
- (d) Co-operation with other international organizations E/ECE/967
- (e) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (Commission decision C(XXXIII)) E/ECE/968  
E/ECE/969
- (f) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission 1/

5. The work and future activities of the Commission and the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-state conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy (Commission resolution 1(XXXIII)); and the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding implementation of Part II of this resolution E/ECE/964  
ECE/ENV/29

6. Development of trade and industrial co-operation E/ECE/970  
ECE/TRADE/130

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1/ Under this agenda sub-item, the Commission had before it the following documentation:

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/45
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/24
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/36
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/12
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	ECE/ENV/28
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/29
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/42
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/25
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/37
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/17
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/18
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/22
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/13
Committee on Water Problems	ECE/WATER/21

7. Follow-up action on other relevant Commission decisions:
  - (a) The economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region (Commission decision A(XXXIII)) E/ECE/971
  - (b) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980 (Commission decision B(XXXIII)) E/ECE/972
  - (c) Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction (Commission decision D(XXXIII)) E/ECE/973
  - (d) The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference (Commission decision E(XXXIII)) E/ECE/974
  - (e) The contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) (Commission decision F(XXXIII)) E/ECE/975
  - (f) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (Commission decision G(XXXIII)) E/ECE/976  
E/ECE/977
  - (g) Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region (Commission decision H(XXXIII)) E/ECE/978
  - (h) Standardization (Commission decision I(XXXIII)) E/ECE/979
  - (i) Automation (Commission decision J(XXXIII)) E/ECE/980
  - (j) Engineering industries (Commission decision K(XXXIII)) E/ECE/981
8. Programme of work for 1979-1983 E/ECE/982
9. Other business
10. Annual Report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council

### C. Account of proceedings

#### Review of the economic situation in Europe

(agenda item 5)

22. For the discussion of this item the Commission had before it as background documents the pre-publication of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1978 Part I (ECE(XXXIV)/1), as well as Volume 30 of the Economic Bulletin for Europe.

23. Delegations described recent economic developments in their countries and in the region as a whole, as well as short-term prospects and policies intended to overcome current imbalances.

24. In the industrialized countries of western Europe, gross production had risen by about three per cent, i.e., somewhat more than in 1977; however, industrial production had decelerated, investments in manufacture had remained low, and unemployment high.

25. The consolidated current account balance of the west European countries had, on the contrary, improved substantially, and inflation had slowed down as a whole, though wide differences persisted among the various countries of the region.

26. Delegations from south European countries - Portugal and Yugoslavia - reported on growth rates ranging from three to seven per cent; moderate growth was reported in Spain; Portugal had introduced restrictive policies intended to slow down inflation and re-establish economic equilibrium.
27. All countries of this region reported noticeable improvements in the current account balance which, though in deficit, had been improved by increased export earnings and particularly high tourist receipts. Growth rates for industrial production were substantially higher than for western Europe (seven to nine per cent), and agricultural output was good except for one Balkan country.
28. The employment situation was a matter of increasing concern for all countries of western and southern Europe, in particular youth unemployment. Only Canada and the United States had achieved employment growth rates of more than three per cent, accompanied by a close to zero growth for labour productivity. The Netherlands did not expect a significant increase in unemployment for 1978 and 1979.
29. Most countries of western and southern Europe had succeeded in bringing down the rate of inflation considerably - the average of under seven per cent in western Europe was the sharpest slowdown since the peak of 1974. In the United States, it increased, however, by two points to about nine per cent in 1978, and in southern Europe, it was on average two to three times bigger.
30. The important role of foreign trade for the economic growth of smaller countries was stressed by a number of smaller countries. Low industrial activity and weak import demand of western Europe was considered to have been a major factor of the slow expansion of the region's foreign trade. The trade deficit of a great number of west and south European countries had substantially declined in 1978, thus reflecting the weakness of commodity prices, including oil, and the sharp depreciation of the dollar. On the other hand, a few countries reported balance of payments difficulties caused by wage increases, not fully compensated by labour productivity and, possibly, by an unsatisfactory structure of exports. In southern Europe, the trade deficit was reduced in Spain and Yugoslavia; it had increased slightly in Portugal, and markedly in Greece (to over \$US 4 billion).
31. When discussing the prospects for 1979 and beyond, delegates from western Europe raised the so far unresolved question whether the present situation reflected shorter term cyclical, or long-term structural changes, and whether social and political factors might not, in the future, influence economic decisions much more than hitherto.
32. Delegates hoped for improved growth in 1979 (3.5 per cent for western Europe, somewhat higher rates for southern Europe, and a modest 2.5 per cent for the United States). Fixed investments, based on improved liquidity of enterprises, should give the main boost, though increased inflation and higher energy costs might counteract these tendencies. Strict energy savings were advocated for all countries of the region as the most effective means to counter higher oil prices.
33. Delegates of east European countries reported on the further stable and successful economic development of their countries. Growth-rates of somewhat more than four per cent were the average in 1978, and were planned for 1979, thus reflecting the continuous policies of those countries oriented towards promoting intensification and improvements in the quality of production, utilization of qualitative growth factors and greater efficiency in the use of available resources. They pointed to their policy of full employment and social security. Real wages and salaries had expanded faster than in previous years. The same delegations also pointed out that the steady advancement of CMEA member countries in their economic

and social activities was not least due to the progress in their economic integration, thus doubling the economic capacities of the CMEA member countries in a period of about 15 years. Referring to the long-term target programmes of the CMEA member States being implemented on energy, fuel and raw materials, machines and key equipment, agriculture and consumer goods, it was stressed that these efforts implied a clear and concrete perspective for the expansion of economic co-operation between eastern and western countries.

34. One delegation stressed the efforts made by its country to overcome the stage of a developing country and underlined, in this context, the measures taken at the national level to develop economic mechanisms.

35. Gross industrial production increased by just over five per cent in the eastern region as a whole. Plans for 1979 called for a somewhat higher growth (about six per cent for the region as a whole).

36. In industry, great emphasis was put on energy conservation and labour saving techniques, given the exhaustion of labour reserves in most countries of the region. The Soviet delegate mentioned the huge projects for development of energy supplies and the transport infrastructure of Siberia, in which a number of CMEA and western countries participated, and which offered further possibilities for east-west co-operation.

37. As in most countries of the ECE region, 1978 was a good agricultural year for eastern Europe. The Soviet grain harvest of 235 million tons was 11 million tons bigger than the previous (1976) record.

38. Delegations recognized that relative progress had been made in east-west trade in 1978 with exports of western countries rising sharply by 16 per cent in value (as against one per cent only in 1977) and exports of eastern countries by 11 per cent, (i.e. approximately to the same extent as in 1977). Continued weak economic growth in the west, in particular of industrial output, as well as a rise in trade protectionism were mentioned as limits to eastern exports. Increased industrial co-operation, leading to real intra-branch specialization of production and structural changes were advocated for the purpose of arriving at a real division of labour of European industries. On a long-term basis, such co-operation might contribute towards economic stability in the region.

39. It was generally recognized that recent developments in the international oil market had introduced a considerable element of uncertainty to all forecasting. In the view of a number of delegations, inflation rates, current balances and growth rates might be affected, in particular in developing countries which usually had a "structural" balance of payments deficit. A number of countries might feel obliged to favour exports even more than hitherto and restrict imports. Warnings that a growing recourse to protectionist practices might jeopardize trade and prosperity of all countries of the region, and the world at large, were voiced by a number of delegations from east and west.

40. Delegations referred favourably to the Survey which was described as a very useful source of information for Governments and scientists alike throughout the ECE region. A number of delegations gave the chapter on eastern Europe special credit because no other international organization was issuing comparable annual studies. Suggestions were made for a further improvement of the text. Absolute figures should be used together with increase figures (indices). Structural changes should be considered to a greater extent, and the stage of economic development of a country, as well as individual peculiarities of the smaller countries, should be given greater importance than geographical considerations. Some delegations suggested that the sub-divisions of the chapters on eastern and western Europe should be made more comparable. The hope was expressed that in future gaps in quantitative economic information could be filled.

41. Most delegations made final reports on the development of their economies in 1978 available to the secretariat during the meeting; the printed version of the Survey would be amended accordingly.

Work of the Commission as a whole<sup>2/</sup>  
(agenda item 4)

The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978  
(agenda item 4 (a))

and

The work and future activities of the Commission and the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-state conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy (Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII)); and the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding implementation of Part II of this resolution

(agenda item 5)

42. The Commission agreed to consider items 4 (a) and 5 together.

43. The Commission had before it the following documentation:

- for agenda subitem 4 (a): the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/964 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978, which was prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 2 (XXV) and contained a succinct account of the most important work accomplished or planned by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies since the thirty-third session;

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<sup>2/</sup> For agenda subitems 4 (b) to 4 (d), also considered in the Plenary, see paragraphs 71 to 81 below. For agenda subitems 4 (e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work, and 4 (f) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission, which were allocated to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, see paragraphs 127 to 306 below.

- for agenda item 5: the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/964 which, in addition to covering the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies since the thirty-third session as indicated under agenda subitem 4 (a) above, also referred to Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII) and to other matters for which no special report had been requested, such as the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses, the continuation of work on general energy questions, the ECE contribution to activities sponsored by the CSCE (the Bonn and Valletta meetings), the question of the optimal employment of resources allocated to ECE in the United Nations budget, and other matters; and the Report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding implementation of Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII) (ECE/ENV/29).

44. Delegations recalled the unique role of the Commission as the most appropriate multilateral forum to discuss economic issues and promote economic, commercial, scientific and technological co-operation within the ECE region and pointed out the special challenge which it was facing in the present world situation. They recalled that the Commission was holding its current session at a moment when the whole of the economic and social structure of the United Nations system was undergoing a deep and serious re-examination and referred in this connexion to the importance attached by the General Assembly to the regional commissions when it referred to them in its resolution 32/197 on restructuring as the main centres for United Nations economic and social activities in the region with the role of "team leaders" in their respective areas.

45. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the progress made in the past year by the Commission in promoting closer economic co-operation among its member countries and in discharging its responsibilities in implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE). They also recognized at the same time that much remained to be done. At the mid-point between the CSCE Meetings in Belgrade and in Madrid, the hope was expressed that a special effort would be made to ensure that the Commission fulfilled the role assigned to it in the Final Act in the economic and related fields, thus reinforcing co-operation both among its member countries, irrespective of differences in their economic and social systems and in their levels of development, and with countries in other regions of the world.

46. Some delegations stated that the provisions of the Final Act formed the long-term programme for the conduct of relations among member countries of ECE and charted the main direction for further moves conducive to fruitful co-operation in Europe, based on the principles of equality of states, non-interference in internal affairs of other countries and mutual advantage. At the same time, they recognized that the potential of ECE had not yet been fully utilized. In this connexion they expressed the view that the Commission should be enabled by appropriate decisions of this plenary session to come up to the expectations to be an effective instrument of multilateral co-operation in the economic and related fields. These delegations underlined that there was an inseparable inter-relationship between the maintenance of peace, effective measures of arms limitation and disarmament and the further development of international economic and technological co-operation. They expressed the view that further strengthening of political détente was propitious to that development. The delegation of Bulgaria referred to the thirty-fifth anniversary of the victory of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria and drew attention to the great progress its country had achieved within such a comparatively short historic period in its socio-economic development in close co-operation with the USSR and the other socialist countries.

47. In connexion with the follow-up of the CSCE Final Act, favourable comments were made on the Executive Secretary's contributions to the meeting of experts held at Bonn (Federal Republic of Germany) to prepare for the 1980 Scientific Forum and to the Meeting of Experts on the Mediterranean within the Framework of the Mediterranean Chapter of the Final Act of the CSCE held in Valletta (Malta) in February-March 1979.

48. Many delegations referred to the proposal made at the thirty-first session of the Commission by the Government of the USSR on the holding of all-European congresses or inter-state conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy. Some of these delegations considered that the development of all-European co-operation in these fields was both highly topical and practical and that there was a necessity to undertake practical steps for the holding of these congresses.

49. With regard to the protection of the environment, delegations recalled that one of the aims on which the States participating in the CSCE had agreed was to take measures to bring their environmental policies closer together and, when appropriate and possible, to harmonize them. Subsequently, in its resolution 1 (XXXII), the Commission had invited the Executive Secretary, in consultation with member Governments and with the assistance of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, to carry out a detailed analysis of topics for consideration at a high-level meeting. In its resolution 1 (XXXIII), the Commission expressed its determination to make every effort to bring the preparatory work to a successful conclusion so that the meeting could be held in 1979. Most delegations expressed satisfaction with the progress made during the past year and commended the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems on the work accomplished in response to the mandate assigned to them, as presented in their report ECE/ENV/29.

50. Long-range transboundary air pollution was one of the topics on which the Commission had requested the Senior Advisers to prepare recommendations and important decisions to be submitted to a high-level meeting. The seriousness of air pollution and the urgent need to find solutions through international co-operation was pointed out in a large number of statements. In the context of the preparatory work on the topic of long-range transboundary air pollution, the results of the fourth Special Session of the Senior Advisers in March 1979 were noted by many speakers. A number of delegations considered that the documentation submitted by the Senior Advisers to the Commission constituted an adequate framework for future co-operation in this field. Other delegations added that the results achieved were sufficient to regard the preparations for a high-level meeting as mainly completed and provided the basis to take a definitive decision on the convening of a high-level meeting at this plenary session. In the view of those delegations unresolved questions could well be finalized within the time up to the convening of or even during the high-level meeting itself. At the same time it was noted that negotiations had been fruitful and many concessions had been made, but that there were still differences of views remaining; however substantial they might be, hope was expressed that they could be resolved at the current session, thus enabling the Commission to take a decision on holding a high-level meeting. Some delegations recalled that the Final Act of the CSCE had attached great importance to the control of air pollution, including long-range transboundary of air pollutants, among which sulphur dioxide had been specifically mentioned; a call had also been made for measures to prevent the adverse effects caused by air pollution on health and the environment in many countries. Some delegations stressed the need for urgent international action, and in particular for the adoption at a high-level meeting of a Convention in which policies and strategies would be elaborated for combating transboundary air pollution. The



delegation of Austria pointed to the emission of dangerous air pollutants by nuclear power plants and asked for this problem area to be mentioned in the forthcoming convention.

51. On the topic of low- and non-waste technology and reutilization and recycling of wastes, delegations expressed satisfaction that the work of the Senior Advisers had reached an advanced stage. Together with long-range transboundary air pollution, this topic would provide an adequate base for an agenda of a high-level meeting.

52. Several delegations were in favour of including additional topics on the agenda of a high-level meeting, in particular water pollution, including transboundary water pollution. A number of delegations also expressed themselves in favour of the protection of native flora and fauna and their habitats, and of the treatment of toxic substances and toxic wastes. Most delegations felt that in view of the importance of water quality for the ECE region and the work already carried out within the ECE, a related topic should be considered. Some delegations stated that, while the preparatory work on the additional topics was less advanced than on the first two topics, they nevertheless met the criteria set out in Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII) and deserved to be considered at a high-level meeting. One delegation took the view that it was conscious of the complexity of the questions of environmental protection but that it could not approve the fact that one refused to initiate co-operation in certain fields vital to the protection of the environment. In this connexion it cited the example of a small number of countries that refused to discuss questions of water quality and water pollution that were of vital interest to many countries. Other delegations held that the agenda of such a meeting should be limited to a minimum number of subjects, thoroughly prepared in advance; additional topics, such as water pollution, including transboundary water pollution, did not seem to lend themselves, as yet, to important decisions at a high-level meeting. However, they were seen to be of great importance for the further development of the ECE programme of work related to the protection of the environment, and opportunities for an exchange of views ought to be provided at a high-level meeting.

53. Many delegations were of the opinion that the time had come for the Commission to fulfil the commitment expressed in resolution 1 (XXXIII); it seemed possible for a basic agreement to be reached at the current session, so that a positive decision could be taken on the convening in 1979 of a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment. It was pointed out by several delegations that efforts should be made to show that the implementation of the Final Act of the CSCE was progressing. Referring to the CSCE meeting in Madrid and the expected and necessary contribution of the ECE to this meeting some delegations expressed the view that a clear decision of the current plenary session with regard to the proposed high-level meeting was a prerequisite to maintaining and strengthening the high reputation of the work of the ECE. It was also stressed that a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment could be a demonstration of the way in which the everyday concerns of people could be taken into account. In this connexion confidence was expressed by one delegation that progress would also be made in other areas of the Final Act, such as humanitarian questions and human contacts which affected to an even higher degree, the daily concerns of ordinary people. Some delegations reminded the Commission of the heavy task ahead at the current session; in the course of a few days, the details of an agenda and agreements for consideration at a high-level meeting had to be worked out. Several delegations observed that such a high-level meeting should not be considered either an end or a solution in itself but the starting-point of a fruitful, co-operative effort aimed at seeking solutions to many grave environmental problems.

54. With regard to energy, delegations recalled that at its thirty-third session the Commission had expressed its wish to consider constructively at its thirty-fourth session the establishment of a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled "Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy" and its possible mandate for further co-operation on energy within the framework of the ECE. They expressed the view that energy was perhaps the most important challenge facing nations today. Energy problems had an ever-growing impact on the economic development of the ECE region and although steps had already been taken in order to cope with them, such as measures for energy conservation, it was felt that these problems were far from being solved. They were becoming increasingly acute as the prospect of diminishing supplies was drawing nearer. Many delegations were of the opinion that ECE was the suitable forum for dealing with general energy problems in the region and that the time was therefore ripe to consider constructively the establishment of a new permanent subsidiary body in this field. The creation of such a body would not only provide policy guidance and orient the Commission's general energy activities but would also serve as a source for dynamic initiatives and the preparation of new, potentially promising projects for co-operation. Some delegations thought, however, that before a final decision on the establishment of such a body was taken, its mandate and working methods should be thoroughly examined and clearly defined.

55. A number of speakers suggested that, should such a body be set up, its mandate should be based on a full and extensive exchange of information and views on energy matters. Based on a satisfactory outcome of this mandate it could, at a later stage, be entrusted with the task of exploring topics which might be suitable for consideration at a high-level meeting.

56. Other delegations were of the opinion that in view of the urgency of the problems to be solved in the field of energy through co-operation at the international level, it would be desirable if the experience gained in the preparations for a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment could be used without delay for the launching of preparatory work for an all-European conference on energy, as proposed by the USSR. The preparation of such a conference could be the first task assigned to the Senior Advisers on Energy, if such a body were set up, or could be entrusted to the existing competent Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission.

57. In the field of transport, satisfaction was expressed with the results achieved by ECE, among which special reference was made to the Trans-European North-South Motorway, a project carried out with the co-operation of 10 member States as well as the ECE and UNDP, which would create a unique transport network in the ECE region and an important link between the ECE region and other adjacent regions. It was generally felt that the steady increase of trade in the ECE region should be accompanied by a corresponding development of transport infrastructure, especially rail and road but also maritime and multimodal transport. In view of the time required for planning and implementing the necessary projects, it was suggested that the process of new additions to the transport infrastructure should begin in the near future. In this connexion a number of delegations expressed the view that a high-level meeting which would set out the main orientations of a programme of intra-European co-operation in the development of the various means of transport, including the field of investment, could play an extremely useful role. It was suggested that the competent bodies of ECE should identify priorities for preparatory work.

58. It was suggested that the Commission should request the Executive Secretary to prepare analytical reports summarizing all the proposals made so far by member countries of possible topics for all-European congresses on energy and transport, which would enable the Commission to take the necessary decisions at its thirty-fifth session.

59. Delegations stressed the importance of the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade and the positive role it had played in formulating measures to remove obstacles to trade and promoting the expansion of trade. The Committee's efforts concerning prospects for trade, industrial and economic co-operation were considered by several delegations as having played an important role in developing commercial ties among ECE member Governments. It was noted with satisfaction that east-west economic relations had become a dynamic sector of international commercial exchanges. Favourable comments were made regarding the efforts made by the Committee for the implementation of the provision of the Final Act of the CSCE on a study of the possibilities of creating a multilateral system of notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade (MUNOSYST) and the wish was expressed that a large and representative number of ECE member countries would participate in this useful project. It was suggested that the Committee should establish priorities in an effort to assist in the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. At the same time it was recognized that, in spite of the progress achieved, many problems persisted and that an unused potential of great magnitude existed in the region both for trade exchanges and for industrial co-operation. Several delegations also deplored the fact that in the present economic situation the development of trade was being hampered by protectionist measures and restrictive practices. Some delegations mentioned that the Commission had not been able to go far beyond compiling an inventory of the existing obstacles and difficulties in this field. It was stressed that trade should be based on equality, non-discrimination and mutual benefit.

60. The work of ECE in the field of environmental protection, which was referred to at length during the general discussion in connexion with the proposed high-level meeting on the environment (see paragraphs: 49 to 53 above), was the subject of favourable comments on the part of many delegations. In view of the fact that the ECE region was the most industrialized in the world and that basic solutions were required to the problems of environmental protection, several delegations expressed themselves in favour of a more positive action on the part of the Commission in this field.

61. Delegations referred to the important role of science and technology in the economic and social development of the ECE region and noted that two thirds of the over-all activities of the Commission were related to this field. Several delegations were of the opinion that ECE's work on scientific and technological co-operation should be enlarged and that the programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology should be reviewed accordingly. Delegations commented favourably on the Commission's contribution to the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development, both with regard to the preparatory meeting held at Bucharest (Romania) in June 1978 and the work carried out within the secretariat. Some delegations considered it to be a positive factor that the recommendations adopted at the regional meeting had taken into account the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and the close interrelationship of détente, disarmament and the application of science and technology for social-economic development. A number

of delegations expressed regret, however, that the possibilities offered in the ECE region for the solution of problems faced by developing countries had not been given more emphasis. Delegations welcomed the opportunity given to the Commission at its current session to clarify many of the problems through the discussion in the Sessional Committee of concentration and integration of the Commission's activities in the field of science and technology.

62. The importance of the work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on the Over-all Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 (OEP) was emphasized by several delegations. It was seen as a first step in a continuous process of providing Governments and the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the ECE with a conceptual framework for their long-term considerations. The co-operation of the Senior Economic Advisers with the Committee on the Development of Trade in exploring long-term prospects for trade in the region was also welcomed, as well as the emphasis placed on the introduction of a more global perspective in the further work on the OEP. The wish was expressed that an improved version of the OEP be submitted to the Commission at the earliest practical date. The forthcoming Seminar on Forms and Orientation of International Co-operation in Relation to Long-term Growth Patterns to be held in Warsaw (Poland) in May 1979 was expected to contribute to the speeding up of the work on the OEP.

63. With regard to work in the fields of engineering and automation, several delegations expressed the view that the necessary prerequisites still did not exist for a successful discharge of these functions by the Commission. They proposed in particular that a permanent ECE body for engineering should be created. The proposal was also made that the ECE should engage in a series of studies giving a future-oriented description of possible development trends in several branches of the engineering industries. The first study, in the opinion of the authors of this proposal, could deal with the perspectives of development and the international division of labour in the automobile industry. Another proposal was made for the strengthening within the region of co-operation in pharmaceuticals and medical instruments. This co-operation might include not only joint research on these products but also on the more rapid elimination of mass diseases affecting many countries of the world. The measures envisaged would include encouragement of co-operation in manufacture of these products and the fostering of common research.

64. A number of delegations mentioned the importance of the Commission's contribution to the solution of global economic problems and stressed the need for increased co-operation with other United Nations bodies. In this connexion favourable comments were made on the ECE's contribution to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development, and its contribution to the 1980 Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women, through the holding of a Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region to be held in Paris (France) in July 1979. The view was expressed that the ECE as an organ of the United Nations should participate more actively in the efforts being undertaken with a view to establishing a New International Economic Order. It was also suggested that a contribution should be made to the implementation of the aims and decisions of the forthcoming fifth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Manila (Philippines) and that support should be given to the preparations for and holding of the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1980 which would be devoted to problems of the New International Economic Order. The desirability of strengthening ECE's co-operation with the other regional commissions was also stressed and in this connexion reference was made to the positive contribution that ECE could make in such fields as maritime transport, trade and industrial co-operation, and supply of raw materials.

65. A number of delegations referred to the subject of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act. They viewed with satisfaction the growing number of ECE activities of interest to countries bordering the Mediterranean and were in favour of close consultations among the Executive Secretaries of the three regional commissions concerned on matters of interest to those countries. In their opinion, the prospects of interregional projects were promising in the fields of transport, environment, water and human settlements.

66. Several delegations drew the attention of the Commission to the special problems confronting member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. The same delegations regretted that the action undertaken on problems of interest to those countries did not have a sufficiently concrete character and stressed the necessity that more projects of real interest for the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view be included in the Commission's programmes of work. These delegations gave support to the proposed creation of a Centre for the bilateral and multilateral promotion of industrial co-operation designed to help the above-mentioned countries in their industrial development efforts. The suggestion was made by one delegation that, within the present structure of the secretariat, a unit or an adviser on problems relevant to the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view be designated.

67. Many delegations commended the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/964 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978 which, in their opinion, provided the current session with a comprehensive view of the extent to which the Commission was discharging its responsibilities, including in particular those deriving from the CSCE. The Executive Secretary's suggestions to improve the efficiency of the Commission's methods of work were the subject of favourable comments. The adoption of measures which would result in a more effective and more economical utilization of limited financial resources was greeted with satisfaction.

68. Further suggestions were made by delegations with a view to improving the future work of the Commission. For a better utilization of recommendations adopted by seminars and symposia the proposal was made that the Commission's annual session be provided with a report prepared by the secretariat on the most important recommendations adopted by these meetings during the year. At the request of the Commission the interested Principal Subsidiary Bodies could then examine their implementation at their regular sessions. The suggestion was also made that a major area for the improvement of ECE operations lay in the reduction of meetings of marginal importance. In this the Executive Secretary would need the support and co-operation of member Governments.

69. A number of delegations expressed satisfaction with the active co-operation maintained between the Commission and other international organizations. The need was stressed to strengthen in particular the co-operation between the ECE and the other regional commissions, other organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Special mention was made of the close links established by the ECE with the UNEP and the UNDP. Reference was also made to the process of decentralization of the United Nations system which, it was hoped, would enable the various organs of the United Nations to acquire more autonomy and work together on concrete projects in accordance with the priorities adopted by member States.

70. Several delegations referred to the recent thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). They referred to the open character of this organization as well as to the type and scope of

co-operation which had developed among its member countries and which had resulted in an enlargement of its membership and the conclusion of co-operation agreements with several other States. They expressed satisfaction with a broadening of the working contacts between CMEA and ECE. In a statement to the Commission, the representative of the CMEA reviewed the achievements of co-operation among its member countries during the past thirty years, stressed the significance of such co-operation for the region as a whole and emphasized the development of co-operation of the CMEA member countries with other States. He gave his support to the convening of a high-level meeting on environment in the ECE framework in 1979 and to the speeding up of preparations for an inter-state meeting on energy. He drew attention to the current photo-exhibition of the CMEA secretariat devoted to the Council's thirtieth anniversary and its co-operation with the ECE.

Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by  
the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly

(agenda item 4(b))

71. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/965 on the resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

72. The delegation of Spain, speaking on this subject under agenda item 4(b), expressed its satisfaction with the results of the preparatory meeting for the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region. This Seminar, in its opinion, should provide a significant contribution to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, which was the subject of several resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Council. With regard to Council resolution 1978/61 and General Assembly resolution 33/148 on the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, the same delegation stressed the significance which the Seminar on Co-operative Technological Forecasting with Initial Application to Solar Energy (Spain, July 1979) would have among the events preceding the Conference. The same delegation also expressed its satisfaction with regard to the wish of the Council expressed in its resolution 1978/74 that the regional commissions should be further enabled to exercise, in consultation with the Governments concerned, the functions of executing agencies of UNDP and it voiced the hope that the ECE would one day be entrusted with this function with regard to projects of interest to Mediterranean countries of the region.

73. A draft decision on the contribution of the ECE to the preparations for an International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, submitted by the delegations of: Denmark; Malta; Romania; Spain; Turkey; and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision C(XXXIV)).

Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes  
designed to assist developing countries

(agenda item 4 (c))

74. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/966 on the Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries.

75. A number of delegations referred to this topic in their interventions during the general discussion under items 4 (a) and 5 (see paragraphs 64 and 66 above).

76. The delegation of Spain, speaking on this subject under agenda item 4 (c), expressed satisfaction with the clear presentation of facts in the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/966 outlining the activities of the Commission of interest, on the one hand, to countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view and, on the other, to developing countries in other regions. It was pointed out that this document also made clear how much could still be done to strengthen, within the programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, the activities which were of particular interest to countries developing from the economic point of view.

Co-operation with other international organizations

(agenda item 4 (d))

77. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/967 on co-operation with other international organizations.

78. A number of delegations referred to this topic in the course of their statements during the general discussion under items 4 (a) and 5 (see paragraphs 69 and 70 above).

79. The delegation of Spain, speaking on this subject under agenda item 4 (d), expressed the wish that this important form of co-operation be strengthened in order to prevent or eliminate duplication of work and voiced its satisfaction that new references appeared in the Executive Secretary's note to contributions made by organizations which were not previously mentioned.

80. The delegation of Malta referred to the benefit which ECE could derive from the work of the International Trade Centre (ITC) and stressed the need for closer co-operation between the ECE and the ITC on matters of common concern.

81. Statements were made under this item by representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), who informed the Commission of activities of relevance to ECE's programme of work, referred to specific subjects on which co-operation with ECE had taken place in the past year, and pledged their support to furthering this co-operation in future.

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82. The Commission having decided at its thirteenth meeting to hold its next meeting on Monday, 23 April 1979, statements were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Belgium, France, Malta, Yugoslavia, Romania and the United States of America.

83. The delegate of the USSR stated that although the Soviet delegation did not object to the proposal to hold the next plenary meeting of the thirty-fourth session of ECE on 23 April, it wished to express its regret over this new delay, which was having a negative impact on the work of the Commission as a whole.

84. The question of the holding of all-European conferences was the most important question at the present session, just as it had been at the two previous sessions of the Commission and, unfortunately, it was precisely over this question that the main difficulties had arisen. The reasons for this were not difficult to identify. When the socialist countries had submitted the proposal to hold the conferences three years previously, a certain group of countries had come forward with objections, trying to convince the socialist countries that the time was not right for convening the conferences. A year later the same group had referred to the need for careful preparations, and now, when even those who opposed the above proposal were obliged to recognize that such preparations had been made, the implementation of this important proposal had been linked with a political condition which, as those responsible for it knew very well in advance, was quite unacceptable to the socialist countries. He was referring to the unconditional recognition of the European Economic Community - a condition which was in no way directly connected with the ability of the countries of the region to proceed with the organization of co-operation on a broad scale in the environmental sphere. Thus, the past years had revealed a group of States in the Commission which were pursuing a policy of delaying in every way the solution of questions which could open up a veritable highway in the Commission's activities and inject new life into all its work. His delegation resolutely condemned this policy. The Commission would justify its existence only if its activities were based on important decisions which went beyond the framework of routine business.

85. The delegate wished to express the hope that his appeal would meet with a positive response from the western group, that a reasonable approach would be adopted and that, when all was said and done, genuine interest in all-European co-operation would prevail.

86. The delegate of Belgium, speaking in the name of the western group of countries, emphasized that despite the complexity and the number of important problems which had to be considered at this session, all the parties had striven hard to find solutions.

87. He referred in particular to the good work undertaken by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, which had brought them considerably closer to a decision on the holding of a high-level meeting within the framework of ECE. No-one could dispute the prodigious amount of work which had been done almost night and day within the western group. Despite political difficulties and the technical problems involved, it had produced two complementary texts - one a draft convention on transboundary air pollution and the other a draft resolution on the same subject.

88. Turning to energy, he mentioned the proposal which had been made which would give a new impulse to ECE's work. Through the creation of a new subsidiary organ, information indispensable to the taking of decisions could be made to form the basis of further co-operation in Europe, and this exchange of information might even lead to the exploration of topics for an eventual high-level meeting.

89. The delegate went on to say that on one problem of great importance it had not been entirely possible to reconcile the different points of view. This was not merely a formal problem but one which concerned the member States of the



Community and also touched directly on the implementation of the convention which everyone wished to conclude as soon as possible. It was for this reason that the western group of countries considered it necessary to settle this question before taking a decisive step forward.

90. The delegate of Belgium concluded by stating that he was confident, with the goodwill existing on both sides, that a solution could be found enabling decisions to be taken by the Governments on concrete matters concerning the environment and energy, the work programme and all the activities of the Commission, decisions which their peoples expected.

91. The delegate of France, speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, stated that the members of the Commission who had shown their great interest in the work of ECE, in the problems of the environment, energy and the Mediterranean and in the holding of a high-level meeting on environment in the near future, and who had also achieved very important results through the Senior Advisers and their representatives at the current session, were now facing a serious problem, namely whether the European Economic Community would participate or not. Since this participation was essential in an increasing number of international conventions, for well-known reasons of legal competence and international law, the delegations concerned could not subscribe to the texts prepared as long as their partners had not formally given their agreement to the signature of the Convention by the EEC. Such agreement had not been given and the conditions which had been laid down could not be accepted.

92. He further stated that the delegations concerned had tried to dissociate the basic question of the signature by the Community, on which no compromise was possible and which had to be settled before they could agree on the holding of the high-level meeting, from the question of modalities, on which they had made several compromise proposals that had not been accepted, as well as a procedural suggestion which had also not been accepted. Since this dissociation was rejected for the reasons clearly stated by their partners, there was no other alternative than to take a little time to solve the problem as a whole, i.e., to seek an acceptable formula under which the Community could participate under equitable conditions in the Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution.

93. The delegate of Malta expressed his regret concerning the adjournment. He went on to say that his delegation, together with others, had launched a draft decision following, even if somewhat reluctantly, the normal procedure and the fate of this decision now appeared to be in jeopardy. A question had arisen concerning the status of a report mentioned in this draft decision. He emphasized that this was the Report of the Valletta Meeting which had been adopted by consensus, with no reservations, by the delegations of participating States whose size and importance left no doubt as to the significance attached by Governments to this Meeting. He drew a comparison with the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems which had been accepted at approximately the same time as a basis for discussion of the item on a high-level meeting on the environment, despite the presence of many square brackets.

94. The delegate of Malta affirmed that his Government could not accept any reservations concerning the status of the Report of the Valletta Meeting and that if such an argument was seriously posed it was not the status of the Report that would be put in doubt but the political will behind it. He nevertheless hoped that the two weeks available before resumption of the session would give Governments the opportunity to acquaint themselves fully with this Report.

95. The delegate of Yugoslavia expressed his delegation's regret regarding the way in which the work of the session had to be adjourned. During the past two weeks much progress had been made in finding solutions to complex problems of interest to all, but in the final stages of negotiations the big economic groupings in Europe had introduced questions which had been under discussion between them for some time past. The lack of political will to surmount this difficulty was a step backward. In the present situation in the world, in particular in the other regions, only coexistence and co-operation as well as subordination of certain limited interests provided a basis for peace on the European continent. His delegation, though disappointed that the session had to be adjourned, hoped that the spirit of co-operation and coexistence would lead in two weeks' time to concrete results which could not be obtained until now.

96. The delegate of Romania stated that his delegation, which had spared no efforts during this session to contribute to the discussions and negotiations in a constructive spirit, regretted that the Commission was unable to agree on the convening of the high-level meeting on environment as well as on other important initiatives. He expressed the hope that all delegations would make the necessary efforts, at the conclusion of the thirty-fourth session, to arrive at an agreement on the important decisions desired by all member countries of the Commission.

97. The delegate of the United States said that the sense of disappointment must be even more depressing and discouraging for the secretariat. He thought that everyone was indebted to the Executive Secretary and his staff for the preparations which had been undertaken and expressed the hope that the parties seeking to resolve the problems which caused the recess would solicit and involve the active participation of the Executive Secretary. He felt that the difficulties which had arisen supported the wisdom of careful preparation for a high-level meeting so that Ministers would not be confronted with the need to solve such problems.

98. The delegate appreciated the conciliatory and hopeful statements which had been made by other representatives and, while acknowledging the difficulties, believed that the atmosphere gave hope that the problems would be resolved. He expressed hope and expectation that the session would be reconvened in a most constructive manner.

99. The fourteenth meeting of the Commission was held on 23 April.

100. At its fifteenth meeting the Commission adopted a resolution and other decisions.

101. A draft resolution on the work and future activities of the Commission and the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy, was adopted by the Commission. (For the text see Chapter IV, resolution 1 (XXXIV).)

102. A draft decision on a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment was submitted to the Commission for adoption. Before the adoption of this decision the delegate of Austria stated that his delegation welcomed the Draft Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution prepared by the thirty-fourth session of ECE. This document (E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.18) was to be considered as a major step forward as regards international co-operation in the field of protection of the environment. In his view, "air pollution" as

defined in paragraph 1 included possible adverse emissions resulting from the operation of nuclear power plants, because these emissions were nothing else than the introduction of substances and energy into the air. It went without saying that the fundamental principles laid down in paragraphs 2 to 4 of the Draft Convention applied to air pollution originating from nuclear power plants. The delegate went on to say that, given the extremely dangerous form of this kind of air pollution and the urgent need to cope with it, his delegation strongly appealed to the member States of ECE to take immediate action in accordance with the fundamental principles contained in this Convention. The draft decision was adopted by the Commission. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision A (XXXIV).)

103. A draft decision on energy was adopted by the Commission. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision B (XXXIV).)

104. Other decisions were adopted at the same meeting as follows: 3/

- The contribution of the ECE to the preparations for an International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (see paragraph 73 above)
- Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (see paragraph 138 below)
- Increased effectiveness in use of ECE resources (see paragraph 139 below)
- International co-operation in the pharmaceutical industry (see paragraph 161 below)
- A study of trade in chemical products among ECE member countries (see paragraph 162 below)
- Co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems (see paragraph 249 below)
- Co-operation in the field of science and technology (see paragraph 257 below)
- Long-term economic trends and development of international co-operation (see paragraph 266 below)
- A multilateral system for the notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST) (see paragraph 323 below)
- The economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region (see paragraph 329 below)
- Co-operation in the field of new technologies of coal extraction and utilization (see paragraph 338 below)
- Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (see paragraph 354 below).

105. After the adoption of the resolution and decisions mentioned above, statements were made by the representatives of the USSR, France, Romania, Yugoslavia, the United States of America, Hungary and Belgium.

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3/ For the decisions adopted by the Commission at its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendations of the Sessional Committee, see paragraphs 395 to 402 below.

106. The delegate of the USSR, speaking on behalf of the delegations members of the group of socialist countries within the ECE, stated that the current session of the Economic Commission for Europe had adopted important decisions for further work in ECE relating to the development of multilateral co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of protection of the environment, energy and transport. In this connexion, the fact that final agreement had been reached to convene a high-level all-European meeting on the protection of the environment from 13 to 16 November 1979 was of particular importance.

107. The actual success of this major step within the framework of ECE, which followed up the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, would depend on the joint efforts of ECE member countries and their desire to really contribute to the solution of the urgent problems of our time. One of the manifestations of this desire should be the States' readiness to hold the meeting at a level not lower than that of ministers or officials of equal status.

108. The agreement to convene the all-European meeting on environment provided that one of its principal final documents - the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution - might be signed, apart from member States of the ECE, by regional economic integration organizations. In accepting the formula contained in that agreement for participation by organizations of this type, the delegations of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries on whose behalf this statement was made considered that this did not change their attitude to various international organizations, as well as that it did not change the status of these organizations within ECE, could not serve as a precedent for negotiations on other matters and agreements and did not give additional advantages to any party.

109. General energy problems, which had also been the subject of a special decision at the current session, would occupy a prominent place in the future work of the Commission. In agreeing to this decision, the above-mentioned delegations proceeded from the fact that it was designed to make the work of the Commission in the sphere of energy more effective and purposeful. They were firmly convinced that this aim would be achieved only if the new body, the Senior Advisers on Energy, which was established for the time being on an ad hoc basis, would be guided by the need for a concrete consideration of the tasks assigned to it; in practical terms, this would mean, first of all, creation of the necessary conditions for holding an all-European inter-State conference on energy at a sufficiently high level, which was to initiate the adoption of regional approaches to the solution of one of the most acute problems of a global nature.

110. The same purpose would also be served by a more active study in the Commission of the problem of transport, including the proposal made by socialist countries for the convening of an all-European inter-State conference on this problem, included in the Commission's programme.

111. He concluded that the important decisions of the thirty-fourth session could constitute a solid basis for the future work of ECE as a whole, should promote the better utilization of its potential and, primarily, the carrying out of the tasks assigned to it by the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe with respect to the development of multilateral co-operation.

112. Speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, the delegation of France warmly welcomed the satisfactory conclusion of the Commission's work. Among the many important matters on which the Commission had had to take action, the decision

to hold, in November 1977, within the framework of ECE, a high-level meeting on protection of the environment was particularly to be welcomed. The European Economic Community was very glad to take part in that meeting, one outcome of which would be the adoption of a convention and a resolution on transboundary air pollution, and a Declaration of intent on low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes.

113. In that field, the European Economic Community intended to contribute fully, in the form and manner appropriate to its structure, to the implementation of the convention on transboundary air pollution. The convention was to provide that it would be open for signature and accession also by regional economic integration organizations having competence in respect of the negotiation, conclusion and application of international agreements in matters covered by the convention, and that, in matters within their competence, such organizations should, on their own behalf, exercise the rights and fulfil the responsibilities which the convention attributed to their member States, thus enabling the European Economic Community to become a full Contracting Party.

114. Referring to the Commission's decision to set up on an ad hoc basis a new principal subsidiary body for energy, it stated that the subject was of great importance and it could only welcome the opportunity thus afforded to develop among the member States, within the framework of ECE, closer and therefore more fruitful co-operation than had existed in the past.

115. Apart, however, from those tasks which the Commission would thus have to undertake, the various texts which had been adopted in connexion with its increasingly successful regular activities were further proof of its vitality.

116. The delegation of Romania expressed the view that, as a result of the decisions which had just been adopted, the thirty-fourth session would be a landmark in the Commission's activity. It referred first of all to the decision to convene during the year a general European conference on the environment and the preparation of a draft Convention on transboundary air pollution and a Declaration on low- and non-waste technology, which opened up prospects for wide co-operation in a specific area of concern to all member countries. The delegation of Romania regarded the Convention as an important document not only on its own merits but also politically, because it would be the first convention negotiated within the framework of the Commission between the countries of the region since the signature of the Final Act of CSCE.

117. It thought that the decision taken with regard to energy would likewise be a starting-point for a process of widening co-operation in Europe in an area that was of extreme importance for all the countries of the continent, including the preparation and convening of a European conference on energy as an integral part of the terms of reference established for the subsidiary body on energy which the Commission had just created. Its hope was that this activity would serve a practical purpose which would intensify co-operation between all the countries of the region.

118. The Romanian delegation considered that the results obtained could have been achieved within the time normally allotted for the session if the Commission's working methods and practices had permitted more direct and effective negotiation, with the participation of all delegations. In that connexion, it saw a need to improve certain practices which, in the present state of European relations, tended to hold up the negotiating process and to limit the Commission's contribution to the development of co-operation between member countries.

119. With regard to the decisions which the Commission had adopted, the Romanian delegation considered, in the first place, that since the content of the draft Convention was highly specific, it could be accepted only in principle and that final agreement remained to be given at the Conference convened specifically for the adoption of the Convention. Secondly, since the convening of the High-Level Meeting on the Protection of the Environment was an outcome of the provisions of the Final Act of CSCE, it regretted that the text of the Convention as agreed upon did not expressly provide for the decisions of the proposed executive organ envisaged to be taken by consensus, in conformity with the spirit and letter of the Final Act. Since the Commission had been taking its decisions by consensus for more than 30 years, the Romanian delegation wished to make clear its understanding, which was that the adoption of the Convention and its subsequent implementation should take place within strict observance of the consensus as defined and applied by CSCE. That was, in its view, the only procedure on which genuine European co-operation between independent and equal sovereign States could be based. The Romanian delegation interpreted the wording on the subject of participation in the Convention of regional economic integration organizations constituted by States members of ECE as referring exclusively to any such organization to which its member States had transferred competence to sign, conclude and apply international agreements on their behalf and to exercise their rights and responsibilities in the matter of transboundary pollution.

120. The delegation of Yugoslavia expressed its satisfaction with the results achieved during the session. The adoption of important decisions on the Commission's future activities was evidence of a political will to promote more equitable economic co-operation among the peoples, large and small, of the region, and so contribute to détente, peace and the promotion of fairer international economic relations in Europe and elsewhere.

121. The decisions adopted by the Commission were in its opinion proof of a deep concern to implement the spirit of the Final Act of CSCE which could lead to the solution, at a high level and in the interest of all the member countries, of the grave economic problems which they all had to face. Those decisions also showed the desirability of giving the Commission responsibility for implementation.

122. It was a matter for satisfaction that agreement had been reached in the Commission to consider such problems as the environment, energy, over-all development and co-operation in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, all areas in which multilateral solutions were in the interest of all the countries of the region.

123. There was much still to be done and there were other problems which should be tackled as soon as possible, such as the protectionism which hindered free access to European markets, questions concerning industrial co-operation, water problems and the question of special preferential treatment for the economically less-developed countries of Europe. However, the spirit of co-operation and political goodwill which had been demonstrated showed that the Commission was on the right lines so far as concerned the impulse needed for economic co-operation as well as the promotion of peace, security, co-existence and progress for the peoples of the member countries on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

124. The delegate of the United States associated himself with the comments by all speakers regarding the progress achieved by the Commission at its current session. His delegation also regarded the success achieved in agreeing on a text on environment and the decision to move forward to a high-level meeting in Geneva in November as a very important step forward for ECE and for co-operation among its member States. In the opinion of the United States delegation the Commission must be careful in the creation of new bodies, must assign to them clear responsibilities and mandates and must make sure that these mandates had been fulfilled. Thus while high-level meetings were not the principal reason for the existence of any ECE body, they might be a significant and important adjunct to the normal activities of some bodies. In this connexion the delegate said he understood that in creating this new body and setting out the responsibilities of a high-level meeting, the Commission had again added to the responsibilities and burdens of the secretariat and the already strained resources of the ECE. He had noted with satisfaction the statements made by the Executive Secretary regarding the control and constant re-examination of the budget, which were practically exemplary in terms of United Nations bodies. He expressed the hope that in order to cope with these additional problems the possibility would be considered of providing the necessary resources by the reduction, or even the elimination, of some of the less important work that may be going on, so that the most important work could be achieved. Thus the work of certain bodies which in the view of several delegations had perhaps served their purpose, and were no longer necessary or perhaps ought to be reorganized, should be reviewed in the course of the year.

125. The delegate of Hungary, speaking on behalf of the delegations members of the group of socialist countries within the ECE, stated that the decision on the holding of the high-level meeting in the field of the environment reflected the real spirit of co-operation that prevailed. He expressed his conviction that the high-level meeting was not an end in itself, but a significant step towards solving major environmental problems of the region, thus giving evidence of the capability of the ECE in implementing the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. As for energy, he expressed confidence that the new body established on an ad hoc basis would be able to fulfil its mandate and would pay due attention to the examination of problems related to the preparation of a high-level meeting. As to the other decisions adopted at the session he was convinced that they would contribute to the further expansion of economic co-operation among countries of the ECE region and to the improvement of work within the Commission.

126. Finally, the delegate of Belgium made a statement in which he underlined the very important results which had been achieved at the current session thanks to the good will of all participants, thereby favouring an increased co-operation in the economic field among all countries participating in the ECE.

Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work  
(agenda item 4(e))

127. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration. The Committee had before it the report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of Commission decision C(XXXIII) in respect of the development of trade (E/ECE/968), as well as his report pursuant to operative paragraph 6 of the same decision concerning concentration and integration in the field of science and technology (E/ECE/969). In considering this item, the Committee also took into account the relevant sections of the report by the Executive Secretary on the Commission's activities and the implementation of priorities in 1978 (E/ECE/964).

128. Introducing the item, and referring specifically to the study of the Commission's activities in the field of science and technology, the Executive Secretary said that he considered the results of the exercise to have been most useful from a management viewpoint. The study brought out the fact that the pragmatic approach to programming in the ECE was a direct response to the needs and priorities of member countries, and he had been gratified to note that some two-thirds of the work elements of the Commission dealt - in one way or another - with scientific and technological co-operation, with a concentration of effort in such areas as long-term trends and international co-operation in research. Moreover, the study had not brought to light any serious overlapping or duplication, but had identified some activities such as the transfer of technology where the potential existed for strengthening the activities of the Commission. He also considered the time to be ripe for the Senior Advisers to assume a more active role of intellectual leadership in matters relating to the Commission's activities in science and technology; for example, they could devote greater attention to scientific and technological policy-related issues, especially those related to long range economic planning. In this respect, he suggested that there might be value in the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology and the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments jointly convening a seminar in this important area of study and policy making. The Executive Secretary concluded his introduction by suggesting that, in view of the attention being devoted to environmental problems, the Commission might wish to select environmental activities as the next area for a study of concentration and integration.

129. A number of delegations expressed appreciation for the comprehensiveness of the Executive Secretary's report. The delegation of France <sup>4/</sup> considered an annual exchange of views relating to concentration and integration to be important in ensuring better co-ordination of the Commission's activities. This view was shared by other delegations. The Romanian delegation considered as very positive the methods of analysis followed by the Executive Secretary in his report based on the two analytical approaches used in this analysis which should be kept in mind for the further examination of the problems chosen for illustrating the degree of concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Poland viewed science and technology as being a key area in the activities of the ECE. They also recalled that east-west co-operation

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<sup>4/</sup> Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of France is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.



in science and technology had been given a new stimulus following the CSCE and stressed the importance it attached to maintaining this momentum. They observed that trade depended to a large extent on a dynamic flow of technologically advanced products and underlined the need for the further development of scientific and technological co-operation.

130. Commenting in detail on the report by the Executive Secretary, the delegations of France, the German Democratic Republic and Poland noted with satisfaction the absence of any serious cases of duplication or overlapping.

131. Several delegations endorsed the observations made in the report concerning gaps - particularly in activities related to the transfer of technology, but some delegations noted that the existence of gaps did not in itself necessarily justify the Commission embarking on new activities, since these might already be undertaken in other organizations and might not correspond to the role which member Governments assigned to the ECE.

132. In the light of the results of the study the delegation of Poland put forward the view that the main function of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology in their relation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should be that of policy formulation and co-ordination. It further suggested that the Senior Advisers should regularly review technological trends and developments and envisage the publication of a biennial review of current developments in science and technology policy as a possible contribution to the Economic Survey of Europe. The Romanian delegation, referring to the need for a better concentration of the efforts in the field of science and technology on the problems connected with the long-term perspective, stressed the necessity for better co-operation of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology with the Senior Economic Advisers, particularly with regard to further work on the Overall Economic Perspective. The delegation of Czechoslovakia proposed that the Senior Advisers, as a remedy for the present dispersal of effort over many projects, should identify new key programmes, such as automation, utilization of electronics, technical progress in management, and the setting up of integrated information systems for management.

133. The delegation of Sweden felt that a link existed between the work on concentration and integration and proposals to increase efficiency in methods of work, contained in the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/964 and that in both cases it was mainly the task of the respective Principal Subsidiary Bodies to discuss any concrete suggestions.

134. In detailed discussion of the two analytical approaches used in the analysis of the activities of the Commission in the field of science and technology, the delegations of France and Switzerland considered the first - namely the one which used the work programme of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology as the basis for the analytical comparison - as being more acceptable. The delegation of France, commenting on the results of the analysis using the first approach, considered that the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology had a key role to play in respect of studies on the science and technology policies of ECE member countries, and could play a useful catalytic role in respect of international co-operative research. As for the transfer of technology, this delegation considered that the definition used in the secretariat report was somewhat restrictive, and did not take sufficiently into account valuable work of the Commission in promoting the exchange of experience and information. With regard to the second approach, which

used a much broader classification of activities in the field of science and technology, the delegations of France and Switzerland expressed some reservations since it identified apparent gaps in the Commission's activities - in respect of the social sciences, for example - which were not appropriate subjects for ECE activities.

135. The delegation of Switzerland, referring to the introductory remarks of the Executive Secretary, acknowledged the information value to delegations of the analysis, but questioned the practical value to which the results of the analysis were being put. Noting the relatively few existing joint projects listed in the report of the Executive Secretary, as well as the number of potential joint activities and the problems which a body such as the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology would encounter in trying to co-ordinate activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, this delegation suggested that there was scope for the more direct assumption of responsibility by the Commission and its Sessional Committee. In the light of the experience gained in undertaking the concentration and integration studies over the last two years, the delegation of Switzerland suggested that the Executive Secretary might wish to make proposals designed to improve the efficiency of the methods of work of the Commission and its Sessional Committee which might be considered by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session. In this respect he proposed in particular that the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies should no longer be examined separately but regrouped according to the main areas of the Commission's work.

136. The delegation of Spain stated that it shared the views expressed by the delegation of Switzerland and supported the above-mentioned suggestions. It further elaborated on the need to ensure that in their annual meetings the Principal Subsidiary Bodies take more into account the decisions adopted by the Commission on this important item.

137. The Executive Secretary stated that he welcomed the suggestions made by delegations for strengthened concentration and integration and also for improvements in the work methods of the Sessional Committee. He indicated that he would address these matters during consultations with delegations and in his report to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

138. A draft decision on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work, submitted by the delegations of: Belgium; Canada; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany, Federal Republic of; Ireland; Italy; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Spain; Switzerland and the United Kingdom, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision D(XXXIV).)

139. A draft decision on increased effectiveness in use of ECE resources, submitted by the delegations of the United Kingdom and the United States of America, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision E(XXXIV).)

#### Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

(agenda item 4 (f))

140. The account of the preliminary consideration of sub-item 4(f) by the Sessional Committee is contained in paragraphs 141 to 306 below.

#### Committee on Agricultural Problems

141. All delegations participating in the discussion of the report of the thirtieth session of the Committee on Agricultural Problems (ECE/AGRI/45) expressed their satisfaction with and great interest in the work accomplished. It was felt that

through its reviews and through its many-sided activities, the Committee considered economic and technical problems which were of general interest and therefore gave rise to a wide exchange of views to find appropriate solutions. Some delegations referred to the great importance of agriculture for economic and social development - and this particularly in countries which were developing from the economic point of view and where the economy depended to a considerable extent on the accomplishments of agriculture.

142. The Committee's programme of work for 1979 to 1983, met with general approval. In the view of the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia and the USSR this programme dealt with topical economic and technical problems, constituted a constructive base for promoting multilateral co-operation between countries with different socio-economic systems, and made the Committee the appropriate body for the implementation of the agricultural aspects of the Final Act of the CSCE. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic was particularly interested in an exchange of information and experience on trends of agricultural production and on agricultural policies, and in the development problems in agriculture, especially those related to mechanization and its future prospects, to ecological problems in agriculture, the development of agrarian structures, the implementation of effective farm rationalization, and selected aspects of livestock farming and crop production, all of which were covered by the present programme of work.

143. The close co-operation of the Committee on Agricultural Problems with other subsidiary bodies of the ECE and with FAO, in particular FAO's Regional Office for Europe and its European Commission on Agriculture, as evident in the joint Working Parties and the Committee's contribution to FAO projects, was generally appreciated, because it allowed a better co-ordination of activities. The delegation of Bulgaria suggested that ECE and FAO should also co-operate in the light of a long-term strategy for the rational use of natural resources. The representative of the European Economic Community expressed the Community's interest in a thorough examination of the possibility of increased co-operation, without financial implications, between the ECE Committee on Water Problems and the Working Party on Irrigation and Drainage of FAO's European Commission on Agriculture. He also referred to the attention paid by the Community to FAO's co-operative research networks. The delegation of Hungary welcomed the regular information provided for the Committee on Agricultural Problems on the activities of these networks, which were an outstanding example for the implementation of the relevant provision of the Final Act of the CSCE. The delegation of Hungary also noted with satisfaction that sub-regional organizations, such as the CMEA, were very interested in the Committee's work, which further strengthened all-European co-operation; the CMEA had gained considerable experience in the 30 years of its existence and could therefore make a positive contribution to the activities of the ECE.

144. The annual reviews on general agricultural developments in the region and on agricultural trade and major commodity markets were considered to be very useful sources of information for countries. The delegation of Finland referred in particular to the secretariat study on supply and demand developments for feedingstuffs, milk and meat in the ECE region until 1985 and regretted that its discussion at the thirtieth Committee session had been shorter than originally foreseen and also disappointing, because it provided very little information on country views with respect to broad policy lines and issues; in the view of this delegation it might therefore be useful to submit this study for further discussion to an ad hoc meeting.

The representative of the European Economic Community referred to the exchange of statistical information between the Community countries and the countries with state trading; he again drew attention to the complete information provided by the Community which would like to receive in return more substantive information than up to now from the other countries.

145. The attention given by the Committee to scientific and technical co-operation was generally appreciated and the expansion of these activities was considered to be a very positive factor. Reference was made to the programme of symposia, technical reports and study tours which allowed a very useful exchange of technical and scientific information in concrete form. The fertilizer symposium organized in January 1979 was mentioned as a successful example of these activities.

146. Several delegations referred to their interest in the agricultural aspects of ecological questions, protection of the environment and landscape management. As expressed by the delegation of Greece, efforts to improve the environment deserved to be encouraged. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR considered it useful to focus attention on intensive studies relating to protection of the environment, measures against erosion, soil improvement and the rational use of land, which could constitute an important contribution by the Committee on Agricultural Problems to the all-European high-level meeting on environmental problems.

147. The activities of the Committee's subsidiary bodies met with general appreciation. With respect to the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce it was pointed out that this work facilitated international trade and helped to remove certain obstacles to this trade. The delegation of Turkey welcomed the harmonization of the existing general conditions of sale for certain agricultural products and the establishment of the Arbitral Chamber. Satisfaction was also expressed with the progress achieved in a relatively short time by the FAO/ECE Working Party on Agrarian Structure and Farm Rationalization. The symposium organized by this Working Party in May 1978 on the problem of agricultural development in less-favoured areas had allowed the establishment of an inventory and a classification of problems the solution of which constituted an integral part of global agricultural policy. A very positive appraisal was also given to the FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture which, like the other FAO/ECE Working Party, helped to steadily improve international co-operation and allowed countries to profit from a mutual exchange of experience; reference was made to the very successful series of study tours on agricultural mechanization and to the excellent tour organized in Czechoslovakia in 1978. Regret was expressed, however, at the very slow progress of the joint FAO/ECE/CES activities on the methodology of agricultural statistics, which deserved to be speeded up.

148. With regard to the forthcoming World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (in July 1979), the representative of the European Economic Community expressed the wish of the Community to contribute to and participate actively in this Conference; the Community had gained considerable experience in the field of structural improvements in less-favoured areas and felt that its knowledge and experience, although they could not be applied directly as such in other countries, could constitute a positive contribution to the Conference. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic felt that the experience gained by socialist countries in their agricultural development had not received due consideration in the preparatory stages of the World Conference; in this delegation's view the ECE could exercise its influence in order to remedy this situation, and this might be done through appropriate recommendations, through the preparation of studies or through similar activities.

149. In addition to this general assessment of the activities carried out by the Committee on Agricultural Problems and its subsidiary bodies, the delegations participating in the discussion made the following comments on specific projects included in the programme of work for 1979 to 1983:

Work area 02.1: Long-term trends and perspectives

- 02.1.1.1 The delegation of Greece was very interested in long-term market developments.
- 02.1.1.2 The delegations of Greece and Spain expressed their great interest in the reports on output, expenses and income.
- 02.1.2 The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR welcomed the co-operation with the Senior Economic Advisers and the delegation of Greece considered that this co-operation should be promoted.
- 02.1.3 The delegations of Greece, Spain and Turkey favoured such studies of long-term perspectives for agriculture in southern Europe with particular reference to agrarian structures and employment.

Work area 02.2: Current developments and short- and medium-term prospects, including international trade

As far as they were not carried out by other international organizations, most of the projects under this work area were of interest (Greece).

- 02.2.1 and 02.2.2 The delegation of the USSR welcomed the decision to improve the methods of work for these reviews.
- 02.2.4 The delegation of Hungary had a special interest in the standardization work and would continue to take an active part; it welcomed the proposal to publish all standards for fruit and vegetables in one volume which could be used by national authorities as a manual in their daily work.

With particular reference to dry and dried fruit it was a serious source of concern to the delegation of Turkey that certain importing countries were inclined to raise these trade standards to prohibitive levels; this work should not lead to excessively restricting the export possibilities of member countries nor to reducing the value of these products in the world market; the climatic and soil conditions of the Mediterranean basin should be taken into account when elaborating standards for products originating mainly in this region; such a positive approach would correspond to the repeatedly confirmed political will to co-operate with the member countries which were developing from the economic point of view.

There was no objection to the extension of the standardization work to other products and to conditions of sale for milk and milk products, provided that such activities were not already included in the work programme of other international bodies, in particular of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (EEC).

Work area 02.3: Selected economic and technological problems

- 02.3.1 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Turkey and the USSR were very interested in the studies of problems relating to agrarian structure and farm rationalization. Plans for an active contribution were announced by the delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Hungary.
- 02.3.2 Studies of problems relating to agricultural mechanization in general and the related energy problems (02.3.2.2) and environmental aspects (02.4.1) were of special interest to the delegations of Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Turkey and the USSR.
- 02.3.2.6 The study on present and foreseeable trends of mechanization was a very important task of the Working Party (Hungary, USSR).
- 02.3.3 The delegation of Bulgaria was very interested in marketing problems relating to agricultural products, and the delegation of Hungary planned to take an active part in the 1980 symposium.
- 02.3.4 Problems relating to fertilizers, soil fertility, crop production, erosion and recultivation of land were very important for the delegation of Turkey.
- 02.3.4.1 The delegation of the USSR hoped that many countries would be able to participate in the forthcoming sugar beet symposium in Kiev.
- 02.3.4.2 Methods of combating erosion, recultivating land and improving soil quality were of special interest to the delegation of Bulgaria, which planned to co-operate actively, and the delegation of the Byelorussian SSR suggested that the study of these problems be intensified.
- 02.3.4.3 The report on triticales was supported by the delegation of Turkey.
- 02.3.4.5 The delegation of the USSR welcomed the decision to organize another fertilizer symposium in 1983.
- 02.3.4.6 The decision to include problems of land use and land-use planning in the work programme was supported by the delegation of the USSR. The delegation of Hungary regretted that no concrete proposals had as yet been adopted; the Committee should take up activities in this field.
- The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR was especially interested in the question of rational land use.
- The delegation of Czechoslovakia suggested systematic attention to the general problems of land as a basic factor of production and an integral part of the environment.
- 02.3.5 In view of the dynamic development of the livestock sector the delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Spain and Turkey expressed their interest in the projects relating to animal production and feedingstuffs.

02.3.5.4 The delegation of the USSR hoped that this symposium on managerial, economic, technical and sanitary aspects of large livestock farms would be of interest to many countries.

Work area 02.4: Environmental problems relating to agriculture

The delegation of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, and the German Democratic Republic were very interested in environmental problems. The delegation of Greece also showed interest in this project.

Work area 02.5: Statistics

The improvement of the quality of agricultural statistics and better harmonization to allow comparisons between countries were a very important task (Czechoslovakia, Greece, USSR); at present this task was not carried out in a satisfactory manner and the execution of the work programme should be speeded up (Czechoslovakia, USSR).

Chemical Industry Committee

150. For the consideration of this item the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the eleventh session of the Chemical Industry Committee (ECE/CHEM/24).

151. Delegations expressed their over-all appreciation of the work done by the Committee during the past year. It was felt that a successful programme of projects had been carried out which had enhanced the understanding of the chemical industry within the ECE region, and had intensified co-operation in this field.

152. Delegations emphasized the importance they attached to the work of the Chemical Industry Committee and expressed their willingness to continue supporting its activities. The Committee was commended for pursuing work which was of vital interest to the chemical industry in member countries. Projects which were singled out in this context were the Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, the five-year survey Market Trends for Chemical Products 1970-1975 and Prospects to 1980, and the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products. Delegations stressed the value they placed on all these activities in the field of statistics and information. Equal importance was attributed to technological studies such as those on the conservation of energy in the chemical industry, on utilization of wastes by the chemical industry, and on the use of polymer materials in the construction industry.

153. Special satisfaction was voiced about the seminars and study tours held. Such projects were considered an excellent method for exchanging views and experience among experts from various member countries. In this context thanks were expressed to the Government of the German Democratic Republic for hosting the Seminar on Recycling of High-Polymer Wastes (Dresden, September 1978) and the Government of the Netherlands for hosting the study tour in its country in October 1978. The Seminar on Air Pollution Problems from Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry, organized by the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and co-sponsored by the Chemical Industry Committee (Szczecin, Poland, October 1978), was also judged successful. Appreciation was expressed to the Government of Poland for offering to host a Seminar on Forecasting Planning and Programming in the Chemical Industry in September 1979, and to the Government of Bulgaria for organizing a Seminar in 1980 on Management and Production Control in the Chemical Industry. It was the opinion of all delegations that these two events dealt with topics which were of general interest and confidence was expressed that these two seminars would be successful..

154. All delegations expressed their basic agreement and support for the programme of work for 1979-1983. Recognition was given to the fact that it contained a number of important projects. Delegations made the following detailed comments on the Committee's programme of work for 1979-1983:

Work area 03.1: Medium- and long-term perspectives

- 03.1.1 } The importance of these projects was emphasized  
03.1.2 } by all speakers.

Work area 03.2: Current developments and prospects including international trade

- 03.2.1 } Great importance was attributed to these two projects by the  
03.2.2 } delegations of: Bulgaria; the Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia;  
German Democratic Republic; Hungary; Poland; Romania; Spain;  
the Ukrainian SSR; the USSR; the United Kingdom 5/ and Yugoslavia.

Work area 03.3: Selected economic and technological problems

- 03.3.1 All speakers expressed interest in this topic.
- 03.3.2 This was considered to be a valuable project by the delegations of Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia; the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR expressed less interest.
- 03.3.3 Special interest was voiced by the delegations of Greece and Poland. The delegation of Poland being the organizer of the task force advised that so far the following countries were participating: Austria; Denmark; Germany, Federal Republic of; Hungary; Netherlands. All ECE member countries not participating so far were requested to consider the possibility of joining this task force.

Work area 03.4: Selected environmental and resource-saving problems

This was regarded as a fundamental area.

- 03.4.1 All speakers voiced great interest.
- 03.4.2 The delegation of Turkey favoured this project; limited interest was expressed by the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR.

Work area 03.5: Statistics and information

- 03.5.1 This was considered a valuable project by all speakers.

155. The delegation of Sweden suggested that, as far as future projects were concerned, the Committee should put emphasis on policy oriented projects and studies dealing with longer-term perspectives and structural changes. The delegation of Turkey would like to see the programme of work of the Committee responding to a greater extent to the needs and interests of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. The delegation of the United Kingdom emphasized the importance of selecting and defining inquiries so that countries could participate to maximum effect without dividing resources. In view of the considerable and competing pressure under which both industry and Governments worked, the projects and working methods of the Committee should be carefully screened. Thus, the organization of the Committee's programme and, in particular, the role of the ad hoc Meetings could be examined more carefully, and some work such as exchange of

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5/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the United Kingdom is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.



views and comments on drafts and texts could be conducted by correspondence. In this context the creation of a number of permanent subsidiary bodies of the Committee would not enhance its work but would rather extend considerably the operations of the Committee and add to the competing pressures. The permanent bodies proposed at the eleventh session of the Chemical Industry Committee would embrace work areas already included in the Committee's programme, and the creation of further sub-groups would place an impossible burden on the resources of participants and furthermore would lead to an unbalanced programme, with some areas receiving far more attention than others of equal importance.

156. The delegation of Hungary suggested the inclusion in the programme of work of a study on the establishment of a system of pipelines for liquid and gaseous chemicals throughout Europe, which had already been discussed during the eleventh session of the Committee.

157. The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR repeated their proposal to set up three permanent bodies working on the Development of the Chemical Industry, the Market Situation and the Protection of the Environment. Such a proposal had been made already at the eleventh session of the Committee when, however, no agreement had been reached.

158. With regard to the future programme of work the delegation of the United States proposed that the Sessional Committee suggest to the Commission that it recommend that the Chemical Industry Committee undertake a study on east-west trade including arrangements for co-operation in the chemical industry. The delegation of the United States suggested that it would like to see the following elements, as listed in ECE/CHEM/24, included in this study: (a) an inventory of chemical production facilities operating on a co-operative basis and a summary of information on production capacity of these plants; (b) analysis of production of these plants and its importance within the ECE region; (c) examination of the various process licences which had been subject to agreements between ECE member countries; (d) itemization of other opportunities for future co-operative efforts, prospective markets for the products. The delegation of Sweden also expressed great interest in such a study. The delegation of the United Kingdom emphasized the importance of the United States proposals and of following closely developments in this area.

159. The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR, while also being in favour of the study referred to in paragraph 158, felt that concentrating on only the trade aspects of the chemical industry would create an imbalance in the work of the Committee.

160. The delegation of Hungary referred to its proposal, made in the Plenary, that the Chemical Industry Committee should consider including in its programme of work a project on the elaboration of internationally applicable procedures for the testing and approval of pharmaceuticals as well as for the harmonization of safety requirements.

161. A draft decision on international co-operation in the pharmaceutical industry, submitted by the delegations of Hungary and Poland, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision F(XXXIV).)

162. A draft decision on a study of trade in chemical products among ECE member countries, submitted by the delegation of the United States of America, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision G(XXXIV).)

Coal Committee

163. For this agenda item, which was considered together with item 7(c) (Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction), 6/ the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the Coal Committee on its seventy-fourth session (ECE/COAL/36) and the Executive Secretary's report on the implementation of Commission decision D(XXXIII) (E/ECE/973).

164. The delegations which spoke emphasized the increasing importance their Governments attached to coal questions in the light of the development of the world energy situation in recent years. They stressed the need for enhanced international co-operation in matters pertaining to coal and expressed the view that the Coal Committee offered a suitable framework for such co-operation. They expressed satisfaction with the results of the Coal Committee's activities during the period under review and commented favourably on its methods of work. They expressed the view that the holding of symposia was a particularly effective and fruitful means of dealing with subjects of great importance. Particular satisfaction was voiced over the organization of the Symposium on the Utilization of Heavy Duty Equipment in Opencast Mines, held at Cottbus (German Democratic Republic) from 16 to 19 October 1978, and the Symposium on the Gasification and Liquefaction of Coal to be held at Katowice (Poland) from 23 to 27 April 1979. Satisfaction was also expressed with the active role which the Coal Committee proposed to play in the United Nations Symposium on World Coal Prospects to be held in co-operation with the Government of Poland at Katowice (Poland) from 15 to 22 October 1979. Representatives thanked the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany for organizing a study tour for members of the Coal Committee in 1978 and the Yugoslav authorities for inviting the Committee to a similar tour in 1979. They also thanked the delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia for organizing, respectively, the second session of the Group of Experts on Opencast Mines at Cottbus on 19 and 20 October 1978 and the fourth session of the Meeting of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes at Ostrava from 20 to 25 March 1978. Delegations also expressed their gratitude for the study tours which had followed those two meetings. They stated their great appreciation of the co-operation of other international organizations, particularly CMEA, with the Coal Committee.

165. The following observations were made by delegations concerning projects within the sphere of activity of the Coal Committee:

Work area 04.1: Medium- and long-term prospects

04.1.1 The delegations of Belgium, 7/ Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey and the Ukrainian SSR expressed interest in this project.

Work area 04.2: Current developments and prospects, including international trade

04.2.1 ) The delegations of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Hungary, Poland,  
04.2.2.2) Romania, Spain, Sweden and Turkey expressed interest in these projects.

04.2.3 The delegation of Spain stated that it was in favour of intensifying the work being done on the use of steam coal in power stations.

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6/ For the decision adopted by the Commission under agenda item 7(c) see paragraph 338 below.

7/ Whenever the delegation of Belgium is mentioned in the text, it should be noted that the views expressed were those of the European Economic Community.

Work area 04.3: Selected economic and technological problems

- 04.3.1 The delegations of Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Ukrainian SSR expressed interest in this project.

The delegation of Belgium pointed out that care should be taken to avoid duplication between project 04.3.1.2 and activities of the International Labour Organisation.

- 04.3.2 The delegations of Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this project.

The delegation of the USSR stated that work on topics 04.3.1 and 04.3.3.2 (d) called for very meticulous co-ordination to avoid duplication.

- 04.3.3 The delegations of Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Spain, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this project.

- 04.3.4 The delegations of Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and CMEA expressed interest in this project.

All the above delegations stated, inter alia, that they were in favour of greater intensification of activities on new techniques of coal use, in particular gasification and liquefaction of coal. The delegations of Hungary, Poland and Turkey again mentioned the Polish proposal for the establishment of an ECE co-ordinating centre on coal gasification and liquefaction. The Belgian delegation, however, considered that the implementation of that idea would be premature. It fully endorsed the conclusions adopted by the ad hoc Meeting held on that subject in February 1979. It expressed the hope that surface gasification would have a future and that economical methods of underground gasification and liquefaction would be found. It emphasized the value of holding symposia such as those of Düsseldorf and Katowice at regular intervals. Should the need arise, it would propose that the Coal Committee should be requested to carry out an annual review of the situation with regard to coal gasification and liquefaction.

The USSR delegation, supporting the Polish proposal for the establishment of a centre, expressed the hope that a solution to the problem satisfactory to all interested countries would be found at the forthcoming Symposium on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction.

The delegation of Hungary stressed his country's interest in techniques for the gasification of lignites with a low calorific value.

- 04.3.5 The delegations of Belgium, the German Democratic Republic and CMEA expressed interest in this project.

The delegation of CMEA said that the CMEA Standing Commission on the Coal Industry had recognized the importance of preparing a new ECE coal classification. If a decision was taken in ECE to prepare such a classification, that CMEA Commission would assist ECE in that work.

The delegation of Belgium said that, if the new classification was to be really universal, work in connexion with its preparation should be conducted in co-operation with other countries outside the ECE region, as well as with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Committee on Coal Petrology (ICCP).

Work area 04.4: Selected environmental and resource-saving problems

- 04.4.1 The delegations of Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Sweden, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this project.

The delegation of Belgium stated that care should be taken to ensure close co-operation in the environmental field with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology and the Steel Committee.

- 04.4.2 The delegations of Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Poland and Romania expressed interest in this project.

Work area 04.5: Industrial co-operation

- 04.5.1 The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR expressed interest in this project.

- 04.5.2 The delegations of Belgium, Poland, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this project.

The delegation of Poland felt that industrial co-operation on coal questions might be extended to countries outside ECE. The delegation of Belgium considered that the possibilities of industrial co-operation at the multilateral level were restricted, as new techniques in market-economy countries were often developed by private industries and technological advances were negotiated through bilateral agreements.

Work area 04.6: Statistics and information

The delegations of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Poland and Romania expressed interest in this work area.

166. Delegations proposed that the following topics should be added to the Committee's work programme:

Design and utilization of bucket-wheel excavators for the extraction of hard coal and rock in opencast mines (USSR);

Methods of utilization of transport equipment ensuring a high degree of efficiency (USSR);

Development and improvement of mechanization of winning, roof control, transport of run-of-mine output and supply of equipment and materials during horizontal tunnelling in mines; increasing the efficiency of tunnelling operations (USSR);

Use of computers in research and development work on lignite deposits (Greece);

Search for new coal deposits economically suitable for exploitation (Hungary);

Exchanges of information as a means of reducing the length of time required to develop new coal deposits (Hungary);

Problems connected with coal mining at great depth and under difficult geological conditions (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland).

167. The delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland felt that the Coal Committee should intensify its activities in the sphere of labour safety.

168. The delegations of the Ukrainian SSR and GMEA expressed the view that the Coal Committee should play a more prominent role in the matter of convening and organizing a European congress on co-operation in the field of energy.

169. The delegation of the USSR suggested that the Coal Committee should convene a symposium on the utilization of coal industry waste in 1981 or 1982. It expressed the view that the fruitful co-operation between the Coal Committee and CMEA should be intensified still further, especially in the areas of coal classification, coal gasification and liquefaction, and the organization of work in coal enterprises.

170. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR requested the secretariat to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Russian texts of documents for each session were available at the same time as the versions in the other two languages. It pointed out that the matter had already been raised at the session of the Coal Committee. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic also considered that documents should be issued in all three versions at the same time. It expressed the view that the annual sessions of the Coal Committee should be shortened by one or two days and that before each session the secretariat might prepare a summary of the documents to be considered, in order to improve the efficiency of the Committee's work and stimulate more substantial discussion.

171. The delegations of Belgium and the Ukrainian SSR expressed the view that the programme of work of the Coal Committee was already sufficiently heavy and, in view of the secretariat's limited resources, should not be extended any further.

172. Representatives expressed their general agreement with the programme of work of the Coal Committee for 1978-1983.

#### Conference of European Statisticians

173. Discussion of this item was based on the report of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of European Statisticians (ECE/CES/12) describing the Conference's activities during 1977/78 and setting out its programme of work.

174. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed their Governments' satisfaction with the high quality of the work of the Conference and the valuable contribution which it had made to the work of the Commission. The continued progress made by the Conference in adapting its programme of work in the light of the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE was particularly stressed. The adaptations made by the Conference included a significant extension of its work on the development of conversion keys between corresponding United Nations and CMEA classifications, additional work on foreign trade statistics, extension and systematization of its work on international comparisons of national accounting aggregates, productivity, etc., and sponsorship of a co-operative research programme on the design and development of computerized statistical information systems.

175. The increased emphasis in the Conference's programme of work on subjects in the field of economic statistics was cited by many delegations as one of the ways in which the Conference had adapted its work to current requirements. Particular stress was laid on the importance of the Conference's work in the fields of the systems of national accounts and balances, including links between SNA and MPS, the promotion of regional comparisons of national accounting aggregates within the framework of the International Comparison Project, the harmonization of economic classifications

and general energy statistics. Strong support was expressed for the further work planned in these fields including the work planned on testing the conceptual framework for comparisons of corresponding SNA and MPS aggregates in terms of actual figures.

176. The importance of developing conversion keys between classifications used in countries with different economic systems as a means of achieving international comparability of statistics throughout the whole of the ECE region was stressed by many delegations. In this connexion the circulation of a revised correspondence table and draft conversion key between the Standard International Trade Classification of the United Nations and the Standard Foreign Trade Classification of the COMEA was noted with satisfaction, and the hope was expressed by several delegations that the work initiated on testing this conversion key could be completed as soon as possible. The growing co-operation between the secretariats of ECE and COMEA on this and other projects was welcomed by a number of delegations.

177. In the area of social and demographic statistics particular stress was laid on the work of the Conference on the progressive development of a framework for the integration of social and demographic statistics, population and housing censuses and migration statistics. The successful completion of the preparation of revised recommendations for the 1980 censuses of population and housing in the ECE region and the timely issuance of the recommendations in all three official languages were noted with satisfaction. It was felt that these recommendations would make an important contribution to the improvement of the comparability of the statistics compiled in the forthcoming round of censuses.

178. Great importance was also attached to the work on environmental statistics. It was felt that continued efforts should be made to speed up the development of statistics needed for the study of environmental problems. Several delegations suggested that emphasis be given to work on the methodological problems involved in compiling indicators of the quality of life in human settlements and data on current and capital expenditure on environmental protection. Support was expressed for carrying out this work under the joint auspices of the Conference and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, and the hope was expressed that other Principal Subsidiary Bodies would also participate. Attention was also drawn to the need for taking account of the work done by the COMEA in this field.

179. Particular appreciation was expressed for the Conference's work on the use of computers for statistical purposes. The close co-operation with the Computing Research Centre (Bratislava) in conducting the annual ISIS seminars and in carrying out the co-operative research programme on the design and implementation of computerized statistical information systems was welcomed by many delegations. They gave strong support to the plans for further work in this field. It was felt that the results of this work would be of assistance to countries in developing their national statistical systems to meet the increasing demand for statistics.

180. The adoption by the Conference of a more comprehensive and balanced approach to its work on subjects of an organizational and operational nature was also welcomed by several delegations. The emphasis given at recent annual sessions to the discussion of basic problems relating to the organization and operation of statistical services was of assistance to national statistical offices in dealing with a number of pressing problems. The careful preparatory work carried out on these subjects contributed to the quality and usefulness of the discussions. Support was also expressed for the Conference's decision to give greater emphasis to work on methods of improving operational techniques of producing official statistics.

181. Great importance was attached by a number of delegations to the role of the Conference in promoting improved co-ordination of work on statistical standards, statistical inquiries and other statistical activities of all intergovernmental organizations in the ECE region. The arrangements made by the ECE secretariat for regular annual consultations with the Secretariat of COMEA and the Statistical Office of the European Communities were welcomed, and it was suggested that these arrangements be extended to include other international organizations. It was pointed out that continued efforts were needed to rationalize the collection and publication of statistics by international organizations in order to reduce the burden of international reporting on countries by avoiding duplication of effort and at the same time to improve further the supply of official statistics made available in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The review of all questionnaires for regular statistical publications that is being carried out by the United Nations Statistical Office was cited as an important contribution to the avoidance of duplication of work. It was suggested that, as a next step, all existing international recommendations in various specialized fields of statistics be examined systematically with a view to ascertaining the possibilities of merging and simplifying the recommendations contained in corresponding programmes at the world and regional levels.

182. It was suggested that the ECE secretariat circulate a timetable indicating the month, or at least the quarter, in which meetings convened under the programme of the Conference were to be held. In cases where this was not possible, countries should be informed of the dates of meetings at least three months in advance. This would help countries to make arrangements to participate in these meetings and thus improve the quality and efficiency of the Conference's work.

183. General support was given to the programme of work drawn up by the Conference. The Conference's policy of concentrating its deliberations at its annual sessions on a limited number of carefully selected priority issues was welcomed. Many delegations commended the Conference on its efforts to improve the supply and the comparability of statistics between countries belonging to different economic and social systems.

184. The following detailed comments were made with regard to the programme of work of the Conference:

Work area 12.1: Regional statistical co-operation

- 12.1.2 Great importance was attached to the co-ordination of the statistical activities in Europe of intergovernmental organizations (Byelorussian SSR, Greece, EEC).
- 12.1.5 The importance of work on statistical problems of special interest to the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view was stressed (Greece).

Work area 12.2: Organization and operation of statistical services

Great interest was expressed in the projects included in this work area. Scientific and research programmes relating to the use of computers for statistical purposes were deemed of special importance (Bulgaria).

Work area 12.3: Development and harmonization of economic statistics

- 12.3.1 It was suggested that work on national accounts and balances be extended to include quarterly national accounts, regional accounts, input-output tables and flow-of-funds accounts (Greece).  
(Greece)
- 12.3.2 Strong support was expressed for the conduct of international comparisons in general and for a regional comparison within the framework of the International Comparison Project in particular (Bulgaria, Finland, Poland, Yugoslavia, EEC). The delegation of Greece also attached importance to this project.
- 12.3.3 Great importance was attached to the harmonization of nomenclatures and the development of conversion keys (Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Ukrainian SSR, COMECON, EEC). Doubts were expressed whether the harmonized commodity description and coding system being developed by the Customs Co-operation Council would provide a satisfactory basis for this work (EEC).
- 12.3.4.2 Support was expressed for the further work planned on price and quantity statistics in foreign trade (Greece, Ukrainian SSR).
- 12.3.4.3 Attention was drawn to the work of the United Nations Statistical Commission on conceptual and definitional problems in foreign trade statistics, and the hope was expressed that the Conference would participate in this work and convene an expert meeting to this end (EEC).
- 12.3.5 Priority should be given to further work on statistics of consumer prices as a means of promoting the work on international comparisons (Greece, EEC). Priority should also be given to work on price and quantity measures in services (Greece).
- 12.3.6 Priority should be given to work on public sector statistics (Greece).
- 12.3.7.1 Priority was attached to work on agricultural statistics (Greece).
- 12.3.7.2 The elaboration of a standard format for over-all energy balances and the plans for regular publication of these balances were welcomed (Czechoslovakia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ukrainian SSR, Yugoslavia).
- 12.3.7.4 The delegation of Bulgaria stressed the importance of work on statistics of science and technology, but the delegations of Greece and the EEC considered that this project should be given lower priority.
- 12.3.7.5 Work on statistics of tourism should be speeded up (Greece).



12.3.7.6 The delegation of Greece stressed the importance of work on enterprise statistics, but the delegation of the EEC considered that this project should be given lower priority.

12.3.7.7 Priority was attached to work on statistics of capital formation (Greece).

Work area 12.4: Development and harmonization of social and demographic statistics

12.4.3 Attention was drawn to the importance of work on the evaluation of the results of the 1980 censuses of population and housing and the publication of census data (Greece).

12.4.4.1 Priority was attached to work on manpower statistics (Greece).

12.4.4.4 The representative of the EEC suggested that lower priority be given to work on cultural statistics.

12.4.4.6 The representative of the EEC suggested that lower priority be given to work on statistics of crime and justice.

12.4.5.5 Considerable interest was expressed in work on demographic projections (EEC).

Work area 12.5: Development and harmonization of environmental and related statistics

12.5.3 The importance of work on regional statistics was stressed by the delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Greece and Yugoslavia.

12.5.4 Priority should be given to work on statistics of land use (Yugoslavia).

Committee on Electric Power

185. For the consideration of this item, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Electric Power on its thirty-seventh session (ECE/EP/29).

186. Most of the delegations which participated in the debate expressed their satisfaction with the work done by the Committee on Electric Power during the period under review. They considered that the results of that work represented a success for ECE and its member countries. It was noted that the Committee had oriented its activities so as to provide an effective response to current problems and to the recommendations formulated in that connexion at the thirty-third session of the Commission.

187. The debate revealed particular interest in the study of the following areas by the Committee on Electric Power and its groups of experts:

Medium-term and long-term prospects for the electric power industry in the ECE region;

Review of the electric power situation in the ECE region;

Problems relating to nuclear power stations;

Economic problems involved in integrating large-capacity power stations

Interconnexion of electric power transmission systems and, in particular the outstanding results obtained in that field by the Balkan countries;

Questions connected with improving efficiency in the electric power production, transmission, and distribution sectors and, in particular, studies on the rational use of energy resources;

Research in the field of non-conventional primary energy resources, such as, for example, the use of geothermal, solar and wind energy for electric power production;

Problems of environmental protection arising from the activities of the electric power industry.

188. Delegations emphasized the interest and success of the Seminar on the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat held at Hamburg (Federal Republic of Germany) in November 1978, and expressed their thanks to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for organizing the Seminar.

189. Several delegations mentioned their interest in the symposia envisaged in the Committee's programme of work, namely the Symposium on Prospects for the Use of Hydroelectric Schemes in the light of the New Energy Conditions and the Problems resulting therefrom, to be held in Athens (Greece) in November 1979, and the Symposium on the Extraction, Removal and Use of Ash from Coal-Fired Power Stations, to be held in September 1980 at Bielsko-Biala (Poland).

190. The delegation of Italy, speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, stated the Community's views on the work done by the Committee on Electric Power at its thirty-seventh session. It emphasized that the Committee on Electric Power had taken up a number of points and undertaken several initiatives of particular interest to the European Economic Community in view of the important role played by the electric power industry in world economic development in the context of the development of the energy situation in general. The European Economic Community particularly appreciated the work undertaken by the Committee on Electric Power in the following areas; improving economy and efficiency in energy use; prospects for the development of the electric power industry; new problems having medium-term or long-term effects on the energy economy in the EEC region; problems relating to research, rural electrification, the use of nuclear power stations, and the environment. It expressed the opinion that the Economic Commission for Europe had proved to be an international body of decisive importance and that its contribution to the knowledge and study of energy problems at the multilateral level could be regarded as irreplaceable.

191. The representative of CMEA stressed CMEA's highly positive view of the activities of the ECE Committee on Electric Power. He welcomed the active co-operation which had been established between the secretariats of ECE and CMEA. He mentioned the areas in which that co-operation was particularly developed, including the technical and economic problems arising from the interconnexion of the electric power transmission systems of European countries and the preparation

of a terminology in the electric power sector, in co-operation with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the World Energy Conference (WEC), the International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Energy (UNIPEDE) and the Union for the Co-ordination of the Production and Transport of Electric Power (UCPTE). He expressed the conviction that the Committee on Electric Power was in a position to give its support to the preparation of a high-level European meeting on energy should ECE decide to hold such a meeting.

192. Delegations suggested that the Committee on Electric Power should, at its next session, carefully examine the report of the Seminar on the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat and include in its programme of work the topics recommended by the Seminar. It was also proposed that the Committee should set up a drafting group to prepare a general report on the Seminar. The group might meet before the end of 1979 to draw up its programme.

193. Many delegations welcomed the development that had taken place in the work of the Committee that tended towards a work programme on energy questions of a more general nature, as well as the relationship between energy production and the environment.

194. Delegations underlined the need to co-ordinate the work on energy questions with work undertaken by other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies, as well as by other international institutions and organizations. In this connexion, representatives welcomed the close co-operation which the Committee had established with international organizations such as the IEC, the CMEA and the IAEA. The close co-operation between the ECE and OECD secretariats was also underlined.

195. Delegations approved the report of the Committee on Electric Power on its thirty-seventh session and its programme of work for 1979-1982.

196. The following topics in the Committee's programme of work were singled out as being of special interest and use:

Work area 06.1: Medium-term and long-term prospects

Medium-term and long-term prospects for the electric power industry in the ECE region (Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia).

Work area 06.2: Current developments

Review of the electric power situation in the ECE region (Bulgaria, Yugoslavia);

Examination of opportunities for industrial co-operation in electric power production (Bulgaria);

Method of accounting to be used, in global energy balances, for primary energy converted directly into electric power (Yugoslavia);

Work area 06.3: Selected technological and economic problems

Experience gained in the operation of units having a rated capacity of 200 MW or above at thermal power stations (Czechoslovakia);

Problems concerning the design, equipment and operation of installations for the extraction and removal of ash on a dry basis at thermal power stations using solid fuel (Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, USSR);

Problems concerning the design of high-capacity conventional and nuclear thermal power stations in seismic areas (USSR);

Problems concerning the design, production and operation of high-capacity thermal power units which use different types of fuel, are highly manoeuvrable and can be used to cover the half-peak of the load curve (USSR);

Symposium on Prospects for the Use of Hydroelectric Schemes in the light of the New Energy Conditions and the Problems resulting therefrom (Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Norway, Turkey);

Problems relating to nuclear power stations, including breeder reactors (in co-operation with IAEA) (Czechoslovakia);

Technical and economic problems involved in integrating large-capacity power stations into electric power systems - programme and method of work (Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Turkey);

Selected problems of distribution of electric power in rural areas (Byelorussian SSR, Turkey);

Possibilities of using residual heat from conventional and nuclear thermal power stations in agriculture and in aquaculture (Romania);

Possible uses of heat pumps in rural activities (Romania);

Electric power supplies for island regions and for areas that are isolated or far from the national power system of the country in question (Greece, Turkey).

Work area 06.4: Interconnexion of electric power transmission systems

Studies on the optimum structure of the European system according to the method summarized in document EP/GE.2/R.36 (Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, USSR);

Economic and technical problems involved in the interconnexion of the electric power transmission systems of the Balkan countries (Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey, Yugoslavia);

Problems connected with the management of the operating régimes of energy systems (Byelorussian SSR).

Work area 06.5: Problems of improving efficiency

Rationalization of consumer use of electricity (Hungary, Romania);

Use of standard 20 kV networks to supply low-voltage electric power to rural areas where individual dwellings are too widely dispersed (Hungary);

Measures designed to save fuel in heat and electric power production (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic);

Evaluation of Europe's hydroelectric potential (Turkey);

Utilization of geothermal energy for electric power production and space heating (Romania, Turkey);

Methods used to evaluate and measure losses in electric power production and distribution systems and ways of reducing such losses (German Democratic Republic).

Work area 06.6: Environmental problems

Selected problems concerning the relationship between electricity and the environment (German Democratic Republic);

The possibilities of using residual heat in the cooling water of electric power stations (Romania);

Combustion of fuel oil with a high sulphur and vanadium content; technological solutions for the prevention of air pollution and the corrosion of heat exchangers (Sweden);

International comparison of standards concerned with methods of calculating pollution levels and measuring and monitoring pollution caused by electric power stations (USSR);

Integration of nuclear power stations into the environment (by government rapporteurs from France, Spain and possibly one other country, in co-operation with IAEA) (Yugoslavia).

197. The delegations of Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic and Greece said that they would like information on developments and experience acquired in the sphere of new technologies for energy conversion to be disseminated.

198. The delegations of Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic suggested a study on measures to be taken in order to reduce non-availabilities at electric power stations and in energy transmission networks.

199. The delegations of Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Norway and Sweden expressed interest in the continuation of studies on the combined production of heat and electric power.

200. The delegation of Poland expressed the view that it would be desirable to develop more action-oriented co-operation and, in that connexion, said that east-west inter-connexion of electric networks could lead to exchanges involving economic benefits for the parties concerned.

201. The delegation of Spain stated that it was willing to appoint a national rapporteur for project 06.6.1.10 (Prospects of using non-polluting water treatment techniques in thermal power stations; technological and economic effectiveness), and requested that the estimated termination year for project 06.5.3 (Evaluation of Europe's hydroelectric potential) should be changed to 1981.

202. The delegate of Sweden said that, in order to render the work of the Committee more efficient, all new tasks should be treated by the respective working groups. Proposals for new work areas not falling directly under the responsibility of those expert groups could perhaps be referred to any new body on general energy problems.

Committee on Gas

203. The work of the Committee on Gas was discussed on the basis of the report of its twenty-fifth session (ECE/GAS/42).

204. The important place gas occupied in the energy economy was highlighted by the delegations during the discussion. Recalling its jubilee session, they considered that the entire work of the Committee up to date had been very useful for the development of the gas industry in the ECE region and that the recent energy crisis had even increased its importance. The delegations approved the programme of work of the Committee on Gas for 1979-1983.

205. The delegate of the Netherlands <sup>8/</sup> recalled that, be it with regret, the second meeting of Directors of Research Institutes or Centres of the Gas Industry, which was to have been held in the autumn of 1978 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne (United Kingdom), had had to be cancelled owing to lack of interest. He suggested that, when proposing dates and places for ECE seminars, it might be wise to consider closely the plans of other intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations. Dates, places and themes for discussion sometimes overlapped. In this connexion, he recalled that the triennial meeting of the International Gas Union (IGU) would take place in Switzerland in 1982. The Committee on Gas might, as appropriate, consider co-operating closely with the IGU at that time. The representative of Hungary said that the work of the Committee on Gas represented a valuable basis for the preparation of a high-level meeting on energy.

206. The delegate of the Netherlands referred to the broad view the Committee on Gas had taken on some issues and drew attention to the use of pipelines on which there were two differing viewpoints or concepts. One viewpoint related to the so-called optimization concept, i.e. the use of pipelines at maximum capacity, irrespective of varying demand, in order to lower the cost per unit. The other approach was based on the conservation concept, which implied not to transport more gas than was actually needed: this inevitably meant a higher cost per unit, but it did save energy.

207. The representative of Turkey recalled that, in his country, natural gas was almost inexistant and there was manufactured gas production and distribution in some towns; LPG distribution was important and was growing. He expressed the wish that the Committee might undertake studies on the use of LPG in combination with solar energy and/or bio-gas. He added that such studies might be of interest to other Mediterranean countries and fall well within the framework of decision 8 (XXIII).

208. The representatives of Romania and Yugoslavia expressed regret that the programme of work of the Committee on Gas did not adequately reflect the special interest of member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. They expressed the wish that the secretariat continue to be entrusted with contacting European developing countries with a view to identifying their problems in that respect and to seek their inclusion in the programme of work of the Committee.

209. The delegates expressed their appreciation of the Seminar and Study Tour on LNG Peak Shaving, held in Washington, D.C. (United States of America), from 5 to 9 March 1979, and thanked the Government of the United States for having organized it.

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<sup>8/</sup> Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the Netherlands is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

210. The delegates thanked the Government of France for having hosted the Symposium about the Gas Situation in the ECE Region around the Year 1990, in Evian in October 1979.

211. The representative of Romania suggested envisaging co-operative R and D work, synchronization of national R and D work, the exchange of scientists, and financing multinational projects in the field of gas.

212. The Soviet delegation recommended that the Committee on Gas should devote more attention to problems of ensuring reliability in the operation of gas pipeline systems, of the optimization of technical and economic indicators in the computerized operation of gas pipeline systems, and of the preparation of gas for long-distance transport, and to the elaboration of measures to combat internal and external pipeline corrosion.

213. The following specific comments were made on the Committee's programme of work.

Work area 07.1: Medium and long-term prospects

- 07.1.1 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Turkey expressed their appreciation of the work of the Symposium held in Evian (France) and looked forward to future work under this project. The representative of the Netherlands said that he found this project interesting and well-balanced, but suggested that the next symposium on the subject should not be convened too early. The delegate of Yugoslavia recalled that the Symposium held in Evian indicated that a balance between supply and demand might be maintained until about 1990, if positive measures were taken to realize this objective.
- 07.1.2 The representative of the Netherlands said that there would be limitations posed by the relationship between Governments and private industries in market economy countries and that the exchange of information would be difficult.
- 07.1.3 The representative of the Netherlands was pleased with the co-operation between the Committee on Gas and the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on the Overall Economic Perspective.

Work area 07.2: Current developments and prospects, including trade

- The representative of the Netherlands said that this work area was of importance as it provided an opportunity for exchanging information.
- 07.2.1 The delegate of Sweden stated that this project provided a good picture of the gas market and gave comprehensive information about different aspects of the production and consumption of gas. The representative of Bulgaria considered this project very useful.

Work area 07.3: Selected economic and technological problems

The representative of the Netherlands said that a number of projects provided useful information for all Governments, but that some other projects did not take the position of the private industries into account and, consequently, reduced their effectiveness. The representative of Romania considered this work area very useful.

- 07.3.1(a) The representative of Turkey expressed appreciation about the inclusion of this topic in the programme of work of the Committee.
- 07.3.1(b) The delegate of Bulgaria wished to see that the use of natural gas in combined power plants be dealt with. The delegate of Sweden specifically requested that attention be given to the use of natural gas in thermal power plants for the combined generation of electricity and heat which has high thermal efficiencies. The delegate of Hungary suggested intensifying co-operation between the Committees on Gas and Electric Power.
- 07.3.3 The delegate of Bulgaria supported the work undertaken under this project. The representative of Hungary recalled that Governments should send the requested information for the revision of the International Map of Gas Transmission Networks by 15 August 1979.
- 07.3.4 The representative of the Netherlands considered this project acceptable provided that its substance be in conformity with the description given in ECE/GAS/58. The representative of Bulgaria expressed great interest in this project.
- 07.3.5 The delegation of Romania supported the work undertaken under this project.
- 07.3.7 The delegations of Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic supported the work undertaken under this project.
- 07.3.9 The delegation of the Netherlands said that the method of work seemed to duplicate contacts already made, but that some of the sub-projects were interesting.
- 07.3.9.1(b) The representative of the German Democratic Republic would continue to actively support the work undertaken.
- 07.3.9.2 The representative of the USSR actively supported the work undertaken under this project.
- 07.3.9.3 The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the USSR attached great importance to future work under this project. The delegation of the USSR recommended that the Committee on Gas should consider the possibility of extending the studies undertaken under project 07.3.9.3, "Offshore technology and sea pipelines for the transport of gas", by including problems of the maritime collection, processing and transport of gas. The delegation of the USSR supported the Committee's initiative in organizing, at an appropriate time in 1980 or 1981, a seminar on offshore technology and sea pipelines for the transport of gas.



07.3.9.4 The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Turkey and the USSR attached importance to future work under this project. The delegation of the USSR considered it necessary to recommend that the Committee on Gas should expand the scope of the work of the Group of Experts on Natural Gas Resources by including projects related to exploration and prospecting for new gas fields on the continental shelves of seas and oceans. It suggested that the Committee should devote more attention to questions of the scientific justification for forecasts of gas reserves, and to studies on improving methods and techniques of direct exploration for gas fields. It felt that the Seminar in Hannover (Federal Republic of Germany) in April 1981 would go a long way towards solving those problems.

07.3.10 The representatives of the German Democratic Republic and Hungary attached great importance to coal gasification technology.

07.3.11 The representative of the Netherlands stated that he would comment on this project at a later date, depending on its development.

Work area 07.4: Environmental problems

The representative of Bulgaria stated that his Government was considering hosting an informal meeting on the gas industry and environment. The representative of the German Democratic Republic expressed his appreciation of the work carried out under this project. The representative of the Netherlands expressed interest and would await the outcome of the informal meeting.

Work area 07.5: Efficiency and conservation

07.5.1 The representative of the Netherlands said that this project was of the greatest importance to the ECE region as a whole provided that appropriate subjects were selected. The representative of Romania suggested that research work be carried out to find a suitable fuel to replace natural gas in order to put it to better use in industry.

07.5.2 The representative of the Netherlands recalled that knowledge about exploitation was mainly the property of private enterprises. Consequently, great care was required in carrying out this project.

Work area 07.6: Statistics and information

The representative of the Netherlands supported, in general, the projects under this work area, especially the up-dating and improvement of statistical information. The representative of Turkey expressed his continuing support of work in this field.

07.6.2 The representatives of Turkey and of the USSR expressed their continuing support for work in this field.

07.6.3 The delegation of the USSR supported the decision of the Committee not to reconvene the ad hoc Meeting on Investments in the Gas Industry and their Financing Possibilities. It agreed with the method of work on this subject adopted by the Committee.

Committee on Housing, Building and Planning

214. Delegations taking part in the discussion of the report of the thirty-ninth session of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning (ECE/HBP/25) expressed their Governments' general support for ECE activities in this field. In particular, they expressed their appreciation of the efforts made by the Committee in adapting its programme and streamlining its methods of work to be fully in line with the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 32/162 on "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements" and relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The draft Commission decision on Human Settlements (ECE/HBP/25, annex IV), containing revised terms of reference of the Committee, was endorsed. Delegations welcomed the measures taken by the Committee to strengthen co-operation with the other regional commissions and to establish mutually beneficial contacts with the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). It was also felt that the policy guidelines set out in annex I of the Committee's report were well in line with the over-all priorities and concerns of ECE Governments and should be used to orient the future activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

215. Delegations endorsed the Committee's programme of work and welcomed the measures taken by the Committee with a view to concentrating its activities on selected projects of major interest to the ECE Governments. Delegations also expressed their satisfaction with the clear-cut decisions taken by the Committee with regard to its structure, organization and methods of work. The value of carefully prepared issue-oriented seminars and study tours and of studies prepared jointly by rapporteurs from countries with different socio-economic systems was stressed. Appreciation was expressed with regard to the Study Tour held in Switzerland in conjunction with the Committee's thirty-ninth session in September 1978. The delegation of Czechoslovakia invited all member countries to participate in the Study Tour to take place in its country in September 1979.

216. Delegations strongly endorsed the action taken by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies in follow-up to the Seminar on the Impact of Energy Considerations on the Planning and Development of Human Settlements, held in Ottawa (Canada) in 1977. The informal consultations held in Moscow in March 1979 had proved very helpful in working out detailed proposals for further action. Several delegations stressed the importance of due attention being paid to energy conservation in buildings and felt that ECE had a special role in promoting co-operation and co-ordination among several international organizations concerned with problems and policies in this field.

217. Favourable comments were made on the results of the Seminar on Land-Use Policies, held in Stockholm (Sweden) in June 1978. It was noted with satisfaction that the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning had expressed its willingness to contribute constructively to further work on land use and land use planning to be carried out under the Commission's auspices. The Symposium on Human Settlements Planning and Development in the Arctic, held in Greenland (Denmark) in August 1978, and the Symposium on Urban Renewal and the Quality of Life, held in May 1978, were also quoted by many delegations as good examples of how the Committee could successfully assist countries in providing guidance for the development of policies in areas of topical interest to ECE Governments.

218. The activities of the Working Party on Housing relating to forecasting and programming of housing needs and the study on major long-term trends in housing policies were singled out as projects of special interest to policy-makers in the housing field. It was also noted with satisfaction that studies had been initiated on financing of housing and housing management. Interest was expressed by several delegations in the forthcoming Seminar on the Improvement of Housing and its Surroundings, to be held in the Netherlands in October 1979.

219. Delegations expressed their continued support for the programme on the harmonization of the technical content of building regulations and the promotion of international standardization in the building field which was being pursued by the Working Party on the Building Industry in co-operation with a large number of international organizations, in particular EEC, CMEA, NEB, ISO and CIB. Special reference was made to the useful results achieved at the ad hoc Meeting on Harmonization of Regulations Relating to Construction in Seismic Regions and at the ad hoc Meeting on Approval and Control Rules for Buildings and Building Products. Delegations also stated their interest in the Seminar on Mechanization in the Building Industry, to be held in Warsaw (Poland) in May 1979, and commended the studies initiated on the working environment in the construction industry.

220. Delegations confirmed their interest in the Seminar on Integrated Physical, Socio-Economic and Environmental Planning, to be held in Norway in June 1979 under the joint auspices of the Committee and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. It was hoped that recommendations for follow-up work would be agreed at the Seminar, since the subject-matter of integrated planning was clearly to remain one of the key concerns of ECE Governments. It was noted with satisfaction that the Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning and Development continued to pay attention to urban transportation problems as they related to physical planning and to energy considerations relating to urban renewal and town-planning. The activities of the Group of Experts on Urban and Regional Research were also commended. In particular, delegations stressed the usefulness of national research colloquia and the great significance of the quadri-annual ECE conferences on urban and regional research, the fourth of which was planned to be held in Paris in June 1980. The delegation of Turkey mentioned that the Colloquium to be organised in Istanbul in October 1979 on "Research Models in Inter-urban Transportation systems" would serve as a contribution to this Conference and reiterated its invitation for the Colloquium.

221. The importance of the work of the Group of Experts on Housing, Building and Planning Problems and Policies in the Countries of Southern Europe was confirmed by several delegations. In this connexion, the delegation of Turkey mentioned that it appreciated the work of the said Group of Experts, which fell under the mandate set out by Commission decision G (XXXIII), and reiterated its statements made at the thirty-second and thirty-third sessions of the Commission that the Committee should make appropriate adjustments in its future programme of work in order to give more emphasis to the problems and interest of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view.

222. Delegations expressed their deep appreciation and gratitude to the Governments of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland which had hosted major meetings and study tours in the period under review. The delegation of the USSR suggested that the Committee should pay increased attention in its future programme of work to problems relating to infrastructure and services, as recommended at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Vancouver, 1976).

223. The following comments were made by delegations with regard to the various projects contained in the Committee's programme of work (ECE/HBP/25, annex III):

Work area 08.1: Integrated settlements policies and strategies

The delegations of France 9/ and the USSR expressed their support for all projects in this work area.

- 08.1.1 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Turkey and Yugoslavia stressed the usefulness of this project.
- 08.1.2 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia expressed their special interest in this project.
- 08.1.4 The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, France, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia expressed their appreciation of the results so far achieved and suggested further work on this project.
- 08.1.6 The delegations of Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Norway, Poland, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR emphasized the special importance of this project and the need to continue work in this field.
- 08.1.7 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic and Greece expressed interest in this project.
- 08.1.8 The delegations of Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia expressed their strong support of this project.
- 08.1.9 The delegations of Bulgaria and the Ukrainian SSR expressed satisfaction with the work carried out on this project.
- 08.1.10 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia expressed interest in the work initiated on this project.

Work area 08.2: Urban and regional planning and development

The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Turkey and the USSR expressed their support for all projects in this work area.

- 08.2.2 The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Turkey and the USSR stressed the usefulness of this project.
- 08.2.3 The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR expressed special interest in this project.

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9/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of France is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

08.2.4 The delegations of Bulgaria, France, Greece and Turkey expressed interest in further work on this project.

08.2.7 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Turkey, the USSR and Yugoslavia stressed the importance of this project.

Work area 08.3: Housing policies

The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Canada, Greece and the USSR expressed their support of all projects in this work area.

08.3.1 The delegations of France and Greece stressed their interest in this project.

08.3.5 The delegation of Greece expressed support of this project.

08.3.4 The delegations of France and Greece expressed interest in this project.

08.3.5 The delegations of France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece and Poland stated their continuous support and interest in this project.

08.3.6 The delegations of Greece and Poland stated their interest in this project.

Work area 08.4: Construction and building materials

The delegation of the USSR expressed its support for all projects in this work area.

08.4.2 The delegations of Czechoslovakia and Greece expressed their interest in further work on this project.

08.4.3 The delegations of Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Poland, Romania and the USSR emphasized the importance of this project.

08.4.4 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Greece expressed interest in this project.

08.4.7 The delegations of Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Norway, Poland, Romania, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR stressed the importance of this project.

Work area 08.5: Building regulations and standards

The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Yugoslavia expressed their interest in all projects in this work area.

08.5.2 The delegations of Greece and Hungary expressed their support of this project.

- 03.5.3 The delegations of Hungary and the Ukrainian SSR expressed interest in this project.
- 03.5.4 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia stressed the importance of this project.
- 03.5.5 The delegations of France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Poland and Yugoslavia expressed their support of this project.
- 03.5.6 The delegations of France, the German Democratic Republic and Greece supported this project.

Work area 0.6: Statistics and information

- 03.6.1 The delegations of France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece and Poland stressed the usefulness of this project.
- 03.6.2 The delegations of France and Poland supported further work on this project.
- 03.6.3 The delegations of Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic and the Ukrainian SSR stressed that this project formed an essential part of the Committee's activities.
- 03.6.4 The delegations of Canada, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR welcomed the work initiated by the Committee on this project and stressed that it should be pursued as an important and integral element of the Committee's future activities.

224. At its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on human settlements. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision II (XXXIV)).

Inland Transport Committee

225. For the consideration of this item the Sessional Committee had before it the reports of the Inland Transport Committee on its thirty-eighth (special) and thirty-ninth sessions (ECE/TRANS/31 and ECE/TRANS/37).

226. During the consideration of these reports and the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies in 1978, delegations expressed their general satisfaction and appreciation for the work accomplished and endorsed the programme of work.

227. Stressing the importance of the work being carried out in the field of transport development trends and transport policy, a number of delegations referred in this connexion to the importance they attached to the repartition of transport between the different modes in order to provide for their effective and complementary use. Support was also expressed for the study of evaluation techniques for transport infrastructure investments, constituting an aid to decision-making in the field of transport policy.

228. Reference was made by several delegations to the importance of carrying out medium and/or long-term traffic forecasts. In this context the secretariat study on East-West European Goods Traffic Flows was considered as a valuable initiative, inter alia to ascertain where possible bottlenecks might arise in the case of an increase in traffic. The delegation of the United Kingdom 10/ stressed the importance of obtaining comprehensive information from all Governments concerned.

229. With regard to the work undertaken in the field of transport infrastructure, many delegations referred to the progress in the implementation of the UNDP/ECE Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM), the on-going activities in connexion with the development of an international road network in South-East Europe and to the envisaged study of suitable links between the European, the Middle East and the North African road networks. Concerning the development of the South-East European international road network, the delegation of Turkey drew attention to the meeting of the Working Group to be held in Ankara from 23 to 25 May 1979.

230. The study of an inland waterway connexion between the Danube, the Oder and the Elbe as well as the UNDP supported feasibility study of a link between the Danube and the Aegean Sea was commented upon favourably. It was suggested that these projects be considered within the framework of activities relating to the establishment of a coherent European waterway network.

231. With regard to the utilization and financing of the road infrastructure, and in particular the problems of transit traffic, many delegations supported the work carried out by a Task Force in this field. It was also suggested that the aim would be the elaboration of an agreement on the subject. The United Kingdom felt, however, that a number of countries were of the opinion that fixed transit routes and transit taxes were not justified.

232. In the field of inland water transport delegations supported the work on the harmonization of rules for navigation, of the requirements for the construction and equipment of inland waterway vessels and the rules for the transport of dangerous goods on inland waterways. The delegation of the USSR favoured resuming the work on the elaboration of a Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway (CMNI).

233. With respect to rail transport several delegations felt that the activities of the Working Party on Rail Transport should be intensified, taking into account the proposals to be made to this effect by member Governments.

234. With regard to matters of combined transport to be dealt with henceforth by a Group of Experts on Combined Transport, many delegations welcomed this change as it reflected the fact that the competent subsidiary body of the Inland Transport Committee was dealing with all questions of combined transport and not only with container transport. The delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany and of Switzerland referred to the growing importance of combined transport for an efficient use of the existing infrastructure. With regard to the new terms of reference of the UNCTAD's Committee on Shipping, they stressed that this should not limit the scope of the work done in the ECE in this field in particular on combined container transport by land involving a short sea link. The delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the USSR expressed their support for co-operation with UNCTAD in the field of multimodal transport.

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10/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the United Kingdom is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

235. The importance of elaborating a comprehensive world wide agreement on the transport of dangerous goods by all modes of transport was stressed by several delegations.

236. A number of delegations referred to the proposals of the USSR to hold an all-European congress on the development of transport and gave their support to the convening of such a congress. In this connexion the delegation of the German Democratic Republic proposed to give particular attention to several projects in the Committee's programme of work, which contained possible aspects for consideration by such a congress, for example, general transport policy trends, the development of an efficient European transport infrastructure, efficiency of inland water transport, safety in international transport, including the transport of dangerous goods, questions of multimodal transport and the unification of technical construction and control standards for various means of transport. The delegate of the United Kingdom was of the opinion that this question had not been referred for consideration to the Sessional Committee.

237. With respect to Customs questions concerning transport, the work aiming at the implementation of the 1975 TIR Convention, the extension of its territorial application and the study of the possibility of establishing a link between the different existing systems of Customs transit was supported. The importance of facilitating the flow of goods by simplifying Customs and other controls at frontiers, inter alia by an agreement on the harmonization of conditions for exercising these controls, was stressed.

238. The delegations of Finland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia expressed their hope that the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) would be invited by the Commission to participate in its work in accordance with paragraph 12 of the terms of reference of the ECE.

239. The delegation of the United Kingdom suggested drawing the attention of the Committee to the duration and numbers of meetings taking place under its auspices with a view to possible economies.

240. Delegations made the following specific comments on the Committee's programme of work for 1979 to 1983:

Work area 09.1: Medium- and long-term perspectives

09.1.1 The delegation of the USSR expressed its satisfaction with regard to the Committee's work in this area.

Work area 09.2: Transport infrastructure and operations

09.2.1 The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in this project.

09.2.3 The delegations of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Greece and the USSR stressed the importance of work carried out in the field of urban transport, the latter stressing the need of avoiding duplication of work with that carried out by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning relating to this subject.



09.2.4 The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in the implementation of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR).

09.2.5 The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in the development of road networks in the ECE region.

Work area 09.3: Facilitation of international transport

09.3.1 Interest was expressed by the delegation of Greece concerning the work on the transport of dangerous goods.

09.3.7 The delegation of Greece expressed its interest concerning the transport of perishable foodstuffs.

09.3.9 The delegations of Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia stressed the importance of dealing with problems of special interest to member countries of the ECE which were developing from an economic point of view. The delegation of Romania referred in this connexion to the granting of more favourable conditions for import/export transport of goods, by eliminating restrictions, by providing for special exemptions from taxes, tariffs or other charges applying to transit or direct transport, the possibility of granting technical assistance for the development of transport systems and the creation of facilities for these countries to obtain modern technology in the field of transport.

Work area 09.4: Transport safety

09.4.1 The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in the problems related to the transport of dangerous goods and the introduction of new transport techniques and equipment in international traffic.

09.4.4 The delegations of Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic of Germany stressed the importance of giving special consideration to the safety of children during the International Year of the Child (1979).

Work area 09.5: Environmental and resource saving aspects

09.5.2 The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany felt that the work of the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles should be directed more to noise abatement measures and to the examination of measures apt to reduce air pollution. The delegation of Greece expressed its main interest in work related to the reduction of pollution and noise in transport.

09.5.3 The importance of increased economy and efficiency in energy consumption in transport was stressed by the delegation of Greece.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems

241. For the consideration of this item, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the seventh session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems (ECE/ENV/28). Delegations generally felt that the activities of the Senior Advisers had been exceptional in the year under review. The reason was that, in addition to current work, the Senior Advisers had been required to fulfil the mandate contained in Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII), concerning preparations for a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment.

242. The preparatory work for a high-level meeting was considered to be satisfactory, and a number of delegations expressed the view that the documentation presented in the special report of the Senior Advisers to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission (ECE/ENV/29) and completed by the Commission during the thirty-fourth session, constituted a sufficient basis for taking a decision on the convening of the meeting. With regard to the selection of topics, many delegations felt that the results of the intense preparatory work on the two topics specifically named in resolution 1 (XXXIII) - i.e. long-range transboundary air pollution, and low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes - justified the inclusion of these topics on the agenda of the proposed high-level meeting. With reference specifically to long-range transboundary air pollution, one delegation noted that the ECE's focus was helping to highlight an issue the North American consequence of which may ultimately be even more damaging in human and economic terms than had been true in Europe. Concerning the three other topics which had been considered - i.e. transboundary water pollution, as well as protection of flora and fauna and their habitats, and toxic substances and toxic wastes - there was general agreement that preparations had not yet advanced to the same level. Many delegations commented upon the work of the Committee on Water Problems, and in particular the revision of the ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution. A number of delegations regarded this to be an issue of great importance in connexion with the preparations for a high-level meeting. A draft decision was presented for a co-operation between the Senior Adviser to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems. The Romanian delegation underlined that it was a task of the Commission to put into practice the rich experience it had accumulated and to ensure the necessary conditions which would permit the high-level meeting to be held, taking into account the interests of all the participants, under conditions of full equality on the basis of the rules of procedure of the CSCE.

243. In spite of the efforts that the Senior Advisers had devoted to the preparation of recommendations and concrete proposals for a high-level meeting, delegations agreed that the regular activities had proceeded well; co-operation within ECE continued to provide valuable support to Governments in the region for implementing the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE related to the protection of the environment. The continuing work on a technical level and the current exchange of information on national experience were great assets in fostering intergovernmental co-operation, as negotiations at a political level could not be expected, by themselves, to permit a solution of the problems.

244. The programme of work of the Senior Advisers was generally held to be well balanced. Delegations considered that the activities connected with the exchange of national monographs on environmental strategies and policies should be maintained and welcomed the decision that an attempt should be made in the future to combine the periodic ECE survey with the UNEP five-year reports on the "State of the Environment". The current biennial survey had indicated that environmental legislation and institutional frameworks were now largely in place in member countries, thereby permitting a shift in emphasis towards policies centred on the management of resources and over-all improvement of the quality of life. In this context, delegations commented favourably on three important Seminars which would take place within the current year; i.e. on Integrated Physical, Socio-economic and Environmental Planning, at Bergen (Norway) in May; on Environmental Impact Assessment, in Villach (Austria) in September; and on Alternative Patterns of Development and Lifestyles in Ljubljana (Yugoslavia) at the end of 1979, the latter being a regional contribution to a UNEP global project. Thanks were expressed to the Governments providing host facilities. The activities of the Senior Advisers in the work area dealing with resources and waste problems were considered by all delegations to have great significance for future socio-economic development, with resource-saving technology becoming an increasingly important factor in the world as a whole. In close relation with such concerns, delegations referred to the work of the Senior Advisers in the broad problem area of "Energy and environment". It was regretted that the general policy debate on the subject had been postponed, but the hope was expressed that the exchange of views to take place at the eighth session would throw further light on this complex issue. In commenting upon the many activities under the auspices of the Working Party on Air Pollution Problems, delegations noted that it had been necessary to re-schedule the annual session for May 1979; however, the progress in the implementation of the work programme was considered to be satisfactory. Special emphasis was placed on the co-operative efforts under EMEP. Delegations felt that this programme should become an integral part of the follow-up mechanism to a convention on long-range transboundary air pollution in the ECE region. It was suggested that the Senior Advisers should consider restructuring the work of the Working Party on Air Pollution in order to also make this body an integral part of the implementation of the Convention.. In this way the work of ECE on air pollution problems should be transferred in its entirety to the executive organ of the proposed Convention, developing a consistent work programme on transboundary air pollution focused on the achievement of well defined goals. It was further suggested that explorations should be made on expanding the scope of EMEP developing it into an all embracing European monitoring and evaluation programme as a part of GEMS. Reference was also made to the useful Seminar on Air Pollution Resulting from Activities of Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry, held in Szczecin (Poland) in October 1978, and to the report on fine particulates, which was characterized as one of the most important documents published in this field.

245. In the course of the deliberations, delegations paid much attention to the question of concentration and co-ordination of activities within the framework of the ECE. There was general agreement with the proposal of the Executive Secretary that environment in this context should be the main area for consideration at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission. Environmental problems must, of necessity, be treated in a multi-disciplinary framework. The Senior Advisers had therefore always been concerned with establishing close co-operation with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies and other international organizations. However, it was felt that there was still room for improvement and innovation. Various

proposals were made, among others, for the creation of "joint programmes" and "joint working parties" between Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned. In this connexion it was suggested that the relevant subsidiary bodies explore the setting up of a joint working party on water pollution including transboundary water pollution and a joint working party on energy and the environment. The contention was made that co-ordination at the international level would often facilitate co-ordination at the national level.

246. Delegations generally insisted on the need for still further strengthening co-operation with other international organizations in order to avoid duplication of work and provide for optimal utilization of resources. Greater importance was attached to the current co-operative activities between ECE and UNEP which, it was felt, would often have not only regional, but global implications for the protection of the environment, as ECE members were highly industrialized countries utilizing most of the world's natural resources. Many delegations urged that UNEP, in its catalytic role, should continue to support environmental activities, also in the ECE region, until they could be self-sustaining. In this context, numerous references were made to the UNEP assistance in financing of staff in the ECE secretariat, the continuation of which, beginning 1980, had recently been questioned. This assistance had been of crucial importance for the intensified work of the Senior Advisers in preparing for a high-level meeting. Delegations noted that, in the year under review, the resources of the secretariat had been stretched to their limit, a problem that required careful consideration in the light of the additional burden emerging from the proposed high-level meeting. Some delegations suggested that the Commission might have to take a flexible, pragmatic attitude on the subject of manpower allocation, possibly shifting resources from less active areas to enhance the effectiveness of the Senior Advisers. In this connexion other delegations stressed the immediate need for substantial additional secretariat resources, inter alia expertise in the field of biology, meteorology and environment technologies.

247. With respect to the programme of work for the period 1979-1985, delegations noted that the decision on convening a high-level meeting would be likely to call for some re-orientation and consequent restructuring. In this light, the inclusion of new projects should receive careful consideration, keeping in mind the priority areas. However, the activities of ECE in the field of environment should progressively be strengthened. One of the proposals for new work concerned the subject of "Environmental Law". While it was pointed out that there might be certain difficulties in managing such a programme, ECE member countries could provide model environmental legislation for the developing world, in particular in connexion with transboundary issues. Other delegations expressed the opinion that environmental law was being considered in other competent fora such as the International Law Commission, and required a legal expertise that might not be found in the Senior Advisers. Another area where some delegations wished the Senior Advisers to expand their activities was Environment and Development, including

economic aspects of environmental protection. A proposal was made to concentrate the work of the Senior Advisers on consistent programmes focusing on the achievement of well-defined goals in the following priority sectors: transboundary air pollution (under the responsibility of the executive organ of the proposed Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution in the ECE region), low and non-waste technologies, water pollution including transboundary water pollution (in co-operation with the Committee on Water Problems), the protection of flora and fauna and their habitats, toxic substances and toxic wastes, energy and environment (in co-operation with relevant ECE bodies in the field of energy), and environmental impact assessment as part of a programme on integrated planning. However, observations were also made that, when developing the programme of work, efforts should simultaneously be made to reduce the number of meetings.

240. In making concluding remarks on the work of the Senior Advisers in the year under review, most delegations considered that the extraordinary activities related to the preparatory work for a high-level meeting had created a new spirit of co-operation which gave promise of real action for protection of the environment. It was proposed that under the agenda item "Matters arising" the Senior Advisers should, at their eighth session, assess the implications of this work and draw appropriate conclusions about the development of the work programme of the Senior Advisers, its goals and priorities; the point of departure for the programme of work should be the provisions of the Final Act of CSCE. One delegation suggested that a procedure employed in preparing the high-level meeting should be also used in the future work of the Senior Advisers focusing the work in the high priority subject areas on preparing important decisions: conventions, agreements, declarations and follow-up mechanisms; future high-level meetings on the environment should be convened whenever important decisions meriting high-level treatment had been prepared; at these meetings the implementation of decisions taken at previous high-level meetings should also be reviewed. Some delegations stated that the intensive work of the Senior Advisers in the past year had prompted them to view their own environmental problems in a broader setting and mobilized their own Governments to action. The following detailed comments were made on the programme of work of the Senior Advisers for 1979-1985:

Work area 05.1: Prospective trends and problems

An important work area for promoting incorporation of environmental aspects into planning and decision-making (Hungary).

- 05.1.1.1 This seminar would contribute inter alia to the implementation of the Commission decision on "Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region" (Hungary), would stimulate an exchange of information on experience in a very important area (Poland) and bring out the importance of integrated planning for environmental protection policies (Sweden).

05.1.1.3 The project raised a very important and challenging issue (Byelorussian SSR, Canada).

An important contribution to the development of strategies for the United Nations Third Development Decade. A concrete example of the value of co-operation with UNEP. Need to ensure that the seminar programme would be developed in line with its basic aim of examining "long-term compatibility between economic and social development and improvement in environmental quality" (EEC).

Member Governments should give active support to the seminar that would have great significance for the elaboration of the International Development Strategy. UNEP should continue support to activities in this area after the seminar (Sweden).

Work area 05.2: Current development and prospects in environmental policies

05.2.1.1 The value of regular exchange of information on national environmental policies was recognized and satisfaction was expressed with the linking of the ECE survey of environmental policies and strategies with the UNEP reports on the "State of the Environment" (EEC).

Work area 05.3: Environmental policy and management issues

Need for taking full account of environmental concerns in socio-economic planning and management (EEC).

05.3.1.1 The importance of the seminar was pointed out (Byelorussian SSR, USSR).

The project would provide effective assistance to Governments in elaborating methods for examination of environmental consequences of economic activities (Hungary).

05.3.2.2 Special interest in the development of an ECE programme in the area of protection of flora and fauna and their habitats (Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Ukrainian SSR). The delegation of Finland also expressed interest in this project. The inclusion of the protection of flora and fauna and their habitats in the programme of work was welcomed but activities currently under way in other international organizations should be examined before making concrete proposals for specific activities (EEC).

Importance of intergovernmental co-operation in industrialized countries. Czechoslovak proposal to the Senior Advisers in connexion with preparatory work for a high-level meeting was an excellent basis for elaborating a programme of work (Sweden).

Work area 05.4    Resources and waste problems

Great importance should be attached to activities in this area (Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, EEC).

05.4.1.1    Project activities should be intensified and hope was expressed that a great number of member Governments would participate in this task force (EEC).

05.4.1.2    The representative of the German Democratic Republic expressed the willingness of his Government to act as leader of the task force under sub-project B. In follow-up activities of a high-level meeting, a more permanent structure for implementing the two sub-projects was recommended (Hungary).

Importance of completing the compendium on low and non-waste technology (Poland).

Activities under this project should be expanded (United States).

05.4.1.3    General support for activities under this project (Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Sweden, Ukrainian SSR, United States, EEC).

The agreed approach was a valid and realistic basis for co-operation (EEC).

First stage of the programme to focus on problems of substituting environmentally-sound products for those containing toxic substances. Recommendation for the establishment of an ECE task force. Attention to be given to work by UNEP and FAO (Hungary).

Activities of the Senior Advisers to be expanded (United States).

- 05.4.2.1 Great interest in the area of Energy and Environment (Finland, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Sweden, United States, USSR, EEC). Special attention to be given to the environmental impact resulting from increased use of coal and to the introduction of effective methods of desulphurization (Sweden).

Work area 05.5: Selected problems of pollution

A number of projects in this area could be merged or rearranged (Hungary).

The postponement of the ninth annual session of the Working Party on Air Pollution Problems made it difficult for Governments to make detailed comments on its actual programme of work at this stage (Poland).

- 05.5.1.1 EMEP provided a concrete example of the capacity of ECE to promote co-operative research and implement relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The programme ought to be extended at the end of 1980, taking into account any future work which might be assigned to it (EEC).

Importance of the project in follow-up activities to a high-level meeting (German Democratic Republic, Hungary).

EMEP to become part of the follow-up mechanism to a Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution and possibly of CEHS (Sweden).

- 05.5.1.5 Importance of this project; in connexion with environmental damage due to emissions from non-ferrous metallurgical smelters (Canada).

Work area 05.6: Statistics, Information and Norms

- 05.6.1.1 The seminar co-sponsored by the Senior Advisers and the Conference of European Statisticians would promote current work (EEC).

249. A draft decision on co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems, submitted by the delegations of Austria, Greece, and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision I (XXIV)).



Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology

250. For its consideration of this item of the agenda, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the seventh session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (ECE/SC.TECH./17), together with a note by the Executive Secretary containing the financial implications associated with the publication of the Manual on Licensing Procedures and Related Aspects of Technology Transfer (E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.3). This item of the agenda was considered together with the report by the Executive Secretary on the contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (E/ECE/975) (see paragraphs 341 to 347 below).

251. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany 11/ expressed appreciation of the work of the Senior Advisers and general satisfaction with the over-all balance of their programme characterized, on the one hand, by active continuation of ongoing projects and, on the other, by initiation of new activities responding to the political and substantive needs of ECE member countries.

252. Reference was made by the delegation of the German Democratic Republic to recent concrete measures taken by the Senior Advisers, in particular the convening of seminars, and the hope was expressed that these would result in further activities to promote useful co-operation. At the same time this delegation expressed the opinion that, from the point of view of the work of the Commission as a whole, the formulation of a policy on science and technology should receive greater attention.

253. Several delegations considered the Senior Advisers to be a positive and necessary forum for the exchange of information and experience, the full potential of which had not as yet been realized. In this respect, it was stated that there was a need for them to continue their efforts to foster greater co-operation in the field of science and technology in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The delegations of Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia expressed the view that problems relating to scientific and technological co-operation between countries with different economic and social systems were one of the most important sectors of activity of the ECE. The Romanian delegation underlined the necessity that the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology continue their efforts to promote scientific and technological co-operation among member countries of the ECE, to discuss topics of real interest for member countries and to support the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view in their scientific and technological development.

254. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic considered that the Senior Advisers should be requested to consider the work of the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies starting, possibly, with the Steel Committee, the Chemical Industry Committee, and the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, with a view to defining joint work of interest to all Principal Subsidiary Bodies - in such fields as energy conservation, automation, micro-electronics, and handling and conveying operations in factories, and suggested that on the basis of this review the Senior Advisers should submit proposals to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission as to how they might better fulfil their co-ordination role.

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11/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

255. In commenting on the work programme, many delegations expressed support for the work being undertaken on long-term trends, new energy sources, low-calorific value fuels, co-operative international research and the transfer of technology. Widespread satisfaction was expressed with progress made in preparation of the Manual on licensing procedures and related aspects of technology transfer, and many delegations looked forward to the early publication of what they considered to be a very useful document. Although several delegations supported the present programme, some reservations were also expressed. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany considered that the number of projects in the work programme was too large in relation to the resources available. Many delegations suggested that there was a need to focus attention on a smaller number of projects concentrated on clearly defined priority areas and, in particular, those inter-related with the activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies. The delegations of Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic suggested that the Senior Advisers should pay attention to inter-sectoral studies in science and technology and develop greater co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in contributing to the preparation of an all-European congress on energy and, for instance, with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems in respect of low-waste and non-waste technologies. A number of delegations suggested that at their eighth session the Senior Advisers should reconsider their programme of work in the light of the suggestions made by the Sessional Committee and also of the outcome of the UNCSTD.

256. The following detailed comments were made on the programme of work of the Senior Advisers:

Work area 10.1: Long-term trends and perspectives

The delegation of Greece attached great importance to this work area.

10.1.1 The delegations of Czechoslovakia, Greece, Poland and the USSR expressed support for this project. The Polish delegation suggested that special emphasis be placed on identifying potential areas for east-west co-operation in this project.

10.1.1.1 The delegations of Greece, the Federal Republic of Germany and the USSR supported this project.

10.1.2 The delegation of Greece expressed particular support for this project.

10.1.3 The delegations of Czechoslovakia, Greece, the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain and the USSR expressed support for this project. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany considered that the Seminar on Co-operative Technological Forecasting should allow for review of suitable co-operative forecasting methods and consider how these methods could best be applied.

10.1.4 The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany called attention to the fact that the study had now been finalized and it hoped that the results of the study would be drawn on, in practice, by as many institutions as possible.

The delegation of Greece expressed the view that this was an excellent example of a technology assessment study.

Work area 10.2: Current developments in science and technology policies

The delegation of Greece stated that its Government would have a communication on this for submission to the forthcoming eighth session of the Senior Advisers. The delegation of Poland proposed the preparation by the secretariat of a biennial review of trends in technological policy and co-operation comparable in scope and approach to the Economic Survey of Europe.

Work area 10.3: International co-operation in scientific and technological research

The delegation of Greece considered this to be one of the areas in which the Senior Advisers were particularly effective and observed that the results of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development would provide a number of concrete themes of international interest.

10.3.1 The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany attached particular importance to a more detailed and thorough examination of the project relating to international aspects of R and D in the Arctic and considered this to be perfectly suited for an intensified international exchange of information and experience.

10.3.1.1.1 The following delegations expressed support for activities in this area: Czechoslovakia; the German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Greece; and Spain.

10.3.1.1.2 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic of Germany expressed support for this project. The delegation of Bulgaria also attached importance to the creation of a regional centre for studies relating to low-calorific-value fuels.

Work area 10.4: Transfer of technology

The delegations of Czechoslovakia and the USSR attached particular importance to activities relating to the transfer of technology. The Czechoslovak delegation considered that activities in this area should be strengthened and that studies should be undertaken with a view to identifying and removing obstacles. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany stressed the noteworthy results achieved in the past year in preparation of the Manual on Licensing Procedures in co-operation with the Committee on the Development of Trade.

10.4.2.1 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Poland and Romania expressed support for this project. The delegations of Poland and Yugoslavia supported the convening of a preparatory meeting for the Seminar on the transfer of technology to be held, in co-operation with the Committee on the Development of Trade, in 1980. The delegation of Romania underlined the value of the Seminar and hoped that one of its themes would relate to the problems of technology transfer in those ECE member countries which were developing from the economic point of view.

Work area 10.5: Other co-operative activities

- 10.5.1 The delegation of Greece emphasized the importance of this project and announced that the Greek contribution would be available soon.
- 10.5.3 The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany welcomed the progress which had been made in putting this project - one derived directly from the Final Act of the CSCE - into practice.

257. A draft decision on co-operation in the field of science and technology submitted by the delegations of Austria; Netherlands; Romania; Spain; Turkey, and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision J (XXXIV)).

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments

258. In the discussion of this item, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the sixteenth session of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (ECE/EC.AD./18).

259. All delegations participating in the discussion appreciated the activities of the Senior Economic Advisers in the consideration of long-term economic perspectives of the ECE region in general, and the new orientation of their activities in concentrating their deliberations on a few key issues which might have a crucial impact on international co-operation and future growth in particular. Problems of structural adjustments in production and in trade were found to be a main key area for future in-depth studies and for clarifications before embarking on new over-all economic projections.

260. Many delegations expressed their support for the Senior Economic Advisers to proceed with long-term projections but felt that more emphasis should be laid on an approach directed towards finding solutions, rather than on too elaborate and too detailed statements. The operational character of the Senior Economic Advisers' activities could be reinforced through dialogues with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies which were so efficiently initiated in the reported period.

261. Several delegations felt it necessary to establish closer and regular contacts between the Senior Economic Advisers and all those Principal Subsidiary Bodies which had already embarked on long-term sectoral projections or were willing to do so in the near future. Trade and science and technology were strongly recommended as specific fields for future co-operation. Delegations noted with satisfaction that a joint meeting of the Senior Economic Advisers and the Committee on the Development of Trade was already included in the programme of work. The reinforcement of the trade aspects of economic growth might pave the way for better understanding of potentialities for future international co-operation both within and outside the region. It was hoped that it would be clearer in the future how effective analysis of feedback effects could be arranged. Several delegations expressed their hopes that the exploration of future trends in trade may open new avenues for co-operation among all ECE countries. Some delegations emphasized the need for considering future economic development in a more global perspective, taking into account the important role of developing countries, and appreciated the programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers which included this concept.

262. Most delegations endorsed the activities of the Senior Economic Advisers on energy issues. While the examination of an over-all energy balance model was considered an important contribution to knowledge of likely future energy demand, it was understood that the energy problems might affect substantively investment allocations, the industrial pattern, future technologies, inflation rates, external balances, i.e. most factors and conditions for future growth. International co-operation in the field of energy was considered therefore of crucial importance.

263. Delegations expressed great interest in the Seminar on Forms and Orientations of International Co-operation in Relation to Long-Term Growth Pattern (Warsaw, Poland, 15-19 May 1979) which in their view might provide a unique contribution for exploring future possibilities of an operational character for international co-operation. The kind invitation of and the preparatory work so far made by the Polish Government for the Seminar was highly appreciated. The close link between the topic of this Seminar and the OEP was underlined, and delegations felt that this link should also be kept in mind for future seminars.

264. As to future work, delegations endorsed the programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers adopted at their sixteenth session and stressed the following features of this work programme:

(a) With regard to extending the time horizon for long-term projections beyond 1990 many delegations felt that there was no pressing need for this, as new information was expected to be gathered by Governments on future projections as well as in depth studies prepared by other Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the secretariat. A number of delegations added that in the course of 1980 the work on this version of the OEP should be completed and resources gradually diverted to work on the preparation of a new version of the OEP to be finalized around 1982 or 1983 with a new time horizon, possibly including a more detailed regional breakdown or time path information. Delegations felt that the activity related to the OEP should be made a permanent activity of the Senior Economic Advisers;

(b) While work for improving tools and methods for projections should be continued, the operational character of the Senior Economic Advisers' activities was expected to be reinforced;

(c) The dialogue between the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should be strengthened by inviting in particular the Committee on the Development of Trade, the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, the Chemical Industry Committee and the Steel Committee, to organize jointly with the Senior Economic Advisers seminars and expert meetings on long-term issues, including structural changes, in their specific areas. In this connexion, emphasis was laid on the increasing responsibility of the ECE secretariat in preparing such activities.

265. Specific comments on the work programme of the Senior Economic Advisers were made as follows:

Work area 11.1: Medium- and Long-Term Plans, Programme and perspectives

11.1.1 The exchange of information should be focused on issues defined well in advance (Finland)

11.1.2 The composition and direction of trade flows should be defined through a deeper disaggregation of trade projections (Finland, Romania). Long-term programming and projections should be considered at the

2 nearest possible session of the ECE from the angle of concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work in order to orient more the activities of the Commission as a whole towards practical questions of east-west economic co-operation (Poland). The conceptual framework of the Overall Economic Perspective should be enlarged so as to adapt it to the work undertaken in the United Nations for the International Development Strategy (Norway). The long-term projections should lead to practical results before embarking on new projections (Bulgaria, USSR). The documents of the seminars should be published (Netherlands 12/).

266. A draft decision on long-term economic trends and development of international co-operation, submitted by the delegations of France, German Democratic Republic, Norway and Poland, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision K (XXXIV)).

#### Steel Committee

267. The discussion on this item was based on the report of the Steel Committee's forty-sixth session (ECE/STEEL/22), describing the Committee's activities in 1978 and setting out its programme of work.

268. Commenting on the work accomplished under the auspices of the Steel Committee, delegates expressed their Government's general views and commented on the specific projects included in the programme of work which had been adopted. In this connexion a great number of speakers complimented the Committee on completing three important studies: i.e. Structural changes in the iron and steel industry (ECE/STEEL/20, Sales No.79.II.E.6), Iron and steel scrap, its significance and influence on further developments in the iron and steel industry (ECE/STEEL/24, Sales No.79.II.E.3), and Increasing use of continuous processes in the iron and steel industry (ECE/STEEL/25, Sales No.79.II.E.7).

269. Several delegations drew the attention of the meeting to the need for the optimal use of resources, to the danger of work duplication and to the necessity for close co-operation with other international organizations dealing with problems related to the iron and steel sector (Sweden, the USSR, Yugoslavia, the EEC). In this connexion the USSR delegation would welcome a further intensification of co-operation between the Steel Committee and the CMEA particularly when dealing with the problem of low-waste and non-waste technology in the iron and steel industry.

270. The representative of the EEC stressed the Committee's effective contribution to technical and economic co-operation in Europe, and considered the work accomplished as being complementary to the activities of other United Nations and international bodies as well as other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the ECE. He marked his satisfaction with the Symposium on Steel Use in Public Works, Infrastructure and Construction, which would be held in Luxembourg in October 1979. There was unanimous approval of some standing projects of the programme of work, i.e. the annual review of the world steel market, the analysis of steelmaking raw materials and the issuance of steel statistics.

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12/ It should be noted that the delegation of the Netherlands expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

271. Special thanks were made to the Government of Czechoslovakia for the excellent Seminar on Economic and Technical Aspects of the Application of Computer Techniques in Iron and Steelmaking and to the Government of the German Democratic Republic for the study tour that took place in that country in September 1978. General approval was also expressed for the organization of seminars, symposia and study tours as a valuable means of promoting technical exchange and international co-operation.

272. Turning to the current programme of work (1979-1983) all speakers expressed their satisfaction with regard to the choice of the two new topics, i.e. low-waste and non-waste technology in the iron and steel industry, and production and supply of metallurgical coke. The delegation of Romania drew the attention of the meeting to the problem of energy saving in general and economical use of metal in particular, and recommended its examination. The Swedish delegation stressed its interest in the analysis of long-term trends in the iron and steel industry. The latter delegation and the representative of the EEC emphasized the importance of rational use of the secretariat resources.

273. Delegations made the following detailed comments on the Committee's programme of work for 1979-1983:

Work area 13.1: Medium- and Long-term Perspectives

13.1.1 The importance of this topic was stressed by Bulgaria, Greece and Sweden.

Work area 13.2: Current Developments and Prospects, including International Trade

Work area of main interest (Poland).

13.2.1 The importance of this topic was stressed by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden, the USSR, Yugoslavia and the EEC.

Work area 13.3: Selected Economic and Technological Problems

To be regarded as a fundamental area (German Democratic Republic, Ukrainian SSR).

13.3.2.1 Great interest stressed by Bulgaria, Hungary and the USSR.

13.3.2.2 All speakers expressed their interest.

13.3.3 Greece stressed the importance of this topic.

13.3.4 Importance of this topic was underlined by Greece; only limited interest was expressed by the USSR.

13.3.5 Interest expressed by Poland and the USSR.

Work area 13.4: Environmental and Resources-Saving Problems

13.4.1 All speakers drew attention to this topic (the USSR and the EEC stressed in particular its importance).

Work area 13.6: Statistics and Information

- 13.6.1 The importance of the publication of steel statistics was emphasized (Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania, the USSR and the EEC).

Timber Committee

274. During the discussions on the report of the Timber Committee on its thirty-sixth session (ECE/TIM/13) delegations considered the work done under the Committee's auspices during the past year and presented their Governments' views on the general orientation of the Committee's activities, and on particular projects included in its programme of work. Suggestions were also made on further activities which should be undertaken.

275. Among the activities carried out under the Committee's auspices during the previous year, many delegations expressed their appreciation of the work of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers, which had held its twelfth session in Sofia (Bulgaria) in June 1978, preceded by a Seminar on the Techniques and Mechanization of Reforestation in Mountainous Regions. A Seminar on Accidents in Forestry Operations had been held, also under the Joint Committee's auspices, in Sekocin (Poland) in September 1978. Delegations considered that its new, flexible and problem-oriented structure would enable the Joint Committee to promote international co-operation more effectively in its field, and would overcome the problem created by the decision by FAO no longer to provide professional secretariat assistance on a regular basis for the Joint Committee's work.

276. Many delegations stressed the importance of the Committee's continuing review of long-term trends in the forest industries sector, notably the comparison of actual trends with the projections made in the study European Timber Trends and Prospects, 1950 to 2000. The Committee should thus be able to detect changes in trends as soon as they occurred, making it possible for Governments to adapt their forest policies and programmes in the light of recent developments.

277. Several delegations attached great importance to the Committee's review of short-term developments in forest products markets, notably at the Committee's annual session. The information collected and published and the Committee's authoritative assessments were very useful to Governments and the forest products sector as a whole and encouraged the orderly development of the market. The new arrangements for the market discussions at the Committee's sessions were considered effective.

278. Several delegations expressed their appreciation of the Committee's decision to examine trends, prospects and policies in the forest and forest industries sector in southern Europe. The ad hoc meeting on this subject scheduled for September 1979 in Lisbon (Portugal) would provide an opportunity for the Committee, in co-operation with FAO, to study the problems involved and draw up recommendations for future action.

279. Several delegations stressed the importance of standardization both as a means of facilitating trade in forest products and of encouraging the rational use of wood. Work should, therefore, continue in the field of research, quality control and marketing, with the object of encouraging the application of the ECE recommended standards on stress grading and on finger jointing of coniferous sawn timber. The delegation of Greece considered that the Committee should extend its standardization work beyond coniferous sawnwood, to broadleaved sawnwood, plywood and other panels. The delegation of Sweden considered that the work on stress grading should be extended to other types of grading.



280. Many delegations expressed appreciation of the activities of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, which would hold its twelfth session in June 1979, in improving the comparability of statistics and the mechanisms for their collection and dissemination. The Working Party would also examine questions of labour, taxation, end-uses, forest fires and conversion factors. It would discuss forest resource analysis, on the basis of the results of an ad hoc meeting scheduled for May 1979. The delegation of the USSR considered that the Working Party should broaden the scope of its activities to include more economic problems, rather than confining itself to statistical matters.

281. Delegations also stressed the importance of the Seminar on Energy Aspects of the Forest Industries, held at Udine (Italy) in November 1978, which had been the first occasion on which the Timber Committee had reviewed the energy problems in its area of interest.

282. In the light of the increase of imports of tropical hardwoods in recent years, several delegations expressed their opinion that the forthcoming Seminar on the Utilization of Tropical Hardwoods, scheduled for May 1979, in Amsterdam (Netherlands) would be of great interest, not only to importing countries, but also to producers and exporters of these woods.

283. Many delegations expressed their satisfaction with the orientation of the Committee's work on environmental problems. In particular, they stressed the importance they attached to the Symposium on the Effects of Air-borne Pollution on Vegetation, scheduled for August 1979, in Warsaw (Poland). The Symposium would be held under the joint auspices of the Timber Committee and the Committee on Agricultural Problems and in co-operation with UNEP and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. Mention was also made of the work on forest resource assessment, including quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of the forest, being carried out under the auspices of the FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics. Several delegations drew attention to the importance of achieving rational and integrated use of wood by the reduction of waste and the use of wood residues.

284. Delegations also expressed appreciation of the Committee's programme for the exchange of information on scientific, technical or economic problems. In particular, interest was expressed in the Symposium on Economic and Technical Developments in the Furniture Industry, scheduled for November 1979 in Poznan (Poland) and the Symposium on Modernization in the Wood-based Panels Industries, scheduled for May 1980 in Helsinki (Finland).

285. Delegations stressed that full co-ordination should be maintained with other international bodies working in the same area as the Timber Committee, so that any unnecessary duplication of work would be avoided. They welcomed the continuing very close co-operation with FAO, notably with its European Forestry Commission, with other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies, such as the Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, with UNEP, ILO and with other international organizations such as ISO.

286. Delegations expressed their satisfaction with the general orientation of the Timber Committee's programme of work, considering that it satisfied countries' needs and was in accordance with the priority areas and relevant resolutions and decisions of ECE, as well as the relevant provisions of the Final Act.

287. The following observations were made by delegations concerning the orientation and organization of the Committee's programme of work.

288. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR considered that the Committee should devote more attention to the effectiveness of new methods of forest work, questions of environmental protection, the problem of water pollution from wood-working plants and studies on the conservation of wood raw material to promote the rational use of wood, the protection of forest resources and a widening of the range of uses for wood.

289. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany <sup>13/</sup> considered that the Committee had taken sufficiently into account the relevant provisions of the Final Act and contributed satisfactorily to the implementation of Commission decision D (XXI). In this context, it particularly welcomed any improvement in the publication and dissemination of economic and commercial information. It, therefore, stressed the importance of work area 14.5. It also stated that the European Economic Community favoured those parts of the Committee's programme aimed at making available the Committee's know-how and expertise to countries which might need them in order to overcome problems arising from their special geographic situation or state of economic development. Projects 14.1.5 and 14.3.3 were good examples of this type of work. The delegation considered the Timber Committee's programme rather wide and suggested the Committee concentrate more on main issues and give consideration to whether its programme should be restructured. Duplication of work should be avoided, among other ways, by making use of information already available, inside or outside ECE, and by leaving aside projects which were not directly related to the timber field.

290. The delegation of Greece, considering that reforestation had two objectives - the prevention of erosion and the provision of timber - suggested that international financial institutions increase the total amount of funds dedicated to supporting forestry activities, which had long maturation periods and required large amounts of investment capital. The development of small-scale forest industries should also be encouraged.

291. The delegation of Hungary expressed its satisfaction that the Timber Committee had dealt with Commission decision H (XXXIII): Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region, and had drawn the Commission's attention to some projects on which it might usefully co-operate with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, as well as giving appropriate attention to land-use problems in its own programme. The delegation supported the idea of making further efforts to deal with land-use problems within the existing structure of ECE. This delegation also proposed that the Timber Committee or its subsidiary bodies regularly review the implementation of the recommendations adopted by seminars and symposia held under its auspices. Such a review could encourage more countries to implement these recommendations.

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<sup>13/</sup> Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany is mentioned it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

292. The delegation of Switzerland suggested that the Committee should concentrate its activities on those areas which had traditionally been at the centre of its preoccupations; the exchange of information on international markets for forest products, exchange of information and experience on technical and economic questions and the carrying out of studies of long-term trends and their potential political implications. The recent expansion in the Committee's activities had not caused any decline in quality of output, and the Committee had recognized at an early stage the importance of problems of the environment, energy or land use and taken appropriate action. Nevertheless, there was a danger that by taking too broad a view, the Committee's effectiveness could be diminished. Any suggestions for new activities should therefore be very carefully examined before being accepted. The delegation appreciated the Committee's attitude to regions with particular problems, such as southern Europe or mountainous regions.

293. The delegation of Sweden suggested that the results of national forest inventories in ECE member countries be exchanged through the secretariat. It also suggested a survey of how national forest policies were responding to the narrowing gap between fellings and growth. Both these measures would help to assess the future supply of wood raw material.

294. The delegation of the USSR mentioned the Committee's work on rationalization of transport and handling of forest products, standardization of forest products and in forest work, quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of forests, effects of pollution on vegetation and energy aspects of the forest industries (projects 14.2.2, 14.2.3, 14.3.1, 14.4.1, 14.4.3, and 14.4.4 respectively). The delegation considered that successful accomplishment of these projects would represent a valuable contribution by the Committee to the resolution of problems of energy, environmental protection and improvement of transport. The delegation considered that some of the Committee's requests for information, notably for projects under the auspices of the FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, placed an unduly heavy burden on national services. Curtailing these projects might make it possible to widen the study of the rational and integrated use of wood resources and of environmental protection, including such important questions as purification of waste waters from wood-working plants manufacturing wood-based panels. The delegation considered that one of the most valuable activities of the Committee was the dissemination of information. This delegation could not agree therefore with the Commission's decision no longer to publish the proceedings of symposia and seminars.

295. In the course of the discussion, the following suggestions were made for new subjects which could be examined by the Committee:

- purification of waste water from manufacture of wood-based panels  
(Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, USSR)
- use of solar energy for sawnwood drying (Romania)
- use of wood for musical instruments, boats, pencils and matches, on a scale of production which could ensure the effectiveness of these investments (Romania)
- modern wood harvesting methods and their efficiency as compared with traditional methods (Romania)

- methods of organizing and carrying out wood transport by modern large-capacity methods (Romania)
- the development of the door and window industry (Romania)
- exchange of results of national forest inventories (Sweden)
- survey of how national forest policies are responding to the narrowing gap between fellings and growth (Sweden)

296. In addition the following points relating to specific projects in the programme of work were made:

Work area 14.1: Medium and long-term trends and perspectives

- 14.1.1 The delegations of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Romania, Turkey, USSR and the United States attached great importance to the continuing review of long-term trends.
- 14.1.2 The delegations of Hungary and Turkey expressed special interest in reviewing trends in the end-uses of forest products.
- 14.1.3 The delegations of Hungary and Sweden expressed special interest in studying the trends in the structure and capacity of industries in the region. The delegation of Sweden considered it of great importance, in view of the severe over-capacity in the west European wood-based panel industries, to carry out the next survey of the structure and capacity of this sector as soon as possible.
- 14.1.4 ) The delegation of Turkey expressed interest in these projects.
- 14.1.6 )

Work area 14.2: Current market developments and short term prospects including problems relating to international trade

- 14.2.1 The delegations of Canada, Finland, Hungary, Turkey and the United States attached great importance to the continuous review of short-term trends in the markets for forest products.
- 14.2.2 The delegation of the USSR stated that it attached importance to the project on the rationalization of the flow of forest products.
- 14.2.3 ) The delegations of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Sweden
- 14.2.4 ) and the USSR expressed their interest in the Committee's
- 14.2.5 ) standardization activities, including the application of the recommended standards on stress grading and finger-jointing of coniferous sawn timber.

14.2.6           The delegation of Sweden expressed its special interest in this project, as a reduction in the number of dimensions in international trade could significantly contribute to a rationalization of the flow of wood between producers and consumers.

14.2.7           The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and the USSR attached importance to the project on classification and definitions.

Work area 14.3: Selected economic, technological and managerial problems

14.3.1           The delegations of Hungary, Turkey and the USSR attached great importance to the work of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers. The delegation of Turkey considered that due emphasis should be given to the south European aspects of the issues when implementing the projects.

14.3.1.1.2       The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Greece and the USSR attached great importance to work on forest fire prevention and control.

14.3.1.2.1       The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany welcomed the seminar on mechanization and techniques of thinning operations.

14.3.1.3         The delegations of Turkey and the USSR expressed interest in the activities concerning human aspects of forest operations.

14.3.1.3.3       The delegation of the German Democratic Republic expressed interest in the seminar on the health, physical and mental capacities of forest workers.

14.3.2           The delegations of Greece and Turkey attached importance to the project on wood preservation. The delegation of Greece regretted that the Committee decided to postpone a decision on further activities in this field.

14.3.3           The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and Sweden expressed their interest in the seminar on the utilization of tropical hardwoods.

14.3.4           The delegation of Sweden considered it of great importance that a survey on the effects of taxation on forestry be carried out by the Timber Committee.

14.3.5           The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and Czechoslovakia attached importance to the symposium on economic and technical developments in the furniture industry.

14.3.6 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Greece attached importance to the symposium on modernization in the wood-based panels industries.

14.3.7 The delegations of Czechoslovakia and Hungary expressed interest in the project on the chemical processing of wood.

Work area 14.4: Environmental and resource conservation problems

14.4.1 The delegation of the USSR attached importance to the project on quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of the forest.

14.4.2 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Greece and the USSR attached importance to the project on reduction of waste and development of use of residues.

14.4.3 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, the German Democratic Republic and the USSR expressed their interest in the symposium on the effects of air-borne pollution on vegetation.

14.4.4 The delegations of Canada and the USSR expressed their interest in the results of the seminar on energy aspects of the forest industries.

Work area 14.5: Collection, exchange and dissemination of information, including improvement and harmonization of statistics

The delegation of Canada stressed the great importance it placed on the activities of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany stressed the importance of this work area.

14.5.1 The delegation of Romania welcomed the inclusion of production data for some grades of pulp, paper and paperboard in the Timber Bulletin for Europe.

Committee on the Development of Trade

297. The report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its twenty-seventh session was considered in the Plenary under item 6 of the agenda (see paragraphs 307 to 323 below).

Committee on Water Problems

298. For the consideration of this item, which was considered together with agenda item 7(d) - the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the tenth session of the Committee on Water Problems (ECE/WATER/21) and a note by the Executive Secretary on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference (Commission decision E(XXXIII)) (E/ECE/974).

299. Delegations expressed their Governments' general satisfaction with the work done by the Committee in a limited number of annual meetings. They noted with appreciation the efforts made by the Committee to adapt its programme of work to the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and the results of the United Nations Water Conference. The programme of work was felt to be a well-integrated whole which reflected the actual problems of water management in the region. Delegations noted with satisfaction the thorough manner in which the Committee was implementing the relevant provisions of the Mar del Plata Action Plan and in this respect generally supported the draft decision contained in paragraph 10 of document E/ECE/974 14/. The delegation of the United Kingdom 15/ mentioned that the full implementation of the Action Plan would put a heavy burden on the Committee and the secretariat and trusted that resources for the full support of the secretariat would be made available. It also emphasized how much work had been done by the Committee in a short time due to thoroughness in preparation, the qualifications of its participants, and the businesslike attitude shown in its deliberations.

300. Delegations expressed their Governments' support for the Committee's activities in the preparation of the Declaration of Policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution, which would complete and up-date the Declaration adopted by the Commission in 1966. There was a general feeling that it was one of the most important topics under consideration by the Committee. In the course of the discussion many delegations noted that substantial steps had been taken by the Committee in the preparation of the new Declaration but that additional efforts were needed to complete the draft at the earliest opportunity. Several delegations stressed the need to speed up the revision of the present draft by reconvening the group of rapporteurs in order that the Declaration may be completed and included in the agenda for the proposed high-level meeting on the protection of the environment. Other delegations were satisfied with the schedule of work envisaged by the Committee at present. The delegation of the United States, while supporting the on-going work on the draft Declaration, stressed that it should stand on its own and should not be linked with the preparation for a high-level meeting. The delegation of the United Kingdom expressed the hope that the revised Declaration could be adopted by the Committee at its eleventh session, after thorough discussion by the Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity at its seventh session in May 1979.

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14/ For Commission decision P(XXXIV) on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference, see paragraph 340 below.

15/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the United Kingdom is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

301. Taking into account the growing problems of water quality control and mounting costs of investments, delegations taking part in the debate high-lighted the importance of rational utilization of water resources and welcomed the organization of the future Seminars on Rational Utilization of Water (September 1979) and on Economic Instruments for the Rational Utilization of Water Resources (1980), to be held under the auspices of the Committee in the German Democratic Republic and in the Netherlands respectively. The delegation of the United Kingdom noted that the results of these two seminars would also be of advantage to other regions of the world where water was wasted or used in excess of present needs.

302. Several delegations attached great interest to the work which was continuing on the comparison and analysis of methods for defining standards of water quality. Reference was also made to the project on long-term perspectives for water use and supply, and the hope was expressed that the study, when finished, would contribute to a better understanding of the conditions of water management in the region and could provide technical grounds for policy guidance in the preparation of national programmes and plans on water resources.

303. Some delegations stressed the relevance of the ECE meeting on international river commissions, tentatively scheduled for early 1980. The delegation of Finland suggested that the Commission, and in particular the Committee on Water Problems, might play a role in co-ordinating the work on criteria for the state of marine environment and on methodologies for monitoring and assessment, contemplated in the context of the implementation of different conventions for the protection of regional seas.

304. General appreciation was expressed to the Government of Malta for hosting the Seminar on Selected Water Problems in Islands and Coastal Areas with Special Regard to Desalination and Groundwater. It was pointed out that this Seminar was a relevant step in the implementation of Commission decision G(XXXIII). It was further stressed that this Seminar fostered a spirit of co-operation with the other regional commissions and in this respect it was welcomed that the documentation had been transmitted to them for their information.

305. In their statements many delegations referred to the need to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission, and especially with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. The delegation of Greece proposed that the environmental experts should follow the activities of, and co-operate with, the Committee on Water Problems 16/. Concerning co-operation with other United Nations bodies and international organizations, the delegation of the German Democratic Republic expressed its appreciation for the steps being taken by the Committee in this respect and emphasized the efforts of the secretariat to avoid duplication. The same delegation repeated its earlier proposal that the Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity, to be convened at the beginning of 1980 should itself carry out the preparatory work for future seminars. A decision to this end should be taken by the Committee at its eleventh session.

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16/ For Commission decision I (XXXIV) on co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems, see paragraph 249 above.



306. In their statements delegations endorsed the Committee's programme of work. The following specific comments were made:

Work area 16.1: Long-term prospects and planning of the water economy

- 16.1.2 The delegations of Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary and the United Kingdom considered this project of particular importance.
- 16.1.3.1 The project was of interest to the delegation of Romania while the delegation of the United Kingdom considered it less important.
- 16.1.3.2 This was considered as a relevant project by the delegation of Romania.
- 16.1.3.3 Great importance was attached to this project (German Democratic Republic; United Kingdom).
- 16.1.3.4 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Romania showed particular interest.
- 16.1.5 The delegation of Romania proposed deleting this project.
- 16.1.7 The delegation of the United Kingdom emphasized the great importance of this project.

Work area 16.2: Economic problems of water management

- 16.2.1 The project was considered of particular importance (German Democratic Republic, United Kingdom).
- 16.2.5 The delegation of the United Kingdom considered this as a less important project.

Work area 16.3: Environmental problems of water management

- 16.3.1.1 Delegations taking part in the discussion highlighted the importance and relevance of this project (Austria; Canada; Czechoslovakia; Finland; Greece; Hungary; Romania; Spain; United Kingdom; United States; Yugoslavia).
- 16.3.1.2 The delegation of Yugoslavia attached great importance to this project. It was considered of less importance by the delegation of the United Kingdom.
- 16.3.2 The delegations of Finland and Yugoslavia showed particular interest in this project.
- 16.3.3 The great importance of this project was emphasized by the delegations of Hungary and Yugoslavia.
- 16.3.4 Less importance was attached to these projects by the delegation of the  
and United Kingdom.
- 16.3.7

Work area 16.4: Research and development

- 16.4.1 This should be considered an important project (German Democratic Republic; United Kingdom; Yugoslavia).
- 16.4.2 Several delegations emphasized the great importance of this project (Canada; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; Romania; Spain; United Kingdom).
- 16.4.3 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Romania expressed to particular interest in these projects.
- 16.4.6

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Development of trade and industrial co-operation  
(agenda item 6)

307. For the consideration of this item of the agenda, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its twenty-seventh session (ECE/TRADE/130) and a note by the Executive Secretary on the development of trade and industrial co-operation (E/ECE/970).

308. Delegations described the development of their countries' trade with other ECE countries in the past year and commented on measures which might be taken to ensure its further expansion. It was noted with satisfaction that trade between ECE member countries with different economic and social systems had generally resumed its upward trend in 1978, after some slackening in its expansion in 1977. It was observed, however, that not all ECE member countries had participated in the recent increase of this trade and that eastward exports had developed faster than westward exports. In this context, a number of delegations expressed concern about increasing tendencies towards protectionism in some countries of the region. The representative of the EEC reiterated the Community's attachment to liberal trade policies and expressed its intention to maintain and further develop economic relations with other countries.

309. There was a broad agreement that the potential for further development of intra-regional trade was still large. Some delegations maintained that the removal of obstacles to the development of trade was a prerequisite for the full achievement of existing trade possibilities, while other delegations stressed the importance for further trade expansion of the need for adjustments in production and trade structures of their trade partners. The delegation of Canada stated that a successful conclusion of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the adherence by all ECE participants in the negotiations to the agreements on the limitation of non-tariff barriers to trade reached during these negotiations would favourably affect the development of international trade, including intra-regional trade, in the 1980s and beyond.

310. Many delegations referred to the trade-creating effects of long-term bilateral agreements or programmes of economic, commercial, industrial, technological and scientific co-operation among countries of the ECE region. Reference was also made to the positive results of the work of the joint governmental commissions set up under such agreements and to the conclusion of new long-term trade and co-operation agreements.

311. The valuable contribution of the ECE and of its Committee on the Development of Trade, in particular, in creating improved conditions for the development of intra-regional trade and in implementing relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE was recognized by several delegations participating in the discussions. Many delegations expressed approval of the Committee's programme of work for 1978-1983. Some delegations suggested, however, that in implementing this programme of work more emphasis should be put on trade-policy matters. Other delegations believed that the Committee's activities should continue to be concentrated on matters which had a practical importance for development of intra-regional trade. Some other delegations expressed the wish that the Committee devote greater attention to the trade problems of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view, in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. Several delegations underlined the importance which they attached to market projections in general and, in particular, to work on the trade aspects of the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990. The delegation of Poland urged that the work of other relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies on trade matters should be intensified, aiming particularly at removal of obstacles to trade, development of industrial co-operation and market projections in their fields of activity.

312. It was generally agreed that the identification of all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade among ECE member countries, especially in east-west trade, and endeavours to reduce or progressively eliminate them, while giving due attention to measures for the promotion of trade and diversification of its structure, was a major task for the Committee. Delegations commented favourably on the Committee's decision to establish, before its twenty-eighth session, a new consolidated and up-to-date version of the inventory of all kinds of obstacles to trade. Some delegations proposed that the Committee should now proceed to draw up practical recommendations aimed at the reduction or progressive elimination of obstacles to trade. In this context, some delegations also stated that the Committee should prepare, at its twenty-eighth session, a programme of action in this field which would permit the ad hoc Meeting, to be held in Geneva in 1980, to work out practical measures to achieve results in eliminating obstacles to trade. Other delegations, noting that obstacles to trade arose regardless of the economic and social systems of the countries concerned, stated that it would be inappropriate to transform the ECE into a forum for trade negotiations when other fora, both bilateral and multilateral, for trade negotiations existed.

313. Delegations stressed the importance which they attached to the promotion, collection and dissemination of economic, commercial and relevant administrative information. The Committee's decision to hold an ad hoc Meeting to discuss these matters in 1980 was welcomed. Some delegations stated, however, that such information was already widely available and that many apparent gaps could be filled if better use was made thereof.

314. Reference was also made by many delegations to the study on the possibilities of creating a multilateral system of notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST). Some delegations expressed the opinion that no conclusive results had been obtained so far through the trial run and hoped that a further trial run to test the feasibility of such a system could be arranged with more representative participation.

315. Many delegations considered the development of market information, marketing techniques and improved business contacts to be a valuable means of promoting east-west trade. They expressed their appreciation of the invitation of the Polish Government to hold the Fifth Marketing Seminar in Poznań, (Poland) and stressed the desirability of a wide participation by representatives of business circles in the Seminar.

316. Most delegations referred to the keen interest taken in their countries in the development of industrial co-operation and to the importance which they attached to this form of economic relations. They stressed that industrial co-operation should not be viewed only as a means of expanding trade but also as a way of achieving a more effective division of labour by taking full advantage of existing complementarities and economies of scale. In this connexion it was noted that the potential for industrial co-operation differed with the scale of each country's economy. The increasing range and complexity of industrial co-operation agreements was referred to as an indication of this trend. Several delegations noted with satisfaction the rapid development of large-scale projects in a variety of industrial sectors, co-operation on third markets including tripartite arrangements with enterprises of developing countries, and joint ventures located in member countries of the ECE.

317. In analysing prospects for the development of industrial co-operation, several delegations noted that the contribution made by industrial co-operation to the re-structuring of production and trade in the ECE region was still limited. There was accordingly a need for creating more favourable conditions for the development of co-operation and for the removal of existing obstacles, particularly through the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and co-operation.

318. Commenting on specific measures aimed at promoting industrial co-operation, several delegations noted that there was still inadequate information on existing opportunities for co-operation and the advantages it might offer. They expressed support for proposals to set up an information centre to promote industrial co-operation among ECE countries - firstly, among those which were developing from the economic point of view, and also among the latter and other ECE countries and non-member Mediterranean countries. A number of delegations did not support these proposals; acknowledging the need to improve the quantity and quality of information, they stated that it would be more appropriate at this stage to make fuller use of existing information channels, such as trade promotion organizations, chambers of commerce and similar bodies.

319. Several delegations expressed their support for the work already carried out by the Committee and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of industrial co-operation as well as for the ECE activities planned for 1980. They welcomed, in particular, the decision taken by the Committee at its twenty-seventh session to hold a third ad hoc meeting on industrial co-operation. The delegation of Bulgaria indicated that his country would be ready to host the Seminar should the Commission so decide.

320. Explaining its proposals designed to facilitate international exchanges in the ECE region of pharmaceuticals and medical instruments, the delegation of Hungary suggested that the Committee might play a major role in identifying the possibilities for industrial co-operation and in devising ways and means of promoting trade and standardization in these products.

321. Many delegations referred to the increased role of counter-trade in relations between ECE countries with different economic and social systems. Some delegations stated that agreements on a compensation basis, notably large-scale projects, provided additional opportunities for long-term economic co-operation and had positive trade-creating effects. Other delegations considered that certain buy-back requirements created difficulties, particularly for small- and medium-sized trade partners. In this connexion it was also noted by a few delegations that requests for counter-trade seemed to be superfluous if the requesting country had a trade surplus with its partner. The secretariat was invited to take these views into account in its study of the use of counter-trade practices in the ECE region which should be

presented to the twenty-eighth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade. The timeliness of the ad hoc meeting to examine the problems of compensation trade are to be held in 1980 was stressed by several delegations. It was also recalled that the Committee had agreed to determine the precise mandate of this ad hoc meeting at its twenty-eighth session.

322. The promotion of the development of trade through the improvement of international trade procedures, contract practices, trade practices of standardization and commercial arbitration was considered by many delegations to be a practical and highly useful way for the Committee on the Development of Trade to assist both national authorities and business circles. They expressed satisfaction with the work carried out notably by the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures and the Group of Experts on International Contract Practices in Industry in preparing and reviewing recommendations, manuals and guides on these subjects.

323. A draft decision on a multilateral system for the notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST) submitted by the delegations of: Finland; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; the Netherlands; Switzerland; and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision L (XXXIV)).

Follow-up action to the relevant Commission decisions

The economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region  
(agenda item 7(a))

324. For its consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/971), prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 1 of Commission decision A (XXXIII), containing an account of activities undertaken in the implementation of that decision.

325. Delegations participating in the discussion mentioned the great importance which their respective Governments attached to the analysis of the economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region and expressed their support for the research work already undertaken by the Commission, notably by the Committee on the Development of Trade, in this field.

326. The delegation of Turkey referred to the significant effects of migrant labour on the economies of many ECE member countries, noting that the economic importance of migratory flows for both labour-sending and labour-receiving countries went far beyond the balance-of-payments effects of migrants' remittances. It urged the Commission to pursue in the future its consideration of this subject, and commended the Executive Secretary's intention of preparing a synthetic review of the findings of the four case-studies already completed with a view to illuminating the policy options - notably in respect of adjustment problems and opportunities for co-operation - open to the ECE member countries concerned.

327. The delegation of Spain referred to the great number of individuals and families in the ECE region who were affected by the various consequences of contemporary economic conditions in the employment of temporary migrant labour and stated that the ECE was a most appropriate forum in which to undertake an over-all analysis of the economic consequences of migratory flows, although solutions to concrete problems should rather be found in a bilateral context.

328. The delegation of Yugoslavia stressed the importance of the subject for many ECE countries and considered that the economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region deserved the continuous attention of the Commission and therefore should be a regular item on its agenda. It awaited with interest the synthetic review of the secretariat's findings and hoped that the Committee on the Development of Trade would be in a position to discuss the question more extensively at its twenty-eighth session.

329. A draft decision on the economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region, submitted by the delegations of: Finland; Malta; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Turkey; and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision M(XXXIV)).

The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work  
for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade  
for Women, 1980  
(agenda item 7 (b))

330 This item was allocated by the Plenary for preliminary consideration in the Sessional Committee. The Committee had before it the report by the Executive Secretary on the subject (E/ECE/972).

331. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their full support for the organization of the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region, and underlined their approval of the discussion themes (employment, education, and time-management) selected by the Preparatory Meeting, held in November 1978. Delegations appreciated highly the invitation made by the Government of France for conducting the Seminar in Paris.

332. Several delegations stressed the importance of the United Nations Decade for Women and of its objectives - equality, development and peace. The significance of the forthcoming ECE Seminar was stressed, not only for the ECE region but also for the other regions of the world.

333. Other delegations emphasized the need for focusing the Seminar discussions on the properly selected economic issues which were within the mandate of the Commission.

334. The delegation of Romania suggested a study on the role of women in the economic and social development of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view.

335. The delegation of Belgium 17/ on the other hand expressed the hope that the Seminar would have as a result that subsidiary bodies of ECE would in their discussion on economic problems take more into account the limitation caused by the structural problem of the economic position of women.

336. At its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision N(XXXIV)).

Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal  
gasification and liquefaction  
(agenda item 7 (c))

337. This item was considered together with item 4 (f) of the agenda (see paragraphs 163-172 above).

338. A draft decision on co-operation in the field of new technologies of coal extraction and utilization, submitted by the delegations of: Austria; Belgium; Germany, Federal Republic of; Poland; Spain; Sweden; Ukrainian SSR; and the United Kingdom, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision O(XXXIV)).

The ECE follow-up to the United Nations  
Water Conference  
(agenda item 7 (d))

339. This item was considered together with item 4(f) of the agenda (see paragraphs 298-306 above).

340. At its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision P(XXXIV)).

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17/ It should be noted that Belgium expressed the view of the European Economic Community.

The contribution of the Commission to the preparations for  
the United Nations Conference on the Application of  
Science and Technology for Development

(agenda item 7(e))

341. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration and was examined together with the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (see paras. 250 to 257 above). The Committee had before it the report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of Commission decision F (XXXIII) (E/ECE/975) as well as the report of the seventh session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (ECE/SC.TECH./17).

342. Delegations considered the United Nations Conference to be a major opportunity for strengthening co-operation both among countries of the ECE region and with developing regions, and that it could mark an important stage in changing attitudes and making progress towards the establishment of a new international economic order.

343. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany <sup>18/</sup> considered that the European regional meeting in preparation for the Conference (held in Bucharest, Romania, in 1978) had provided a most useful opportunity for the exchange of views and experience in the fields of research and development and related co-operation.

344. Delegations welcomed the recommendations adopted by the European Regional Meeting and considered these to be constructive and helpful measures which might be taken by ECE member countries. Particular stress was placed by the delegation of the German Democratic Republic on focusing attention on the means of intensifying co-operation among countries in the ECE region. Referring to the final version of the European regional paper, the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany considered this, even if it contained certain deficiencies, to constitute a fair and comprehensive statement of the regional scientific and technological potential which might contribute to specifying and demonstrating the offer of the ECE region to co-operate with developing countries. This delegation did, however, add that the paper could have been better in this respect. The description of national activities relating to science and technology and technical co-operation with developing countries was inadequate, i.e. the aspect of practical validity of that description was not sufficiently taken care of. In contrast, this delegation underlined the useful recommendations for action resulting from the Bucharest meeting.

345. The Romanian delegation emphasized the necessity that, in the prospects of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), the activities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology should be extended in order to be better adapted to the real needs of the member countries of the ECE, in particular to those of the countries in the region that were developing from the economic point of view. In this context, in order to put into practice in the activity of ECE the outcome of the UNCSTD as well as the recommendations for action included in the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting in preparation for the Conference, the Romanian delegation explained its ideas for a draft proposal.

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<sup>18/</sup> Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany is mentioned it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.



346. The United States delegation expressed the view that the ECE was one of several organizations which could assist in the promotion of co-operation in the application of science and technology to development problems. The delegation of Poland observed that the ECE member countries generated a very large part of contemporary technological innovation, and that therefore the strengthening of the east-west co-operation in this field could make a significant contribution to the interests of the whole world community, including the developing countries. Many delegations considered that the developed countries in the region could, and should, assist developing countries in applying to an increasing extent science and technology for their development.

347. Commenting on preparations for the Conference and the Conference itself, the delegation of the USSR drew attention to the results of the Symposium on Trends and Prospects in Development of Science and Technology held in Tallinn (USSR) and expressed the hope that they would be taken into consideration in the programme of action for the conference, as well as by the Senior Advisers when revising their work programme. Delegations considered that the Senior Advisers should take fully into account the outcome of the Conference in revising their work programme.

Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean  
in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

(agenda item 7 (f))

348. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/976 which was prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 8 of Commission decision G (XXXIII) and contained an account of action taken in implementation of this decision. Two other documents prepared by the Executive Secretary for the Meeting of Experts on the Mediterranean within the framework of the Mediterranean Chapter of the Final Act, held in Valletta (Malta) in February/March 1979, were also circulated to the Commission for information, one on possible topics for consideration at the Valletta Meeting (E/ECE/977) and the other on the economic development in southern Europe and potentialities for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean region (E/ECE/977/Add.1).

349. Several delegations commented on this subject during the general discussion under items 4 (a) and 5. An account of their comments may be found in paragraph 65 above.

350. Other delegations speaking on this subject under agenda item 7 (f) stressed the significance of the development of co-operation in the Mediterranean, particularly in the fields of economics, culture and science and expressed satisfaction with the growing attention the Commission was giving to this co-operation both in accord with the decisions of the Commission and also the wishes of the countries members of ECE which were developing from the economic point of view, and in conformity with the aims set out in the chapter on the Mediterranean of the CSCE Final Act. These delegations recalled that the ECE had included a number of projects of interest to countries of the Mediterranean and adjacent areas in its programme of work and expressed the hope that these activities would be continued and be further developed. In this connexion it was noted that no additional resources were needed for this purpose but only an effort towards the reorientation and adaptation of the Commission's regular activities. Particular reference was made to the positive results achieved by the Seminar on Selected Water Problems in Island and Coastal Areas with Special Regard to Desalination and Groundwater, which had been held in Malta in June 1978.

351. Delegations also referred to the Valletta Meeting at which a thorough exchange of views on a number of concrete proposals for the development of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean had taken place. They expressed satisfaction with the positive contribution made by ECE to this meeting through the submission of three documents and the presence of the Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary. It was suggested that the ECE in developing its activities in the field of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean should consider the initiatives discussed in Valletta which were within its competence and which might contribute to the enrichment of its programme of work. The delegations speaking on this subject mentioned a number of specific projects of relevance to countries of the Mediterranean and adjacent areas, in particular southern and south-east Europe and the Balkan region, such as international transport, seismology, migrant workers, tourism, employment and personnel training, to which the Commission could give increased attention, in close co-operation, whenever possible, with the other United Nations regional commissions concerned, namely the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia.

352. The representative of UNESCO made a statement under this item in which he informed the Commission of his organization's contribution to the implementation of the provisions of the CSCE Final Act regarding the Mediterranean, referred to specific areas in which co-operation was taking place between UNESCO and ECE and stressed the desirability of strengthening this co-operation.

353. The representative of UNEP addressed the Commission under this item. In his statement he referred to the close co-operation maintained between UNEP and ECE and described a number of important activities carried out jointly in areas of common interest. He also expressed the interest of his organization in a number of ECE projects and seminars, including those which were important for the other regions of the world, as well as in new approaches and solutions to economic and ecological problems which confront the ECE region.

354. A draft decision on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, submitted by the delegations of: Cyprus; Greece; Italy; Malta; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Turkey; and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its fifteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision Q (XXXIV)).

Problems of land use and land-use planning  
in the ECE region

(agenda item 7 (g))

355. In considering this item, which was allocated by the Plenary for discussion in the Sessional Committee, delegations had before them the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/978) on the implementation of Commission decision H (XXXIII).

356. Delegations speaking on this subject agreed on the importance of the issues in this problem area and stressed the multidisciplinary nature of the problem and the consequent need for a multisectorial and co-ordinated approach. They expressed their satisfaction with the present approach, as elaborated in document E/ECE/978, and the active interest shown, in particular, by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, the Conference of European Statisticians, Inland Transport Committee, the Timber Committee and the Committee on Agricultural Problems.

357. Satisfaction was expressed by the representative of the European Economic Community with the way the Commission had, through its Principal Subsidiary Bodies, dealt with the question of land use and land-use planning. The lack of the statistical base for this problem area had made it difficult for many of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to integrate these questions into their work areas, and, for example, to respond to the question on the need and utility of a study on the implications for land use in the demographic and socio-economic developments forecasts in the Overall Economic Perspectives for the ECE region. Therefore, the work of the Conference of European Statisticians on this subject was considered as particularly important. There was nevertheless scope, even in the short term, for further implementation of Commission decision H (XXXIII) by some Principal Subsidiary Bodies, which had not so far expressed their specific interest in this subject, for example, the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. It was hoped that it would be able to devote sufficient attention to land use questions, even if it had many urgent and important matters at hand.

358. The delegation of Finland considered that the inter-disciplinary aspects of land use and land-use planning were numerous, and commended the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning for its openness in integrating its actions with the work of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

359. The delegation of the Soviet Union appreciated the fact that while the land use problem required a multisectorial approach in working out programmes, this did not need any organizational changes. General guidelines should be elaborated for the exchange of information on experience gained and problems encountered in various sectors of this problem area, such as norms of land utilization, regulations of soil protection and conservation.

360. The delegation of Spain appreciated the way in which the implementation of the Commission decision H (XXXIII) was described in the report by the Executive Secretary which opened the door to further activities of the Commission in this field. It considered the land use and land-use planning sector as an example of interdisciplinary issues, ranging over many different sectorial interests. The delegation felt that the results of the Seminar on Integrated Physical, Socio-economic and Environmental Planning should be studied within the framework of the global problem area of land use and land-use planning. There was a need to ensure that the attention of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies continued to be drawn to this problem area, in accordance with the Commission decision on concentration and integration, so that these problems continued to be identified by them with the view of facilitating activities within the Commission's programme of work.

361. The delegation of Romania, while expressing its satisfaction with the report by the Executive Secretary and action undertaken by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, stressed the importance of giving continuous attention to this problem area, particularly regarding countries which were developing from the economic point of view.

362. The following problem areas were specifically proposed by the delegation of the USSR for integrated action by the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies:

- The aspects of soil utilization and regional planning, notably with regard to the zoning for human settlements and industries, communications and network, water resources' utilization, and agricultural land, pastures and arable land, etc. (Committee on Agricultural Problems, Committee on Housing Building and Planning)
- Aspects of soil utilization relative to forested areas, reforestation, drainage, etc. (Timber Committee)
- Harmful effects to the environment of slag heaps of the coal industry and restoring surfaces damaged by coal mining (Coal Committee)
- Environmental protection of soils destined for human settlements; infrastructure preparation of town areas; preparation of urban soils for construction.
- Analytical methods for determining, in the long term, functional zones for built up regions; for determining which soils are most favourable for industry, housing, civil engineering and agricultural production; for establishing registers for land reserves.

#### Standardization

(agenda item 7 (h))

363. This item was allocated by the Plenary for preliminary consideration in the Sessional Committee. The Committee had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (E/ECE/979), as well as the report of the Fifth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/19).

364. All delegations participating in the discussion of this item expressed their appreciation of the work done by the Fifth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies and their continued support for the standardization activities of the Commission. The delegation of the USSR stated that the ECE was the most appropriate international organization through which to ensure intergovernmental co-operation in the field of standardization. Several delegations reported on measures recently taken in their countries to ensure implementation of the recommendations on standardization policies adopted in the ECE. It was generally agreed that further activities to follow up these recommendations were necessary.

365. Many delegations expressed their interest in and active support for the expanded programme of work adopted by the Fifth Meeting. The hope was expressed that the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies would reach agreement on the final text of a clause pertaining to participation in certification arrangements so that the ECE recommendation for the creation and promotion of such international arrangements would be effective. In this context, the representative of the European Economic Community recalled that the Community had always insisted that harmonization of standards should be considered as a prerequisite to the creation of certification systems and mutual recognition of test certificates. The delegation of Greece supported this view. The representative of the European Economic Community further stated that the ECE constituted a most appropriate forum for co-ordination of standardization work at the international, regional and national levels with a view to adopting recommendations on the rules of conduct to be followed in the field of harmonization of standards.

366. Several delegations noted that the expanded programme of work adopted by the Fifth Meeting represented a further step towards the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The delegation of Romania stressed the importance of standardization for the transfer of technology and underlined the importance that in the future activities particular attention should be paid to the countries that were developing from the economic point of view in supporting the efforts for an international harmonization of their national standards. Some delegations suggested that ECE activities on standardization should be restructured, and that responsibility for following up the Commission's recommendations in this field should be delegated to the competent subsidiary bodies.

367. The delegation of Czechoslovakia suggested that the Meetings of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies should be transformed into a permanent ECE Committee, in order to allow the Commission's activities in this field to develop fully.

368. At its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on standardization. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision R (XXXIV)).

#### Automation

(agenda item 7 (i))

369. The discussion of this item which was allocated by the Plenary for preliminary consideration by the Sessional Committee, was based on the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/980 and Addendum 1) and on the report of the seventh session of the Working Party on Automation (ECE/AUTOMAT/10), describing the Working Party's activities in 1978 and setting out its programme of work for 1979-1983.

370. All delegations participating in the discussion approved the work accomplished so far, supported the programme of work for 1979-1983 and agreed with the time-table of the future activities in this field. Several delegations pointed out, however, that the implementation of the programme of work called for a more active and wider participation of ECE member countries.

371. The delegate of France <sup>19/</sup> expressed his satisfaction with the agreement reached at the seventh session of the Working Party that its work should be concentrated as much as possible in its annual sessions, the duration of which could be prolonged as necessary. He also favoured organizing one seminar per year and endorsed the holding of a joint meeting on statistics with the ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries. He referred also to an arrangement which had been envisaged at an earlier stage concerning the possibility of linking the programme of work on automation with that of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, a formula which might still be valid.

372. The delegate of the USSR also expressed his satisfaction with the agreement reached in principle by the Working Party concerning its future methods of work.

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<sup>19/</sup> Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegate of France is mentioned, it should be noted that he expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

With regard to the possible institutional link between the Working Party and the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology, the delegate of the USSR was of the opinion that a closer relation was necessary between the programme of work on automation and that on engineering industries. Several delegations supported these views. Such projects as that on automation in welding or on precision instruments should be dealt with in close co-operation with the ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries and therefore more consideration should be given by the Working Party to scheduling its projects so as to ensure this co-operation.

373. With regard to the Seminar on Automation in Welding, the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR confirmed its invitation for this Seminar to be held in Kiev at the end of October/beginning November 1980 and that the Paton Institute which already had considerable experience in this field would organize this event.

374. Concerning the project on automation problems of interest to ECE countries which were developing from the economic point of view, the delegate of Yugoslavia underlined its importance, in particular in respect of the production of automation equipment; a proposal for a study and a seminar on this subject would be submitted by his delegation to the next session of the Working Party for its consideration.

375. The decision of the Working Party to include in its programme of work a review of developments in automation in the ECE region was welcomed by the delegation of the USSR.

376. Delegations made the following comments on the Working Party's programme of work for 1979-1980.

Work Area 01(d).1: Medium- and Long-Term Perspectives

01(d).1.1 The importance of this topic was stressed by the German Democratic Republic.

01(d).1.2 The importance of this topic was stressed by Yugoslavia.

Work Area 01(d).2: Current Developments and Prospects

01(d).2.1 The importance of this project was stressed by the USSR.

Work Area 01(d).3: Selected Economic and Technological Problems

01(d).3.1 The importance of this topic was stressed by the USSR.

01(d).3.2 The importance of this topic was stressed by the German Democratic Republic and Yugoslavia.

01(d).3.4 The importance of this topic was stressed by the USSR.

Work Area 01(d).5: Statistics and Information

01(d).5.1 The importance of this topic was stressed by France, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

01(d).5.2 The importance of this topic was stressed by Czechoslovakia.

377. At its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on automation. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision S (XXXIV)).

#### Engineering industries

(agenda item 7 (j))

378. The discussion of this item was based on the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/981) and the report of the seventh ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGINE/14).

379. All delegations taking part in the discussion referred to the importance of the engineering industries for the economies of all countries of the region and to their special significance for furthering international co-operation and for promoting the transfer of technology both within and outside the region.

380. Commenting on the work accomplished, the delegations stressed the progress made in implementing the programme of work and the methods used for approaching techno-economic problems in the field under consideration, and for enhancing east-west trade and business contacts. Many speakers complimented the seventh ad hoc Meeting on issuing the studies Production of engineering equipment for preventing pollution and the techno-economic efficiency of such equipment (ECE/ENGINE/9) and Role and place of engineering industries in national and world economies - updating to 1970-1975 of the main statistical tables (ECE/ENGINE/12/Vol.II). Such studies were considered timely, factual and of practical value. The delegations expressed their agreement with the method of work chosen for the latter, namely, collection of country statements by means of a short questionnaire which constituted a sound basis for market reviews and better reflected national particularities.

381. Delegations considered that the work undertaken in the field of engineering statistics was of great importance and should be conducted on a regular basis. They favoured work on methodology and other statistical problems in co-operation with the Conference of European Statisticians and close collaboration with the Working Party on Automation. The usefulness of the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products was reaffirmed; the review of the nomenclature used in it should be speeded up. Work on a harmonization of statistics used by the CMEA, EEC and OECD should be encouraged in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication.

382. All speakers made favourable comments on the work under way in the field of precision instruments, since this was an important sector and very much dependent on the most modern technologies.

383. Delegations generally agreed that seminars and study tours constituted a very effective method of work in the field of engineering for spreading technical knowledge and also offered the opportunity for the exchange of experiences, which could be particularly valuable for countries in the process of development. The possibility of holding two seminars a year was also mentioned in this connexion.

384. Special thanks were conveyed by all delegations to the Government of Poland for the excellent Seminar on Techno-economic Trends in Airborne Equipment for Agriculture and other Selected Areas of the National Economy held in September 1978. Several speakers welcomed the fact that the theme of the Seminar had been retained in the programme of work. The delegate of the United States referred to the appreciation of the private sector in his country for this Seminar which they had found extremely useful.

385. Delegations reviewed progress made in the preparations for the Seminar on Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment to be held in Sofia (Bulgaria) from 3 to 8 September 1979 and the Seminar on Innovation in Engineering Industries: Techno-economic Aspects of Fabrication Processes and Quality Control, to be held from 9 to 13 June 1980 in Turin (Italy). They thanked the host countries for their readiness to organize these seminars. The invitation of the competent authorities of the German Democratic Republic to host a Seminar on Present Use and Prospects for Precision Instruments in Engineering Industries, in 1981 was gratefully acknowledged.

386. Delegations welcomed the intention of the Polish Government to host a seminar in 1981 or 1982 on market trends and tendencies of international division of labour in the automobile industry (including production sharing co-operations of main parts for these products), especially east-west connexions in this field. 20/

387. The Hungarian delegation proposed that the eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries should consider as a priority point (d) of the list of projects of special interest for possible action at a date to be decided. The Italian delegation, 21/ in reply, said that the proposal of the Hungarian delegation could be given positive consideration in the light of the state of the work under way at the time, by the eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts. A report on this subject should be prepared by the secretariat and submitted to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

388. General agreement was expressed with the proposed programme of work for 1979/1980 and with the list of projects of special interest for possible action at a date to be decided (Annex to ECE/ENGINE/14).

389. The rational use of the secretariat resources was considered especially important by the Italian delegation and by the USSR. The Italian delegation also expressed the view that no studies should be undertaken before the completion of the work in hand. It was also necessary, in its view, to bear in mind the need to avoid any duplication of the activities of other bodies; moreover, the topics to be taken up for study in connexion with the mechanical engineering and electrical industries should, as far as possible, be of real interest to the countries participating in the work of ECE in this field. The delegation of Romania drew attention to the desirability of activating work on international and intra-regional co-operation, including means of transfer of technology in the field of engineering industries; it suggested including in the work area on environmental and resource saving problems a topic on measures for promoting the efficiency of energy production by improving engineering equipment. The same delegation also stressed the necessity to have a better co-operation between the Senior Economic Advisers and the appropriate bodies of ECE in the field of engineering. The delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary and the USSR also expressed the desire to include in this work area a study on production of engineering equipment for preventing pollution concentrating on problems associated with water.

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20/ Point (d) of the List of projects of special interest for possible action at a date to be decided (ECE/ENGINE/14, Annex).

21/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Italy is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.



390. The Hungarian delegation invited the eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries to study the question of the harmonization of technical requirements for medical instruments, the encouragement of joint-production of such products and the fostering of common research in this field.

391. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and of the USSR recommended that the eighth ad hoc Meeting include in the List of projects of special interest for possible action at a date to be decided the holding of a seminar in 1982 or 1983 on low waste processes and automated equipment for production of precision castings by engineering industries, as a follow-up to the Seminar on Engineering Equipment for Foundries and Advanced Methods for Producing such Equipment (held in 1977). Furthermore, in view of the fact that the Working Party on Automation would be holding a Seminar on the Automation of Welding in Kiev in 1980 at the invitation of the Ukrainian SSR, the delegation of the USSR suggested that because of the close relation of this project to point (g), the eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries should co-sponsor this project.

392. Delegations made the following detailed comments on the programme of work for 1979/1980 in the Commission activities in the field on engineering industries:

Work area 01(a).1: Medium and Long-Term Perspectives

01(a).1.2                      The importance of this topic was stressed by Romania and Yugoslavia.

Work area 01(a).2: Current Developments and Prospects

Work area of special interest to all countries participating in the discussion.

Work area 01(a).3: Selected Economic and Technological Problems

Activities in the whole of this work area were favoured by all delegations.

Work area 01(a).4: Environmental and Resource Saving Problems

01(a).4.1                      The study on measures for saving materials in engineering industries was favourably commented on by all speakers.

Work area 01(a).5: Statistics and Information

Regarded by all speakers as a fundamental prerequisite for work on all problems of engineering industries.

393. As regards the methods for implementing the programme of work, the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR considered that in view of the importance of engineering industries for all countries and the substantial results already achieved in producing studies, organizing seminars and furthering international co-operation, the ECE activities in this field should be given a permanent basis. The USSR delegate suggested that an agreement might be reached on a programme of work on a 5-year basis to facilitate the secretariat's planning of work. The delegate of Italy expressed the view that he agreed with continuing work in this sector through the organizing of seminars, symposia, study tours, by making specific studies, etc. but he could not agree to giving ECE's activities in this field a permanent character.

394. At its tenth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on engineering. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision T(XXIV)).

Recommendations by the Sessional Committee and action  
taken thereon by the Plenary

395. At its tenth meeting the Commission heard a statement by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee, Mr. Loukianovitch, on the outcome of the deliberations of the Sessional Committee on the reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and on other items assigned to it by the Plenary for preliminary consideration.

396. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee informed the Commission that the discussions in the Sessional Committee had been thorough and constructive. He stressed that introductory statements presented by or on behalf of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of each body had proved very useful in focusing the discussion on the main features of the problems under consideration. He expressed the view that the fruitful discussions held in the Sessional Committee proved the continuing high interest of ECE Governments in the work of the Commission.

397. He mentioned particular attention paid during the discussions of the Sessional Committee to the Executive Secretary's report on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/969); on general energy problems in the ECE region (E/ECE/982/Add.1); on the contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (E/ECE/975); the United Nations Water Conference (E/ECE/974); and the contribution of the Commission to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980 (E/ECE/972).

398. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee then submitted to the Plenary the Sessional Committee's recommendations on decisions to be taken on the following items of the agenda:

- (i) Human settlements (agenda item 4 (f))
- (ii) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980 (agenda item 7 (b))
- (iii) The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference (agenda item 7 (d))
- (iv) Standardization (agenda item 7 (h))
- (v) Automation (agenda item 7 (i))
- (vi) Engineering industries (agenda item 7 (j)).

399. The Committee took note of the draft programme of work on general energy problems as contained in Annex III of document E/ECE/982/Add.1.

400. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee also informed the Plenary that, at its request, the Sessional Committee had considered in a preliminary way the Commission's draft programme of work for 1979-1983. (For an account of this discussion in the Sessional Committee and in the Plenary, see paragraphs 403 to 414 below.)

401. The Chairman of the Commission expressed to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee, and through them to the Committee itself, the Commission's appreciation of the impressive manner in which they had dealt with the tasks assigned to them.

402. At the same meeting the Commission, acting upon the recommendations of the Sessional Committee, adopted the decisions (i) - (vi) referred to in paragraph 398 above.

Programme of work for 1979-1983

(agenda item 8)

403. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration.

404. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it document E/ECE/982, as well as E/ECE/982/Add.1 concerning programme category 01(b): General Energy Problems of the Commission's programme of work.

405. In connection with the Commission's programme of work, the Executive Secretary referred to proposals which had been made by delegations with a view to improving the management of ECE resources and, in particular, to reducing the number of meetings. He stressed that he would make a concerted effort to implement these proposals in line with what he had suggested in Chapter VI of his own report (E/ECE/964).

406. In introducing the discussion on programme category 01(b) - General energy problems the Executive Secretary said that the past year had witnessed a number of important activities in the general energy field such as the Seminar on the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat (Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany, 6-9 November 1978, ECE/SEM.2/2), the Symposium on Energy Aspects of the Forest Industries (Udine, Italy), 13 to 17 November 1978, TII/SEM.7/2), the preparatory meeting for a Seminar on Improved techniques for the extraction of primary forms of energy (ECE/SEM.4/AC/2) and expert meetings on energy conservation in the chemical industry and in human settlements. Further symposia and seminars had been prepared for 1979 and 1980: on coal gasification and liquefaction (Poland, April 1979, COAL/SEM.6/1); modelling studies and their conclusions on energy conservation and its impact on the economy (United States, October 1979, ECE/SEM.3/INF.1) and new energy sources (Federal Republic of Germany, 1980). The secretariat was finalising studies on "East-west energy trade and co-operation", "Energy reserves and supplies in the ECE region", and "Energy conservation - the first years", the publication of which was suggested.

407. While ECE machinery had been operating at nearly full capacity in the general energy field in 1978/1979, there had not been an opportunity for member Governments to examine the over-all programme, nor to provide guidance to the secretariat. The Executive Secretary felt that the point had been reached when the Commission should review its general energy programme for which he submitted an expanded framework in Annex III of document E/ECE/982/Add.1. He added the subject of the economic and technical aspects of decentralized and centralized energy systems which might be dealt with at a Seminar.

408. In the ensuing discussion, delegations thanked the Executive Secretary for his helpful and informative statement. Delegations reaffirmed the high value they attached to the activities of the Commission in the general energy field. Reference was made to the growing importance of energy for economic development. The inter-dependence of national energy systems was stressed. A more effective inter-governmental co-operation in the general energy field in the framework of ECE was called for.

409. The Finnish delegation illustrated the importance of energy problems and of international co-operation in this field by providing information on the energy situation and policy of its country.

410. Delegations expressed their satisfaction with the results of the activities of the Commission in the general energy field during 1978/1979. Special mention was made of the Symposia on the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat and on the Energy Aspects of the Forest Industries, the recommendations of which were approved. Delegations noted with appreciation and approval, the progress in the preparation of the symposia and seminars to be held in 1979 and 1980 and of the forthcoming conclusion and publication of studies on east-west energy trade and industrial co-operation, energy resources and supplies in the ECE region, and energy conservation. Delegations referred favourably to the recent publication of the study New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long-Term (E/ECE/961); the Hungarian delegation reported that this study had been translated into Hungarian; referring to the discussion held at the thirty-seventh session of the Committee on Electric Power, this delegation suggested that the study might have benefited from a closer co-ordination between interested subsidiary bodies.

411. The Romanian delegation noted that the Commission had been deprived during 1978/1979 of the opportunity of expert meetings on general energy questions which has made positive contributions in earlier years.

412. The Commission's draft programme of work for 1979-1983 contained in E/ECE/982/Add.1 met with general approval. The delegation of the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, said that the consideration of the possibilities for continuing to develop the Commission's work on general energy problems should take into account Annex III of E/ECE/982/Add.1, and also the ongoing work of the Commission, particularly in the framework of the gas, coal and electric power committees. Delegations recognized that the suggested programme constituted a framework, the substance of which would have to be clarified in the near future. In the implementation of this programme the Commission should be guided by the consideration to arrive at practical results. Close co-operation should be established between Principal Subsidiary Bodies particularly with the Senior Economic Advisers.

413. Delegations generally welcomed the priorities reflected in the draft programme. The Romanian delegation indicated its particular interest in the "identification and analysis of energy projects suitable for international co-operation". The Swedish delegation expressed its interest in an improved exchange of information on energy policies, reserves, production plans, export potential, long-term prospects of energy demand and supply, potential for and obstacles affecting east-west energy trade, and cautioned against too theoretical an approach in Work Area 01. (b)5: methodology, statistics and information. The Hungarian delegation expressed great interest in an exchange of views on energy

economy and efficiency; theoretical research was necessary but should be geared to attain practical results. The delegation of the United Kingdom speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community emphasized the important role of an extensive exchange of information and views on energy, resources and governmental objectives and policies. The Finnish delegation expressed its special interest in the combined production of electricity and heat and in a further co-operation in this domain. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic considered the following subjects as being of continued topicality:

- analysis of available energy resources in Europe and evaluation of the present and prospective demand of all European countries for energy with a view to their co-operation in covering energy requirements and in the optimum utilization of resources, with due regard to economic criteria;
- creation of links between the European electricity and gas supply systems and the establishment of an optimum all-European fuel and energy transport system;
- joint establishment of modern and highly efficient fuel and energy production complexes using hard coal, brown coal, lignite and gas resources;
- joint research for the development of new sources of energy, the designing of modern energy-saving technologies, the construction of energy production equipment for solid fuels, and the gasification and liquefaction of coal;
- exchange of experience in the conception and implementation of national energy policies with due regard to the protection of the environment.

414. The Romanian delegation proposed the following amendments to the text of the draft programme of work:

Work area Ol.(b)1: Medium and long-term trends and perspectives

- insert "the intensity of energy consumption and its impact on the adaptation of economic structures and industrial patterns".

Work area Ol.(b)3: Problems of energy economy and efficiency

- re-draft (a) as follows: "Exchange of information and views and evaluation of measures adopted or envisaged to achieve greater energy economy and efficiency and on the results of energy conservation policies".
- re-draft (b) as follows: "Analysis and evaluation of national energy conservation programmes and of their economic impact in the short, medium and long-term".
- re-draft (d) as follows: "Selected measures taken or which might be taken to enhance energy economy and efficiency".
- re-draft (d)(ii) as follows: "Rational utilization of secondary sources of energy in the economy and particularly in industry".
- add new (d)(iv) as follows: "Development of energy efficient machinery and equipment in energy production, transport and use".

Other business

(agenda item 9)

(a) Participation of the European Conference of Ministers of Transport

415. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission was informed that the Government of Yugoslavia, in its capacity as Chairman of the European Conference of Ministers of Transport and on the basis of agreement of the Ministers representing the member countries in this organization, had communicated to the Executive Secretary its request that the Economic Commission for Europe invite, under the provisions of Article 12 of its terms of reference, the European Conference of Ministers of Transport to participate in the Commission's work. In accordance with this request, the Commission adopted its decision on the participation of the European Conference of Ministers of Transport in the Commission's work, the text of which is reproduced in Chapter IV (decision U (XXXIV)).

(b) Request from non-governmental organizations for presentation of views

416. A request was received and accepted from the World Federation of Trade Unions to present the views of this organization to the Commission on the review of the economic situation in Europe (agenda item 3).

(c) Date, place and agenda of the next session

417. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the thirty-fifth session of the Commission in Geneva was from 15 to 26 April 1980. The Commission decided to leave to the Executive Secretary the responsibility for determining, in consultation with the Officers of the Commission and in the light of the relevant arrangements of the ECOSOC and the General Assembly, the precise date of the thirty-fifth session, and requested the Executive Secretary to inform the Governments thereon.

418. Pursuant to Council resolution 1894(LVII) the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session, which would be prepared in consultation with the Officers of the Commission, would consist of the following main points:

- (a) review of the economic situation in Europe;
- (b) general debate on the work of the Commission as a whole, with special reference to the action taken in the light of the resolutions and decisions adopted at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission;
- (c) concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work;
- (d) consideration of the reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission.

Adoption of the Annual Report of the Commission  
to the Economic and Social Council

(agenda item 10)

419. Before the draft report was adopted by the Commission, the representative of Albania stated, in connexion with references made to the CSCE, to the Final Act, to recommendations adopted in Helsinki as well as to recommendations from the Belgrade Meeting, in various statements and in Commission documents, that the CSCE had nothing to do with the activity of the United Nations or of the other organs of the United Nations system such as ECE. For this reason he considered that any attempt to include in any way the activities and functions of ECE in the framework of the decisions of the CSCE was groundless. He recalled the well-known position of the Government of Albania which did not participate in this Conference and which did not and will not recognize its decisions. In this connexion, he declared that Albania dissociated itself from any document or part of document adopted by ECE during the current session which contained references to the CSCE.

420. At its fifteenth meeting, on 27 April 1979, the Commission adopted its Report to the Economic and Social Council covering the period from 25 April 1978 to 27 April 1979.

## CHAPTER IV

### RESOLUTION AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

#### I. RESOLUTION

1 (XXXIV) - THE WORK AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AND  
THE PROPOSAL IN REGARD TO THE HOLDING OF ALL-EUROPEAN  
CONGRESSES OR INTER-STATE CONFERENCES ON CO-OPERATION  
IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT,  
DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT, AND ENERGY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIII), and in particular the determination of its member countries to continue to intensify efforts to promote economic relations and co-operation; the significance of the activities of the ECE for strengthening such relations and co-operation and of being a useful instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level; the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and the wish of the participating States to "take advantage of the possibilities offered by relevant international organizations, in particular by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, for giving effect to the provisions of the final documents of the Conference",

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports by the Executive Secretary, including his reports E/ECE/964 and E/ECE/982, the programme of work for the Commission for 1979-1980 as well as the long term programme of work for 1979-1983, and noting that during the thirty-fourth session delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

Welcoming the further progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII), on topics in the Final Act of the CSCE requiring multilateral implementation and referred to in the section of that Act entitled "Co-operation in the Fields of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment",

Believing that active work and joint efforts in developing further the co-operation within the framework of the ECE serves the interests of all member countries, irrespective of their systems including those which are developing from an economic point of view,

Recognizing that the strengthening of regional co-operation contributes to solving the pressing problems of world development and promoting economic growth within the region as well as in countries outside the region, and hence peace and security in the world,

Noting with satisfaction the Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, as well as its successful co-operation with other international organizations,



Agreeing that the activities of the ECE should continue to concentrate on the priority areas of the development of trade, science and technology, environment, and economic projections, and that due regard should be paid to other pertinent areas of co-operation,

Recalling the Soviet Government's proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport and energy, and the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member Governments should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of discussion in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

Recalling, at the same time, the view expressed by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/911 to the thirty-second session of the Commission that the authority of the ECE could be reinforced, and its work in the relevant area given an additional impetus, by high-level meetings properly prepared and held within the ECE at an appropriate moment,

Reaffirming that any high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE would require a precise and carefully prepared agenda; that the subject-matter should require a high level of representation; that such a meeting should hold promise of important decisions; that the topics for consideration should be of concern to the region as a whole, and not lead to unnecessary duplication of the work of other international organizations,

Having considered the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/964 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978, and the report ECE/ENV/29 of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding implementation of Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII) Part II,

1. Calls upon the member Governments to continue to take full advantage of the potential of the Economic Commission for Europe as an instrument for strengthening economic relations and multilateral co-operation in the region;

2. Reiterates its earlier decisions to continue to intensify co-operation among member countries in the framework of the work programme of the ECE, and reaffirms the determination of member Governments to work towards an effective multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE within the framework of the ECE, bearing in mind the importance of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level; and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the Final Act which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE;

3. Notes with satisfaction that the Executive Secretary stated his views at the Meeting of Experts foreseen by the Final Act in order to prepare a "Scientific Forum" which took place in Bonn in June 1978, and that he made contributions relating to the work of the Meeting of Experts on the Mediterranean which recently took place in Valletta within the framework of the Mediterranean chapter of the Final Act, and asks him to participate, if invited to do so, in activities resulting from these meetings, and to make the necessary arrangements to that effect;

4. Reiterates its previous call to its subsidiary bodies to take duly into account when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view; to this effect the Executive Secretary will take the necessary measures;

5. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue contacts with the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions of the United Nations concerning the co-operation between the ECE and other regional commissions on problems of common interest, having in mind also the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and to inform the Commission accordingly;

7. Notes with satisfaction the work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems in accordance with part II of resolution 1 (XXXIII) concerning a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment as contained in document ECE/ENV/29;

8. Agrees that following completion and acceptance by the Commission of the draft convention and draft resolution on long-range transboundary air pollution and the draft declaration on low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes as contained in Commission document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.13 and in Annex B to document ECE/ENV/29 respectively, the above-mentioned criteria for the convening of a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment within the framework of the ECE have been met;

9. Decides therefore to convene the high level meeting on the protection of the environment from 13 to 16 November 1979 and, in this regard, draws to the attention of member Governments decision A (XXXIV);

10. Reiterates the importance of an extensive exchange of information and views between member Governments on general energy problems, including energy resources, and national objectives and policies in these areas, thus providing a basis for closer international co-operation on energy matters and, inter alia, for discussion of problems related to a possible high-level meeting on energy organized within the framework of the ECE;

11. Decides to establish on an ad hoc basis a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy and draws to the attention of member Governments decision B (XXXIV);

12. Reiterates the suggestion in resolution 1 (XXXIII) that member Governments should study thoroughly the USSR Government's proposal for the holding of all-European congresses in the fields of transport and energy in the light of further discussions in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE;

13. Asks the Executive Secretary to circulate such views in regard to the proposal as member Governments may wish to communicate to him;

14. Approves its programme of work for 1979/80 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-fifth session, its long-term programme of work for 1979-1983;

15. Endorses the Executive Secretary's conclusions relating to increasing efficiency in methods of work as contained in document E/ECE/964 and reiterates that continued efforts should be made for better concentration, integration and co-ordination of the ECE activities and, in this respect, draws to the attention of member Governments and the subsidiary bodies its decision D (XXXIV);

16. Requests its subsidiary bodies, as well as the Executive Secretary, to take into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes this resolution, the decisions of the Commission, and the points raised by delegations and reported in the relevant passages of the summary records and the reports of this session in as much as they are addressed therein; and

17. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as the other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 101 above)

## II. OTHER DECISIONS

### A (XXXIV) - HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ECE ON THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV) and in particular its decision to hold a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment;

Bearing in mind that environmental problems are increasing in scope and that their implications may involve large material, financial and human resources,

Acknowledging that, in accordance with the chapter on Environment of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, economic development and technological progress must be compatible with the protection of the environment, that damage to the environment is best avoided by preventive measures and that every suitable opportunity should be made use of to co-operate in the field of environment,

Aware of the activities of other competent United Nations organs and international organizations in this matter,

Having examined the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems as reflected in document ECE/ENV/29 and amended the proposals contained in Annex A to this document,

Considering that the preparatory work on long-range transboundary air pollution, and low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes which has been completed by the Commission at its present session, as contained in Commission document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.18 and in Annex B to document ECE/ENV/29, has therefore been brought to a satisfactory conclusion,

Agreeing that the treatment of these two topics would require a high level of representation, that a high-level meeting holds promise of important decisions, and that the subject-matter is of concern to the region as a whole and would not lead to unnecessary duplication of the work of other international organizations,

Considering moreover that during the high-level meeting a general exchange of views on the other topics considered by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, namely water pollution including transboundary water pollution, protection of native flora and fauna and their habitats, and toxic substances and toxic wastes could be useful,

1. Decides to convene the high-level meeting on the protection of the environment from 13 to 16 November 1979;
2. Agrees that the following draft documents be submitted to the high-level meeting for formal adoption;
  - A. Convention and Resolution on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,
  - B. Declaration of Intent and Recommendations for National Action and International Co-operative Activities including Follow-up Activities within the Framework of the ECE in the field of low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes;

and, for this purpose, asks the Executive Secretary to convene an ad hoc group of experts to finalize the legal and linguistic editing of Commission document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.18 and Annex B to document ECE/ENV/29, as necessary, from 11 to 15 June 1979;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary to make the necessary preparations for the high-level meeting and to draw up the following agenda:
  1. Adoption of the agenda
  2. Election of Officers
  3. General debate on the environmental situation in the ECE region, in particular long-range transboundary air pollution and low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes, and also other environmental problems dealt with in the ECE, inter alia, water pollution including transboundary water pollution
  4. Formal adoption of the Convention and Resolution on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the Declaration of Intent and Recommendations for National Action and International Co-operative Activities including Follow-up Activities within the Framework of the ECE in the field of low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes

5. Other business

6. Adoption of the report

4. Invites the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 102 above)

B (XXXIV) - ENERGY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV),

Recognizing the major importance of energy for economic and social development,

Conscious of the importance and urgency of stimulating closer international co-operation on energy matters and the need for extensive exchange of information and views between member States on general energy problems, including energy resources and national objectives and policies in these areas,

Commending the Committees on Coal, Electric Power and Gas on the valuable practical contribution they have made in their respective fields,

Aware of the need to avoid unnecessary duplication of the activities of existing subsidiary bodies of the Commission and other international organizations,

Recalling the proposal of the Soviet Government for the holding of an all-European congress on co-operation in the field of energy and the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member States should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of the further discussions in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

Further recalling the view expressed by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/911 to the thirty-second session of the Commission that the authority of the ECE could be reinforced, and its work in the relevant area given an additional impetus, by high-level meetings properly prepared and held within the ECE at an appropriate moment,

Reaffirming that any high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE would require a precise and carefully prepared agenda; that the subject-matter should require a high level of representation; that such a meeting should hold promise of important decisions; that the topics for consideration should be of concern to the region as a whole, and not lead to unnecessary duplication of the work of other international organizations,

1. Endorses the ongoing activities in the framework of the Commission's programme of work on General Energy Problems in the ECE region pursuant to Commission decision H (XXXII);

2. Decides to establish on an ad hoc basis a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled "Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy" with the following mandate:

(a) To undertake an extensive exchange of information, views and experiences between member States on general energy problems, including an extensive exchange of information, views and experiences regarding energy resources, and national objectives and policies in these areas;

(b) To elaborate on the basis of the foregoing a programme of work, subject to annual review and approval by the Commission, taking into account the need for regular co-operation and co-ordination with the Committees, on Coal, Electric Power, and Gas, and co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned; in this regard particular attention should be given to the decision E (XXXIV), and to the suggestions made by the Executive Secretary as contained in document E/ECE/932/Add.1;

(c) To examine problems related to a possible High-level Meeting on energy organized within the framework of the ECE;

3. Declares its willingness to consider, as of its next session, an assignment to the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy for the exploration of topics for a possible high-level meeting on energy within the framework of ECE on the assumption that satisfactory progress has been made in all areas of the mandate of the new body;

4. Further declares its willingness to consider as of its next session the advisability in the light of the progress achieved in the field of energy, of making the newly created ad hoc body a permanent one;

5. Decides to consider at a future session proposals by member States or by the Executive Secretary in consultation with member States, designed to increase the effectiveness of the energy activities and programmes of all ECE bodies dealing with energy; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 103 above)

C (XXXIV) - CONTRIBUTION OF THE ECE TO THE PREPARATIONS FOR  
AN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE  
THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the resolutions of the General Assembly 2626 (XXVI) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and 33/193 of 29 January 1979 on the preparations for an international development strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade,

Taking note of the report presented by the Executive Secretary on the Commission's activities and the implementation of the priorities in 1970 (E/ECE/964),

Recalling its resolutions 1 (XXXII), 1 (XXXIII) as well as resolutions on interregional co-operation and other relevant resolutions,

Requests the Executive Secretary to:

(a) co-operate fully with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation in fulfilling his tasks in connexion with the formulation of a new international development strategy;

(b) submit the relevant information on the results achieved in analysing past trends and making projections, in particular relating to specific fields of international co-operation; and

(c) contribute effectively to the preparatory work of the new international development strategy by providing inputs including relevant documentation such as, inter alia, that enumerated in paragraph 37 of the document E/ECE/965 submitted to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 73 above)

D (XXXIV) - CONCENTRATION AND INTEGRATION OF THE  
COMMISSION'S PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Executive Secretary's reports on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/968 and 969);

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, at the regular sessions of each Principal Subsidiary Body, to indicate to what extent any of its projects could be undertaken jointly with other organs of the Commission, with a view to:

- Ensuring complementarity in the Commission's activities;
- Increasing the effectiveness of the studies undertaken by achieving interconnexion between them particularly through the utilization of the results of one study as an input for others;
- Making maximum use of available expertise in member countries; and
- Combining some of their ad hoc meetings;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision, together with document E/ECE/969 and the views expressed in relation thereto by member Governments at the thirty-fourth session, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their consideration;

4. Decides to select activities in the field of environment as the next major topic to be considered in depth from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-fifth session, taking into account the comments made by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 130 above)

E (XXXIV) - INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS IN  
USE OF ECE RESOURCES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV), and further recalling its resolution 1 (XXX) and other relevant resolutions including General Assembly resolution 35/55 of 14 December 1978,

Convinced of the need to make the most effective and efficient use possible of all resources,

Convinced also that better integration, concentration and co-ordination of the Commission's activities should be achieved,

Concerned that any delay in distribution of documents in all official languages to its subsidiary bodies might have an adverse effect on the efficiency of these bodies,

Noting with satisfaction the Executive Secretary's report on this topic as contained in Chapter VI of E/ECE/964.

1. Commends the Executive Secretary for his initiative within the secretariat to improve further the management of ECE resources;

2. Requests and encourages the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts for rational use of resources;

3. Requests its subsidiary bodies to implement the proposals outlined in E/ECE/964, paragraph 153;

4. Requests the subsidiary bodies to streamline their programmes in the process of concentration and integration by focussing their activities on major substantive problems and avoiding work of lesser importance, and to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on measures taken and proposed to give effect to this provision;

5. Agrees that such measures should lead to an appreciable reduction in the number, and better co-ordination, of ECE meetings;



6. Invites the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Joint Inspection Unit the contents of this decision with a view to their carrying out a thorough inspection of the translation, reproduction and distribution facilities of the United Nations Office at Geneva; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to deliver a consolidated report to the thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Europe on all actions and results deriving from this decision.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 139 above)

F (XXXIV) - INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE  
PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Recommends to the Chemical Industry Committee to explore in close collaboration with the Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies the problems of the pharmaceutical industry related to safety requirements, methods of examination and the ways how these problems could be dealt with in the framework of the ECE; and

2. Decides to consider this question at its thirty-fifth session on the basis of a report prepared by the Executive Secretary.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 161 above)

G (XXXIV) - STUDY OF TRADE IN CHEMICAL PRODUCTS  
AMONG ECE MEMBER COUNTRIES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Recommends that the Chemical Industry Committee consider engaging in a study of trade in chemical products among ECE member countries;

2. Recommends to the Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry, scheduled to meet on 1-2 October 1979, to consider the scope, outline, and methods of work of such a study taking into account the discussion which took place at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission;

3. Invites Governments to transmit to the secretariat by 1 August 1979 any further comments and proposals they may have on this subject;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare, on the basis of the comments and proposals received, a note to facilitate the discussions at the meeting of the Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry; and

5. Invites the Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry to report to the twelfth session of the Chemical Industry Committee on the outcome of the deliberations.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 162 above)

## H (XXXIV) - HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

### The Economic Commission For Europe,

Noting with satisfaction the results of Habitat, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (A/CONF.70/15), and, in particular, the emphasis laid by the Conference on follow-up action at the regional level within the framework of the regional commissions,

Welcoming the decisions of the General Assembly on "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements" (Resolution 32/162),

1. Endorses the measures already taken by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at its thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions with a view to streamlining its structure, programme and methods of work to be better adapted to serve the interests and concerns of ECE member countries and to contribute effectively to global United Nations efforts in the field of human settlements (ECE/HBP/16, ECE/HBP/22 and ECE/HBP/25);

2. Decides to revise the terms of reference of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning as follows:

1. The Committee, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision and relevant decisions of the Economic Commission for Europe, shall:

- (a) initiate and participate in housing, building and planning activities and programmes aimed at encouraging and supporting effective government action to ameliorate conditions in rural and urban human settlements;
- (b) undertake and promote studies, research and programmes evaluation on problems and policies in the field of human settlements, in particular relating to: settlement policies and strategies; settlement planning; institutions and management; shelter, infrastructure and services; land; and public participation;
- (c) undertake and promote the collection, evaluation, comparison and dissemination of statistical data regulations and standards and promote, as appropriate, their harmonization or unification in the interest of international comparability, rationalization and promotion of trade and technical co-operation;
- (d) draw up recommendations to member countries relating to policies and strategies in the field of human settlements;
- (e) provide a forum for a regular exchange of views and experience as well as information and documentation on current trends and policies relating to human settlements;
- (f) review and assess, from time to time, the state of the human settlements situation in the ECE region.

2. The Committee shall ensure, while taking into account relevant Commission decisions, that close co-operation is maintained with other international organizations in the ECE region, with the Commission on Human Settlements, with the committees on human settlements in other regions and with the specialized agencies on matters of mutual interest.

3. The Committee may establish, in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, such subsidiary bodies and employ such methods of work as it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities, including the convening of conferences, seminars, ad hoc meetings and informal consultations of rapporteurs and the organization of study tours.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 224 above)

I (XXXIV) - CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE  
GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND THE  
COMMITTEE ON WATER PROBLEMS

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the relationship existing between the activities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems on matters related to the protection of the aquatic environment and water pollution control,

Aware of the importance for ECE member countries of the completion of the "ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution",

1. Invites the Senior Advisers and the Committee on Water Problems to consider closer co-operation in activities related to the protection of the aquatic environment and water pollution control and in particular, as far as possible, in the drafting of the ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to seek to make the necessary arrangements to enable the Group of Rapporteurs which has been entrusted with the revision of the Declaration to fulfil the mandate given to it by the Committee on Water Problems that "the revised Declaration may be ready in due time for examination by the Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity at its seventh session, and subsequently by the Committee on Water Problems".

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 249 above)

J (XXXIV) - CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Convinced that science and technology constitutes an essential factor for the economic and social development of all peoples,

Recognizing the need to pay greater attention to the development of scientific and technological co-operation among the member countries of the ECE region, as well as to the contribution that these countries can bring to the application of science and technology to development, taking into account the needs of developing countries and those countries within the ECE region which are developing from the economic point of view,

Taking into account the role of the Commission in the implementation on a multilateral basis of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe referring to science and technology,

Recognizing the importance of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development as a significant step towards a policy of international co-operation in the field of science and technology for development,

Recalling the contribution made by the European Regional Meeting held in Bucharest (Romania) in preparation for that Conference and more particularly the significance of the Declaration of the European Meeting containing recommendations for action,

Confident that the Governments of the member States will lend their full support to and take an active part in the Conference, thus contributing to its success,

Noting the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/975), the report of the European Regional Meeting in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (ECE/ERM.CSTD/2), and the European Regional Paper (A/CONF.81/PC.14/Add.1),

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to inform the Conference, if invited to do so, of the work of the Commission in the field of science and technology as well as of the ECE contribution to the Conference, and to transmit to the Conference the Commission's wishes for a successful outcome and the Commission's interest in, and willingness to co-operate fully and actively in such follow-up action as may arise from the Conference that falls within the competence of the ECE;

2. Recommends to the ECE member States to develop the co-operation among themselves in the field of science and technology taking into account the recommendations contained in the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting held in Bucharest in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (ECE/ERM.CSTD/2/Annex 2);

3. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology at their next session when reviewing their programme of work to take into account the recommendations contained in the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting (ECE/ERM/CSTD/2), and, as appropriate, the results of the Conference; and, in this respect, to take into account the possible interest of different projects to countries outside the ECE region;

4. Requests that the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, when examining their programme of work, take into account the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of science and technology from the point of view of concentration integration and co-ordination (E/ECE/969), as well as views expressed on this report by delegations at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission; and

5. Invites the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision and on any further action which may be required of it in the light of the outcome of the Conference.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 257 above)

K (XXXIV) - LONG-TERM ECONOMIC TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENT  
OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 7 (XXII), 2 (XXVII) and 2 (XXVIII) relating to the work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments and of the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies on studies of long-term economic development in the region,

Bearing in mind its decision G (XXXII),

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on long-term trends in economic development,

Considering that better knowledge of long-term economic trends should assist in the development of mutually advantageous co-operation,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the work accomplished and the experience gained so far by the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of long-term programming and projections and, in particular, in the elaboration of the Overall Economic Perspective;

2. Considers it necessary to streamline these activities to bring about sufficient comparability of the results thereof; to this end development trends should be covered by analyses using common time horizons and methods of research;

3. Requests the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies involved, especially the Committee on the Development of Trade, to continue their joint efforts to amend and improve the Overall Economic Perspective up to 1990;
4. Looks forward to the deliberations of the ECE Seminar on Forums and Orientations of International Co-operation in the Long-term Development Pattern to be held in Warsaw in May 1979; and
5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 266 above)

L (XXXIV) - MULTILATERAL SYSTEM FOR THE NOTIFICATION OF LAWS  
AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN TRADE AND  
CHANGES THEREIN (MUNOSYST)

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Referring to the provision of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe pledging support for a feasibility study within the framework of ECE on creating a multilateral system for the notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST),

Bearing in mind discussion in the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on the Development of Trade on the results of the trial runs for MUNOSYST which have been carried out with the participation of certain member States and on the information obtained by the questionnaires on such a system as reflected in document ECE/TRADE/130,

1. Invites ECE Governments that have not already done so to answer as soon and as completely as possible the questionnaires referring to MUNOSYST in order to enable the secretariat to collect further information for the feasibility study;
2. Urges wider and more representative participation for a possible further trial run; and
3. Decides to review the situation at its thirty-fifth session and if appropriate to consider further steps permitting the completion of the feasibility study.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 323 above)

M (XXXIV) - ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRANT LABOUR  
IN THE ECE REGION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision A (XXXIII) on the economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region,

Taking note with satisfaction of the study carried out by the Committee on the Development of Trade on the consequences of intra-European temporary migration of labour for trade, investment and industrial co-operation,

Taking note of the study in preparation referred to in the Executive Secretary's Report (E/ECE/971) and entitled "Labour Supply and Migration in Europe: Demographic Dimensions 1950-1975, and Prospects",

Taking due account of the activities of the competent international organizations in this sphere,

1. Invites the secretariat to complete the above-mentioned studies; and
2. Reiterates its recommendation that host countries and countries of origin should intensify their bilateral contacts in order to find joint solutions to the most urgent problems in the sphere of migrant labour.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 329 above)

N (XXXIV) - COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR  
THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR  
WOMEN, 1980

The Commission decided:

- (a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/972;
- (b) To hold the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region in Paris (France) from 9-12 July 1979;
- (c) To submit the findings and conclusions of this Seminar as a contribution to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2062 (LXII); and
- (d) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 336 above)

O (XXXIV) - CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES  
OF COAL EXTRACTION AND UTILIZATION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2110 (LXII) on the study, development and use of coal resources,

Recalling also its decision D (XXXIII) on enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction,

Aware of the necessity to secure continuous supplies of fuels and energy for the region,

Expressing its desire to follow with interest the sectoral developments taking place in the national economies of member countries caused by the energy situation and its prospects,

Conscious of the importance of international co-operation to ensure optimum utilization of the energy resources available in the region, in particular its vast coal resources,

Bearing in mind the importance of international co-operation to develop technologies for reducing levels of the air pollution caused by coal combustion,

Taking note of the report of the seventy-fourth session of the Coal Committee and of the Executive Secretary's report on enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction E/ECE/973,

1. Emphasizes the role of the Coal Committee in promoting new technologies of coal extraction and utilization designed to respond to the highly needed improvement in energy effectiveness and in levels of pollution caused by coal combustion, and further research on its gasification and liquefaction;

2. Requests the Committee to intensify the international co-operation conducted in its framework in the field of new technologies of coal extraction and utilization;

3. Requests the Coal Committee to consider close co-operation with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and its Working Party on Air Pollution;

4. Requests the Coal Committee, in close consultation with the Chemical Industry Committee and the Committee on Gas to continue to consider the concept of the creation of the ECE Co-ordinating Centre on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction and its possible status;

5. Looks forward to the second Symposium on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction to be held in Katowice (Poland) in April 1979; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-fifth session a report on the implementation of this decision.



P (XXXIV) - ECE FOLLOW UP TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
WATER CONFERENCE

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/974 on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference;

(b) To express its satisfaction with the steps taken by the Committee on Water Problems to adapt its programmes of work in the light of the Mar del Plata Action Plan, adopted at the United Nations Water Conference;

(c) To reaffirm its intention to assume the central role within the region entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council and in this respect to take any further steps necessary to secure the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan within the region;

(d) To invite the Committee on Water Problems to make concrete proposals for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session aimed at promoting and strengthening intergovernmental co-operation on water problems within the region, bearing in mind inter alia the resolution and/or decisions which might be adopted by the Economic and Social Council as a follow-up to the third special session of the Committee on Natural Resources;

(e) To urge the Committee on Water Problems to pay special attention to those projects which are of particular relevance for, and/or could be jointly implemented with, other regional commissions; and

(f) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 340 above)

Q (XXXIV) - ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN  
IN THE LIGHT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision G (XXXIII) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States signatory to the Final Act to encourage with the non-participating Mediterranean States the development of mutually beneficial co-operation in the various fields of economic activity and to contribute to a diversified development of their economies,

Bearing in mind that a great number of those member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view are geographically situated in the Mediterranean,

Mindful of the report of the Meeting of Experts representing the participating States of the CSCE held in Valletta, (Malta) from 13 February to 26 March 1979 in order to consider within the framework of the Mediterranean Chapter of the Final Act the possibilities and means of promoting concrete initiatives for mutually beneficial co-operation concerning various economic, scientific and cultural fields,

1. Notes with satisfaction the reports of the Executive Secretary, documents E/ECE/976 and E/ECE/977 and Addenda 1 and 2, pursuant to Commission decision G (XXXIII) on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the contributions made by the Commission relating to the preparation and to the work of the Valletta Meeting;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to transmit ECE documentation of interest and relevance directly to all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, and agrees that their attention is drawn to relevant ECE meetings to which they will be invited in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia on projects within the competence of the ECE which may be of common interest to all the Mediterranean countries;

4. Notes with interest the report of the Valletta Meeting in its references to the ECE, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to pay particular attention in their work to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant sections of the report of the Valletta Meeting;

5. Decides to intensify co-operation with other competent international organizations on subjects of common interest to the Mediterranean countries; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-fifth session a report on the implementation of this decision.

15th meeting  
27 April 1979  
(see para. 354 above)

#### R (XXXIV) - STANDARDIZATION

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/979) and of the Report of the Fifth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/19);

(b) To convene the Sixth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies to be held in May 1980;

(c) To convene the seventh session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to prepare the Sixth Meeting referred to in (b) above in October 1979; and

(d) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 368 above)

#### S (XXXIV) - AUTOMATION

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/980 and Addendum 1 on the activities of the Working Party on Automation during 1978/1979;

(b) To approve the Working Party's programme of work as contained in Annex II to ECE/AUTOMAT/10; and

(c) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 377 above)

#### T (XXXIV) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/981;

(b) To adopt the programme of work for 1979/80, as proposed by the Seventh ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGIN/14, Annex);

(c) To convene prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission the Eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries to review in the light of the views expressed and the decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session the programme of work in the field of engineering industries;

(d) To hold the Seminar on Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment, in Bulgaria, in September 1979;

(e) To hold a second Meeting for the study on Measures for Saving Materials in Engineering Industries prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission;

(f) To convene prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission a Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Present and Future Use of Precision Instruments in Engineering Industries, to be held in the German Democratic Republic in 1981; and

(g) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 394 above)

U (XXXIV) - PARTICIPATION OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN  
MINISTERS FOR TRANSPORT IN THE WORK OF THE  
COMMISSION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decides to invite the Conference of European Ministers for Transport to participate in its work in accordance with article 12 of its terms of reference.

10th meeting  
4 April 1979  
(see para. 415 above)

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF  
ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

SUBJECT	DOCUMENT IN WHICH THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IS CONTAINED	ESTIMATED COST \$
Publication in offset form of Long-Term Structural Changes in Employment, Income Distribution and Consumption	ECE/EC.AD/18, para. 42	10,770
Publication of Report on land-use problems and policies	ECE/HBP/25, annex VII	20,000
Publication in offset form of Structural changes in the iron and steel industry	ECE/STEEL/22, para.13	24,385
Publication in offset form of Increasing use of continuous processes in the iron and steel industry	ECE/STEEL/22, para.15	16,594
Publication in offset form of - Iron and steel scrap - its significance and influence on further development in the iron and steel industry	ECE/STEEL/22, para. 14	7,326
Publication in offset form of the Annual Review of the Chemical Industry	ECE/CHEM/20, para.34	13,049
Publication in offset form of Conservation of Energy in the Chemical Industry	ECE/CHEM/24, para.15	11,986
Publication in offset form of a Guide for Drawing up international contracts between parties associated for the purpose of executing a specific project	ECE/TRADE/130 paras.91 and 93 (ii) and TRADE/GE.1/41, para.5	2,511
Publication in offset form of a series of studies on East-West industrial co-operation	ECE/TRADE/130, para.57	20,937

SUBJECT	DOCUMENT IN WHICH THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IS CONTAINED	ESTIMATED COST \$
Publication of Manual on licensing procedures and related aspects of technology transfer	ECE/TRADE/130 para.69 (ii) and (iii) E/ECE (XXXIV)/L.3 E/1979/47, para. 255	60,000 <sup>*/</sup>
Publication in offset form of l'énergie nucléaire et l'environnement	ECE/EP/29, paras.67 and 68	24,000
Publication in offset form of European Road Traffic Requirements (Consolidated text of the two 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals, 1971 Agreements supplementing them and Protocol of 1973 on Road Markings)	ECE/TRANS/37, para. 134	20,477
Publication in offset form of Study on East-West European Goods Traffic Flows	ECE/TRANS/28, paras.73-76	17,064
Publication in offset form of Energy Conservation - the first years	E/1979/47, para. 410	7,677
Publication in offset form of Energy Reserves and Supplies in the ECE Region: Present situation and perspectives	E/1979/47, para. 410	13,410
Publication in offset form of East-west energy trade and co-operation - Experience and expectation	E/1979/47, para. 410	5,584

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<sup>\*/</sup> Using contractual services. In the event that acceptable terms cannot be negotiated with an external publisher, and it is found necessary to proceed with publication of the Manual using "in-house" facilities, publication costs have been estimated to be \$US 112,000.

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD IN 1978/79

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
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THE COMMISSION

Automation

Working Party on Automation	Seventh session 28 February - 2 March 1979	ECE/AUTOMAT/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Vasiliev (Byelorussian SSR)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Micro-Computers</u>	19-20 June 1978	AUTOMAT/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kniazev (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Sarparanta (Finland)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on an Information Exchange System for Automated Manufacturing</u>	14-15 November 1978	AUTOMAT/AC.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Kozar (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Statistics on Automation</u>	16-17 November 1978	AUTOMAT/AC.6/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Strujić (Yugoslavia)		

Energy

Seminar on the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat	6-9 November 1978 Hamburg (Federal Republic of Germany)	ECE/SEM.2/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. U. Engelmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. G. Brandes (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Mr. J. Kovilianski (USSR)		
Mr. L. Netzler (Sweden)		
Mr. A.J.R. Schepens (Belgium)		
Mr. J. Vlach (Czechoslovakia)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<p>Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Improved Techniques for the Extraction and Processing of Primary Forms of Energy</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Medaets (Belgium)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Földvary (Hungary)</p>	26-27 October 1978	ECE/SEM.4/AC/2
<u>Engineering</u>		
<p>Seventh <u>ad hoc</u> Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Terek (Czechoslovakia)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Luhan (France)</p>	22-24 November 1978	ECE/ENGIN/14
<p><u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting of Experts for the Study on Measures for Saving Raw Materials in Engineering Industries</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Petrichenko (USSR)</p>	20-21 November 1978	ENGIN/AC.3/2
<p><u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting on Questions of Methodology and Statistics concerning Engineering Industries (including Automation)</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Lilley (United Kingdom)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Kalev (Bulgaria)</p>	7-8 February 1979	ENGIN/AC.4/2
<p>Seminar on Techno-economic Trends in Airborne Equipment for Agriculture and other Selected Areas of the National Economy (AERO-AGRO ' 78)</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Grzegorzewski (Poland)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. R.J.V. Joyce (United Kingdom) Mr. K.-H. Beer (German Democratic Republic)</p>	18-22 September 1978 Warsaw (Poland)	ENGIN/SEM.4/3
<p>Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Techno-economic Aspects of Innovation in Fabrication Processes and Products of the Engineering Industries</p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Cortellessa (Italy)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Nossov (USSR)</p>	5-6 February 1979	ENGIN/SEM.6/AC/2



Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>Standardization</u>		
Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies	Fifth Meeting 12-15 June 1978	ECE/STAND/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Tkatchenco (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Strecker (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980</u>		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region	6-8 November 1978	ECE/SEM.5/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mrs. M. Devaud (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Welpa (Poland)		
<u>COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS</u>		
Committee on Agricultural Problems	Thirtieth session 5-9 March 1979	ECE/AGRI/45
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Halimi (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A.I. Tovstanovski (Ukrainian SSR)		
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce	Thirty-fourth session 11-13 July 1978	AGRI/WP.1/21
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Verlinden (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. F. Ansermet (Switzerland) Mr. S. Lorenc (Czechoslovakia)		
Group of Experts on Technical Co-ordination	Twenty-fourth session 25-28 April 1978 Budapest (Hungary)	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. de Schryver (Belgium)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Fruit	Twenty-sixth session 12-16 February 1979	AGRI/WP.1/GE.2/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Orlowski (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Lopez-Puertas (Spain)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Joint ECE/Codex Alimentarius Group of Experts on Standardization of Fruit Juices	Thirteenth session 26-30 June 1978	AGRI/WP.1/GE.4/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Pilnik (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Orlowski (Poland)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Seed Potatoes	Twentieth session 25-26 January 1979	AGRI/WP.1/GE.6/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Piechowiak (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Valvassori (Italy)		
Group of Experts on International Trade Practices relating to Agricultural Products	Twenty-second session 10 July 1978	AGRI/WP.1/GE.7/66
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.-F. Le Bot (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Lorenc (Czechoslovakia)	Twenty-third session 29-31 January 1979	AGRI/WP.1/GE.7/68
Group of Experts on Standardization of Egg Products	Third session 20-22 November 1978	AGRI/WP.1/GE.8/15
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Rybicki (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Thomann (Switzerland)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Cut Flowers	Seventh session 18-20 April 1979	AGRI/WP.1/GE.9/14
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M.J. Zijp (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Ruineau (France)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture	Twenty-fourth session 11-14 September 1978	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Lehoczky (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G.P. Shipway (United Kingdom)		
Symposium on the Problems of the Agricultural Development of Less- favoured Areas	22-26 May 1978	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.3/ SEM.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Vallat (Switzerland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P.H. Dabrowski (Poland)		
Joint FAO/ECE Symposium on Prospects for the Use of Fertilizers with a View to Raising Soil Fertility and Yields and to Protecting the Human Environment	15-19 January 1979	AGRI/SEM.9/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S.L. Jansson (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Novak (Czechoslovakia)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE</u>		
Chemical Industry Committee	Eleventh session 4-6 October 1978	ECE/CHEM/24
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Dedov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Beijer (Netherlands)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts for the Study on Conservation of Energy in the Chemical Industry</u>	7-8 September 1978	CHEM/AC.6/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Somló (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A.A. Lahna (United States)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts for the Study on the Utilization of Wastes in and by the Chemical Industry</u>	15-16 June 1978	CHEM/AC.7/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Y. Nikitin (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. I. Müller (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Use of Chemicals in Housing and Industrial Construction</u>	5-6 September 1978	CHEM/AC.8/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Balassa (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Renström (Sweden)		
Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry	Sixth session 2-3 October 1978	CHEM/GE.1/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Turonek (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Marshall (United Kingdom)		
Seminar on Recycling of High Polymer Wastes	18-22 September 1978 Dresden (German Democratic Republic)	CHEM/SEM.6/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Weber (German Democratic Republic)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. van der Schaaf (Netherlands)		
Seminar on Air Pollution Problems from Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry	16-20 October 1978 Szczecin (Poland)	CHEM/SEM.7/2 ENV/SEM.9/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Werner (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kolstee (Netherlands)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>COAL COMMITTEE</u>		
Coal Committee	Seventy-fourth session 25-28 September 1978	ECE/COAL/36
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Wegrzyk (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Tebay (United Kingdom)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Priority R and D Problems in the Field of Low- Calorific-Value Fuels</u>	31 May 1978	COAL/AC.3/2 SC.TECH./AC.14/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Chorbadjisky (Bulgaria)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Th.M. Geerssen (Netherlands)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Concept of the Establishment of an ECE Co-ordinating Centre on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction</u>	19-20 February 1979	COAL/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Starke (German Democratic Republic)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Garcia-Condé (Spain)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on the Modification of the ECE International Classification of Coals by Type</u>	21-23 February 1979	COAL/AC.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A.B. Nichols (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. J. Kulczycka (Poland)		
<u>Group of Experts on Productivity and Management Problems in the Coal Industry</u>	Ninth session 14-16 June 1978	COAL/GE.1/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Kurnosov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Benthaus (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Group of Experts on Coal Statistics</u>	Fifteenth session 19-21 June 1978	COAL/GE.2/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Oakland (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Muszkiet (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on the Utilization and Preparation of Solid Fuels  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Barker (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Ruban (USSR)	Ninth session 12-14 June 1978	COAL/GE.3/12
Group of Experts on Open-cast Mines  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Zhuravlev (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Lindley (United Kingdom)	Second session 19-20 October 1978 Cottbus (German Democratic Republic)	COAL/GE.5/4
Working Party on Coal Trade  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. de Corn (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Cernovsky (Czechoslovakia)	Eighteenth session 22-23 June 1978  Nineteenth session 1-2 February 1979	COAL/WP.1/38  COAL/WP.1/40
Symposium on the Gasification and Liquefaction of Coal  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Malara (Poland)	23-27 April 1979 Katowice (Poland)	COAL/SEM.6/2
Symposium on the Use of Heavy-duty Equipment in Open-cast Mines  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Waldmann (German Democratic Republic) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Lindley (United Kingdom)	16-19 October 1978 Cottbus (German Democratic Republic)	COAL/SEM.7/2
<u>CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS</u>		
Conference of European Statisticians  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Latific (Yugoslavia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Bálint (Hungary) Mr. L. Bosse (Austria) Mr. T.P. Linehan (Ireland)	Twenty-sixth plenary session 26-30 June 1978	ECE/CES/12
Second Meeting on Cultural Statistics  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Y. Ferland (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Koncz (Hungary)	9-12 April 1979	UNESCO:CES/AC.44/9
Meeting on General Energy Statistics  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Kiefer (Austria) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Neumann (German Democratic Republic)	20-24 November 1978	CES/AC.32/18

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Meeting on Migration Statistics <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.J. Kelly (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. Z. Anicić (Yugoslavia)	15-19 January 1979	CES/AC.42/10
Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Prices <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. François (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Machnowski (Poland)	29 May - 2 June 1978	CES/AC.49/4
Meeting on Statistics of Fixed Capital Formation and Stocks and Related Aspects of Statistics of Profits <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. N. Tsoutsoplidis (Greece) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Ms. P. Horvath (Hungary)	26 February - 2 March 1979	CES/AC.50/3
Working Party on a Framework for the Integration of Social and Demographic Statistics <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Fastbom (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Andorka (Hungary)	Seventh session 4-8 December 1978	CES/WP.34/34
Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters (ISIS '78) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Klas (Czechoslovakia) <u>Session</u> Mr. M. Euriat <u>Chairmen:</u> (France) Mr. R. van den Abeele (Belgium) Mr. J. Cipis (USSR) Mr. E. Gömbös (Hungary)	2-6 October 1978 Bratislava (Czechoslovakia)	CES/SEM.10/31

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER</u>		
Committee on Electric Power	Thirty-seventh session 20-24 November 1978	ECE/EP/29
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Rusnak (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Cassapoglou (Greece)		
Group of Experts on Distribution and Rural Electrification	Twenty-first session 3-5 July 1978	EP/GE.1/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Breemersch (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kushnerov (Byelorussian SSR)		
Group of Experts on Problems of Planning and Operating Large Power Systems	Tenth session 5-7 June 1978	EP/GE.2/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Colamarino (Italy)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Tersztyanszky (Hungary)		
Group of Experts on Electric Power Stations	Ninth session 2-4 October 1978	EP/GE.3/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Féron (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Zhilin (USSR)		
Group of Experts on the Relationship between Electricity and the Environment	Seventh session 9-11 October 1978	EP/GE.4/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.G. Lindsay (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kluge (German Democratic Republic)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Prospects for the Use of Hydroelectric Schemes in the Light of New Energy Conditions and the Problems Resulting Therefrom	6-7 July 1978	EP/SEM.6/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Cassapoglou (Greece)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Extraction, Removal and Use of Ash from Coal-fired Thermal Power Stations  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Kuś (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Carvalho Dias (Portugal)	5-6 October 1978	EP/SEM.7/AC/2
<u>COMMITTEE ON GAS</u>		
Committee on Gas  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Danhelka (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Virot (Switzerland)	Twenty-fifth session 22-26 January 1979	ECE/GAS/42
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Investments in the Gas Industry and their Financing Possibilities</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Gläser (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Novak (Czechoslovakia)	11-12 January 1979	GAS/AC.3/8
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Gas Industry and Environment</u>	8-10 January 1979	GAS/AC.5/2
Group of Experts on Gas Statistics and Forecasting Problems  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.F. Beems (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Margulov (USSR)	Seventeenth session 13-15 November 1978	GAS/GE.1/12
Group of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Koranyi (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Spee (Netherlands)	Ninth session 8-10 May 1978	GAS/GE.2/12
Group of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H.S. Jones (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Geangala (Romania)	Ninth session 10-12 May 1978	GAS/GE.3/12



Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Natural Gas Resources	Third session 22-24 May 1978	GAS/GE.4/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Schott (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Parshev (Ukrainian SSR)		
Symposium about the Gas Situation in the ECE Region around the Year 1990	2-5 October 1978 Evian (France)	GAS/SEM.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Fort (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Danhelka (Czechoslovakia)		
Seminar on Liquefied Natural Gas Peak Shaving	5-9 March 1979 Washington, D.C. (United States)	GAS/SEM.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Treat (United States)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Medaet (Belgium)		
<u>COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING</u>		
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	Thirty-ninth session 11-15 September 1978	ECE/HBP/25
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Hinrichs (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Kotela (Poland)		
Working Party on Housing	Seventh session 24-28 April 1978	HBP/WP.1/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Horký (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Steensma (Netherlands)	Eighth session 23-27 April 1979	HBP/WP.1/10
Ad hoc Meeting on the Relationship between Housing and the National Economy	31 January - 2 February 1979	HBP/WP.1/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Jussil (Sweden)		
Working Party on the Building Industry	Tenth session 26-30 June 1978	HBP/WP.2/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Aakre (Norway)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Freigang (German Democratic Republic)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on International Harmonization of Approval and Control Rules for Buildings and Building Products</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Hedlund (Norway) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Govorovski (USSR)	22-25 January 1979	HBP/WP.2/AC.8/2
<u>Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning and Development</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Brenner (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Zetter (United Kingdom)	Tenth session 22-26 May 1978	HBP/WP.3/8
<u>Group of Experts on Urban and Regional Research</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Lecourt (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V.N. Belousov (USSR)	Tenth meeting 26 February - 2 March 1979	HBP/WP.3/GE.1/15
<u>Seminar on Land-use Policies</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Svenson (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Jedraszko (Poland)	12-17 June 1978 Stockholm (Sweden)	HBP/SEM.18/2
<u>Symposium on Urban Renewal and the Quality of Life</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Rud Nielsen (Denmark) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Vladimirov (USSR)	29-31 May 1978	HBP/SEM.19/2
<u>Symposium on Human Settlements Planning and Development in the Arctic</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G.P. Rosendahl (Denmark) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Repin (USSR)	18-25 August 1978 Godthåb, Greenland (Denmark)	HBP/SEM.20/2
<u>Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Integrated Physical, Socio-economic and Environmental Planning</u>  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Hauge (Norway) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Lackó (Hungary)	29-31 January 1979	HBP/SEM.23/PM/2 ENV/SEM.12/PM/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE</u>		
Inland Transport Committee	Thirty-eighth (special) session 5 July 1978	ECE/TRANS/31
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Woelker (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Woelker (Federal Republic of Germany)	Thirty-ninth session 29 January - 2 February 1979	ECE/TRANS/37 + Add.1
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. August (Poland)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting for Reviewing Transport Development Trends</u>	30 October - 1 November 1978	TRANS/AC.1/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P.R. Jordanis (Switzerland)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting to Examine "Unit of Account" Provisions in the ECE Transport Conventions</u>	2-3 May 1978	TRANS/AC.2/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Ganten (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting concerning Evaluation Techniques for Transport Infrastructure Investments</u>	4-6 September 1978	TRANS/AC.3/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.P. Baumgartner (Switzerland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Vachuda (Czechoslovakia)		
Task Force to Review the Commodity Classification for Transport Statistics in Europe	23-25 October 1978	TRANS/GE.6/AC.3/2
Chaired by the secretariat		
Group of Experts on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	Thirty-second (special) session 3-5 July 1978	TRANS/GE.11/11
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Petitmermet (Switzerland)	Thirty-third session 23-27 October 1978	TRANS/GE.11/13
Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	Thirtieth session 8-11 May 1978	TRANS/GE.15/13
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G.J. Jeacocke (United Kingdom)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the ECE Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kirschsieper (Switzerland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Marrec (France)	26 March - 6 April 1979	TRANS/GE.15/R.356
Group of Rapporteurs on Container Transport (GRCT)  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Beazley (United Kingdom)	Twenty-first session 18-22 September 1978	TRANS/GE.24/GRCT/15
Group of Experts on Customs Questions affecting Transport  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France)	Thirty-ninth session 16-20 October 1978	TRANS/GE.30/14
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Franzén (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Gärtner (German Democratic Republic)	First session 20 October 1978	TRANS/GE.30/AC.2/2
Group of Rapporteurs on Customs Questions concerning Containers (GRCC)  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Bendall (United Kingdom)	Twenty-third session 10-13 July 1978  Twenty-fourth session 5-9 March 1979	TRANS/GE.30/GRCC/6  TRANS/GE.30/GRCC/7
Working Party on Road Transport  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. von Harpe (Finland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kyncl (Czechoslovakia)	Sixty-fourth session 27 November - 1 December 1978	TRANS/SC1/297
Group of Experts on Road Traffic Safety  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Quist (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Astashov (USSR)	Thirty-fourth session 22-26 May 1978  Thirty-fifth session 25-29 September 1978	TRANS/SC1/GE.20/19  TRANS/SC1/GE.20/21

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Methods of Professional Driving Instruction</u>	16-19 May 1978	TRANS/SC1/GE.20/AC.1/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Grubmann (Austria)		
<u>Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles</u>	Fifty-fifth session 19-23 June 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/42
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Fifty-sixth session 23-27 October 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/45
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Fifty-seventh session	TRANS/SC1/WP29/47
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Andronov (USSR)	5-9 March 1979	
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Harmonization of Requirements on Motor Vehicle Construction</u>	30-31 October 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.1/5
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Programme of Work of the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles</u>	15-16 June 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/6
	19-20 October 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/7
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Co-ordination of Work of the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles</u>	1-2 March 1979	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		
<u>Group of Rapporteurs on Noise (GRB)</u>	Seventh session 30 May - 1 June 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/5
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tippmann (Federal Republic of Germany)	Stockholm (Sweden)	
<u>Group of Rapporteurs on Crashworthiness (GRCS)</u>	Third session 21-25 August 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRCS/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Fourth session 15-19 January 1979	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRCS/4
<u>Group of Rapporteurs on Protective Devices (GRDP)</u>	Fourth session 24-28 July 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRDP/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Lomonaco (Italy)	Fifth session 22-23 February 1979	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRDP/5
<u>Group of Rapporteurs on Lighting and Light-signalling (GRE)</u>	Third session 5-8 September 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. White (United Kingdom)	London (United Kingdom)	

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Rapporteurs on Air Pollution (GRPA)	Nineteenth session 18-22 September 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPA/9
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	Twentieth session 12-15 February 1979	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPA/10
Group of Rapporteurs on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF)	Third session 10-14 July 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tippmann (Federal Republic of Germany)	Fourth session 18-21 December 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/4
Group of Rapporteurs on Safety Provisions on Motor Coaches and Buses (GRSA)	Nineteenth session 2-5 May 1978 Edinburgh (United Kingdom)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSA/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Perring (United Kingdom)	Twentieth session 3-6 October 1978 Budapest (Hungary)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSA/11
Group of Rapporteurs on General Safety Provisions (GRSG)	Thirty-second session 6-10 November 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/11
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Furness (United Kingdom)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Baxter (United Kingdom)	Thirty-third session 24-27 April 1979 Frankfurt/Main (Federal Republic of Germany)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/12
Working Party on Rail Transport	Thirty-second session 8-9 November 1978	TRANS/SC2/148
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Gauthier (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Fleischer (German Democratic Republic)		
Working Party on Inland Water Transport	Twenty-second session 13-16 November 1978	TRANS/SC3/94
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Bloem (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Ö. Vass (Hungary)		
Group of Experts on the Standardization of Technical Requirements for Vessels and of Ships' Papers	Twelfth session 2-6 October 1978	TRANS/SC3/GE.1/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Ö. Vass (Hungary)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Ö. Vass (Hungary)	Thirteenth session 19-23 March 1979	TRANS/SC3/GE.1/24
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Dijkstra (Netherlands)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on the Standardization of Rules of the Road and Signs and Signals in Inland Navigation	Eleventh session 24-27 April 1978	TRANS/SC3/GE.2/20
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.F. Lévy (France)	Twelfth session 11-14 September 1978	TRANS/SC3/GE.2/22
Steering Committee (Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM))	Fourth session 19-21 March 1979	TEM/5
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Karavias (Greece)		

#### SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	Seventh session 19-23 February 1979	ECE/ENV/28
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Szenes (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W.A. Hayne (United States)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Lykke (Norway)	First special session 7-9 June 1978	ECE/ENV/21
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Szenes (Hungary)	Second special session 11-13 October 1978	ECE/ENV/23
	Third special session 13-15 December 1978	ECE/ENV/26
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Szenes (Hungary)	Fourth special session 21-23 March 1979	ECE/ENV/31
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W.A. Hayne (United States)		
Meeting of National Focal Points for the Compilation of a Compendium on Low- and Non-waste Technology	First meeting 28-30 August 1978	ENV/AC.7/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Reginster (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Cala (Poland)		
Meeting of the <u>ad hoc</u> Working Group on the Control of Toxic Chemicals and Toxic Wastes	30 August - 1 September 1978	ENV/AC.8/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. N.J. King (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Krasovsky (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Special Group on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	First meeting 3-4 July 1978	ENV/AC.9/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L.E. Reed (United Kingdom)	Second meeting 2-4 October 1978	ENV/AC.9/4
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Jagusiewicz (Poland)	Third meeting 2-3 November 1978	ENV/AC.9/6
	Fourth meeting 28 November - 1 December 1978	ENV/AC.9/8
	Fifth meeting 15-19 January 1979	ENV/AC.9/10
Special Group on Low- and Non-waste Technology, and Reutilization and Recycling of Wastes	First session 5-7 July 1978	ENV/AC.10/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Yagodin (USSR)	Second session 4-6 October 1978	ENV/AC.10/4
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Philip (France)	Third session 27-29 November 1978	ENV/AC.10/6
	Fourth session 11-12 December 1978	ENV/AC.10/8
Expert Meeting on Environmental Topics	18-21 September 1978	ENV/AC.11/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Chrast (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Zmaic (Yugoslavia)		
Meeting of Government Experts on Methods of Evaluating Low- and Non-waste Technological Processes	First meeting 22-24 January 1979	ENV/AC.12/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Philip (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Heidenreich (German Democratic Republic)		



Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Steering Body to the "Co-operative programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of air pollutants in Europe"	Second session 11-12 December 1978	ENV/WP.1/GE.1/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Schneider (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. D.J. Szepesi (Hungary) Mr. G. Persson (Sweden) Mr. A. Pressman (USSR) Mr. L.E. Reed (United Kingdom)		
Seminar on Air Pollution Problems from Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry	16-20 October 1978 Szczecin (Poland)	ENV/SEM.9/2 CHEM/SEM.7/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Werner (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kolstee (Netherlands)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Rapporteurs for the Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment</u>	25-26 May 1978	ENV/SEM.10/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F.G. Hurtubise (Canada)		
Preparatory Meeting for the UNEP/ECE Regional Seminar on Alternative Patterns of Development and Lifestyles	1-3 November 1978	ENV/SEM.11/PM/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G.P. Hekstra (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R.A. Novikov (USSR)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Integrated Physical, Socio-economic and Environmental Planning	29-31 January 1979	ENV/SEM.12/PM/2 HBP/SEM.23/PM/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Hauge (Norway) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Lackó (Hungary)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</u>		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	Seventh session 16-19 October 1978	ECE/SC.TECH./17
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.D. de Haan (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Despotov (Bulgaria)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Technologies Related to New Energy Sources</u>	29 May 1978	SC.TECH./AC.13/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Praun (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Czukor (Hungary)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Priority R and D Problems in the Field of Low-Calorific Value Fuels</u>	31 May 1978	SC.TECH./AC.14/2 COAL/AC.3/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Chorbadjisky (Bulgaria)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Th.M. Geerssen (Netherlands)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Manual on Licensing Procedures and Related Aspects of Technology Transfer</u>	17-19 January 1979	SC.TECH./AC.15/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Besso (Switzerland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Kardos (Hungary)		
<u>Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Co-operative Technological Forecasting</u>	12-13 October 1978	SC.TECH./SEM.6/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L.J. Baworowski (Poland)		
<u>European Regional Meeting in Preparation for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development</u>	26-30 June 1978 Bucharest (Romania)	ECE/ERM.CSTD/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Ursu (Romania)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J.D. de Haan (Netherlands)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
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SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	Sixteenth session 5-9 February 1979	ECE/EC.AD./18
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Mignot (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Iancovici (Romania)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Long-term Economic Prospects</u>	9-12 October 1978	EC.AD.(XV)/AC.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kossov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Mignot (France)		

STEEL COMMITTEE

Steel Committee	Forty-sixth session 25-27 October 1978	ECE/STEEL/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Ghislain (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Miksa (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Increasing Use of Continuous Processes in the Iron and Steel Industry</u>	4-5 September 1978	STEEL/AC.2/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Evteev (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Gautschi (Switzerland)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Scrap Problems in the Iron and Steel Industry</u>	16-17 May 1978	STEEL/AC.3/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. X. de Mijolla (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Volobujev (USSR)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Production and Supply of Metallurgical Coke</u>	21-22 February 1979	STEEL/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Wheatcroft (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Liberacki (Poland)		
Working Party on the Steel Market	Seventeenth session 8-9 June 1978	STEEL/WP.1/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Wheatcroft (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Vachtchenko (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Rapporteurs on the Steel Market  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Wheatcroft (United Kingdom)	23 February 1979	-
Seminar on the Economic and Technical Aspects of the Application of Computer Techniques in Iron and Steel-making Processes  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Knotek (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. B. Fazan (France) Mr. R. Lyambakh (USSR) Mr. C. Long (United States)	26 June - 1 July 1978 Ostrava (Czechoslovakia)	STEEL/SEM.4/3
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Steel Use in Public Works, Infrastructure and Construction  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Ghislain (Belgium) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Horváth (Hungary)	Second meeting 23-24 October 1978	STEEL/SEM.5/AC/4
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Use of Steel in Shipbuilding  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Firek (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Pozzolini (Italy)	19-20 February 1979	STEEL/SEM.6/AC/2
<u>TIMBER COMMITTEE</u>		
Timber Committee  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V.P. Nemtsov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Froncillo (Italy) Mr. D. Hair (United States)	Thirty-sixth session 9-13 October 1978	ECE/TIM/13
Joint ECE/FAO/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Kantola (Finland) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Mateev (Bulgaria) Mr. F. Rydbo (Sweden) Mr. A. P. Ivanov	Twelfth session 12-14 June 1978 Sofia (Bulgaria)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/8

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Seminar on Man/Machine Productivity <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Staaf (Sweden)	11-13 April 1978 Garpenberg (Sweden)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.4/1
Symposium on Techniques and Mechanization of Reforestation in Mountainous Regions <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Mateev (Bulgaria)	8-10 June 1978 Sofia (Bulgaria)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.5/2
Seminar on Accidents in Forestry Operations <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Fibiger (Poland)	18-22 September 1978 Sekocin (Poland)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.6/1
Seminar on Energy Aspects of the Forest Industries <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Giordano (Italy) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Zerbe (United States)	13-17 November 1978 Udine (Italy)	TIM/SEM.7/2

COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE

Committee on the Development of Trade <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Morawitz (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Krzysztofowicz (Poland)	Twenty-seventh session 27 November - 1 December 1978	ECE/TRADE/130
Preparatory Meeting for an <u>ad hoc</u> Meeting of Trade Experts to consider the trade aspects of the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 Chaired by the secretariat	5-6 June 1978	TRADE/AC.8/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Fifth Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Horoszkiewicz (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Liston (United Kingdom)	7-8 June 1978	TRADE/AC.9/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Ad hoc Meeting on Inventory of All Kinds of Obstacles to Trade  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Hall (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Jung (Czechoslovakia)	28-29 September 1978	TRADE/AC.10/2
Group of Experts on International Contract Practices in Industry  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Stumpf (Federal Republic of Germany)	Fourteenth session 30 October - 1 November 1978	TRADE/GE.1/41
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kostikov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Milne (Canada)  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia)	Eighth session 28-29 September 1978   Ninth session 21-23 March 1979	TRADE/WP.4/125   TRADE/WP.4/127
Group of Experts on Automatic Data Processing and Coding  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Borgström (Sweden)  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Miziniak (Poland)	Eighteenth session 21-26 September 1978   Nineteenth session 16-22 March 1979	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/36   TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/38
Group of Experts on Data Requirements and Documentation  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Miziniak (Poland)  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Borgström (Sweden)	Eighteenth session 25-29 September 1978   Nineteenth session 15-22 March 1979	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/36   TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/38
Fifth Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts  <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Jung (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Liston (United Kingdom)	24-26 April 1979 Poznan (Poland)	TRADE/SEM.4/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>COMMITTEE ON WATER PROBLEMS</u>		
Committee on Water Problems	Tenth session 13-17 November 1978	ECE/WATER/21
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G.D. Cobb (United States)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Voigt (German Democratic Republic)		
Group of Rapporteurs to Revise the Draft Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution	8-11 January 1979	WATER/AC.2/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Csontos (Hungary)		
Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity	Sixth session 16-18 May 1978	WATER/GE.1/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.E. Brachet (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Mate (Hungary)		
Seminar on Selected Water Problems in Islands and Coastal Areas with Special Regard to Desalination and Groundwater	5-10 June 1978 (Malta)	WATER/SEM.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Camilleri (Malta)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Karakatsoulis (Greece)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Economic Instruments for Rational Utilization of Water Resources	14-16 March 1979	WATER/SEM.7/PM/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Volker (Netherlands)		

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1978/79

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations:  
E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French);  
E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian); \*, published by Pergamon Press  
for the United Nations.

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to the ECOSOC, 1 May 1977 - 22 April 1978,  
Vol. I and II (E/1978/47-E/ECE/960 and Add.1) E F R

Economic Survey of Europe in 1977 - Part I: The European Economy in  
1977 (Sales No. 78.II.E.1) E F R

Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 30, No. 1 - Recent Changes  
in Europe's Trade (Sales No. 79.II.E.2) E F R

New Issues Affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the  
Medium and Long Term (E/ECE/961) (Sales No. 78.II.E.15) E F R

AGRICULTURE

Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe  
and North America 1976/77 - Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 27  
(ECE/AGRI/37) (Sales No. 78.II.E.8) E F R

Agricultural Trade Review No. 15: Agricultural Trade in Europe -  
Recent Developments (prepared in 1977) (ECE/AGRI/38)  
(Sales No. 78.II.E.11) E F R

Agricultural Market Review No. 20: Review of the Agricultural  
Situation in Europe at the End of 1977; Vol. I: General review,  
grain, dairy products; Vol. II: Livestock and meat (ECE/AGRI/39)  
(Sales No. 78.II.E.12) E F R

Automation of the Control of Technological Processes in Mobile  
Agricultural Machines: AGRI/MECH Report No. 70 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/13) E F R

Ergonomic Aspects of the Design of Tractors: AGRI/MECH Report No. 71  
(FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/15) E F R

Mechanical Production, Nursing and Handling of Seedlings:  
AGRI/MECH Report No. 72 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/16) E F R

Air Conditioning of Livestock Buildings, Modern Equipment and  
Development Trends: AGRI/MECH Report No. 73 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/17) E F R

Methodology used by ECE Countries in Forecasting Mechanization  
Developments: AGRI/MECH Report No. 74 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/18) E F R



Means of Reducing Energy Consumption in the Heating of Greenhouses: AGRI/MECH Report No. 75 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/21)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 4/Rev.2 - Onions (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.4/Rev.2)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 5/Rev.1 - Lettuce, Curled-leaf Endives and Broad-leaf (Batavian) Endives (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.5/Rev.1)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 9/Rev.2 - Artichokes (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.9/Rev.2)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 10/Rev.2 - Cherries (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.10/Rev.2)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 13/Rev.1 - Spinach (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.13/Rev.1)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 29/Rev.1 - Scorzonera (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.29/Rev.1)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 37/Rev.2 - Aubergines (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.37/Rev.2)	E F R

#### CHEMICALS

Market Trends for Chemical Products 1970-1975 and Prospects for 1980, Vol. I and II (ECE/CHEM/22) (Sales No. 78.II.E.14)	E F R
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#### Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products, 1977, Vol. IV (Sales No. 78.II.E.23)	E/F/R
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#### ENERGY

The Coal Situation in the ECE Region in 1976 and its Prospects (ECE/COAL/23)	E F R
Technical and Economic Aspects of New Technologies and Improvements made in Conventional Methods of Metallurgical Coke Manufacture (ECE/COAL/31)	E F R
Present Situation and Future Prospects regarding Formed Coke Production Technology in the World (ECE/COAL/32)	E F R
Development and Operation of Auxiliary Mechanisms for Use in Conjunction with Basic Mining Equipment (ECE/COAL/37)	E F R
Methods of Increasing the Stability of Stripping and Spoil Benches in the Operation of Powerful Coal Winning and Transport Equipment (ECE/COAL/38)	E F R

Trends in the Mechanization and Automation of Coal Faces and Face Ends (ECE/COAL/39)	E F R
Research and Development in Road-driving and Rock (ECE/COAL/40)	E F R
Reduction of the Quantities of Rock and Waste Resulting from the Extraction and Preparation of Solid Fuels (ECE/COAL/41)	E F R
The Gas Situation in the ECE Region in 1976 and its Prospects (ECE/GAS/40)	E F R
Problems arising from the Internal Lining of Gas Pipelines and their Economic Implications (ECE/GAS/41)	E F R
The Gas Industry and the Environment: Proceedings of the Symposium held in Minsk (Byelorussian SSR), 20-26 June 1977	*

#### Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. IX (Sales No. 78.II.E.9)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XII (Sales No. 78.II.E.18)	E/F/R
Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXVI, No. 4	E/F/R
Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1978, Vol. XXVII, No. 1, 2 and 3	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXIII (Sales No. 78.II.E.17)	E/F/R
Half-yearly Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1978, Vol. XXIII, No. 1 and 2	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXIII (Sales No. 78.II.E.21)	E/F/R

#### HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

Directory of National Bodies concerned with Urban and Regional Research (ECE/HBP/23) (Sales No. 78.II.E.2)	E F R
Human Settlements and Energy: Proceedings of the Seminar on the Impact of Energy Considerations on the Planning and Development of Human Settlements held in Ottawa (Canada), 3-14 October 1977	*

#### Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXI (Sales No. 78.II.E.13)	E/F/R
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### STANDARDIZATION

ECE Standardization List (ECE/STAND/20)

E F R

### STATISTICS

A Statistical Survey of the Housing Situation in the ECE Countries around 1970 (Sales No. 78.II.E.5)

E/F/R

Statistical Standards and Studies No. 31: Recommendations for the 1980 Censuses of Population and Housing in the ECE Region - Regional variant of Parts II and III of the World Recommendations for the 1980 Censuses of Population and Housing (Sales No. 78.II.E.6)

E F R

Statistical Services in Ten Years' Time: Proceedings of the Seminar held in Washington (United States), 21-25 March 1977

\*

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, Vol. XXI

E only

### STEEL, ENGINEERING AND AUTOMATION

The Steel Market in 1977 (ECE/STEEL/23) (Sales No. 78.II.E.16)

E F R

Iron and Steel Scrap, its Significance and Influence on Further Developments in the Iron and Steel Industries (ECE/STEEL/24) (Sales No. 79.II.E.3)

E F R

Statistical Framework for Assessing the Economic Efficiency of Automation in Industry (ECE/AUTOMAT/11)

E F R

### Periodic Bulletins

Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1977 (Sales No. 78.II.E.19)

E/F/R

Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. V (Sales No. 78.II.E.10)

E/F/R

Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXVIII, No. 4

E/F/R

Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1978, Vol. XXIX, No. 1, 2 and 3

E/F/R

Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products, 1976 (Sales No. 78.II.E.7)

E/F/R

# TIMBER

## Supplements to the Timber Bulletin for Europe

### Volume XXX

#### Supplement No.

- |    |                                                                                                                             |       |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 7  | Long-term Price Trends for Forest Products in Selected European Countries                                                   | E F R |
| 8  | Medium-term Survey of the Wood-based Panels Sector (including a survey of production capacity and raw material consumption) | E F R |
| 9  | Forest and Forest Products: Country Profile - No. 1: Greece                                                                 | E F R |
| 10 | Study on the Trade and Utilization of Tropical Hardwoods                                                                    | E F R |

### Volume XXXI

#### Supplement No.

- |   |                                                                                                                               |       |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Annual Forest Products Market Review                                                                                          | E F R |
| 2 | Medium-term Survey of Trends in the Sawnwood and Sawlog Sector - Part I: Medium-term Survey of the Sawnwood and Sawlog Market | E F R |
| 3 | Forest and Forest Products: Country Profile - No. 2: Poland                                                                   | E F R |
| 4 | Forest Products Market Trends in 1978 and Prospects for 1979                                                                  | E F R |
| 5 | Forest and Forest Products: Country Profile - No. 3: Sweden                                                                   | E F R |
| 6 | Wood Preservation                                                                                                             | E F R |
| 7 | Monthly Prices for Forest Products, No. 1                                                                                     | E/F   |

### Periodic Bulletins

- |                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Timber Bulletin for Europe, Vol. XXX, No. 2  | E/F |
| Timber Bulletin for Europe, Vol. XXXI, No. 1 | E/F |

# TRANSPORT

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and protocol of signature, done at Geneva on 30 September 1957 - Vol. I: Agreement, Protocol of signature and Annex A - Vol. II: Appendices to Annex A - Vol. III: Annex B (E/ECE/322-E/ECE/TRANS/503/Rev.3) (Sales No. 78.VIII.1)

E F R

Technical Requirements for Power-driven Vehicles and their Parts and Equipment approved by the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles (WP.29) - Part I (A) and (B): Situation at 1 June 1977 (ECE/TRANS/25) (Sales No. 77.II.E.8)

E F R

Protocol to the Convention relating to the Limitation of the Liability of Owners of Inland Navigation Vessels (CLN), done at Geneva on 5 July 1978 (ECE/TRANS/32)

E/F/R

Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Inland Waterway (CVN), done at Geneva on 5 July 1978 (ECE/TRANS/33)

E/F/R

Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), done, at Geneva, on 5 July 1978 (ECE/TRANS/34)

E F R

Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Road (CVR), done at Geneva on 5 July 1978 (ECE/TRANS/35)

E/F/R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXIX (Sales No. 78.II.E.22)

E/F/R

Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe, 1977, Vol. XXIV (Sales No. 78.II.E.24)

E/F/R

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session	E/ECE/963
The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978 (Commission resolution 2 (XXV))	/964
Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/965
Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries	/966
Co-operation with other international organizations	/967
Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (Commission decision C (XXXIII))	/968 /969
Development of trade and industrial co-operation	/970
The economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region (Commission decision A (XXXIII))	/971
The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980 (Commission decision B (XXXIII))	/972
Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction (Commission decision D (XXXIII))	/973
The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference (Commission decision E (XXXIII))	/974
Contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (Commission decision F (XXXIII))	/975
Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (Commission decision G (XXXIII))	/976 /977 + Add.1 Add.2
Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region (Commission decision H (XXXIII))	/978
Standardization (Commission decision I (XXXIII))	/979
Automation (Commission decision J (XXXIII))	/980 + Add.1
Engineering industries (Commission decision K (XXXIII))	/981
Programme of work for 1979-1983	/982 + Add.1
Report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding Implementation of Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII)	ECE/ENV/29

REPORTS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/45
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/24
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/36
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/12
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/29
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/42
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/25
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/37
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	ECE/ENV/28
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH./17
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD./18
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/22
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/13
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/130
Committee on Water Problems	ECE/WATER/21

REPORTS OF OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Working Party on Automation	ECE/AUTOMAT/10
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries</u>	ECE/ENGIN/14
Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies	ECE/STAND/19

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