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PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

Overall review of the statistical work of the international organizations

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report contains an overall review of the statistical activities of the United Nations system, the World Tourism Organization and the Inter-American Statistical Institute for the period 1984 to mid-1986. Wherever possible, the information is given by major achievements, including new activities, activities cancelled and activities modified significantly.

^{*} E/CN.3/1987/1.

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INTRODUCTION

- 1. The present report was prepared in response to the request of the Statistical Commission at its twenty-third session. 1/ The report contains a description of the progress made in the statistical activities of the United Nations system, the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI) during the 1984-1985 biennium and the first half of 1986. Wherever possible, the information is given by major achievements, including new activities, activities cancelled and activities modified significantly.
- 2. The work of the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat is described under two organizational headings (see sects. I.A and I.B below). In carrying out its responsibility for the provision of technical co-operation in statistics, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development has been relying on the Statistical Office for substantive support, in accordance with the arrangements for collaboration that have existed for some time between the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. Additional information on the work of the Statistical Office is contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Updated information on the work of the Statistical Office" (E/CN.3/1987/23) and in the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed work programme of the Statistical Office for the biennium 1988-1989 and information on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995 (E/CN.3/1987/25; see also E/CN.3/1987/CRP.1).

I. UNITED NATIONS

- A. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs: Statistical Office
 - 1. Major achievements, including new activities
- (a) Subprogramme 1. Development of concepts and methods
- 3. Handbooks or manuals were issued on national accounting (accounting for production), vital statistics systems and methods and household surveys. Draft handbooks were completed on social indicators and environmental aspects of human settlements. Technical reports were issued on price and quantity measurement in external trade, selected problems in consumer price index computations, international arrivals and departures, international migration, statistics and indicators on the situation of women, women's participation in the informal sector of the economy, statistics and indicators on disabled persons, environment statistics, and integrating social and economic statistics. An approved classification was issued for international trade statistics and drafts were completed for interrelated classifications of economic activities and goods and services. Draft recommendations were completed for a statistical programme for household and small-scale industries, population and housing censuses and the System of Balances of the National Economy (the last mentioned prepared by the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance).

- 4. Other reports, working papers and other work done are reported in documents for the present session of the Statistical Commission, especially in the fields of national accounts and balances (E/CN.3/1987/5), classifications (E/CN.3/1987/10), population and housing censuses (E/CN.3/1987/15), prices (E/CN.3/1987/11) and energy statistics (E/CN.3/1987/13).
- 5. Expert group meetings were held on (a) the development of statistics on disabled persons (convened jointly with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat); (b) the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme; (c) the harmonization of economic classifications; and (d) the System of National Accounts (SNA) structure. In addition, an interregional seminar was held for developing countries on the SNA review. Reports were issued on each of these meetings.
- (b) Subprogrammes 2-6. Application of advanced technology in collection, processing and dissemination of statistics and compilation and dissemination of economic and social statistics
- 6. The regular recurrent compilations were issued or submitted for printing in national accounts (main aggregates, detailed tables, analysis of main aggregates and government accounts and tables), industrial statistics (general industrial statistics and commodity production statistics), construction statistics, international trade statistics (trade by country and trade by commodity: commodity matrix tables), maritime transport statistics, energy statistics and demographic statistics. The annual Statistical Yearbook and World Statistics in Brief (United Nations Statistical Pocketbook), were also issued. The Monthly Bulletin of Statistics and quarterly Population and Vital Statistics Report were also issued.
- 7. Special compilations were issued on income distribution statistics, input-output tables, energy balances and electricity profiles, world comparisons of purchasing power and real product (summary and detailed results for 60 countries), human settlements, statistical indicators on youth, indicators on the status of women (statistical poster) and indicators on youth (statistical poster) and a special supplement on population and vital statistics.
- (c) Subprogramme 7. Co-ordination of international statistical programmes and subprogramme 9. Programme support
- 8. The <u>Directory of International Statistics</u>, volume II, was submitted for printing. Reports on co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the collection of social statistics and general data collection activities of the United Nations system and selected non-United Nations international organizations were issued. A <u>Statistical Office Newsletter</u> was issued on approximately a monthly basis.

2. Activities cancelled

9. The proposed <u>Handbook of Housing and Human Settlements Statistics Methods in Censuses and Surveys</u> was cancelled. Staff were redeployed to higher priority output under the work programme on social, housing and related statistics and indicators.

10. A proposed report, Construction and Use of a Census Data Base, was cancelled following the discussion by the Statistical Commission in February 1985.

3. Activities deferred or modified significantly

- (a) Subprogramme 1. Development of concepts and methods
- 11. The <u>Handbook of National Accounting:</u> External Transactions was rescheduled to 1987 owing to a staff vacancy and to allow for the expansion and modification of the publication to include the System of National Accounts/Balance of Payments reconciliation and the results of the planned 1987 expert group meeting on external transactions.
- 12. A draft Manual on Consumer Price Indexes was completed and sent to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) with which this is being jointly prepared. ILO will revise the Manual after preparing new recommendations on consumer prices.
- 13. A methodological report on the international programme on immigration stock data was postponed and will be incorporated as technical notes to the <u>Compendium of Immigrant Stock Data</u> scheduled for 1987. The delay will permit full co-operation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) programme on human resource flows.
- 14. A technical report on statistics of time-use was modified to comprise a general analysis of statistics on the role of women in the informal sector, based on the priority given to statistics on special population groups by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-third session, and was deferred to 1987.
- (b) Subprogramme 3. National accounts, industry, international trade and transport statistics
- 15. Work on the monitoring of data developments and compilation of data from individual countries regarding household income and expenditure statistics was postponed as a result of modifications to the work programme in response to the financial crisis.
- (c) Subprogramme 5. Price statistics and related areas
- 16. The third revision of the Methods Used in Compiling the United Nations Price Indexes for Basic Commodities in International Trade will be expanded to incorporate the Methods Used in Compiling Export Price Indexes of Manufactured Goods and is rescheduled to 1987.
- 17. Owing to insufficient data, the proposed Yearbook of World Price Trends was not issued. The available data were published in the special tables of the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics. Subsequently, planned work was deferred in response to the financial crisis.

(d) Subprogramme 6. Social, demographic and environment statistics

18. Work on the compilation of selected environmental indicators and initiation of regional data collection was modified and, instead, an assessment of country practices and data sources was undertaken.

B. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

Major achievements, including new activities

- 19. Technical co-operation projects in statistics delivered during the period 1984-1985 amounted to \$31 million; the amount budgeted for 1986 is \$20 million. This accounted for approximately 183 projects in 87 countries comprising, in part, 83 projects in demographic statistics/population census, 50 in statistical organization/multi-sector statistics, 14 in economic statistics, 19 in vital statistics and 17 in data processing.
- 20. Twenty-six developing countries are participating in the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP). Most of those countries have carried out several household surveys and are making use of the survey results in planning and monitoring development programmes. The following publications were issued:

 Development and Design of Survey Questionnaires; Sampling Frames and Sample Designs for Integrated Household Survey Programmes.
- 21. The revised <u>Directory of Technical Co-operation in Statistics</u>, to be issued in English, French and Spanish, was submitted for printing.

C. Economic Commission for Europe

- 22. Meetings and seminars were held on the following subjects: electronic data processing, integrated statistical information systems and related matters, statistical computing, statistical methodology, national accounts and balances, international comparisons, the harmonization and revision of economic classifications, food and agriculture statistics, methodological questions relating to farm bookkeeping data, statistics of consumer prices, general energy statistics, social and demographic statistics, evaluation of census results and methodology, population censuses, housing censuses, social indicators, socio-economic group classifications, cultural statistics, statistics and indicators on the role and situation of women, a labour accounting system, migration statistics, environmental statistics and indicators. The plenary sessions of the Conference of European Statisticians were also held.
- 23. The following publications were issued: Statistics of Air Quality: Some Methods; International Comparison of Gross Domestic Product in Europe, 1980; Correspondence Table between the United Nations International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities and the Classification of the Branches of the National Economy of the Member Countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

24. Other activities have included the following:

- (a) An inventory of statistics and indicators relating to the role and situation of women has been published;
- (b) Long-term migration data among member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) have been published in matrix form for 1981 and 1982 and data for 1983 and 1984 are being prepared;
- (c) An analysis of national assessments of ECE statistical publications has been undertaken;
- (d) Two comparisons of national accounting aggregates have been conducted (France/Hungary and Bulgaria/Finland);
- (e) Trilateral co-operation among Finland, Hungary and Sweden on methodological problems in selected areas of environment statistics was started;
 - (f) Work has begun on the development of a labour accounting system;
- (g) Work has continued on the joint development of software products for statistics and on the dissemination of those products to developing countries outside the ECE region;
- (h) Co-operation within the framework of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics permitted the issuance of the <u>Guide to Energy Statistics</u> published by ECE, the International Energy Agency/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Statistical Office of the European Communities;
- (i) Draft ECE standard international statistical classifications were issued for land use, water use and quality, and ambient air pollution;
- (j) Draft ECE international frameworks were issued for the development of fauna, flora and habitat statistics and of statistics of solid wastes;
 - (k) A draft set of environmental indicators was also issued;
- (1) Work was initiated on an updated set of ECE recommendations for the 1990 round of population and housing censuses.
- 25. The ECE statistical bulletins have been issued regularly in the fields of energy, transport, road traffic accidents, steel, timber and trade in engineering and chemical products, most having been prepared by means of various computer techniques. To enhance the economic research activities, the ECE data base has been expanded, and users of statistics in the ECE region now have a growing collection of useful, well-documented and easily accessible data at their disposal.

D. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

- 26. A total of 115 advisory missions were carried out during the January 1984-June 1986 period. Of these, six missions were on statistical infrastructure development, including organization plans, 18 were on various aspects of household surveys, 15 were on national accounts, five were on energy statistics, 17 were on industrial statistics, 42 were on population censuses and surveys and 12 were on data processing. The number of advisory missions undertaken increased over the previous reporting period, and the rate of requests from developing countries is growing.
- 27. The following meetings were held during the period under review: an Asia-Pacific meeting of statisticians on input-output tables; a seminar on social and related statistics; the fourth session of the Working Group of Statistical Experts; a seminar on the organization of statistical work in a changing environment; an Asia-Pacific seminar on the International Comparison Project and price statistics; a Pacific seminar on civil registration and vital statistics; an expert group meeting on developing statistics of household economic activities; the sixth session of the Committee on Statistics and an Asian seminar on civil registration and vital statistics and a seminar on the review and development of national accounts.
- 28. Three NHSCP-related training courses were also held: two on sampling and household survey methodology and one on electronic data processing.
- 29. The following technical reports were published: (a) Input-Output Models:
 Theory, Data and Application; (b) Proceedings of the Asia-Pacific Seminar on the
 International Comparison Project and Price Statistics; (c) Manual for the
 Compilation of International Trade Statistics in the ESCAP Region; (d) Labour Force
 and Family Living Surveys in Asia and the Pacific. In addition, the twentieth and
 twenty-first reports on Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region and nine issues of the
 Statistical Newsletter were published.
- 30. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) adopted resolution 246 (XVII) entitled "Statistical services in Asia and the Pacific" by consensus at its forty-second session held in April and May 1986. The Committee on Statistics, at its sixth session in November 1985, had recognized that such a resolution could prove of value in improving the output and services of national statistical offices, particularly in the least developed countries. The operative paragraphs recommended that member countries, the United Nations and its specialized agencies and multilateral and bilateral donor agencies accord priority to the development of statistical services through such means as improving infrastructure, statistical planning, training, the use of international standards, effective dialogue between producers and users, technical co-operation and assistance with resources.

31. The recurrent publications Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific, Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, Series A and Series B, and Handbook on Agricultural Statistics for Asia and the Pacific have been released regularly, sometimes with improved timeliness.

2. Activities cancelled or postponed

32. A planned workshop to examine deficiencies in the timely dissemination of statistical information was cancelled. A bulletin of energy statistics for Asia and the Pacific and a manual on regional guidelines and methodologies for the development of small area statistics, including statistics on rural development, were also cancelled. Technical meetings relating to non-response errors, statistical education and training, statistics of poverty and income distribution, social and related statistics in the Pacific, transportation statistics, and intercensal sample surveys were postponed to the following biennium. Similarly, a handbook on socio-economic indicators was also postponed to the next biennium. The non-availability of extrabudgetary funds was the principal cause of cancellations and postponements of those activities.

E. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Major achievements

- 33. An on-line data bank has been developed which at present includes external trade, national accounts and production series of the main economic sectors. Population and housing census data for some countries are also included. Preliminary steps are under way to provide external users with the data stored in the data bank.
- 34. The 1985 edition of the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Carribean has, for the first time, incorporated preliminary estimates for macro-economic variables of the same year of issuance. The publication was issued six months earlier than previous issues. Valuation of national accounts in national currencies at 1980 prices has been completed. With the countries' co-operation, important progress has been made in adapting accounts on an individual basis for all activities to the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) Revision 2.
- 35. The following periodic publications were issued: Statistical Yearbook for Latin America, 1983 and 1984, Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean 1985 and Preliminary Overview of the Latin American Economy during 1984. Statistical manuals were issued on household consumption expenditure by purpose, origin and destination of external trade, balance of payments and external trade of capital goods (the last mentioned published jointly with ECLAC/United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Division of Industry and Technology). Other documents were issued on prices, wages and employment; income distribution for selected countries; income and expenditure surveys; methods of estimating

external trade unit value indexes; public sector data bank characteristics; special production structure in Latin American national accounts; national practices in statistical organization; volume indexes for manufacturing output; participation in economic activities by age and sex groups for Latin America; access to sources of statistical information on external trade in Latin America; experience in Latin America and the Caribbean on disseminating and improving international recommendations on national accounts and statistical development in Latin America and the Caribbean. A report on the Regional Seminar on National Accounts was also issued.

- 36. Seminars, meetings and conferences were organized or attended on methods for income and household expenditure surveys; national accounts; household surveys; statistical analysis relating to women in the labour market using household surveys and public sector information systems and statistics. Meetings were also held of the Permanent Administrative Committee of the Inter-American Statistical Conference, the Co-ordinating Board of the Conference of Governmental Statisticians of the Americas (CEGA); and the Technical Commission on Labour Statistics of the Inter-American Statistical Conference.
- 37. Training courses were held on external trade statistics and indexes, national accounts, basic technical statistics and on economic statistics.
- 38. Within the framework of the National Household Survey Capability Programme, in addition to the continuous support rendered to numerous countries of the region, two country projects, one in Honduras and one in Costa Rica, have been successfully sponsored with the financial support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has been entrusted with the responsibility of executing agency. In other fields, such as national accounts methodologies, foreign trade indexes and the upgrading of national statistical systems in general, ECLAC has provided technical assistance in line with national requirements.

F. Economic Commission for Africa

Major achievements

- 39. In the field of statistical development, the following activities were carried out:
- (a) Substantive servicing was provided for the fourth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers. At that session, the Statistics Division presented a number of papers on statistical development, including "The role of African statistical services in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action" and "A review of statistical organization and staffing problems in Africa";
- (b) The Division also issued the following publications: <u>Directory of African Statisticians</u> (one issue), <u>Statistical Newsletter</u> (four issues) and <u>Directory of Electronic Data Processing Experts in Africa</u>. A workshop on the development of statistical data bases was held;

- (c) Under the Statistical Training Programme for Africa, "A guide syllabus for professional statistical training" was published. The Division continued to co-ordinate the activities of 15 member centres and five associate members. The fourth meeting of directors of those centres was held to review policies relating to teaching programmes and technical assistance.
- 40. The following activities were carried out relating to economic statistics:
- (a) Advisory services were provided to member States of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on applying the System of National Accounts and improving basic economic statistics as a prerequisite for the further development of national accounts. About 10 such missions were undertaken in the biennium 1984-1985. Two separate workshops on national accounts, one for English-speaking and the other for French-speaking countries, were held simultaneously in 1985;
- (b) Work on external trade statistics continued and two publications were issued: Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series A. Direction of Total Trade, and Series C. Summary Tables;
- (c) The African Statistical Yearbook, the African Social and Economic Indicators and the Statistical Information Bulletin (two issues) were published during the biennium 1984-1985.
- 41. Advisory services on the organization, planning and conduct of national population and housing censuses, processing and evaluation of census data and development of civil registration systems and vital statistics collection were undertaken.
- 42. Under the African Household Survey Capability Programme, project proposals were formulated for one more country, bringing to 18 the number of African countries participating in the programme at the end of 1985. A workshop on household surveys for English-speaking African countries was organized jointly with the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation.

G. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

1. Major achievements

- 43. The following publications were issued: (a) Statistical Abstract of the Region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), 1984 and 1985 issues; (b) National Accounts Studies, 1984 and 1985 issues; (c) Studies on Prices and Index Numbers in the ESCWA Region, 1984 and 1985 issues; (d) External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region, second issue, 1984 and third issue, 1985; and (e) Compendium of Social Statistics, first issue 1985.
- 44. Other major achievements included the following:
- (a) Organized the Seminar on Methods of Agricultural Data Collection in the ESCWA Region, the First Meeting of the Heads of Central Statistical Organizations

in the ESCWA Region, and the Regional Seminar on Population and Housing Censuses in the ESCWA Region;

- (b) Conducted three training courses with the ESCWA Unit of the National Household Survey Capability Programme entitled Household and Expenditure Surveys, Labour Force Surveys and Sampling and Survey Methods;
- (c) Participated at the annual policy meetings of the Board of Directors of the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, the Statistical Committee of the Council for Arab Economic Unity and the Standing Statistical Committee of the League of Arab States;
- (d) Participated at specialized meetings on national accounts, population, fertility and family planning, energy data, balance of payments, and household expenditure and income surveys;
- (e) Prepared three reports in Arabic: <u>The International Comparison Project on Real Domestic Product and Purchasing Power</u>, <u>The Status of Migration Statistics in the ESCWA Region</u> and the Status of Population Censuses in the ESCWA Region;
- (f) Rendered advisory assistance to most of the central statistical organizations of the ESCWA region, mainly in national accounts and economic statistics, population and industrial statistics.

2. Activities cancelled

45. The Statistical Indicators of the Arab World was not published in 1984 and 1985. It will be replaced in 1986 by a new joint publication on the basis of a recent agreement between ESCWA and the League of Arab States.

H. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

- 46. The following publications were issued: 1984 and 1985 editions of <u>Supplement</u> to the <u>Handbook</u> of <u>International Trade</u> and <u>Development Statistics</u>; the 1985 edition (second issue) of <u>Yearbook</u> of <u>International Commodity Statistics</u>; <u>Monthly Commodity Price Bulletin</u>; <u>Tungsten Bulletin</u> and <u>Statistical Pocket Book</u>, coinciding with the <u>commemoration</u> of the twentieth anniversary of <u>UNCTAD</u> (October 1984).
- 47. A statistical annex, containing detailed statistics on flows of financial resources from the member States of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to developing countries for the period 1977 to 1984, was prepared for the report on Financial Solidarity for Development.
- 48. Statistical and computing support was provided to the substantive divisions of the UNCTAD Board and its committees.

- 49. Work was begun in 1984 to establish, in UNCTAD, a data base comprising statistics on production, trade and employment in services.
- 50. UNCTAD has developed a trade information system on trade control measures of the developing countries. The data base provides a computerized link between foreign trade statistics at the country and product level and the corresponding tariffs, para-tariffs and non-tariff measures, as well as preferential trading arrangements affecting trade among developing countries.

I. United Nations Children's Fund

- 51. As a result of the initiative and close collaboration of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) with the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat, as well as the careful exploitation of data available in the Statistical Office, a set of estimates and projections on infant and child mortality were produced. A new methodological development has been the elaboration of an Under Five Mortality Rate (USMR), comparable in its formulation to the Infant Mortality Rate. UNICEF has put considerable emphasis on the Under Five Mortality Rate as an advocacy and planning tool, as well as a management and programme monitoring instrument. It is supporting countries in estimating their Under Five Mortality Rates, as well as their internal differentials in respect of this indicator.
- 52. Three regular statistical compendia have been published during the period. These are an annual publication entitled "Statistics on children in UNICEF-assisted countries", prepared for the annual meeting of the UNICEF Executive Board in April; the annex tables and charts of the publication "State of the world's children", issued annually in December; and the UNICEF Statistics Pocketbook, the latest edition being issued in the summer of 1986. All of this material is available in machine-readable form.
- 53. UNICEF has also issued periodic statistical reviews on the situation of children and statistical assessments of programmes relating to children. This has been regularized into a basic biannual statistical review, biannual assessments of immunization coverage and the distribution of oral rehydration salts, periodic assessments of other UNICEF programme elements, and methodological topics of interest to UNICEF.
- 54. In connection with the publications listed in the previous two paragraphs, much of this activity is possible only as a result of the generous co-operation of the statistical bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Population Division and the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat. The publication of the UNICEF Statistics Pocketbook has been undertaken by UNICEF, with assistance in processing from the Statistical Office.

- 55. Technical assistance to statistical activities in developing countries has continued to be given great importance. This has been in the form of direct support of country activities, support to inter-agency technical assistance programmes, the most important of which was the National Household Survey Capability Programme, which has received major assistance, and methodological research and experimental projects, including the commissioning of special statistical studies.
 - II. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY AND THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

A. International Labour Organisation

- 56. In connection with the implementation of the resolution of the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians on statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment, two methodological studies (at Kerala, India, and Costa Rica) were carried out. The results are being used for the preparation of a manual on surveys of the economically active population, to be completed in 1987.
- 57. The revision of ILO Convention No. 63 concerning statistics of wages and hours of work (1938) was discussed by ILO at its seventieth (1984) and seventy-first (1985) sessions on the basis of four reports prepared by the Bureau of Statistics and led to the adoption of the <u>Labour Statistics Convention</u> (No. 160) and of the <u>Labour Statistics Recommendation</u>, 1985 (No. 170).
- 58. In the new series of <u>Statistical Sources and Methods</u>, to be issued in four volumes, volume I, Consumer Price Indices, and volume III, Economically Active Population, Employment, Unemployment and Hours of Work (from household surveys) were issued. Volume II, Employment, Wages and Hours of Work (from established surveys) will be issued at the end of 1986.
- 59. Following the revision of the entire October Inquiry, new questionnaires, instructions and descriptions of 159 occupations and 93 food items were issued for the 1985 round. The results for occupational wages and hours of work for October 1983 and 1984 were tabulated for publication in a special issue of the Bulletin of Labour Statistics in February 1986.
- 60. The <u>Year Book of Labour Statistics</u> and the quarterly <u>Bulletin of Labour Statistics</u> were issued.
- 61. Volumes I to V of the Economically Active Population Estimates and Projections, 1950-2025, were published. They show data on population, the economically active population and activity rate, by sex and age group; and on the total economically active population, by sex, in agriculture, industry and services. Volume VI on the methodology used to produce the estimates and projections of the economically active population will be issued in the autumn of 1986.

- 62. For the Fourteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, scheduled to be held from 28 October to 6 November 1987, preparation of reports has started on the following topics: (a) the general report, including development of statistics on the informal sector and statistics on absence from work; (b) consumer price indices; (c) industrial disputes and (d) the revision of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO). The reports will examine concepts, definitions and methods and, except for the general report, will provide draft revisions of earlier recommendations for examination and adoption by the Conference.
- 63. Missions on core programmes of labour statistics were undertaken in 1984 in Haiti, Jamaica and Mauritius, and in 1985 in Morocco.
- 64. Following a resolution of the seventy-first session of the International Labour Conference, in 1985, work has been initiated on the measurement of productivity. This work will be pursued in more depth in the next biennium.

B. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- 65. The major elements of work included:
- (a) The organization of statutory bodies of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on agricultural statistics, including the Statistics Advisory Committee of Experts (1984), the Regional Commissions on Agricultural Statistics and collaboration with other agencies of the FAO/ECE Conference of European Statisticians Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics;
- (b) Conducting the FAO Expert Consultation on Production Statistics of Subsistence Food Crops in Africa, the Workshop on Improvement of Statistics on Women in Agriculture, and informal consultation on the use of the microcomputer for processing agricultural statistics;
- (c) The conceptualization of a statistical information system capable of meeting the ever-growing demand by users for computer-readable information from AGROSTAT, which creates files to be made available to users;
- (d) The completion of the Fifth World Food Survey (FAO, 1985) which essentially presents the trends of the world food supply and nutrition situation during the 1960s and 1970s, and the latest global estimates of FAO of the incidence of undernutrition;
- (e) Review and revision of the methodology for projections of the agricultural population and the agricultural labour force within the framework of the inter-agency work programme in the field of demographic estimates and projections.

- 66. The new activities undertaken or initiated comprise:
- (a) The preparation of a statistical basebook containing macro-economic and social data relevant to food, agriculture and rural development;
- (b) The development of guidelines on socio-economic indicators for monitoring and evaluating agrarian reform and rural development;
- (c) The improvement of statistics and indicators on the role of women in agriculture and on rural landlessness;
- (d) The preparation of regional supplements to the Programme for the 1990 World Census of Agriculture;
- (e) The conduct of pilot studies on the implementation of the information system for food and agriculture;
- (f) The investigation of ways and means of transmission of trade data for food and agricultural commodities through magnetic tapes from member countries to FAO;
- (g) The study of the possibility of disseminating the information from AGROSTAT through telephone lines to external users (the documentation on the AGROSTAT Information System is in preparation);
- (h) The expansion of the FAO data base on land and fertilizers to cover other agricultural input, such as pesticides and agricultural machinery;
- (i) The development of methodology for international comparison of agricultural value aggregates, based on international commodity prices derived by the Geary-Khamis formula instead of using official currency exchange rates;
- (j) Preparation of a long-term series of world-wide statistics of area, yield and production of crops and of livestock production and publication of the statistics in World Crop and Livestock Statistics, 1948-1985.
- 67. The following publications were issued: FAO Production Yearbook, 1983, vol. 37, and 1984, vol. 38; FAO Trade Yearbook, 1983, vol. 37 and 1984, vol. 38; FAO Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, vol. 7, 11 issues and vol. 8, 11 issues; Food Balance Sheets, 1979-1981 Average; World Agricultural Statistics, FAO Statistical Pocketbook, 1984 and 1985; FAO Fertilizer Yearbook, 1984 and 1985; Prices Received by Farmers, 1985; Prices Paid by Farmers, 1985; Statistical Basebook for Food and Agriculture: Africa; Programme for the 1990 World Census of Agriculture; Report on the 1980 World Census of Agriculture Census Bulletins; Bibliography of Food Consumption Surveys, 1984; Review of Food Consumption Surveys, 1985; National Methods of Agricultural Price Data Collection, No. 58; Guidelines for the Computation of Selected Statistical Indicators, No. 60; and Inter-country Comparison of Agricultural Production Aggregates, No. 61.

2. Activities modified significantly

68. The FAO National Demonstration Centre's training programmes, which were originally organized for the agricultural census, have been broadened to include other topics in the field of food and agricultural statistics, besides the agricultural census. A national or regional statistical training institute will be given priority to serve as host to a National Demonstration Centre programme.

C. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

- 69. The main activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the field of statistics on education were the following:
- (a) Launched two surveys on adult education and foreign students, and issued five statistical reports to disseminate comparative data at the international and regional levels;
- (b) Produced four reference documents for regional and international ministerial conferences and governmental experts' meetings on education;
- (c) Organized, under the regular programme, and with the financial assistance of the Swedish International Development Authority, 23 training seminars on educational statistics methods and techniques, which were attended by over 700 participants;
- (d) Issued a manual for statistics on adult education (preliminary draft), launched four case-studies on the collection of higher education statistics, and prepared a guide to economic accounting in education.
- 70. In the field of statistics on science and technology the following activities were carried out:
- (a) Prepared a simplified annual questionnaire and improved the detailed questionnaire used in data collection;
- (b) Issued the final version of the manual on statistics relating to scientific and technological activities and a revised version of the guide to statistics of science and technology;
- (c) Produced a guide on data collection relating to scientific and technological information and documentation, two references documents for regional ministerial conferences and three analytical studies on topics of particular interest;
- (d) Organized three regional and two national training seminars attended by nearly 140 participants.

- 71. The main activities in statistics on culture and communication were the following:
- (a) Completed the drawing-up of the UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics as a component of the framework for integration and social demographic and related economic and other statistics;
- (b) Prepared the draft revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics relating to Book Production and Periodicals, which was adopted by the UNESCO General Conference at its twenty-third session;
- (c) Conducted two methodological studies on cultural statistics and indicators, and two analytical studies on international exchanges of cultural goods and on participation in and access to cultural activities;
- (d) Organized five training seminars on culture and communication statistics, which were attended by nearly 110 participants.
- 72. The Statistical Yearbook and the Statistical Digest for 1984 and 1985 were issued. The trilingual (Arabic/English/French) Statistical Yearbook (Arab Member States) for 1983 and 1984 was also produced. A Spanish version of the 1985 Statistical Digest was issued for the first time.
- 73. Under technical co-operation programmes, the Office of Statistics implemented 11 projects under the Participation Programme, continued to execute one large-scale project financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and gave technical support to experts in projects including a statistical component. Furthermore, the Office of Statistics organized, with the financial assistance of the Swedish International Development Authority, a number of training seminars in educational statistics referred to above.

D. International Civil Aviation Organization

- 74. Office automation was further developed with the installation of direct data entry and text processing equipment. The creation of an integrated data base was initiated so that users will be able to access the data directly from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) computer. A parallel effort was made to utilize modern telecommunications technology for enabling providers to transmit their data directly into the ICAO computer. While this possibility was still being explored, data for some airlines were, for the first time, received on magnetic tape and this procedure is expected to be more widely used in the future.
- 75. The ninth and tenth editions of the ICAO statistical yearbook <u>Civil Aviation</u> Statistics of the <u>World</u> were issued during the period under review, and preparation of the eleventh edition was started. In addition, 27 Digests of Statistics were issued in the different areas of the ICAO statistics programme. Steps were taken to present the statistical publications in a more compact form. Significant reductions in the size of several publications were achieved.

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- 76. In final implementation of the recommendations of the last session of the Statistics Division of ICAO, a representative body of member States, preparatory work was undertaken in connection with a planned survey of States' views on the revised traffic flow statistics programmes.
- 77. Three informal workshops on aviation statistics were organized for States in the Asia/Pacific, African and South American regions. Air transport officers based in the ICAO regional offices undertook missions to various countries in their regions.

E. World Health Organization

- 78. The Medium-Term Programme for 1984-1989 provides five target areas. The major achievements in those areas during the period 1984 to mid-1986 are summarized below:
- Target 1. Strengthening of information support to national health management. The first monitoring of national strategies for health for all, carried out by member States in 1983, revealed severe deficiencies in the capacity of many countries to collect and use health and health-related information. Those countries were, as a result, quick to call for WHO collaboration when the time came to perform the first evaluation of their health for all strategy in 1985. Opportunities for promotion of the concepts and procedures of information support to health management have arisen through the many WHO/country contacts made during the preparation of these evaluation reports.
- Target 2. Training. WHO-supported workshops, seminars and courses on epidemiology, surveillance, health statistics, medical records and the International Classification of Diseases were held in 28 countries, and fellowships were awarded for advanced training in those areas. Those training activities aimed at providing all categories of personnel with the knowledge and skills required to determine the information needed to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate health programmes, and then to collect, compile, analyse and use it. A new approach was adopted in the field epidemiology training programme supported by WHO in Indonesia and Thailand; in-service field training was stressed, including investigations of disease outbreaks, special surveys and participation in health planning and management and evaluation by using relevant statistical and epidemiological information.
- Target 3. Development of methodology and standard tools. Guiding principles for information support were prepared for adoption and use by member States in developing or strengthening their national managerial processes for health development. The role of lay reporting in obtaining information relevant to health systems development was discussed at an interregional meeting held at Manila in October 1985. Measurement of the effectiveness and impact of health programmes is of paramount importance, but information currently available in many countries is insufficient to assess changes in health status with any reasonable degree of certainty. To improve this situation, WHO is developing a set of indicators and

methods of collection and use which will be tested in several countries and will lead to the development of guidelines for wider application. Guidelines for the measurement of adequacy of health care and consumer satisfaction were developed by a working group (Copenhagen, April 1985).

- 79. The first Expert Committee on the Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases was convened in 1984. It endorsed the proposed change from a numeric coding system to an alphanumeric system, and recommended the circulation of the first draft proposal for the tenth revision to member States and relevant scientific bodies for comments on structure and content. Concerning the International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps a review meeting was held in the Netherlands and a revision process has been started for completion by 1990.
- Target 4. Monitoring and evaluation of the regional and global health situation and trends. In 1985 the first evaluation of the Global Strategy for Health for All by the year 2000 was carried out in accordance with a plan of action adopted by the World Health Assembly in 1982. The results of that evaluation have been consolidated regionally and globally for publication during 1986.
- 80. The Weekly Epidemiological Record, World Health Statistics Quarterly and the World Health Statistics Annual were published on time. In particular, the Quarterly has been improved by adopting a thematic approach for each issue. The themes covered in the 10 issues during the period 1984 to mid-1986 were: health manpower, disease prevention and control (one issue each year), health projections, health services costs and financing, health surveys, family health, economic evaluation, and water supply and sanitation. Regional health bulletins were expanded in scope based on strengthened regional data bases.
- Target 5. Epidemiological and health statistical support to WHO programmes. During the biennium such support was given to many programmes, for example, the parasitic disease programme in evaluating a UNICEF-sponsored project on schistosomiasis control in Egypt.

F. World Bank

- 81. Experimental surveys in the Living Standards Measurement Study have been under way in Côte d'Ivoire and Peru. The data collected are being analysed and the procedures used evaluated. Further tests are being planned in other countries.
- 82. An extensive review of the national accounts data has been undertaken to identify significant discrepancies and weaknesses. World Bank staff are now taking up the issues with national statistical offices. The World Bank also reviewed measurement problems in the compilation of national accounts of small island economies.

- 83. The World Bank continued in its efforts to improve the reporting of external debt statistics by member Governments. Some 30 to 40 country missions per year were carried out. The missions provided advice and assistance to member countries for the improvement of debt recording and reporting systems, and of machine-assisted reporting of data. In addition, the World Bank prepared overall estimates of short-term and private non-guaranteed debt, not covered and captured in the Data Reporting System. The World Bank continued to collaborate with the regional banks, the Bank of International Settlement (Switzerland), OECD, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in improving the coverage of debt data. The Debt Compilers Working Group has been addressing the issue of harmonizing concepts and methodologies pertaining to debt data.
- 84. During the period under review, the World Bank carried out a number of technical assistance missions in statistics to member countries, which reviewed statistical systems and made recommendations for improving and strengthening statistical systems. Several of those reviews led to the financing of statistical development projects by the Bank, UNDP and bilateral aid agencies. In addition, the Bank's economic and sector missions to member countries engaged in discussions with statistical agencies and provided limited technical advice for improving macro-economic statistics.
- 85. In improving the accessibility of data within the institution, a World Bank Economic and Social Data Base has been set up. This data base, resident on a mainframe machine, contains a wide range of economic and social statistics and is accessible through personal computers for analytical purposes.
- 86. The World Bank has completed preliminary work on a set of unit value and quantum indices for external trade for a range of developing countries. Those indices are designed to serve the World Bank's own analytical needs.
- 87. The range of social indicators compiled for use within the World Bank has been reviewed extensively, and refinements introduced where appropriate.

G. International Monetary Fund

- 88. The following publications were issued: the monthly statistical publication, International Financial Statistics; International Financial Statistics Yearbook, 1984 and International Financial Statistics Yearbook, 1985; Balance of Payments Statistics, vol. 35 (1984) and vol. 36 (1985, and monthly issues; Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook, 1984 and Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook, 1985, and monthly issues; and Government Finance Statistics Yearbook, vol. VIII (1984) and vol. IX (1985).
- 89. Additional volumes were published in the series of statistical supplements to International Financial Statistics, containing historical data on special topics.

 Supplements on the Balance of Payments (the seventh in the series) and on Output Statistics (the eighth) were issued in 1984. The ninth and tenth in the series on

Exchange Rates (an update of the first <u>Supplement</u>) and on <u>Economic Indicators</u>, respectively, were issued in 1985. In 1986, <u>Supplements</u> will be issued on Government Finance Statistics and Prices.

- 90. The development and maintenance of national capabilities in the compilation of money and banking, balance of payments, government finance, international banking and external debt, and general economic statistics continued as a major activity. Emphasis was placed on technical assistance missions to IMF member countries, including the documenting of national methodology and assistance to national compilers in reconciling their practices with international guidelines, as well as training for national officials in balance-of-payments methodology and government finance statistics in courses at the IMF Institute. A new course on money and banking statistics was introduced in August 1986.
- 91. The draft of A Guide to Money and Banking Statistics in International Financial Statistics was issued in December 1984 and distributed to IMF member countries and interested international organizations for their comments.
- 92. In co-operation with the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat, the Bureau of Statistics of IMF prepared a paper on the harmonization of the classification of international transactions in the United Nations A System of National Accounts and the IMF Balance of Payments Manual. Those papers, together with other papers that are being prepared, will be discussed during an IMF-sponsored meeting of national accountants and balance-of-payments experts on the revision of A System of National Accounts and the Balance of Payments Manual in 1987.
- 93. Work continued, jointly with the World Bank, on the development and maintenance of national capabilities in the compilation of statistics on state and local governments and on the classification of government capital expenditures by function.
- 94. The first results of the Fund's project on international banking statistics were published in the January 1984 issue of International Financial Statistics. The tables containing the new series are now published regularly in International Financial Statistics. An expansion in the coverage of international banking statistics appearing in International Financial Statistics was published in the March 1985 issue. An IMF pamphlet, "The Fund's international banking statistics", was published in July 1986 and describes compilation methodology, sources of data and possible users of the international banking statistics data.
- 95. In 1984 and 1985 IMF served as host to meetings of the International Compiler's Working Group on External Debt Statistics (ICWGEDS) and provided extensive documentation for the meetings. ICWGEDS is composed of the following five international organizations having major responsibilities in the area of compilation and publication of data on external debt: the Bank of International Settlements, IMF, the International Union of Credit and Investment Insurers, OECD and the World Bank. A meeting of the Technical Subgroup of ICWGEDS was held at Paris in April 1986. IMF is participating in a joint effort with other members of ICWGEDS to produce a publication reviewing conceptual and definitional aspects of

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external debt and presenting the methodology and compilation procedures for external debt statistics collected by each member.

H. Universal Postal Union

Major achievements, including new activities

- 96. The statistical activities of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) have two goals: (a) internationally, to deduce systematically the general trends of postal traffic and the means used to deal with the traffic, as well as the interdependence of postal development and growth in the economic, social and cultural spheres and (b) nationally, to promote the use of statistics by postal administrations as an effective instrument for managing and planning their services.
- 97. Postal statistics in a loose-leaf binder entitled Statistique des services postaux were published for the year 1984 (those for 1985 are in preparation). Data furnished by national postal administrations are submitted to an automatic logical and chronological control; the corrections sent by countries are published each year. Statistical data, collected and published in the annual UPU publication since 1964, have been stored in machine-readable form. Since the beginning of 1982, the Statistics Service has been recording the data on the disk files of the International Bureau's new computer.
- 98. On the basis of existing data, a report on the situation of the postal services during the five years from 1977 to 1981 was prepared for the information of the UPU Congress, held at Hamburg from 18 June to 27 July 1984. That document takes the place of the annual report on the situation of the postal services. Henceforth, only two reports will be published in the period between Congresses, one covering a shorter three-year period and the other a five-year period whose median year is that of the previous Congress. The new report for 1982-1984 is in preparation.
- 99. A consultative group of statisticians has been established to give technical advice to the International Bureau.

I. World Intellectual Property Organization

Major achievements, including new activities

100. Following the increased interest in protection of industrial property under international and regional treaties, and the spectacular growth of that type of protection which is being witnessed, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is fundamentally changing the industrial property statistics it publishes, with the purpose of better reflecting the various facets of industrial property protection applied for, and granted, all over the world.

101. To achieve this aim, a completely new data base, offering improved possibilities in extracting specific data, has been created, and new

questionnaires, requesting the detailed new data from more than 150 countries, have been designed. The new questionnaires have been used for the first time for collecting information relating to industrial property activities during 1985, and replies are being received.

102. On the basis of the detailed data available, the publication <u>Industrial</u>

<u>Property Statistics</u> will more than double in size; therefore it will be published by WIPO in two parts in future: one part will relate to patents and similar industrial property rights, for example, inventors' certificates and utility models, and one part will relate to trademarks, industrial designs, new varieties of plants and micro-organisms.

J. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Major achievements, including new activities

103. The following publications were issued: Industry in the 1980s - Structural Change and Interdependence (biennial issue of the Industrial Development Survey); Handbook of Industrial Statistics 1984; International Comparative Advantage in Manufacturing - Changing Profiles of Resources and Trade; A Statistical Review of the World Industrial Situation, 1984 and 1985; World Industry: A Statistical Review, 1985; Africa in Figures; L'industrie africaine en chiffres, vol. I, Burundi and Mali; vol. II, Benin; and vol. III, Burkina Faso; The UNIDO Data Base: Primary Sources and Data Base Design; Industrial Statistics for Research Purposes, vol. II; An Inventory of Industrial Statistics: UNIDO Data Base, 1985 and 1986; Measuring the Relative Degree of Industrialization; and Structural Change and Comparative Advantage in Manufacturing.

104. On request, UNIDO provided ESCWA with one systems analyst to help install a data base and to train local personnel. Lecturers were provided to the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, to assist in a training workshop for developing countries and to the Ecole internationale de Bordeaux for a course in industrial planning. Various missions (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Sri Lanka and Tunisia) were carried out for technical assistance projects.

105. In view of the recent conversion of UNIDO to a specialized agency, the Organization contemplates changes in its statistical programmes.

K. International Atomic Energy Agency

Major achievements, including new activities

106. In 1984 the Power Reactor Information System (PRIS) became fully operational, allowing the annual reports "Nuclear power reactors in the world" and "Operating experience with power reactors in member States" to be produced direct from the computerized data base. A new questionnaire for the collection of operating experience information was devised by the Agency in co-operation with the Commission of the European Community, the World Energy Conference and the

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International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Energy. The questionnaire permits the collection of additional information, but should not increase the reporting burden for plant operators.

107. The Agency publishes annually a comprehensive overview report entitled "Nuclear power: status and trends", based in particular on data in the Agency's Energy and Economic Data Bank (EEDB) and the Power Reactor Information System. A booklet entitled "Energy, electricity and nuclear power estimates for the period up to 2000" (Reference Data Series No. 1) is published annually, using data from EEDB and PRIS and results of Agency and other international demand projections.

108. The Agency co-operates with industrialized member States and with other international organizations in the use of methodologies for forecasting electricity demand in developing countries as a basis for studying the role of nuclear power. Within this context, a technical committee on "Energy and nuclear power planning: United Nations and other international organization approaches" meets annually.

L. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Major achievements, including new activities

109. Emphasis has been put on the improvement of the timeliness, comparability and internal consistency of the various production, trade, consumption and price statistics collected under the arrangements or agreements concluded under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) (textiles, dairy, bovine meat, civil aircraft, government procurement) and of the data required for customs tariff assessments and economic research projects. For trade statistics, intensive use is made of the data prepared and stored in the COMTRADE system by the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat.

110. The tariff and trade data files have been updated to include the year 1984. Compilation of aggregates or other tariff and trade statistics is being routinely carried out to meet the internal needs of GATT and of the Contracting Parties. A new data base system is being prepared. It will contain information that will be required for the tariff negotiations prior to the introduction of the Harmonized System of the Customs Co-operation Council.

III. OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

World Tourism Organization

Major achievements, including new activities

111. The following statistical publications were issued: World Travel and Tourism Statistics Yearbook (1984 and 1985 editions); Regional Breakdown of World Travel and Tourism Statistics (1984 and 1985 editions); Domestic Travel and Tourism Statistics (1984 and 1985 editions); Traveller Departures and Main Destinations (1984 and 1985 editions); Tourism Compendium (1985 edition) and Methodological

Supplement to World Travel and Tourism Statistics (1985 edition). Monographs on travel and tourism in Africa, the Americas, East Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East and South Asia and monthly bulletins on current tourism trends were also issued.

- 112. The following publications were prepared in relation to development of concepts and methods: Development of a System of Statistical Indicators for Travel and Tourism; Measurement of Travel and Tourism Expenditure; Guidelines for the Collection of Employment Statistics in the Field of Travel and Tourism; Methods of Measuring Domestic Travel and Tourism Suitable for Less-developed Countries and Guidelines for Constructing a Tourism Price Index.
- 113. Within the framework of the operational activities of WTO, a series of technical assistance missions on tourism statistics were conducted in various countries of Africa, North and South America, Asia and the Middle East.
- 114. The following seminars and meetings were held: Working Party on Tourism Statistics of the WTO Commission for Europe; Working Party on Tourism Statistics of the WTO Commission for the Americas; joint meeting with the International Monetary Fund on methodological aspects relating to tourism and the balance of payments and joint meeting with the International Labour Office on the establishment of a Standard Classification of Tourism Occupations.

IV. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Inter-American Statistical Institute

- 115. On 12 March 1985 a new Agreement was signed by the Institute with the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) to regulate the relations between both organizations. The Constitution of the Institute is currently under revision and the new text is expected to be in force in 1987. The proposed new organization will be oriented: (a) to complement the work carried out by other organizations concerning the development of governmental statistics in the American region, and (b) to strengthen the role of the Institute regarding the academic and professional statistical activities. Given the process of revision of the Constitution of the Institute, the operation of the Conference of Governmental Statisticians of the Americas was suspended by the Executive Committee.
- 116. The activities of the Regional Household Survey Development Programme NHSCP/Inter-American Household Survey Programme (PIDEH) are developed in close co-operation with OAS and ECLAC, and depend on the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development. The main activities during the 1984-1985 biennium were the following: national seminars of producers and users of household survey data, held in Honduras, Guatemala and Antigua and Barbuda in October 1984, and in Suriname in June 1985, and the preparation of two technical documents currently under revision. Another national seminar of producers and users of household survey data, as well as a Central American Seminar on Household

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Income and Expenditure Surveys, are being organized to be held in Costa Rica in November 1986.

- 117. Under a programme entitled "Seminars in applied statistics", one seminar per year will be offered. The first seminar, on statistical methods for cyclical and seasonal analyses, is being organized to be held from 31 August to 2 September 1987, at Mar del Plata, Argentina, hosted by the Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata and the Argentine Statistical Society.
- 118. The second session of the Working Group on Agricultural Statistics is being organized jointly with FAO, to be held at Santiago, Chile, from 22 to 26 September 1986.

V. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

119. The Commission may wish to comment on the work of the various international organizations during the period under review.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 6 (E/1985/26), para. 134 (b) and (c).
