

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

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3 May 1986-30 April 1987

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Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 3 May 1986 to 30 April 1987, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 661st meeting on 30 April 1987. It is submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session, 1987, in accordance with paragraph 15 of the Commission's terms of reference.

Chapter I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Issues calling for action by the Economic and Social Council

In-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields

2. At its 661st meeting on 30 April 1987, the Commission, in pursuance of Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112 of 6 February 1987 on an in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields, adopted resolution 262 (XLIII)^{1/} on the above subject for submission to the Special Commission of the Council. In that resolution, the Commission, *inter alia*:

"2. Requests the Special Commission to:

- (a) Examine the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 32/197, 33/202 and 34/206 and work out proposals aimed at further implementation of those resolutions;
- (b) Give particular attention to any problems of inter-agency co-ordination at the regional level and to work out, in close consultation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectors, proposals for improved co-ordination at the regional level;

- (c) Work out proposals for the establishment of a closer inter-governmental linkage between the regional commissions and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in determining United Nations regional programmes so that the Commission's decisions on policies and programmes in the economic and social fields are taken fully into account:

"3. Decides that the existing nine legislative committees of the Commission be reduced to seven, which, tentatively, would meet once every two years for five working days, and authorizes the Executive Secretary to take steps to implement this decision by December 1988;

"4. Decides that sessions of the commission continue to be held on an annual basis and that the duration be shortened to nine or eight working days, as necessary;"

3. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to prepare his report to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council, covering the extent of co-operation with other intergovernmental organs in the region, and making suggestions, as appropriate, which would facilitate the Special Commission's work with respect to United Nations activities in Asia and the Pacific. It also requested the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Special Commission, along with his report, the above resolution and the report on the discussion on item 12 of the agenda of the forty-third session.

^{1/} For the full text of the resolution, see chapter IV below. See also chapter III, paragraphs 796-805.

**Venue of the forty-fourth session
of the Commission**

4. At the 660th meeting of the Commission on 29 April 1987, the Government of Indonesia offered to hold the forty-fourth session of the Commission in Indonesia in 1988. The Government of Indonesia also agreed to defray the actual additional cost directly or indirectly involved in holding the session away from the headquarters of the Commission.

5. At the same meeting, the Commission accepted the invitation of the Government of Indonesia and unanimously decided to hold its forty-fourth session in Indonesia, in accordance with paragraph 4 (f) of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

**B. Resolutions brought to the attention
of the Economic and
Social Council**

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 259 (XLIII). | Declaration on the fortieth anniversary of ESCAP |
| 260 (XLIII). | ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development |
| 261 (XLIII). | Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries |
| 262 (XLIII). | In-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields |
| 263 (XLIII). | Social aspects of human resources development |

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE FORTY -SECOND SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

6. During the year under review, the following meetings of ministers and of subsidiary bodies were held: Ministers of Trade (in lieu of the Committee on Trade); Ministers of Industry and Technology (in lieu of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment); Committee on Natural Resources; Committee on Development Planning; and Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing). Details of the dates and bureaux of these meetings are given in annex III.

Committee on Agricultural Development

7. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

FADINAP Training of Trainers for Fertilizer Retailers in Thailand, Bangkok, April 1986

PRODEC (Programme for Development Cooperation, Helsinki School of Economics)/Kemira Oy/ITC/FADINAP Seminar on Import Management of Chemical Fertilizers, Helsinki, Finland, and Rotterdam, Netherlands, May 1986

CISTA (Information Centre for Agricultural Science and Technology, Viet Nam)/ESCAP Workshop on Farm Broadcasting, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, July-August 1986

Seminar on the Responsibility System in Agricultural Production in China, Huang District, August-September 1986

ASTRO (International Association of State Trading Organizations of Developing Countries)/FADINAP Technical Meeting on Co-operation among State Trading Organizations in Fertilizers, Jakarta, October 1986

FADINAP Fertilizer Retailers Training Course, Pattaya, Thailand, October-November 1986

FADINAP Regional Training Workshop on Fertilizer Information Transfer, Bangkok, November 1986

FADINAP Training Course on Negotiation Techniques for Fertilizer Importers, Bangkok, November 1986

ARSAP/International Health Development Foundation (Amsterdam) Consultation on Pesticide Activities in Asia and the Pacific, Amsterdam, November 1986

Expert Consultation on the Economics of Dryland and Rainfed Farming, Dhaka, November 1986

Regional Workshop on utilization of Agricultural Residues as Energy Source for Productive Activities, Bangkok, November 1986

TCDC Study Tour for Burmese Fertilizer Sector Executives to India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, November-December 1986

FADINAP/FAO/Sulphur Institute/ACIAR (Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research) Symposium on Fertilizer Sulphur Requirements and Sources in Developing Countries of Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, January 1987

8. The following advisory services were provided during the period under review:

(a) The FADINAP industrial adviser (fertilizers) assisted in a review of the development plans of the fertilizer industry in Pakistan, discussed the outlook for the exploitation of local phosphate rock deposits and advised on problems relating to the production of compound fertilizers by blending and compacting;

(b) FADINAP conducted a study on fertilizer pricing policies and subsidies in Nepal to assist in the formulation of guidelines for planning in this sector of the agricultural development of Nepal:

(c) With regard to the potential use of indigenous phosphate rock as a source of fertilizer in Sri Lanka, FADINAP provided samples of the deposits to the International Co-operation Center of Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD) in Montpellier, France for analysis. FADINAP further assisted CIRAD representatives in their investigations in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand on the prospects of using locally-available phosphate rock for fertilizer production:

(d) In co-operation with the ECDC-TCDC Services of the ESCAP secretariat, FADINAP sent a team of three experts from the Asian region to Panama under TCDC arrangements, to study the operation of MULTIFERT, a multinational fertilizer marketing enterprise which is active in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The aim of the study was to consider the feasibility of establishing a similar organization in the Asian region:

(e) FADINAP provided the services of a senior consultant on information development to Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand in connection with the establishment of national centres participating in the FADINAP network of fertilizer information systems:

(f) FADINAP continued to provide specific trade information to agencies in member countries and to international organizations, upon request:

(g) The FADINAP Information/Documentation Unit provided bibliographic and reprographic services and circulated news items on the fertilizer situation in the region to interested parties.

9. The following technical publications and studies were produced or were under preparation during the period under review:

(a) *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* (quarterly)

(b) *Agro-chemicals News in Brief* (quarterly), with two special issues

(c) *Calendar of Meetings on Agro-chemicals* (quarterly)

(d) *Directory of Sources of Fertilizer-related Information with Special Reference to Asia and the Pacific, 1986*

(e) *FADINAP Fertilizer Trade Information* (monthly)

(f) *Operationalizing Local-level Planning: Country Studies*

(g) *RISS, Regional Information Support Services: An Abstract Journal on Fertilizer-related Subjects* (monthly)

(h) *Safe Handling and Application of Agro-pesticides* (safety guide translated into the Thai and Urdu languages)

(i) *Study on the Feasibility of Establishing a Multinational Fertilizer Marketing Enterprise for Asia and the Pacific*

(j) *Supply, Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizers in Bangladesh* (updated report)

(k) *Supply, Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizers in Burma* (updated report)

(l) *Supply, Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizers in the Republic of Korea* (updated report)

(m) *Supply, Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizers in Sri Lanka* (updated report)

(n) "The concept and practice of fertilizer promotion in Asia"

(o) "Fertilize(trade information telex" (fortnightly)

(p) "Proceedings of the Symposium on Fertilizer Sulphur Requirements and Sources in Developing Countries of Asia and the Pacific"

(q) "Report of the Technical Meeting on Co-operation among State Trading Organizations in Fertilizers"

(r) "Survey of fertilizer marketing costs and margins in the Asian and Pacific region 1984/85"

Committee on Development Planning

Development issues and policies

10. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Workshop on External Debt Management, Bangkok, May 1986

Training Course on the Application of Economic and Mathematical Methods in Development Planning, Moscow and Kishinev, May-June 1986

Seminar on Development Experience in Developing Countries in the ESCAP Region, Beijing, Changzhou, Wuxi, Suzhou and Shenzhen, May-June 1986

First Meeting of Consultants for the Study on Feasibility of Establishing an Institute of Public Finance, Bangkok, August 1986

World Project LINK Meeting, Bangkok, September 1986

National Training Course on Project Preparation and Planning, Thimphu, September 1986

Training Course on Planning Agro-industrial Complexes, Moscow, September-October 1986

Training Course on Project Preparation and Planning, Male, September-October 1986

Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies, Bangkok, October 1986

Workshop on Mobilization of Domestic Savings in Bhutan, Thimphu, October 1986

Training Course on Project Preparation and Planning, Kathmandu, December 1986-January 1987

Second Meeting of Consultants for the Study on the Feasibility of Establishing an Institute of Public Finance, Bangkok, February 1987

Training Course on Planning Techniques and Project Preparation and Planning, Vientiane, February-March 1987

Regional Seminar on Project Planning and Implementation, Bangkok, March-April 1987

11. The following advisory services were undertaken:

(a) To the Republic of Korea, to consult government officials about future projects of joint interest:

(b) To the Philippines, to complete arrangements for technical assistance in the construction of the Philippines forecasting model with the National Economic and Development Authority and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies:

(c) To Hong Kong, to discuss the updating and maintenance of the Hong Kong model and its transfer to Project LINK:

(d) To Tokyo, to participate in the Workshop on Human Resources Development:

(e) To Pattaya, Thailand, to participate in the International Seminar on Human Resource Development:

(f) To Viet Nam, to advise on major economic problems and issues of international co-operation in the region:

(g) To India, to participate in the International Seminar on Development Experience in Third World Asian Countries, Calcutta:

(h) To Pattaya, Thailand, to participate in the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the ILO Inter-country Project's Asian Regional Programme on International Labour Migration:

(i) To Malaysia, to participate in the fifth session of the APDC Management Board, Kuala Lumpur:

(j) To India and Bangladesh, to discuss with government officials and research institutions development policies relating to human resources Development;

(k) To the Philippines and Singapore, to discuss current economic and social developments with government Officials;

(l) To China, to review progress of work and to advise on econometric modelling of China and to attend the APDC Conference on Asia-Pacific Economy Towards Year 2000 held at Beijing:

(m) To Fiji and Australia, to discuss the formulation of UNDP/ESCAP projects relating to the Pacific islands.

12. The following technical publications and studies were produced:

(a) Development Papers, Nos. 5 and 6

(b) Development Planning Newsletter, No.4, April 1986, and No.5, August, 1986

(c) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986

(d) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, vol. XXXVI, No.2, December 1985 and val. XXXVII, No. I, June 1986

(e) "Major policy issues for domestic resource mobilization in selected ESCAP member countries"

(f) "Mobilization of domestic savings in Bhutan"

(g) "Mobilization of rural savings in Thailand"

(h) "A study on mobilization of domestic savings in the Republic of Korea"

13. Studies were conducted on econometric forecasts of interregional trade flows and their implications for fostering subregional and regional co-operation and on the feasibility of establishing an institute of public finance for Asia and the Pacific.

14. Further steps were taken as continuing activities to implement the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, including special measures in support of such countries in the region as well as to report progress in the implementation and monitoring of the Programme in the region and inputs into the global review process.

15. Advisory activities and studies were undertaken to assist the Pacific island countries in their economic and social development.

Transnational corporations

16. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

NESDB (National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand)/UNDP/UNCTC Seminar on the Role of Transnational Corporations in Thailand, Pattaya, Thailand, August 1986

Joint Thai/IDRC (International Development Research Centre)/UNCTC/IBI (Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics)/ASEAN Regional Seminar on Transborder Data Flow Impacts, Bangkok, November 1986

17. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To China, Hong Kong, Malaysia and the Philippines, to assist the respective Governments with projects relating to transnational corporations:

(b) To Thailand, to assist the Government in assessing the foreign investment climate in Thailand.

18. The following technical publications were produced during the period under review:

(a) *Proceedings of the State Science and Technology Commission of China/UNCTC/ESCAP Asia-Pacific Training Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating Technology Transfer through Transnational Corporations, 14-25 October 1985, Fuzhou, Fujian, China*

(b) *Technology Transfer under Alternative Arrangements with Transnational Corporations: Selected Industrial Case Studies for Thailand*

(c) *Transnational Corporations and External Financial Flows of Developing Economies in Asia and the Pacific*

(d) *Transnational Corporations in the Electronics Industries of ASEAN*

19. The following research activities were undertaken: (a) studies under phase II of the research project on transnational corporations from developing Asian economies: (b) studies under the project on transnational corporations and the environment: and (c) case study for the interregional project on external lending of transnational banks.

20. The Joint Unit continued to collect, analyse and disseminate basic information related to transnational corporation activities in the region, including information and/or research publications on: laws, regulations and general policies pertaining to them; foreign direct investment flows and non-equity arrangements; and data sources, research activities and information services pertaining to or carried out in the region. Activities to further the development of national information systems on transnational corporations and the establishment of a regional information network continued.

21. The Joint Unit provided inputs into:

(a) Workshop on Foreign Investment Policies for Industrial Transformation of Asian Countries, organized by the Resource Systems Institute, East-West Center and the Southeast Asian Central Banks Research and Training Centre Association, Bangkok, September 1986;

(b) International Seminar on Strategies for Industrial Development, organized by APDC and the Korea Development Institute, Kuala Lumpur and Seoul, October 1986;

(c) APDC Project Planning Meeting for Programme Cycle 1987-1989, Kuala Lumpur, December 1986;

(d) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986;

(e) Research, information and advisory activities undertaken by UNCTC, including preparation of the project proposal for a forthcoming workshop on transfer pricing and joint ventures in China; communication of requests for advisory assistance and technical co-operation to the Centre; and assistance to it in identifying consultants and experts from the region.

Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment

Industrial development

22. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Monitoring Meeting on Energy Conservation in Small- and Medium-scale Industries, Kathmandu, July 1986

Workshop on Implementation of the

Project on Energy Conservation in Small- and Medium-scale Industries, Lad Krabang, Thailand July 1986

Workshop on Technology and Management Needs for Industrial Development in the CHOGRM Region, Bangkok, July-August 1986

Meeting of Senior Officials Preceding the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology, Bangkok, September 1986

ESCAP/UNIDO Technical Working Group on Production and Use of Machine Tools in the Engineering Industries in ESCAP Developing Countries, Singapore, November 1986

Regional Workshop on Energy Conservation in Small- and Medium-scale Industries, Bangkok, January 1987

Workshop/Study Tour on Development of Battery-operated Electric Vehicles for Urban. Application, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, March 1987

23. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To Bangladesh, to provide assistance in identifying critical growth sectors and advise on industrial policy;

(b) To Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Thailand, to advise on joint ventures and foreign investment;

(c) To China, to advise on the promotion of small-scale industries and science and technology policies;

(d) To Fiji, to advise on the industrial development plan;

(e) To Maldives, to assist in a pre-feasibility analysis of small-scale production of lime;

(f) To Nauru, to advise on technical assistance needs in industrial development;

(g) To Niue, to assist in drafting a white paper on the manufacturing sector;

(h) To Vanuatu, to assist in the planning for an industrial information service and to provide advice on training possibilities.

24. The following publications and studies were issued or prepared during the period under review:

(a) *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No.21, 1986

(b) "Development of small- and medium-scale industries"

(c) "Local needs of machine, tools in the least developed countries of the ESCAP region"

(d) "Report of the ESCAP/REDP A-2 project on energy conservation in small- and medium-scale industries"

(e) "Review of industrial progress and consideration of special needs for industrialization in (i) least developed countries and (ii) island developing countries"

(f) "Review of recent industrial progress and main policy issues"

(g) "raining manual on energy management"

Science and technology

25. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Science and Technology Policy, Planning and Management, China, Japan and Republic of Korea, July-August 1986

Seminar on International Trade and Collaboration, Nanjing, China, October 1986

Roving Seminar on Acquisition of Foreign Technologies and Negotiation and Execution of Contracts, Seoul and Pusan, October 1986

Meeting of Heads of Standards Institutions on the Exchange of Experience and Strengthening of Co-operation among ESCAP Developing Countries in Standardization, Quality Control and Metrology, Beijing, November 1986

Seminar on the Acquisition of Foreign Technologies and Negotiation and Execution of Contracts, Jakarta, November 1986

Seminar and Training Course on the Evaluation, Design and Implementation of Photovoltaic Systems in Developing Countries, Jogjakarta and Jakarta, January 1987

Roving Seminar on Acquisition of Foreign Technologies and Negotiation and Execution of Contracts, Anhui Province, China, February 1987

26. The secretariat worked jointly with APCTT in the following meetings:

Meeting on the Technology Atlas Project, Bangalore, India, August 1986

Technical Advisory Committee of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (second session), Bangalore, India, October 1986

Governing Board of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (first session), New Delhi, November 1986

Workshop on Technological Considerations in National Development, New Delhi, November 1986

27. The secretariat worked jointly with RNAM in the following meetings:

International Workshop on Agricultural Machinery Testing Technology, Beijing, October 1986

Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (eleventh session), Tehran, October 1986

Governing Body of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (ninth session), Denpasar, Indonesia, November 1986

28. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To China, to advise on the training of patent attorneys and licensing:

(b) To Fiji, to advise on the acquisition of a waste oil refining plant, joint ventures and technology transfer contracts:

(c) To Malaysia, to advise on technology transfer legislation;

(d) To Thailand, to advise on medical patents.

29. The following studies were produced or in preparation during the period under review:

(a) "Aluminium production; development and assessment of technologies in the ESCAP region"

(b) "Foundry industry in developing countries of the ESCAP region"

(c) "Implications of power metallurgy"

(d) "Issues in application of technology for socio-economic development"

(e) "Regional review and assessment of standardization activities and issues for consideration"

(f) "Special considerations on energy conservation in the iron and steel industry of the ESCAP region"

(g) "Successful commercialization of research and development findings"

Human settlements

30. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Low-cost Shelter Projects in Sri Lanka, September-October 1986

Regional Forum on Managing Civic Services in Intermediate Cities, Bangkok, October 1986

Symposium on Building Materials for Low-income Housing in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, January 1987

International Conference on Human Settlements in Developing Countries, with Emphasis on Finance and Management, Bombay, January 1987

Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for Follow-up of the Yokohama Congress (second session), Yokohama, February 1987

31. As requested by several United Nations bodies, national governmental and non-governmental institutions, the secretariat participated in and provided technical inputs into the following activities: (a) Commission on Human Settlements (ninth session), Istanbul, May 1986; (b) Second Technical Board Meeting of the UNDP/UNIDO project, "Regional network in Asia for low-cost building technologies and construction systems", July 1986; (c) Workshop on Micro-computer Applications to Human Settlements, Bangkok, August 1986; (d) Seminar on a Way to Tackle Slum Problems, Bangkok, November 1986; (e) Regional Working Group on the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme, November 1986; (f) Regional Workshop on Women in Agriculture: Final Evaluation, Bangkok, November 1986; (g) UNEP/SACEP (South Asian Cooperative Environment Programme) Meeting of Experts on the South Asian Seas Regional Programme, Bangkok, December 1986; (h) Seminar on Bangkok Metropolitan Regional Development Programmes, Bangkok, December 1986; and (i) Regional Seminar on Major National Urban Policy Issues, Manila, February 1987.

32. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Sri Lanka, to advise government officials and non-governmental organizations on inputs required and necessary preparations for the Nagoya Congress, and to identify possible areas of co-operation in the context of a network of local authorities;

(b) To Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines, for consultation on the field work for the study, workshop and seminar on land use in major cities with focus on metropolitan fringe development;

(c) To Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand, in connection with their participation in the project on promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies in the building and construction industry;

(d) To Indonesia and Sri Lanka, for the promotion of employment-generating activities and organizational framework in relation to rural centre and settlements planning.

33. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) Rural Centre and Settlement Planning in Asia and the Pacific: Report of the International Seminars on Rural Centre and Settlement Planning, New Delhi and Hangzhou, July 1985

(b) "Integration of spatial considerations into planning for industry and technology"

Environment

34. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Seminar and Study Tour on Integrated Control of Desertification, China, June 1986

Roving Seminar on Environment and Media, China, June 1986

Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control, Bangkok, September 1986

High-level Consultative Meeting on Problems and Prospects of Environmental Management in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, November 1986

National Seminar on Environmental Management for Administrators in Pakistan, Lahore, January 1987

35. Technical inputs were provided into:

(a) ASEAN Expert Group on the Environment, ninth meeting, Singapore, April 1986

(b) Co-ordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia, fifth meeting, Singapore, April 1986

(c) ESCAP/AIT Workshop on the Second Cycle of the Regional Energy Development Programme, Bangkok, June 1986

(d) Meeting of the National Forum of Environmental Journalists, Kathmandu, June 1986

(e) Meeting of the Chinese Forum of Environmental Journalists. Beijing, June 1986

(f) Environmental Planning and Management Course, Kuala Lumpur, July 1986

(g) Meeting of Experts on the South Asian Seas Regional Programme, Bangkok, December 1986

(h) Meeting of Experts on the East Asian Sea Action Plan, December 1986

(i) Second National Environment Congress. Bhopal, India, December 1986

36. The following technical assistance missions/activities were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) Development of the coastal environmental management plan and of an audio-visual module for Bangladesh;

(b) Discussions of and advice on water pollution control. in the pulp and paper industries in Shanxi Province. And on domestic and industrial waste-water treatment systems in Loyang, Henan Province, China;

(c) Discussions of and advice on water pollution control in the Embilipitaya Paper Mills, and suggestions on possible modifications of the treatment plant and appropriate pollution monitoring systems, Sri Lanka;

(d) Establishment of and technical assistance to national forums of environmental journalists in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal and Pakistan;

(e) Promotion of environmental awareness. especially among youth and school children, through the non-governmental organization ENVIRO MEDIA, New Delhi;

(f) Review of experience in agricultural ecology in Thailand, in collaboration with a team of Chinese experts;

(g) Contribution to and observance of World Environment Day, China.

37. The following technical publications and studies were produced or under preparation:

(a) *Environmental and Socio-economic Aspects of Tropical Deforestation: Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting*

(b) *ESCAP Environment News* (quarterly)

(c) *Integration of Environment into Development Institutional and Legislative Aspects: Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting*

(d) "Assessment of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification"

(e) "Coastal environmental management plan of Bangladesh"

(f) "Environmental aspects of production, marketing and use of pesticides in the ESCAP region"

(g) "Environmental impact assessment (EIA) guidelines on water resources development projects"

(h) "Experience of training in the field of environmental administration"

(i) "Feasibility study for the establishment of a regional mangrove research institute"

(j) "Highway planning and the environment: the North American experience"

(k) "Regional network of research and training centres on desertification control"

(l) "Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control"

(m) "State of the environment report for Asia and the Pacific" (updated version)

38. ESCAP also participated in: (a) the Regional Conference for Consideration and Review of SPREP (South Pacific Regional Environment Programme) Work Programme for 1987-1988, Noumea, September 1986

(b) the High-level Meeting to Adopt the SPREP Convention, Noumea, November 1986

(c) SACEP Governing Council (third meeting), New Delhi, January 1987.

39. The activities of the secretariat network of environmental focal points,

comprising experts from 14 divisions/units/special projects, were further strengthened with the organization of meetings and periodic consultations, with a view to enhancing the process of environmental integration into the overall work programme of the Commission. Furthermore, the Environmental Coordinating Unit continued consultations and interaction with:

(a) Agriculture Division, in the preparation of a regional study on the environmental aspects of production, marketing and use of pesticides, with special emphasis on the potential impacts on the aquatic environment;

(b) Social Development Division, in the development of a project on the role of women in environmental protection and management;

(c) Transport, Communications and Tourism Division, in (i) organization of the Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment of Road Transport Development; and (ii) methodologies and experience with environmental impact assessment of road transport development in selected developed countries;

(d) Natural Resources Division, in environmental impact assessment guidelines for water resources development projects;

(e) ESCAP/UNIDO Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Technology, in the training of industrial managers on environmental issues;

(f) ECDC-TCDC Services, in environmental considerations in ECDC-TCDC activities; ,

(g) Information Service, in the preparation and publication of a brochure on the activities of the Unit, as well as the publicity for the fortieth anniversary of the Commission.

40. Close co-operation was maintained with other United Nations organizations and agencies, particularly with UNEP, FAO, UNESCO and WHO in the implementation of the work programme of ESCAP in the field of the environment. This co-operation resulted in the establishment of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres for Desertification Control.

Active co-operation was also maintained with the regional environment programmes, communications media and non-governmental organizations.

Committee on Natural Resources

Energy resources

41. The following meetings, seminars and training courses were held during the period under review:

First Training Course on Coal Utilization in Industry, Taejon, Republic of Korea, April-May 1966; Second Training Course, Ranchi, India, December 1966

Steering Committee of the Regional Energy Development Programme Inter-agency Inter-institutional Working Group and Tripartite Project Review (fourth session), Bangkok, June 1966

First Training Course in Least Developed Countries on Techniques of Energy Planning, Kathmandu, June 1986; Second Training Course, Dhaka, November 1986

Expert Group Meeting on the Evaluation, Design and Implementation of Solar Photovoltaic Systems in Developing Countries, Bangkok, June 1966

Second Meeting of Focal Points on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, followed by Consultative Meeting on the New and Renewable Sources of Energy Development Programme, Bangkok, September 1966

Expert Group Meeting on Trans-country Power Exchange and Development, Bangkok, September 1966

Workshop on Natural Gas Utilization, Bangkok, September-October 1966

Asian Forum on Energy Policy, Bangkok, October 1966

High-level Meeting on Trans-country Power Exchange and Development, Bangkok, November 1966

Seminar-cum-Training Course on the Evaluation, Design and Implementation of Solar Photovoltaic Systems in Developing Countries, Jogjakarta and Jakarta, Indonesia, January 1987

Workshop on Electric Power System Optimization, Kuala Lumpur, April 1987

42. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(1) The regional adviser on energy provided advisory services to:

(a) The Government of Thailand: (i) the Ministry of Industry, on questions related to the rationalization of energy use in Thai industry; (ii) Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research, on fuel combustion technology and rice husk utilization for power generation; and (iii) the National Energy Administration, on energy conservation issues;

(b) The Government of Malaysia, on: (i) programming and development of energy research programmes of the Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia; and (ii) the development of energy conservation activities in the industrial sector of Malaysia;

(c) The Government of Fiji, on energy conservation and electric power generation;

(d) The Government of Solomon Islands, on electric power generation and energy conservation;

(e) The Government of Kiribati, on electric power generation.

(2) An advisory mission to Fiji consulted with the Department of Energy on contract management problems relating to bulk petroleum supplies, government-petroleum company relations and long-term modelling of impacts of energy price and policy changes on the Fiji economy.

43. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) *Coal Exploration, Evaluation and Exploitation (Coal Series, vol. 5)*

(b) *Compendium of Solar Photovoltaic Technology Research, Development and Demonstration Projects in the Asia/Pacific Region*

(c) *Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific 1983 and 1984*

(d) *ESCAP Energy News*, vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 2

(e) *LNG/LPG/CNG/Methanol/Hydrogen Trade-offs Study*

(f) *Proceedings of the Regional Expert Seminar on Solar Photovoltaic Technology*

(g) *Strengthening Energy Planning and Policy Analysis Capabilities*

(h) *Study on Trans-country Power Exchange and Development*

(i) *Technologies for Coal Utilization in Industry (Coal Series, vol. 4)*

(j) "Energy conservation and solar energy utilization in tobacco curing"

(k) "Renewable energy planning: methodological aspects of assessment of new and renewable sources of energy and integrated planning"

(l) "Review of rural application of biogas technology in China, India, Nepal and Thailand"

(m) "Structural change and energy policy"

(n) "Use of coal in households and small-scale industries"

44. The following technical reports prepared by the regional adviser on energy were submitted to the concerned Governments: (a) "Energy rationalization in Thai industries"; (b) "Energy issues in the industrial sector of Malaysia"; (c) "Study on energy intensity in the Thai sugar industry"; (d) "Programme of industrial conservation activities in Malaysia"; (e) "Energy conservation issues

in Thailand"; (f) "Industrial energy conservation implementation programme in Thailand"; (g) "Energy conservation issues in Fiji industrial sector".

45. In connection with the Second Meeting of Focal Points on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, consultation missions were undertaken in China, Fiji, Guam, Republic of Korea and Tonga.

46. Missions were undertaken to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal to evaluate the field work of the regional energy development programme (REDP) activity on rural energy planning studies and to guide implementation.

47. Missions were undertaken by the solar energy expert of the biomass, solar and wind energy network to India, the Philippines and Sri Lanka in connection with an assessment study of the contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to regional energy supplies.

48. Consultative missions were undertaken to various donor countries/organizations to mobilize resources for the project package identified by the Second Meeting of Focal Points on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and the Consultative Meeting on the New and Renewable Sources of Energy Development Programme.

49. The secretariat continued to provide technical support to REDP and the Pacific energy development programme (PEDP). The Energy Resources Section participated in the UNDP evaluation mission on PEDP, helped service the SPEC/PEDP Ministerial Regional Petroleum Meeting, Suva, May 1986, and also contributed to the process of REDP and PEDP second cycle project formulation.

50. The secretariat attended and contributed technical papers to meetings and seminars in the field of energy development organized by other organizations, including the Asian Development Bank, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), the Law Association for Asia and the Pacific, the Tata Energy Research Institute (India), UNESCO and the World Bank.

Mineral resources

51. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques for Geological Mapping and Mineral Prospecting, Moscow, June 1986

Study Meeting on Mineral Resource Assessment for National Planning and Policy Formulation, Bandung, Indonesia, July 1986

Workshop on Occurrence, Exploration and Development of Fertilizer Minerals in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, August-September 1986

Seminar on Geological Mapping in the Urban Environment, Bangkok, October 1986

Workshop on Geochemical Exploration Methods in a Tropical Rainforest Environment, Ho Chi Minh City, November-December 1986

52. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) *Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region*, vol. III, containing explanatory brochure with geological and mineral distribution maps of the Republic of Korea

(b) *ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy VI*, vol. XII, containing data on 19 sedimentary basins of Viet Nam

(c) *Fertilizer Minerals in Asia and the Pacific* (Mineral Concentrations and Hydrocarbon Accumulations in the ESCAP Region, vol. 1 of the series)

(d) *Oil and Natural Gas Resources in the ESCAP Region* (Mineral Concentrations and Hydrocarbon Accumulations in the ESCAP Region, vol. 2 of the series)

(e) *Triennial Review of Mineral Development Activities in the ESCAP Region, 1982-1984*

(f) The "Triassic atlas of stratigraphy" was being processed.

53. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To Maldives and Sri Lanka, to assess and identify mineral and water resources potential, to collect up-to-date

information for ESCAP ongoing and planned projects on an inventory of mineral and hydrocarbon resources in the region, and to recommend ways to explore and develop those resources:

(b) To Indonesia and Malaysia, to verify the interest of their appropriate organizations in and support for future activities with ESCAP in the mineral sector, including co-operation with RMRDC.

54. The secretariat participated in the following meetings:

Fourth Circum-Pacific Conference on Energy and Mineral Resources, Singapore, August 1986; Symposium on Developments in Quaternary Geological Research in East and Southeast Asia during the Last Decade, Bangkok, October 1986; Governing Council of the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre (ninth session), Bangkok, January 1987; Eleventh Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, January 1987; Symposium on Fertilizer Sulphur Requirements and Sources in Developing Countries of Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, January 1987.

55. The secretariat continued to provide technical support to RMRDC, SEATRADC and the regional remote sensing programme.

Water resources

56. The following meetings/workshops were held during the period under review:

Intergovernmental Meeting on the Establishment of, a Regional Network for Training in Water Resources Development, Bangkok, May 1986

Workshop on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Water Resources Development, Seoul, October-November 1986

Typhoon Committee (nineteenth session), Bangkok, October-November 1986

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (seventeenth session), Bangkok, July 1986; (eighteenth session), Bangkok, November 1986

57. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) The regional adviser on water resources carried out advisory missions to: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand:

(b) A staff member attended the monthly meetings of the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority and provided advisory services on prevention and mitigation of floods.

58. The following reports were presented to the Committee on Natural Resources at its thirteenth session: (a) "Progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan summary of government responses": (b) "Progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan - review of progress": (c) "Environmental issues of water resources development in the ESCAP region": (d) "Development of ground-water resources"; (e) "The potential for small dams and mini-hydropower generation in the least developed countries and developing island countries".

59. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) *Confluence* (semi-annual newsletter)

(b) *Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on the Improvement of Disaster Prevention Systems Based on Risk Analysis of Natural Disasters Related to Typhoons and Heavy Rainfall*

(c) *Proceedings of the Regional Seminar on Systems Analysis for Water Resources Development* (Water Resources Series, No.61)

(d) *Register of ESCAP Regional Water Specialists Available for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries*, Supplement to the first edition

(e) *Water Resources Journal* (quarterly)

(f) Four reports on advisory missions to Bangladesh, Burma, Indonesia and Thailand, on accelerated local manufacture of hand pumps for rural water supply.

60. The secretariat co-operated with WMO in organizing and servicing the thirteenth session of the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones, convened at Rangoon, and the

extraordinary session of the Typhoon Committee, held at Manila in March 1986. The secretariat continued its support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, by participating in the workshops organized by the Committee, and by reviewing the documents for and participating in its twenty-third session, held at Chiang Mai, Thailand, in June-July 1986.

Cartography and remote sensing

61. Activities on cartography and remote sensing during the period under review were implemented mainly by the regional remote sensing programme. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Meeting of the Directors of the Remote Sensing Centres/Programmes in the ESCAP Region, Colombo, May 1986

Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme (third session), Colombo, May 1986

Tripartite Review Meeting on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme, Colombo, May 1986

Interim Review Meeting on Pilot Projects on Coastal Zone Dynamics, Bangkok, August 1986

Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Monitoring, Dhaka, November 1986

62. The following training course and workshops were organized during the period under review:

(a) Regional Training Course on the Application of Remote Sensing to Coastal Zone Planning and Management, Manila, October 1986

(b) Workshop on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Water Resources Development, Seoul, October-November 1986

(c) International Workshop on Urban and Regional Planning Information Systems, New Delhi, December 1986

63. The geology and coastal zone pilot study jointly undertaken by China and Sri Lanka under regional remote sensing programme sponsorship was completed, and the reports presented at the Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques for Geological Mapping and Mineral Prospecting, and the Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Monitoring. A forestry mapping pilot study in Papua New Guinea was also completed. Pilot studies on coastal zone dynamics in Bangladesh and India were nearing completion. Five other pilot projects were initiated; one of these (on Pacific resources) was subcontracted to the University of the South Pacific, Suva.

64. The regional information system continued to collect information on remote sensing scientists and specialists, on remote sensing projects and facilities, and for the bibliographic data base. The microcomputers of the programme were used to prepare the computerized lists.

65. The following publications and technical papers were produced during the period under review:

(a) *Remote Sensing Applications to Highland Development: Proceedings of the Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing to Highland Development*

(b) *Remote Sensing Centres/Programmes in the ESCAP Region: Proceedings of the Meeting of the Directors of the Remote Sensing Centres/Programmes in the ESCAP Region*

(c) *Remote Sensing in the Pacific Islands: Reports of the Pacific Island Regional Remote Sensing Workshop and Training Course on Resource Mapping*

(d) *Remote Sensing in Vegetation Studies: Report of the Training Course on Remote Sensing Techniques Applied to Vegetation Studies*

(e) *Remote Sensing Newsletter* (four quarterly issues)

(f) "Report of the International Workshop on Urban and Regional Planning Information Systems"

(g) "Report of the Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing

Techniques for Geological Mapping and Mineral Prospecting"

(h) "Report of the Regional Seminar on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Monitoring"

(i) "Report of the Regional Workshop on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Water Resources Development"

(j) "Report on the Expert Group Meeting on Remote Sensing Training and Education in the ESCAP Region"

66. The UNDP-funded project RAS/81/034, under which the regional remote sensing programme has operated, was completed on 31 December 1986. An evaluation mission was fielded by UNDP in June 1986. This mission recommended the extension of the project for a period of five years, starting from 1 January 1987. The regional remote sensing programme accordingly entered its second phase on that date.

Marine resources

67. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To Sri Lanka, to collect information on current or planned government programmes and projects on exploration or development of marine mineral and energy resources, and to inform that country of relevant current or planned ESCAP programmes;

(b) To Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand, to collect and analyse data for the preparation of a study on mineral sand resources in the ESCAP region (mission undertaken by Australian experts);

(c) To Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka, to assess capabilities and needs for assistance in the area of marine affairs.

68. The secretariat participated in the following meetings:

(a) Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (CCOP/SOPAC) (fifteenth session), Rarotonga, September 1986; (b) Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting

for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (COOP) (twenty-third session), Madang, Papua New Guinea, November 1986: and (c) First Conference on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in Marine Affairs in the Indian Ocean, Final Phase, January 1987.

69. The collection and analysis of information on developments pertaining to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in the ESCAP region were in progress.

70. The secretariat continued to provide technical support to CCOP and COOP/SOPAC.

Committee on Population

71. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Second Study Directors' Meeting on Comparative Study on Demographic-economic Interrelationships for Selected ESCAP Countries, Bangkok, March 1986

Final Meeting of Study Directors on Analysis of Trends and Patterns of Mortality in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, May 1986

Inter-country Meeting on Strategies for Strengthening Linkages between the HELLIS (WHO Health Literature and Library Information Services) and Asia-Pacific POPIN Information Networks, Bangkok, June-July 1986

First Study Directors' Meeting on the Study on the Knowledge and Attitudes of Grass-roots Family Planning Workers about Contraceptive Methods: Implications for Management, Bangkok, July 1986: Second Meeting, Bangkok, February 1987

Final Meeting of the Study Directors on the Pilot Study on the Role of Community Communication Networks in the Acceptance and Continuance of Family Planning Practice, Chiang Mai, Thailand, September 1986

Meeting on the Emerging Issues of the Aging of Population, Bangkok, September 1986

Seminar on Mortality and Health Issues, Beijing, October 1986

Asia-Pacific POPIN Expert Working Group on Population Information Networking, Beijing, October 1986

Workshop on Training in the Use of Microcomputers for Demographic Analysis, Survey Data Processing and Family Planning Evaluation, Bangkok, November 1986

Seminar on Population Policies for Top-level Policy Makers and Programme Managers, Phuket, Thailand, January 1987

Workshop on an Analytical Framework for Population and Development Research and Planning, Bangkok, February 1987

72. The following training activities were organized:

(a) Nine training programmes/courses etc. in population data and information/microcomputer applications for officials from Burma, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand and Viet Nam

(b) Two study tour programmes, including one for POPIN-Africa members to study the ASEAN-POPIN programme

(c) Nineteen fellowships were awarded to selected member countries for training in population sciences at the International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay, India

(d) Nine trainees from the China Population Information Centre were granted fellowships to pursue academic fellowship-internship programmes in the United Kingdom and the United States.

73. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To the Republic of Korea, in tabulation and analysis of data from the Korean National Migration Survey, and in organization and preparation of the report of the International Symposium on National Migration Surveys in Asia, held at Seoul;

(b) To Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, to conduct studies and build models on demographic-economic interrelationships for the purpose of population and development policy formulation and planning;

(c) To China and the Republic of Korea, on implementation of country studies on emerging issues of the aging of population;

(d) To Thailand, on the preparation of population projections for the sixth five-year National Economic and Social Development Plan;

(e) To Pakistan, to lecture at the training of trainers course on analysis of population and housing census data;

(f) To Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand, on forming country research teams to undertake a study on the development of an analytical framework for population and development research and planning;

(g) To China, India, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, on the implementation of the project on organizational issues in community participation in national family planning programmes;

(h) To China, India and Sri Lanka, on the implementation of the study of the knowledge and attitudes of grass-roots family planning workers about contraceptive methods and their implications for management;

(i) To Bangladesh, China and Pakistan, on the implementation of the project on the improvement of management information systems;

(j) To the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to assess needs for population projects;

(k) To China and Viet Nam, on the use of microcomputers in population programmes;

(l) To Malaysia and the Republic of Korea, on the implementation of the project on measurement of the impact and efficiency of family planning programmes;

(m) To Viet Nam, to assess needs for computerization in UNFPA-sponsored projects;

(n) To Indonesia and the Philippines, to assist at POPIN-Africa study tour delegation meetings at Jakarta and Manila, in co-operation with Asia-Pacific POPIN;

(o) To Pakistan and Nepal, to consult on population information management and Asia-Pacific POPIN network participation for the Pakistan population information centre, and to provide technical backstopping to UNFPA-sponsored project NEP/83/P01 in Nepal;

(p) To Nepal, to provide advisory services to the National Commission on Population and training in the acquisition and management of population and family planning information materials;

(q) To Nepal, to assess micro-computer requirements and to recommend micro-computer maintenance procedures at the National Commission on Population;

(r) To Sri Lanka, to provide technical assistance in project formulation for the Sri Lanka National Population Information Centre for the period 1987-1990;

(s) To China, to provide consultancy services in population information analysis.

74. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) Twenty-one technical publications and studies were produced. They included country monographs on population for Malaysia and New Zealand, "Comparison of four bibliographic microcomputer software programmes" and *Asian Population Studies Series* Nos. 62 A-D, G-B and J, 65-68 and 70-80.

(b) Forty-three issues of periodicals were prepared and published, including 4 issues of *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*; 12 issues of *Population Headliners*, 3 issues of *Population Research Leads*; 12 issues of *ADOPT*; 6 issues of *Recommended Titles in Population*; 3 issues of *Asia-Pacific POPIN Newsletter*; 1 issue each of *Inventory of Selected Local Family Planning Programme Experiences in Countries of the ESCAP Region*, *Directory of Current Population Research in the Asia-Pacific Region*, and *ESCAP Population Publications Handbook*; and *ESCAP Population Data Sheet 1986*.

**Committee on Shipping, and Transport
and Communications**

***Shipping, Ports and Inland
Waterways Wing***

75. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Working Group on Regional Shippers' Co-operation (first session), Singapore, May 1986; (second session) , Hong Kong, September 1986

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shipowners' Associations (sixth session) , Bangkok, May 1986

Asian Bulk Transport and Handling Conference, Bangkok, May 1986

Subregional Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation for Pacific Island Countries, Vanuatu, July 1986

Expert Group Meeting on Design and Construction of Inland Waterway Craft, Bangkok, July 1986

Workshop on Maritime Legislation: Economic Regulations on Maritime Transport, Marine Pollution and Law of Towage, Qingdao, China, July 1986

ESCAP/UNCTAD Multimodal Transport Workshop, China, September 1986

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations (eighth session) , Hong Kong, September 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Management of Maritime Public Enterprises, USSR, September 1986

Seminar on Classification of Inland Waterways, China, September 1986

Country-level Workshop on Training of Trainers for Shippers' Co-operation: Management and Economics of Maritime Transport, Manila, September-October 1986

Seminar on Shipowners' Liability and Insurance, Tokyo, September-October 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Waterways, Netherlands, October-November 1986

Expert Group Meeting on Port Tariff Structures (first session), Manila, December 1986

Subregional Seminar on Maritime Fraud, Karachi, March 1987

Training on Modern Port Equipment Management (third programme), Yokohama, Japan, March 1987

76. The secretariat participated in the following meetings:

(a) Ninth Annual Meeting of the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils, Bangkok, June-July 1986:

(b) Meeting of the ASEAN Subcommittee on Shipping and Ports, Bandar Seri Begawan, October 1986:

(c) Sixteenth Meeting of the Committee on Transportation and Communications of the ASEAN Economic Ministers, Kuala Lumpur, November 1986:

(d) Seminar-cum-Forum on the Relationship between Trade and Freight Forwarding, Penang, Malaysia, November 1986:

(e) ASEAN Port Authorities Conference, Manila, December 1986:

(f) Twelfth Annual General Meeting of the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations, Chiang Mai, Thailand, December 1986:

(g) Fifth International Chamber of Commerce Shipping Conference, Bombay, India, February 1987:

(h) Workshop on Containerization and Its Future in the ASEAN Region, Tokyo, February 1987:

(i) UNCTAD/IPP2 (Improvement of Port Performance) Container Terminals: A Policy for Development, Bangkok, February 1987:

(j) Meeting of the Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, Karachi, Pakistan, March 1987:

(k) Fifteenth Conference of the International Association of Ports and Harbours, Seoul, April-May 1987.

77. The following assistance/advisory services were provided during the period under review:

(a) To the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, on planning, costing and management of dredging operations:

(b) To the Shanghai Maritime Institute, China, on strengthening the Institute and on the installation of computers, basic training, and maintenance of compatible computers and software:

(c) To the Cook Islands and Vanuatu: one fellowship was offered to each country for training by the Auckland Harbour Board:

(d) To the Port Authority of Fiji, on implementation of PORTMIS (port management information system) and long-term computerization plan suggestions:

(e) To India: (i) on establishing a centre for maritime education and training: and (ii) in connection with two fellowships provided by Japan for training on modern port equipment management at Yokohama:

(f) To Indonesia, on establishing a centre for maritime education and training:

(g) To the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on low-cost river bank protection works in Vientiane and Luang Prabang:

(h) To the Philippines: (i) to advise the Philippine Shipowners' Association on shipping services: and (ii) in connection with one fellowship provided by Japan for training on modern port equipment management at Yokohama:

(i) To Singapore, to advise the Port of Singapore Authority on improvement of maintenance dredging operations and nautical depth:

(j) To Thailand, to (i) the Port Authority of Thailand, on protection of piles and dolphins against corrosion: the implementation of PORTMIS, and port computerization: and implementation of model port tariff structure: (ii) the Maritime Training Institute, Chulalongkorn University, on the establishment and strengthening of national port training institutions: and (iii) the Harbour Department, on planning of dredging activities.

78. The following publications were produced during the period under review:

(a) *ESCAP Port Computerization Handbook 1986*

(b) *Guide-lines for Maritime Legislation* (second edition, 1986)

(c) *Ocean Transport Planning and Shipping Management, Report of a Country-level Workshop held at Shanghai, China, 29 April-10 May 1985*

(d) *Proceedings of a Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Port Development Policy, Japan, October 1984* (Port Development Series, No.7)

(e) *Proceedings of the Seminar on the Dredging Project, Bangkok, October 1984*

(f) *Report and Proceedings of the Subregional Workshop on Freight Forwarding: Implications for ASEAN Countries, Manila, December 1985*

(g) *Report of a Country-level Workshop on Ocean Transport Planning and Adequacy of Shipping Services, Calcutta, July 1985*

(h) *Report of a Country-level Workshop on Ocean Transport Planning and Adequacy of Shipping Services, Dhaka, August 1985*

(i) *Report of the Country-level Workshop on Marine Insurance Law for Managers, Shanghai, 1984*

(j) "Report of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Management of Maritime Public Enterprises, Odessa, USSR, September 1986"

79. Studies/surveys were undertaken on the following subjects: (a) detailed functional design of ship management and billing system, July 1986; (b) long-term computerization plan suggestions: report for the Port Authority of Fiji, August 1986; (c) aspects of container operations at Bangkok Port, June 1986; (d) Port Authority of Thailand, financial planning and tariff review: inception report, July 1986; (e) model port tariff structure: first interim report, December 1986; (f) situation and needs of shippers' councils, September 1986; (g) report on the survey to ascertain the current position of the freight forwarding industry in the ESCAP region, November 1986; and (h) application of low-cost dredging technology.

Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing

80. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, Subgroups 1 and 3, China, May 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Feasibility of Urban Light Rail Transit Systems in Urban Centres of Developing ESCAP Countries, Federal Republic of Germany, May-June 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Application of Automation to Guideway Transport, Paris, June 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Rational Use of Energy in Transport, Federal Republic of Germany, June 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Urban and Suburban Transport, USSR, August-September 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Track Maintenance, China, September 1986

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Road Traffic Accident Prevention, Japan, October 1986

Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment of Road Transport Development, Bangkok, November 1986

Railway Research Co-ordination Group (eleventh session), Bangkok, November 1986

Seminar on Road Maintenance Management Systems, Bangkok, November 1986

Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting (fifth session), Bangkok, November-December 1986

Seminar on Tourism Development in Pacific Island Countries, Suva, December 1986

81. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To China and the Republic of Korea, to obtain information on the Asian Railway master plan and border-crossing railway traffic, and to exchange views and information on the Asia-Pacific

Railway Co-operation Group;

(b) To Indonesia, to provide (i) technical assistance on rehabilitation of worn components of turnouts and crossings of railways by rewelding worn parts, and (ii) on-the-job training in that field. The mission also undertook a study on development of a standard cost-effective electrification system for the railways of the region;

(c) To Thailand, to assist in the development of a railway information system relating to mechanical engineering;

(d) To Burma and Viet Nam, to survey railway statistics and information systems;

(e) To China, to organize a training course on rail/wheel wear and derailments, and to discuss a training course on heavy haulage of trains;

(f) To Bangladesh, to discuss the study on increase "of line capacity of the Dhaka-Chittagong main line;

(g) To the Philippines, to survey railway statistics and information systems, and to exchange views on a railway rehabilitation project;

(h) To Malaysia, to assist in improving road maintenance procedures;

(i) To Indonesia, to upgrade the Asian Highway Route Map of Indonesia;

(j) To Maldives, to co-ordinate a study on the economic impact of tourism.

82. The following reports and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) *Asian Highway Route Map, Philippines, Route A-6*

(b) *Report of the ESCAP/UNEP Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment of Road Transport Development*

(c) *Report of the Joint Working Group on the Energy Action Programme in Thailand*

(d) *Report on the Improvement of Road Traffic Accident Recording and Analysis System in Malaysia*

(e) *Transport and Communications*

(f) "Automation and application of computer technologies to railway operations in Shinkansen, Japan"

(g) "Inventory control of railway spare parts"

(h) "Report on the training needs of staff engaged in rural road construction in member countries of the region"

(i) "Role of railways in selected member countries in alternative intermodal scenarios and principles and methods on optimum budgetary allocations"

(j) "Study of the network of railway lines on a priority basis with consideration of rail traffic flows and location of the main development centres"

(k) "Study on rail border-crossing facilities for the Asian countries"

(l) "Three-phase traction motors"

(m) "The use of microprocessors on board very high speed EMUs in France"

(n) "Using computer techniques to increase railway operational efficiency in the Soviet Union"

Committee on Social Development

83. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

National Training Course for Youth Leaders and Workers, Joydevpur, Bangladesh, April-May 1986

Training Programme for Young Farmers for Integrated Community Development, Lampang, Thailand, June 1986

Regional Fellowship Programme for National Personnel Responsible for Planning and Organizing Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Services, Manila, June 1986

Third Regional Inter-agency Consultation on Disability-related Concerns, Bangkok, June 1986

Expert Group Meeting on "Asia-Pacific 2000": It Consultation of

Social Scientists and Youth Leaders of the ESCAP Region, Chiang Mai, Thailand, June-July 1986

ESCAP/APDC/ASEAN Subregional Course on Women and the Management of Development, Kuala Lumpur, July 1986

Training Course on the Participation of Young Women and Men in Rural Social Development, China, July 1986

International Course on Management of Youth Organizations, Kuala Kubu Bahru, Selangor, Malaysia, August 1986

Meeting on Participatory Action Research to Promote Organization among Women Piece-rate Workers, Pattaya, Thailand, October 1986

Workshop on the Role of Youth in the Promotion of peace, Seoul, October 1986

Regional Seminar on the Development of a Women's -Information Network for Asia and the Pacific, Saitama, Japan, December 1986

Third Meeting of Agencies and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, December 1986

84. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand and Viet Nam, in the field of social development planning and training;

(b) To Bangladesh, the Cook Islands, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, to strengthen national mechanisms for the integration of women in national development plans and programmes;

(c) To China, Malaysia and the Republic of Korea, to promote the mobilization of youth for development;

(d) To Hong Kong, Malaysia and Thailand, in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice:

(e) To Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Philippines and Thailand, in the field of health and development.

85. The following technical publications and studies were produced or in preparation in the period under review:

(a) *Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women in Asia and the Pacific*

(b) *Human Resources Development in Asia and the Pacific: Its Social Dimension*

(c) *Momentum: An Asian-Pacific Forum on Youth-related Concerns*, vol. 1, Nos.1-3

(d) *Report of the Eighth ESCAP/UNICEF Seminar on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care, Thailand, January-February 1986*

(e) *Social Development Newsletter*, Nos. 12-14

(f) *Status of Women in Asia and the Pacific Region: Series 1, Women in the Economy: Employment; Series 2, Socio-cultural and Attitudinal Factors Affecting the Status of Women in South Asia; Series 3, Impact of Science and Technology on Women; Series 4, Participation of Women in Politics; Series 5, Role of the Women's Movement and Non-governmental Organizations in Enhancing the Status of Women*

(g) "Directory of women experts and specialists in the ESCAP region"

(h) "Manual on enhancing the role of women in the management of development"

(i) "Development of a women's information network for Asia and the Pacific"

(j) "Regional directory on disability-related resources"

(k) "Report of the Meeting on Participatory Action Research to Promote Organization among Women Piece-rate Workers"

(l) "A study on health aspects of development planning at the local level with special reference to children"

(m) "A training manual on transfer of farm technology among rural women"

(n) "Women's economic participation in Asia and the Pacific"

86. Various other research studies and programme activities were under preparation or implemented during the period under review, including: (a) a study on the socio-economic impact of development programmes on low-income groups; (b) a study on the social aspects of industrialization; (c) regional preparations for the United Nations Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes and the United Nations International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking; (d) a project on the establishment of a regional women's information network for Asia and the Pacific; and (e) a project on assistance for national disability prevention and rehabilitation programmes for least developed countries.

Committee on Statistics

87. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Seminar on Review and Development of National Accounts, Bangkok, July 1986

Training Course on Electronic Data Processing, New Delhi, August-November 1986

ESCAP/SIAP Workshop on the International Comparison Project Phase V Activities, Bangkok, September-October 1986

Regional Working Group on the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme, Bangkok, November 1986

Working Group of Statistical Experts, Bangkok, November 1986

Training Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology, New Delhi, February-May 1987

88. The secretariat collaborated in the organization and conduct of the Interregional Workshop on Statistical Development in the Least Developed, Land-locked and Island Developing Countries held at Addis Ababa in May 1986, and contributed a paper on issues confronting such countries in the ESCAP region.

89. The following advisory services were undertaken during the period under review:

(a) To Hong Kong, Maldives, Niue, Republic of Palau, Samoa and Vanuatu to advise on the planning, processing, tabulation and analysis of population censuses and preparation of census reports;

(b) To Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam to assist in various aspects of population surveys, in the development of demographic statistics, and in demographic training;

(c) To Guam and Malaysia, to advise on processing of data gathered in population and family surveys and on the computerization of statistical information;

(d) To Brunei Darussalam, Mongolia and Tonga, to assist in training in the use of microcomputers for demographic statistics, designing data processing systems and installing suitable software packages;

(e) To Brunei Darussalam, the Philippines and Thailand, to assist in planning and organizing household surveys on income, expenditure and labour force, and to advise on data analysis and reporting; and to Samoa to review progress in implementing the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) ;

(f) To Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, to review energy statistics and advise on and assist in the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of data on the supply and use of energy;

(g) To the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Maldives and Solomon Islands, to advise on various aspects of government information systems, including their development, strengthening and co-ordination.

90. At the request of the Government of Maldives, the secretariat undertook a mission in May 1986 to review statistical activities in the country and suggest courses of action for improving statistical resources and services. Because of the geography of the country, emphasis was given to the development of administrative records as data sources, and streamlining was suggested.

91. The secretariat staff also delivered

lectures (a) at NHSCP-related training courses, held in India, on design of household surveys, demographic surveys and the processing and analysis of survey Data; (b) at the SIAP training course, held at Islamabad, on the analysis of population censuses; and (c) at the SIAP/SPC training course, held in American Samoa, on household surveys.

92. The following regular publications containing statistical data for the countries of the region and other information of statistical interest were released during the period under review:

(a) *Asia-Pacific in Figures, 1987*

(b) *Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1981-1984, Series B*

(c) *Government Information Systems Newsletter, three issues*

(d) *Handbook on Agricultural Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, 1985*

(e) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, five issues*

(f) *Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region, twenty-second report*

(g) *Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific, four quarterly issues*

(h) *Statistical Newsletter, four issues*

(i) *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1985*

93. In addition, a technical publication entitled *Status of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific* was produced during the period under review.

94. The secretariat maintained its close collaboration in statistical activities with intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations and with non-governmental organizations. It provided support to the International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics for preparing its recommendations on urgently-needed reforms in civil registration in Asian countries. The Institute sent the report to the heads of State of 16 Asian countries.

Lectures were delivered at a course organized by SPC and the East-West Population Institute, and collaboration continued with the Overseas Development Agency of the United Kingdom and the International Statistical Programs Center of the Bureau of the Census of the United States on technical assistance and training on computer applications in statistics.

95. The second phase of the pilot project in Kalutara District, Sri Lanka, for the establishment of a microcomputer-based data system for decentralized planning and administration was completed. The primary objective of the second phase was the development of two land-based information systems, one on population and the other on land resources, capable of supporting local-level decision-making for social and economic development. The project was sponsored by the Government of Sri Lanka, UNESCO and ESCAP, with additional financial assistance from the Government of France.

96. In connection with formulation of the final project document for the ESCAP project on improved government information systems, which was being proposed to UNDP for funding during its fourth intercountry programme cycle, 1987-1991, a series of missions to 21 countries and territories of Asia and the Pacific was undertaken. The objective of the visits was to obtain an overview of developments in public-sector computing in the various countries, and to discuss possible areas under the proposed ESCAP/UNDP project for co-operation and joint activities.

Committee on Trade

97. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

Training Course on Trade Information Services, Bangkok, May 1986

Meeting of Senior Trade Officials Preceding the Meeting of Ministers of Trade, Bangkok, June 1986

Workshop on Establishment of a Computerized System of Data Collection and Analysis for the Study of Costs of Production and Farm-gate Prices of Jute/Kenaf Fibres, Bangkok, July 1986

Second Mobile Seminar on Trading with the People's Republic of China,

Singapore, Jakarta, Bangkok and Dhaka, August-September 1986

Workshop on Computerized Trade Information System and Data Base Management, Bangkok, September 1986; for Trade Promotion Organizations, Bangkok, November 1986; and for Chambers of Commerce, Bangkok, December 1986

Buyers-Sellers Seminar on Export Prospects and Market Promotion of Silk and Silk Products, Hong Kong, September 1986

Second Round of Negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement (second session), Seoul, October 1986

Workshop on Application of Analytical Tools for Production Planning and Marketing Strategies for Jute and Jute Products, Bangkok, November 1986

Asian Regional Workshop on Industrial Co-operation and Trade Expansion through Buy-back Arrangements, Bangkok, January 1987

Workshop on FAO Farm Analysis Package for Jute/Kenaf Fibre, Bangkok, January 1987

Workshop on the Use and Application of the United Nations Layout Key for Trade Documents, Bangkok, February 1987; Kuala Lumpur, March 1987

International Study Tour of Senior Marketing Experts of the Jute-producing Countries to Important Markets in Europe, February 1987

Workshop on Transit-transport Problems of the Asian Developing ESCAP Countries, Kathmandu, March 1987

ESCAP/PRODEC/ITC Follow-up Seminar on Import Management for Developing ESCAP Countries, Kathmandu, March 1987

ESCAP/CCC (Customs Co-operation Council)/CRCGT (Commonwealth Regional Consultative Group on Trade) Seminar on the Implementation and Management of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, Bangkok, March-April 1987

National-level Trade Facilitation Training Programme, China, April 1987

Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries (eleventh session), Dhaka, April 1987

98. ESCAP participated in a review mission on the project "Assistance to the least developed land-locked countries of the Asian region", undertaken by UNCTAD in July-August 1986.

99. The secretariat organized the Second Asian Silk Fair in Hong Kong in September 1986. The objectives of the Fair were to promote exports of silk and the interest of consumers in silk products. The Fair attracted around 20,000 visitors, and business estimated at \$HK 200 million was transacted during the Fair.

100. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) To Bangladesh, to assist in arrangements to set up national information service units for jute and jute products;

(b) To the jute-producing countries of the ESCAP region, on their participation in sessions of the International Jute Organization Council and its Projects Committee, held at Dhaka;

(c) To China, on export incentives and export strategies; on the establishment of national information service units for jute and jute products; to hold mobile seminars in five cities on export promotion to ASEAN and Japanese markets; and to identify areas for technical assistance to the International Trade Research Institute and the China International Economic Information Centre;

(d) To the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, to advise on development of computerized trade information services;

(e) To India, on export strategy, counter-trade policies, and identification of counter-trade opportunities in the ESCAP region; the secretariat also assisted in arrangements to set up national information service units for jute and jute products;

(f) To the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community and the International Pepper Community, on the formulation and follow-

up of their respective work programmes;

(g) To Malaysia, on the introduction of computerized systems for selective dissemination of information, bibliographic management and marketing information in the Malaysian Export Trade Centre;

(h) To Nepal, on the establishment of national information service units for jute and jute products;

(i) To the Philippines, to assist in the formulation of a project document for technical assistance to strengthen trade information activities in the Bureau of Foreign Trade;

(j) To the Republic of Korea, regarding the role of services in trade and the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations in GATT, and regional trade expansion mechanisms;

(k) To Singapore, on identification of user needs and trade information components for computerized trade information services;

(l) To Sri Lanka, to evaluate trade information in the Export Development Board and the Trade and Shipping Information Service and identify areas for technical assistance; to design data base management systems for the Sri Lanka Business Development Centre; the Central Bank of Sri Lanka was assisted by the preparation of a study on the potential of non-traditional exports of Sri Lanka, with recommendations on related policy Measures;

(m) To the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, on formulation of projects to be presented at the twenty-third meeting of the Permanent Panel on Coconut Technology (COCOTECH), Colombo, May 1986;

(n) To Thailand, to prepare a vertical file management system for the Department of Export Promotion; to review current operations of the Trade Information Service and identify areas for technical assistance; to assist in arrangements to set up national information service units for jute and jute products; and to examine issues related to trade in services with reference to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

101. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review:

(a) *TISNET Trade Information Sheet*
(24 per year)

(b) "Data collection and analysis for the study of costs of production and farm-gate prices of jute/kenaf fibres: administrative and technical arrangements for field survey exercises"

(c) "Data collection and analysis for the study of costs of production and farm-gate prices of jute/kenaf fibres: methodology of data collection and analysis including concepts and terms"

(d) "Farm analysis package (FARMAP): an overview"

(e) "Prices of selected Asia/Pacific products" (monthly)

(f) "Problems in application of full-scale commodity econometric models for policy advisory work"

(g) "Scope of utilization of econometric models for planning and policy formulation in a jute economy"

(h) "Study of tariff and non-tariff measures applicable to food trade in Asia and the Pacific"

(i) "TIS QUICK"

(j) "TISNET trade profiles" (16 issues)

(k) "Trade information source data bank" and its alphabetical index (card service)

(l) "Trade information source directory" (card service)

B. Other activities

102. In addition to the work of its legislative committees, the secretariat performed the following promotional and supportive activities of a substantive nature during the year.

Integrated programme on rural development

103. During the period under review, seven meetings of the Interagency Task Force on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific were organized. The meetings reviewed ongoing inter-agency activities; considered the establishment of a regular

exchange of information; finalized the reports of the completed projects and approved new project proposals for which funding should be sought. The meetings included detailed discussions on. The project document for the Antique integrated area development project in the Philippines and a mid-term review of integrated rural development in the hilly region of Nepal.

104. The Meeting of National Liaison Officers on Integrated Rural Development, held at Bangkok in June 1986, reviewed the operation of the Interagency Coordinated Plan of Action for Integrated Rural Development and considered the report on four selected area-based projects in Maldives, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. It held consultations with the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development and its Task Force, and reviewed in detail the performance of the inter-agency integrated rural development programme, and ways to maximize the contributions of the partner agencies in the interagency programme to strengthen the provision of technical assistance to member Governments. The national liaison officers from 14 developing countries of the region attended the Meeting and exchanged views and experience on the formulation and evaluation of integrated rural development programmes. The Meeting strongly recommended that the Interagency Committee continue to assist the participating countries in the preparation of innovative integrated area development projects.

105. The Interagency Committee provided technical assistance to the Government of Nepal in the preparation of the integrated rural development plan for the hilly region of Nepal. A detailed project proposal for the Ilam district was prepared, in consultation with the target groups. The consultations were conducted at the sample village level as well as at the district level to ascertain the views of the target groups, political leaders, intellectuals and government officials before the preparation of the district plan. The draft plan was again considered at the field planning workshop convened at Ilam district, Nepal, in June 1986. The workshop was attended by local leaders, representatives of the target groups, district and government officials. The draft plan was to be considered by the Interagency Task Force before submission to the Government.

106. After the completion of the project document for the Antique integrated area development project in 1986, at the request of the Government of the Philippines, the Interagency Committee prepared six small-scale high-impact projects and submitted them to donors for funding. The projects were meant to bridge the gap between the preparation and implementation of the total area development project, and were primarily intended to develop the skills of the target groups.

107. Materials on programmes and activities on integrated rural development undertaken or planned by the United Nations agencies were to be collected, compiled and distributed among the agencies and the national liaison officers on a periodic basis.

108. The following publications were issued in the period under review:

(a) *Review of Experience of Selected Area-based Integrated Rural Development Projects*

(b) *Study on Development of Methodology for Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Development in Indonesia*

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

109. The secretariat supported the following operational TCDC activities during the period under review:

(a) With the Agriculture Division:

(i) Programme on exchange of visits of extension specialists and leading pepper farmers

(ii) Study on the Feasibility of Establishing a Multi-national Fertilizer Marketing Enterprise for Asia and the Pacific

(b) With the Division for Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways:

(i) Asian Bulk Transport and Handling Conference

(ii) Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shipowners' Associations

(c) With the ESCAP/UNIDO Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Technology:

(i) Regional Forum on Managing Civic Services in Intermediate Cities

(ii) Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Low-cost Shelter Projects in Sri Lanka

(d) With TECHNONET Asia:

Small and Medium Enterprise Technology Exposition

110. In implementing the recommendation of the Commission at its fortieth session that the ECDC-TCDC approach be incorporated in all its work, the secretariat identified and incorporated TCDC elements and modalities in 30 projects and activities from a total of 69 projects endorsed by the Project Review Committee for submission to donors for extra-budgetary funding. "Out of these 30 projects, 14 received extrabudgetary funding. The TCDC modality incorporated in the activities of the secretariat at the implementation level related to the identification of TCDC needs and capacities in specific areas of the participating countries and follow-up activities for the matching of the capacities and needs and the formulation of TCDC plans of action. Wherever feasible, the use of TCDC experts and consultants was emphasized.

111. Co-operation between the secretariat and other organizations on ECDC-TCDC was initiated. A joint project of UNESCO and ESCAP ECDC-TCDC Services on the TCDC experience of the Asian region in education, culture, communications and media, science and technology, and social and human sciences was launched. The ESCAP Agriculture Division and the World Bank began work on a co-operative project on the development of waste-water reuse for sewage-fed aquaculture and effluent-water irrigation. The Workshop on Improving Institutional Credit Services for Low-income Groups was organized by the Asian and Pacific Regional Agricultural Credit Association and supported by ESCAP ECDC-TCDC Services. Co-operation between TECHNONET Asia and ESCAP ECDC-TCDC Services in the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries was started.

112. With a view to providing wider catalytic support to the TCDC activities of member countries, efforts were made to mobilize additional resources. Project proposals for promotion of action-oriented activities were formulated and forwarded to donor countries. Efforts were also made to establish more country-ESCAP co-operation funds to support TCDC activities of member countries.

113. A project proposal on economic co-operation among developing countries in agro- and allied industries was formulated. The objective of the project was to promote and expand TCDC and ECDC activities at bilateral, subregional, regional and interregional levels, so as to enhance the role of developing countries in international economic relations.

114. The secretariat continued to distribute TCDC publications on request, particularly the series on renewable sources of energy. Library and documentation services

115. Since the forty-second session of the Commission, there was considerable expansion of the ESCAP development information data base which currently totals approximately 30,000 entries, covering the broad fields of economic and social development.

116. The Library explored ways and means of co-ordinating the information and documentation services operating in various sectors of the secretariat. Considerable progress was made in absorbing one of the largest collections into the holdings of the Library, with the concomitant economy of resources and space for the secretariat at large.

117. The ESCAP Library continued to examine the application of information technology to a number of its routine operations. It anticipated that the acquisition of a microcomputer within the next biennium would greatly enhance its services. A number of functions were identified for automation.

118. A role for the ESCAP Library as a focal point in a regional network of development information, such as had been proposed by the Commission at successive sessions, depended upon the acquisition of such appropriate information technology.

119. Within the United Nations global development information system, the ESCAP Library continued co-operation with the Advisory Committee for the Co-ordination of Information Systems (ACCIS), established to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/71. During the period under review, the ESCAP Library, designated as the regional focal point for liaison with ACCIS, provided regional input for a number of its programmes, particularly the *Directory of United Nations Data Bases and Information Systems*, to appear in a new edition in 1987, and a preliminary version of the United Nations Register of Development Activities, which has just been published.

120. Progress reports on the activities of the following regional projects, institutions and inter-governmental bodies were submitted to the Commission in separate documents:

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas

Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

Pacific energy development programme

Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

Regional energy development programme

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Typhoon Committee

C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

121. Close co-operation continued with UNIDO in the area of industrial development. Jointly organized regional activities, such as a machine tools industry meeting held in November 1986, exemplified what was expected to be an expanding relationship with the conversion of UNIDO to specialized agency status. The sharpened country and regional focus of UNIDO would undoubtedly lead to a more dynamic role for ESCAP.

122. Co-operation was maintained with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development, UNDP and UNEP with respect to activities related to industry and technology. Representatives of those bodies attended the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology held in September 1986, as did representatives of ILO, UNESCO, WHO and UNIDO. The secretariat participated in the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, held in New York in June 1986, and the eighth session of the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development, held in New York in December 1986.

123. Close co-operation was maintained with UNCHS in the work of the ESCAP/UNCHS Joint Unit on Human Settlements. A co-ordinated work programme was established in consultation with UNCHS, which included the provision of inputs to its programme elements.

124. ESCAP participated in the ninth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, held at Istanbul in May 1986. The representative of ESCAP briefed the Commission on the activities of the Joint Unit and on other ESCAP initiatives in the field of human settlements, specifically resolution 258 (XLII) on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

125. The secretariat maintained co-operation with the two United Nations regional housing centres at New Delhi and Bandung, the United Nations Centre for Regional Development at Nagoya and UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO and UNIDO in various human settlements activities, including the organization of meetings, exchange of information and participation in substantive activities.

126. In the field of energy activities, the secretariat enjoyed excellent co-

operation with other agencies and co-ordinated its activities with them as far as practicable. The implementation of the activities under the regional energy "development programme was a good example, where the secretariat co-ordinated with the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, World Bank, UNIDO and ADB, as well as other regional/national institutes and agencies such as the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, the Asian Institute of Technology and the Tata Energy Research Institute. In addition to exchange of information, the secretariat took part in the activities of some of these bodies and organized joint activities wherever feasible. Thus, most activities were either jointly executed with other institutions, or were complementary.

127. In carrying out its mineral development programme, the secretariat co-operated with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World in the preparation of geological and mineral resources maps; the UNESCO International Geological Correlation Programme and the International Union of Geological Sciences in the compilation of geological and thematic maps and in stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the region; UNDP in technical reviews, evaluation missions and monitoring of the activities of the UNDP-assisted regional mineral resource development projects of CCOP, CCOP/SOPAC, RMRDC and SEATRADC; the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO in regional marine geoscience activities; the United Nations Headquarters Ocean Economics and Technology Branch in coastal/marine area development and management matters; the United Nations Departments of Technical Co-operation for Development and of International Economic and Social Affairs on mineral resource exploration and development programmes in the region; and the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration. There was also liaison and co-operation with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea on matters relating to the Convention on the Law of the Sea and the preparation of the new marine affairs programme.

126. In the field of water resources development, co-ordination with other United Nations programmes was carried out at the regional level with the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the

Pacific, which held its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions in July and November 1986. Close co-operation was maintained with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) and WMO in supporting the programme of the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones.

129. Both FAO and the Natural Resources and Energy Division of the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development were associate executing agencies for the UNDP-funded regional remote sensing programme.

130. In the statistics sector, a close working relationship was maintained with the United Nations Statistical Office in all areas of statistics. In particular, that Office provided experts in the implementation of the International Comparison Project in the ESCAP region. It also participated in most of the technical meetings on statistics, and the Statistics Division reciprocated whenever resources permitted or participation costs were arranged. Exchange of methodological material and other statistical publications was maintained with the statistics divisions of other regional commissions.

131. The secretariat collaborated in the review of the National Household Survey Capability Programme, a global project of the United Nations. It also undertook joint missions with the United Nations Statistical Office to countries participating in NHSCP.

132. Relevant data series for ESCAP publications were received from FAO, the World Bank and IMF. Collaborative working relationships with UNCHS and with specialized agencies such as ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO were a continuing feature; representatives of those organizations participated in technical meetings of the Division, sometimes contributing working papers. UNDP resident representatives and UNFPA coordinators were regularly contacted, especially on matters relating to the advisory services of the secretariat. Active collaboration with SIAP continued, through joint meetings and inputs into the formulation and implementation of its training activities.

133. The secretariat maintained co-operation with the other regional commissions, the World Bank and ADB on matters concerning shipping and ports; the Office of the Special Representative

of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea, and ILO, on maritime legislation: the United Nations Statistical Office on the economic statistics of shipping: and UNDP on shipping, ports and inland waterways. The secretariat initiated an agreement with UNCTAD and IMO to develop joint projects on matters of common concern, and to exchange programmes to avoid overlap or duplication of activities. This was agreed to by both UNCTAD and IMO in November 1986.

134. In the fields of transport, communications and tourism, the secretariat worked with ITU through the ESCAP/ITU Communications Unit: with the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity on telecommunications development: with UPU on postal development: with ILO on labour-intensive road construction methods: through the ESCAP/ILO Tourism Unit on tourism manpower development: with ICAO on the economic aspects of air cargo transport: and with WTO on tourism development.

135. In the field of international trade and development finance, the secretariat maintained close working relations in areas of mutual concern with UNCTC, UNCTAD and its Special Programme on Trade Facilitation (FALPRO), FAO, World Bank, IMF, GATT, ITC, European Economic Community, Customs Co-operation Council (CCC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and national chambers of commerce, as well as with other regional commissions and relevant international agencies. Some of the activities of the secretariat were formulated and implemented in co-ordination with other organizations such as UNCTAD, FAO, GATT, ITC and CCC.

136. The Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific maintained close liaison with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Task Force on Rural Development through participation in its meetings as and when feasible and through regular exchange of information. Linkage with the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) continued through frequent contacts and exchange of information. A representative of the Inter-agency Committee participated in the Technical Committee of CIRDAP and the Director of the Centre participated in the Meeting of National Liaison Officers on Integrated Rural Development. Contact with the Asian Development Bank continued, through exchange of visits and information.

Chapter III

FORTY THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

137. The forty-third session of the Commission was held at the United Nations Building, Bangkok from 21 to 30 April 1987.

138. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, France, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Hong Kong.

139. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Hungary, Israel, Italy, Poland, Romania, Sweden and Yugoslavia attended. A representative of Switzerland attended under Economic and Social Council resolution 860 (XXXII). A representative of the Holy See also attended, under Council decision 244 (LXIII).

140. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Co-ordination of Kampuchean Humanitarian Assistance Programmes, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).

141. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for

Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Fund for Population Activities and World Food Programme.

142. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union, World Meteorological Organization, International Maritime Organization and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

143. The International Atomic Energy Agency was represented and representatives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT also attended.

144. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, Asian and Pacific Development Centre, Asian Development Bank, Asian-Pacific Postal Union, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Asian Reinsurance Corporation, Colombo Plan Bureau, Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, European Economic Community, Intergovernmental Committee on Migration, International Jute Organization, International Pepper Community, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Southeast Asian Agency for Regional Transport and Communications Development, Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization, South Pacific Commission and Typhoon Committee.

145. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations in category I: International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Muslim World League, World

Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, and World Veterans Federation; and from the following organizations in category II: Baha'i International Community and Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association. The International Committee of the Red Cross was also represented.

146. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP(XLIII)/INF.4.

147. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 647th meeting elected H.E. Dr. Chirayu Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, Minister to the Prime Minister's Office (Thailand), as Chairman.

148. In view of the heavy agenda, it was proposed that the part of rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Commission providing for the election of 2 Vice-Chairmen be held in abeyance, and the following 14 Vice-Chairmen were elected: the Hon. Thomas Uren (Australia), B.E. Air Vice-Marshal (Retd.) A.K. Khandker (Bangladesh), H. E. Mr. Wu Xueqian (China), B.E. Mr. P.R. Dasmunsi (India), H.E. Dr. J.B. Sumarlin (Indonesia), B.E. Mr. M. Roughani Zanjani (Islamic Republic of Iran), H.E. Mr. Keiwa Okuda (Japan), the Hon. Mr. Kasitah Gaddam (Malaysia), the Hon. Dr. Mohan Man Sainju (Nepal), the Hon. Mr. Aruru Matiabe (Papua New Guinea), H.E. Mr. Kwang Soo Choi (Republic of Korea), B.E. Mr. S. Dhanabalan (Singapore), the Hon. Paul J. Tovua (Solomon Islands) and H.E. Mr. Nguyen Dy Nien (Viet Nam).

149. Mr. Javid Zafar (Pakistan) was elected Rapporteur of the plenary session by acclamation.

150. The Chairman proposed and the Commission decided to appoint two Committees of the Whole to consider agenda items 6 and 7. Committee of the Whole I elected B.E. Mr. Buyantyn Dashtseren (Mongolia) as Chairman and Mrs. Saraswati Shrestha (Nepal) and Mr. T.J.M. Jayasinghe (Sri Lanka) as Vice-Chairmen. Mr. Chua Pheng Siong (Brunei Darussalam) was elected Rapporteur. Committee of the Whole II elected Dr. John Gee (Australia) as Chairman and B.E. Mr. Nikenike Vurobaravu (Vanuatu) and Mr. Le Anh Kiet (Viet Nam) as Vice-Chairmen. Mr. S. Wood (United Kingdom) was elected Rapporteur. The Commission also decided to constitute an informal working group on draft

resolutions under the chairmanship of Mr. Hugo van der Goes van Naters (Netherlands) to consider draft resolutions presented during the session.

151. The Chairman announced at the Commission's 651st meeting that, in accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, he and the Vice-Chairmen, constituting the Credentials Committee, had examined the credentials of all the representatives. One delegation rejected the credentials of a delegation. One delegation expressed its reservations regarding the credentials of the same delegation. Some others held that the credentials of the aforesaid delegation were in order. With those views and reservations recorded, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen constituting the Credentials Committee found the credentials of all the representatives to be in order.

B. Agenda

152. At its 648th meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAP/L.104/Rev.3, E/ESCAP/L.105 and Corr.1 and 2).
4. Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region:
 - (a) Fortieth anniversary of the Commission: review of progress in regional co-operation in Asia and the Pacific over the last 40 years and policy guidelines for the future work of the commission;
 - (b) Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission (ST/ESCAP/487 and corrigendum (English only), ST/ESCAP/487/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only), E/ESCAP/541 and Corr.1);
 - (c) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy (E/ESCAP/543);

- (d) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (E/ESCAP/542 and Corr.1).
5. Human resources development in Asia and the Pacific: policy options (ST/ESCAP/487 and corrigendum (English only), ST/ESCAP/487/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only)).
6. Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994: review of progress of implementation (E/ESCAP/544).
7. Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP:
- (a) Reports of the Meetings of Ministers of Industry and Technology and Ministers of Trade and of legislative committee meetings held since the forty-second session of the Commission, and selected issues in different sectors (E/ESCAP/537, E/ESCAP/538, E/ESCAP/539, E/ESCAP/540, E/ESCAP/545, E/ESCAP/546, E/ESCAP/547, E/ESCAP/548, E/ESCAP/549, E/ESCAP/550, E/ESCAP/551, E/ESCAP/552 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/553, E/ESCAP/554, E/ESCAP/555, E/ESCAP/556, E/ESCAP/557, E/ESCAP/558, E/ESCAP/559, E/ESCAP/560, E/ESCAP/561, E/ESCAP/562, E/ESCAP/563, E/ESCAP/564);
- (b) Progress reports of special regional projects, regional institutions and other related bodies (E/ESCAP/565, E/ESCAP/566, E/ESCAP/567, E/ESCAP/568, E/ESCAP/569, E/ESCAP/570, E/ESCAP/571, E/ESCAP/572, E/ESCAP/573, E/ESCAP/574, E/ESCAP/576, E/ESCAP/577);
- (c) Draft programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989, programme changes for 1987, and general guidelines for the medium-term plan, 1990-1995 (E/ESCAP/578 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/579, E/ESCAP/580 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/S81 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/S82 and Corr.1 and 2, E/ESCAP/S83);
8. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/S84 and Corr.1).
9. The Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/S8S).
10. Announcement of intended contributions (E/ESCAP/S86 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/S87).
11. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/S88).
12. In-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields (E/ESCAP/S7S).
13. Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-fourth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/S89).
14. Other matters.
15. Adoption of the report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.106).

C. Account of proceedings

153. The session was declared open by the Hon. M.H.M. Naina Marikar, Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning of Sri Lanka, the outgoing Chairman. His Excellency General Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address. The Executive Secretary read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered an address.

Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand

154. The Prime Minister of Thailand, speaking on behalf of the people and Government of Thailand, welcomed those attending the session.

155. He noted that over the past four decades, ESCAP had contributed significantly to the economic and social

development of the countries of the region. Moreover, ESCAP had proved itself capable of coping with changes, adapting to new circumstances and responding to the needs of its members. It had also been a catalyst for the concerted efforts of member States to build a better world. Evidence of that was manifested in the many regional projects, such as the Asian Development Bank, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation, in whose inception ESCAP had been involved. Despite those accomplishments, however, there were still formidable challenges ahead. The current commemorative session was a most opportune time to critically assess past activities and to look ahead in order to formulate new guidelines for the future work of the organization.

156. The main theme of the current session dealt with the problems, policies and perspectives of human resources development or, in layman's terms, how to bring about an improvement in the quality of life of the peoples of the region. The sixtieth birthday of His Majesty the King of Thailand, which would be observed later in the year, was an event which coincided with the fortieth anniversary of ESCAP. Everything His Majesty had done was first and foremost for the people. That was evidenced by the multitude of important projects in various fields, ranging from artificial rain-making and irrigation to education and health care, which had been initiated and supported by His Majesty. Those royal-sponsored projects, in addition to contributing to the uplifting of the standard of living of the Thai people, had proved to be sources of valuable information and know-how for similar undertakings carried out either by government agencies or by the villagers themselves. The experience and knowledge gained in the fields of economic and social development, particularly in agriculture, the economic backbone of most of the countries of the region, had been compiled and could be made available to countries in the ESCAP region. His Majesty's work and dedication for the betterment of the economic and social conditions of the Thai people had served as an inspiration for the Royal Thai Government in its efforts to promote the welfare of the Thai people and concurrently to contribute to the furtherance of the ideals and objectives commonly shared among countries of the ESCAP region.

157. He expressed the hope that the lessons of the past could be used in order to meet the challenges of the future, in order to ensure the prosperity and well-being of the peoples in that part of the world. He paid tribute to the Commission for its past achievements and expressed the hope that it would renew its determination to work for the enhancement of the economic and social development of the peoples of the region in the years to come.

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

158. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations stated that the completion of 40 years in the life of an organization represented an appropriate occasion for giving serious thought to both its past record and its future course. From its origin in Shanghai in 1947, a time when the foremost priority was economic reconstruction following the Second World War, the Commission had more than quadrupled its membership, greatly expanded its activities and currently played a wide-ranging regional role in helping to accelerate economic and social development. In tracing its history, one could feel justifiably proud of the many accomplishments of ESCAP, which had resulted in such initiatives as the Asian Development Bank, the Mekong project and the Asian Highway network, among others. Those achievements had stemmed not least from the spirit of goodwill and co-operation that had long prevailed among the member States of the Commission. In that connection, "he paid particular tribute to the Government of Thailand which, as the host country of ESCAP since 1949, had consistently demonstrated its traditional hospitality and generosity and its adherence to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

159. The current session of ESCAP was taking place at a time of continued uncertainty in the world economy. Protectionist pressures, low commodity prices and slower growth in the developed countries, coupled with stagnating flows of external assistance and heavy debt burdens, threatened the development aspirations of many developing countries.

160. Nevertheless, a number of countries in Asia and the Pacific had achieved satisfactory rates of growth. That

performance was a tribute to both sound economic management by their Governments and the dynamism of their people. A major task ahead was to achieve rapid social and economic progress for those sections of the Asian and Pacific population that so far had been little touched by development. ESCAP had a key role to play in meeting that and other challenges in the region.

161. The United Nations was confronting serious financial difficulties which had forced it to reduce expenditure. ESCAP, like all other United Nations entities, had to bear the impact of that. He expressed the hope that the decisions taken at the last session of the General Assembly would result in a resolution of the funding problem. But perhaps more important in the long run was the need to carefully review the structure and the activities of the Organization with a view to improving effectiveness and efficiency. That provided a valuable opportunity for the member States and the secretariat to look at what was being done in order to ensure that it truly served the interests of the peoples of the world.

162. The Commission's agenda that year focused on a number of major development issues, including the vital needs of human resources development and the upgrading of transport and communications infrastructure, as well as the review of the intergovernmental machinery of the Commission, as had been requested in Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

163. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and thanked the Prime Minister of Thailand for his thought-provoking address, which had served as a clear reaffirmation of Thailand's support for both the objectives of ESCAP and the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. He also expressed gratitude to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, of Thailand, whose unstinting cooperation had contributed greatly to the success of ESCAP activities. The year 1987 marked the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Commission, an important milestone and a fitting occasion for reflecting on the Commission's successes and shortcomings

over the years and for considering possible new policy directions that could enhance the collective efforts of the members for economic and social progress. In that regard, he expressed the hope that the current session would uphold the Commission's long-standing tradition of not being distracted from development goals by political differences or other contentious issues outside the scope of the agenda.

Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

164. The Executive Secretary observed that the fortieth anniversary of ESCAP, together with the review and evaluation called for by the Economic and Social Council, provided an excellent opportunity for introspection to help chart the best future directions' for the Commission against the perspective of its long-term evolution and an assessment of where the region stood today in terms of economic and social advancement. ESCAP had its origin in the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), founded in 1947. Only four of the region's developing countries, China, India, the Philippines and Thailand, were among its 10 original members. The non-regional, developed-country majority of ECAFE at the outset reflected the fact that the Asian and Pacific entity as it was currently known had yet to take shape. But that was soon to change with political liberation, and the Commission's membership grew steadily with the spread of independence and gradual, emergence of an Asia-Pacific consciousness. The change of name to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in 1974 reflected the need to extend the Commission's territorial reach, as well as a balanced concern with economic growth and social progress. Fifty-six per cent of all mankind were currently represented in the Commission through the regional members and associate members among the 47 affiliated countries and territories of ESCAP.

165. Over the years, ESCAP had been pursuing a variety of activities in seeking to fulfil its mandate. Besides serving as the unique region-wide forum,

the Commission provided problem-solving advisory services and other technical assistance, examined difficulties and put forward policy options, organized training and the sharing of experience and know-how, and collected, analysed and disseminated economic and social data through publications and intercountry networks. Operating fully as an executing agency since 1980, ESCAP for the most part performed those tasks through a multisectoral work programme aimed at facilitating growth, improving economic and social conditions and increasing the pace of modernization.

166. The main thrust of ESCAP from its inception had been the fostering of regional co-operation for development. The more dramatic results were very well known: the Asian Development Bank, the Mekong project, and the Asian Highway, among others. In the crucial area of trade, in which the secretariat had been active since as early as 1948, co-operative initiatives undertaken by ESCAP included the Bangkok Agreement on trade liberalization, creation of the Asian Clearing Union to promote monetary co-operation, the setting up of the Asian Reinsurance Corporation, and establishment of the Trade Co-operation Group and its subgroups to help spur intraregional commerce. That was also a primary aim of the periodic ESCAP Asia-Pacific trade fairs, of which the latest, ASPAT'85, had been held at Beijing. Further trade-related examples of economic co-operation among developing member countries were the regional commodity organizations established under ESCAP auspices for rubber, coconut, pepper and jute, as well as the regional co-operative arrangements in place for silk and tropical timber.

167. A sizeable number of other important regional institutions and projects had emanated from the Commission, covering various sectors and serving purposes of training, research and development, co-ordination and specialized technical assistance. Among those were the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway projects, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre, two standing committees on joint offshore prospecting for mineral resources in Asian and South Pacific waters, the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones sponsored jointly with the World Meteorological Organization, the Regional Co-ordination Centre for: Research and Development of

Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, two institutions focusing on technology - the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, and three UNDP-funded intercountry projects, dealing with remote sensing, conventional energy resources and the potential of new and renewable energy sources.

168. In addition to various forms of technical support, with specific subprogrammes catering for the needs of least developed, land-locked and Pacific island economies, ESCAP helped strengthen national capabilities to formulate appropriate policies for development through its wide-ranging research, analysis and publications. The prime example was the annual Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, although analytical studies in various sectors were also presented in several other journals, bulletins or ad hoc publications, with the emphasis on evaluating development problems and identifying possible solutions. A large number of other specialized manuals, handbooks, studies, reports, and guidelines dealt with specific topics of identified interest, such as rural road maintenance, environmental impact assessment, port legislation, management of export processing zones, and mobilizing public participation. Serving as a regional clearing-house for development information, ESCAP operated networking schemes and information services in a variety of sectors of intercountry interest, with networks concerning trade, population and fertilizers having the widest coverage.

169. The Executive Secretary was of the opinion that ESCAP performed an unmatched function as a region-wide intergovernmental forum enabling ministerial-level deliberations on major development problems and providing opportunities for collective remedies. Indeed, it had been in that role that ESCAP had inspired or contributed to several landmark decisions and initiatives by countries in the past few years, among which were the adoption of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development, the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, and the adoption of human resources development as the theme topic

for the forty-second and forty-third sessions of the Commission.

170. In explaining the objective conditions confronting the region, the Executive Secretary noted that there was now a far different picture from that of the post-war years when, except for Australia, Japan and New Zealand, the region's economic status brought to mind a huge grey area strikingly characterized by the countries' common lack of development. In contrast, the region currently contained upper and lower middle-income countries as well as least developed countries, with per capita incomes ranging from below \$US 150 a year to well over \$US 6,000, several countries having boosted their per capita income threefold or fourfold in a generation. Literacy and primary school enrolment rates had risen, although less in South Asia than in East and South-East Asia, which was also the case with improved health conditions. For example, life expectancy had increased by 10 years or more in several countries, yet among the countries it still ranged from below 50 to almost 70 years. Infant mortality had also been much reduced, although it continued to vary widely, from 10 per thousand live births to more than 150. Such sharp contrasts suggested that despite considerable progress in the building industry, infrastructure and so forth, the development struggle remained far from being won for hundreds of millions of the region's peoples.

171. Recent years had witnessed a progressively greater degree of integration of the region's developing countries, both with the world economy and among themselves, through growing trade, financial flows, joint investments, socio-cultural exchanges and improved transport arrangements, as well as through the historic emergence of important subregional groupings such as the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) and the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC).

172. In that complex evolving picture of the Asian and Pacific region, the Executive Secretary felt that ESCAP should continue to strive to strengthen and enlarge the existing arrangements for regional co-operation, as a logical corollary of the increasing interdependence among the region's developing

countries, as well as of their growing role in the world economy. Technical assistance should also continue to be an important ESCAP activity, although the emphasis should progressively shift even more in favour of the least developed and other disadvantaged countries facing formidable difficulties in generating development momentum. ESCAP could at the same time tailor programmes to provide more specialized help for those more advanced. Multidisciplinary intercountry research should remain one of the secretariat's primary functions, with forward-looking studies when possible to help the countries anticipate the shape of things to come. And, of course, ESCAP should continue as the region's chief forum, bringing together the government representatives of more than half of the human race for comprehensive deliberations on bettering living standards.

173. The Executive Secretary was of the opinion that certain sectors and areas, as listed below, demanded the region's priority attention and should be reflected in future work programmes of ESCAP:

- (a) The collection, analysis and dissemination of economic and social data;
- (b) Human resources development;
- (c) The development, transfer and adaptation of new technologies; further strengthening of the developing countries' capacity to deal with transnational corporations; and acceleration of industrial growth by mobilization of domestic resources, technical and economic co-operation among developing countries, and foreign investment;
- (d) The promotion of growing intra-regional trade and strengthening of the related institutional arrangements;
- (e) The modernization and expansion of the transport and communications infrastructure;
- (f) Research and other measures to aid in the social dimensions of development;
- (g) The promotion of an integrated multi-sectoral approach to environmental protection in the region;
- (h) Measures to help make the most efficient use of existing conventional

energy resources and increase them wherever possible, while assisting in exploiting the potential of new and renewable energy sources;

(i) The intensification of secretariat activities on behalf of the region's least developed, land-locked and Pacific island economies;

(j) The stimulation of regional research and development on important advanced technologies, such as the dramatic possibilities emerging from biotechnology, genetic engineering, lasers and fibre optics.

174. In conclusion, the Executive Secretary expressed the hope that the collective interest, foresight and wisdom of representatives attending the session could set ESCAP on a path that would enable it to play an effective role for the next 40 years in helping to translate development aspirations into reality.

**Fortieth anniversary of the Commission:
review of progress in regional co-operation
in Asia and the Pacific over the last
40 years and policy guidelines
for the future work of
the Commission**

175. The Commission, noting that the year of its fortieth anniversary coincided with the sixtieth birthday of His Majesty the King of Thailand, offered its sincere congratulations to the people of Thailand and their monarch, and wished him a long and fruitful reign.

176. The Commission also noted the messages of congratulation which it had received on the occasion of its fortieth anniversary. Those included messages from the Governments of Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and Viet Nam. The Commission had also received a message from the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). It wished to record its appreciation of those expressions of support for its efforts in the region.

177. The Commission drew attention to the great strides that had been made from the time in 1947, when it had been set up as an agent for economic reconstruction, to its current position as the principal United Nations intergovernmental forum

fostering economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific. It congratulated the secretariat on its catalytic role in numerous regional undertakings over the years, on the usefulness and relevance of its various forms of technical and other assistance, and on the alert manner in which it had responded to the needs of members and associate members.

178. The Commission pointed out that during the past 40 years the region had for the most part achieved impressively vigorous growth, and was currently a leader in world development. ESCAP had played an important part in the processes of progress by encouraging the growth of a spirit of internationalism through promoting regional co-operation for mutual benefit. The unique region-wide ESCAP forum had made it possible to address and resolve a number of common problems productively even amid the formidable difficulties of co-operation inherent in a region of such great diversity. High regard was also expressed for the Commission as a provider of technical assistance, a source of socio-economic development information, and a research facility. The Commission's pragmatic and result-oriented approach, with its emphasis on practical projects, had attracted increasing attention and support over recent years.

179. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the work that had been done in setting up regional institutions, from such early and now autonomous bodies as the Asian Development Bank and the Mekong Committee, to recently-established institutions such as the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology. It recommended that efforts should be made to expand the role of the regional institutions in the work at hand. It was noted, in that regard, that further moral as well as financial support from member countries was required.

180. The Commission noted that, while its current priorities were prudent ones, new areas concerning other common problems also needed to be examined. There should be an expansion of activities in fields such as human resources development, the alleviation of poverty and improvement of the quality of life, all of which to a considerable degree lent themselves to a collective approach among countries. The Commission stressed the usefulness of these topics in creating awareness of

various problems and in highlighting possible solutions, and urged the secretariat to help develop that approach further in the future.

181. Another important task was to find ways to maintain the momentum of the region's relatively rapid economic growth of the past 20 years. ESCAP, as a large regional commission with wide-ranging capacities, could also make its contribution to resolving the international monetary and financial problems of the region. Attention was drawn, however, to the primary role of IMF and the World Bank in that field. In addition, ESCAP could facilitate the exchange of success stories among countries of the region and provide examples of effective practical co-operation to benefit others outside the region.

182. The Commission recommended that members and associate members should also reaffirm their resolve to co-operate more with one another through practical means, such as technology transfer. Some delegations spoke for more active involvement of the Commission in developing regional co-operation in areas that largely shaped scientific and technological progress, such as peaceful uses of outer space, developing ocean resources, energy, biotechnology and electronics.

183. Other steps that the Commission should take in the future, given inter-agency co-operation and an agreed mechanism and methodology, included the enhancement of its designated role as team leader and co-ordinator of United Nations activities in the region, with due regard to the mandates of other United Nations bodies. While relations with other agencies were satisfactory, it was felt that efforts to further enhance co-ordination with agencies within the United Nations system operating in the region would be beneficial.

184. The Commission noted the continuing difficulties experienced by the least developed countries in achieving the goals of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, amid largely stagnant aid inflows, and urged the international community to increase its assistance to those disadvantaged countries under the Programme.

185. Many delegations stated that, in carrying out its work, the Commission

should consider as basic the principles of mutual respect, equality and shared benefit, increased communication, and attainment of common progress. They also "stated that, to be successful, activities should take place in an atmosphere of peace and stability, with adherence by all to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

186. The Commission adopted resolution 259 (XLIII) containing the declaration on the fortieth anniversary of ESCAP.

Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission

187. The Commission commended the secretariat on the comprehensive analysis of development in the ESCAP region contained in the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986.

188. It expressed concern about the unsatisfactory performance of the world economy in 1986 and the continuing uncertainties in the international economic environment. Despite increased co-ordination of macro-economic policies and foreign exchange rates, large trade and other imbalances in the world economy persisted. The fall in the value of the United States dollar, interest rates and the price of oil did not have the strong stimulative effect on the growth of the world economy which had been anticipated at the beginning of the year. The Commission expressed concern at the instability in foreign exchange markets and at the unfavourable effects of the sharp fall in oil prices on some economies of the region.

189. While noting the beneficial effects of international trade and investment flows on the growth of the region, the Commission expressed dismay at the continuing decline in primary commodity prices, the slow-down in the growth of developed market economies and the continuing large imbalances in the world economy, which had strengthened protectionist pressures.

190. The Commission observed that the decline in prices of primary commodities was one of the most important factors in the transmission of the world economic recession of recent years to the developing countries of the region. Since 1980, the world had witnessed a

prolonged downward trend in prices of several primary commodities, severely affecting the export earnings of primary producers in developing countries. The Commission stressed the urgent need for international co-operation to stabilize the commodity prices and to address some of the basic problems of the commodity sector. Instances of agricultural protectionism and subsidization of agricultural exports in some developed countries had seriously hurt a number of agricultural exporters in the region. The Commission welcomed the inclusion of agriculture in the agenda of the new round of international trade negotiations under GATT and hoped that it would lead to the solution of some of the issues in the agricultural sector and further the aims of liberalization and expansion of world trade.

191. The Commission noted that while the average rate of growth of output in the developing countries of the ESCAP region remained high in 1986 in comparison with the rest of the developing world, it had undergone a sharper deceleration than that of other regions. The economic performance of countries of the region varied widely. The natural resources-based and primary producing economies had borne the brunt of the burden of growth deceleration, while some diversified economies had been able to reap the benefits for growth from the fall in oil prices and depreciation of the dollar.

192. The Commission expressed its concern at the growing asymmetry in economic development characterized by the generally slow growth and poor performance of the least developed and island economies of the region. Those economies, the fortunes of which remained largely at the mercy of weather and which were frequently prone to natural disasters, had also suffered inordinately from the continuing fall in the prices of primary commodities. Those factors had led to the reduction in their foreign exchange earnings from primary commodities and tourism, seriously affecting their import capacity and in turn slowing the pace of their growth. In addition, stagnating or declining net capital inflows had aggravated the external debt problems in many of the least developed and Pacific island countries and limited their ability to carry out their development programmes. The Commission stressed the need for a significant increase in official development assistance (ODA)

flows to low-income countries, particularly the least developed and Pacific island countries.

193. The Commission expressed the urgent need for the countries of the region to address themselves to the daunting task of eliminating the massive poverty and continuous misery that afflicted large sections of population in Asia and the Pacific. It recommended a greater focus on the promotion of economic growth and social development as a means to alleviate poverty. Many delegations referred to the increasing focus in their development strategies, policies and programmes on the provision of basic facilities for health, education, nutrition, energy and housing.

194. A number of countries outlined their plans and policies for domestic economic reforms to achieve efficiency, restructuring and modernization of their economies. Among the measures stressed for the achievement of better economic management were reduction of fiscal deficit, increase in domestic savings, control of inflation, rationalization of industries and improvements in the structure of economic incentives.

195. The Commission noted that the external debt burden in the ESCAP region was much less severe than in the other regions and that generally sound economic policies had helped the region to increase its share of commercial loans. Nevertheless, in several countries in the ESCAP region the debt-service ratio had risen steadily from 1980 onwards and, in a number of countries, had exceeded 20 per cent, a limit which often signalled concern about debt-servicing ability. In particular, the debt-service ratio had risen rapidly in some of the least developed countries experiencing sluggish growth in both output and export earnings.

196. The Commission stressed the need for concerted international action to deal with the debt crisis. It called for consideration of ways of alleviating the debt burden by creditors and debtors in a balanced and realistic manner. Many delegations expressed the view that that should be done in the overall context of increased financial resources for development, trade and growth of the developing countries. Creditors should pursue more constructive roles by helping to re-establish economic equilibrium in debtor countries and by recognizing the need for

growth-oriented adjustment programmes. Debtor countries, on the other hand, should continue to implement adjustment programmes consistent with sustained non-inflationary growth. They suggested a number of measures to lighten the debt-service burden of developing countries. Those included ensuring adequate flow of external funds, changing the conditions for balance-of-payments support, early and adequate debt relief, facilitation of lower interest rates, greater stability in exchange rates among major currencies, increased opportunities of trade through greater access to markets, debt/equity swaps and increased foreign direct investment. One delegation stated its willingness to exchange experience on the positive role of the Islamic usury-free system of banking in contributing to the solution of the international debt crisis.

197. The Commission stressed that a major need of the region was strengthening an open international trading system, since access to markets of developed countries was an important means for successful growth in most developing countries. The recent upsurge of protectionist trends in some developed market economies posed a serious threat to the export performance of the developing countries, which had provided the main stimulus for growth of most such economies in the recent past. Many delegations expressed particular concern at the proposal to introduce legislation in the United States to further restrict trade in textiles, which was already under very comprehensive restrictive controls under the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (Multifibre Arrangement) and on which a number of countries in the region continued to rely as a major source of export earnings.

198. The Commission strongly welcomed the start of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations under GATT, expressing both hopes about the final outcome and fears about the adherence to the commitment to a standstill and rollback of protectionism by the developed countries. One delegation expressed the view that in order to be more effective in normalizing the international trade and political climate, the Uruguay Round should have among its participants all countries that had an interest in world trade.

199. The Commission also welcomed the forthcoming meetings of UNCTAD and UNIDO

and expressed the hope that they would further the goals of international co-operation and address themselves to the solution of the urgent problems facing the world economy. Some delegations also expressed similar hope in respect of the Venice summit of the principal industrialized countries. Most delegations expressed the hope that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session would make a decisive effort in the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Commodities and the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

200. Some delegations expressed their support for the proposal to create an international economic security system. Some delegations expressed the view that ESCAP should examine the relationship between disarmament and socio-economic development in the region. In their view, steps reducing military expenditure were most likely to release funds required to address some of the pressing problems of socio-economic development in the world, including the countries of Asia and the Pacific. Some other delegations considered those issues to be extraneous to the terms of reference of ESCAP.

201. In his closing statement, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that, as requested by the Commission at its forty-second session, he had transmitted Commission resolution 255 (XLII) on the Eighth Replenishment of the International Development Association to that Association. He also informed the Commission of the decision of the General Assembly, through its resolution, 41/186, to include Kiribati and Tuvalu in the list of the least developed countries, raising the number of such countries in the ESCAP region to 10.

202. The Executive Secretary took the opportunity to update the information contained in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986* on the performance of European centrally-planned economies in 1986, which was perceptibly stronger than that which the information available at the time of writing the *Survey* had indicated. According to the information contained in the latest Economic Survey of Europe in 1986-1987, released by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on 27 March 1987, the Chernobyl accident did

not have a wide impact on the economies of the Soviet Union or the European centrally-planned economies as a whole and, despite adverse factors, the Soviet Union's net material product had increased by more than 4 per cent in 1986, exceeding the annual plan target of 3.9 per cent for 1986.

203. The Commission reviewed the work of the Commission since its forty-second session as presented in document E/ESCAP/541 and Corr.1.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy

204. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/543, which presented a review of the net inflow of external resources to the region, the factors governing that inflow and some major problems arising from the pattern of the inflow during the first half of the decade.

205. While the Commission appreciated the broad thrust of the document, the secretariat was urged to undertake an in-depth appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, so as to derive the net inflow of external resources in each country of the region.

206. The Commission noted with concern that progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy and attainment of its goals and objectives had fallen far short of expectations. The recommendations made in the Strategy had not resulted in commensurate action, especially at the international level.

207. International trade and capital flows formed the primary economic links between the industrialized and the developing countries. In most of the countries of the region, net capital inflows had either stagnated or actually declined, leading to a fall in their import capacity. In addition, the continuing growth of protectionism in developed countries had hindered necessary structural changes and economic growth in developing countries. The implementation of the Strategy involved structural changes in the international division of labour, in addition to

ensuring the growth of net capital inflows to developing countries, the rise of gross domestic capital formation, acceleration of world trade and expeditious reversal of the current downward trend in the prices of primary commodities.

208. The Commission urged the international community to undertake more effective measures to fulfil the underlying goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries

209. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/542 and Corr.1 and the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986*.

210. The Commission expressed concern at the slow progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. The high expectations among the least developed countries raised by the launching of the Programme of substantial international support for their development plans and programmes had remained unfulfilled. The socio-economic situation in many least developed countries had deteriorated rather than improved during the period since the inception of the Programme. The Commission urged the international community to take immediate action to ensure a substantial alleviation in the desperate plight of the least developed countries and to accelerate efforts to implement the Substantial New Programme of Action in the remaining years of the decade.

211. The Commission reaffirmed that while the primary responsibility for the development of least developed countries rested with the respective countries themselves, international support was essential to complement the efforts of those countries to attain their development objectives. The continuing asymmetry in the world economy and the daunting structural problems of the least developed countries seriously limited the effectiveness of policy measures to promote their own development. As a result, those countries were often the first to bear

the burden of a slow-down and the last to benefit from a recovery in the world economy.

212. The Commission expressed deep concern at the continuing stagnation or decline in ODA flows to most of the least developed countries of the region as revealed in the recent data published in the Survey for 1986. Whereas the Substantial New Programme of Action envisaged doubling the aid flows to the least developed countries by 1985, compared with the average figure for the period 1976-1980, the actual disbursements from all sources to the least developed countries of the region had reached a level only 34 per cent higher than the average figure for that period. The Commission therefore urged the international community to redouble its efforts to fulfil the aid target.

213. While the Commission was pleased to note that some donor countries had surpassed the aid target of contributing 0.15 per cent of their gross national product to the least developed countries or doubling their ODA to the least developed countries as soon as possible, it urged other donor countries which had not yet done so to consider taking appropriate steps to meet the target as early as possible.

214. The Commission noted the activities carried out by the secretariat relating to the least developed countries of the region and expressed its appreciation of the training activities undertaken by the secretariat, especially in the fields of project evaluation and planning and domestic savings mobilization. The Commission noted that during the period under review, a number of workshops, training courses and seminars as well as research studies had been undertaken in, or for the benefit of, those countries. It pointed out, however, that the assistance rendered, while valuable, was modest compared with the needs of those countries. It therefore urged the secretariat to undertake more action-oriented, programmes based on the work already carried out, which would be helpful to the countries of the region in implementing useful policy packages for their development.

215. The representatives of several developing countries informed the Commission that within their ECDC/TCDC

programmes, they had extended assistance to the least developed countries and would be prepared to support any initiative ESCAP might take to assist those countries.

216. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the fourth intercountry programme of UNDP included projects specifically designed to meet the special needs of the increased number of least developed countries in the region. It was pleased to learn that UNDP and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic would organize a follow-up round-table meeting at Vientiane in June 1987.

217. The Commission adopted resolution 261 (XLIII) on implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

Human resources development in Asia and the Pacific: policy options

218. The Commission had before it part two of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986.

219. The Commission complimented the secretariat on having prepared an excellent, in-depth and comprehensive analytical study on human resources development with its focus upon selected components: population, health and nutrition, and education. The secretariat had embarked on a valuable and useful exercise in analysing those aspects which had a direct bearing on human resources development and in attempting to chart the complex interrelations among them. The review of human resources development within the Asian and Pacific region undertaken by the secretariat had not only created an awareness and facilitated acceptance of the fundamental importance of that vital topic, but had also provided a tangible and practical basis for national policy formulation with some valuable suggestions for regional co-operation.

220. One delegation, while generally agreeing with the choice of issues raised in the Survey for 1986, expressed the view that it paid inadequate attention to the negative effects of the activities of transnational corporations on social development, the problems of the "brain drain", overpricing of drugs by

transnational corporations, and possible ways to realize the goals of two important United Nations documents, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. The delegation also expressed doubt about the magnitude of the impact of a rapid fall in fertility on the reduction of poverty. Another delegation questioned some data about his country as contained in the monograph entitled Human Resources Development in Asia and the Pacific: Its Social Dimension.

221. The Commission observed that the human factor played a decisive role in the development of societies and it was the people who were the intended beneficiaries of development. Human capital for economic development was not a new idea. Indeed, it had acquired a new urgency. Partly, that was due to the fact that the rapid growth of raw materials-saving technology in developed countries made it imperative that developing countries reduce their dependence on primary products and emphasize modern-sector activities to increase their income and new employment opportunities. Future growth must spring from structural adjustments involving higher levels of human resources development with more diversified skills. Besides, while other physical frontiers of production, particularly land, had reached the limits of exploitation in many densely populated countries of the Asian and Pacific region, human resources remained largely untapped. The challenge was to make the region's huge population of 2.7 billion more productive in an era of rapid technological change. The region's economic future was thus closely tied to the effective use of its enormous human resources.

222. The Commission recognized that human resources development was a broad concept encompassing many aspects and was equally essential in both economic and social sectors. The specific components which should receive emphasis in a nation's human resources development would differ from country to country, depending on the stage of development. The secretariat study had also indicated that there was significant contrast in terms of indicators such as literacy, education or birth rates among countries with comparable economic characteristics or

colonial histories. That indicated that solutions to various problems in human resources development could not be uniform and simple. Yet, the issues and problems encountered by many countries in the field of human resources development were similar in many respects, offering immense scope for strengthening regional co-operation with a view to fostering greater interchange of experience among countries of the region as well as developing and strengthening national capabilities in human resources planning and development.

223. The Commission noted that there were strong interrelations among various aspects of human resources development requiring sustained attention over long periods of time. The interface of education with basic needs and its effect on fertility, longevity, employment and productivity were particularly emphasized. The Commission therefore recommended that ESCAP should formulate a time-bound, result-oriented, integrated human resources development plan. It also welcomed the proposal made by the Government of Japan to host an expert group meeting to discuss issues involved in an integrated plan of action for human resources development at Tokyo.

224. Within the Asian and Pacific region, there was considerable diversity in the balance between human and other resources. First, there were countries where the continuing rapid growth of population, propelled by declining mortality and high fertility, on an already high base seriously constrained the availability of resources for improvements in living standards, employment opportunities, and investment in "population quality". Second, there were countries where, although the absolute size of population was not yet very large, high rates of population growth created difficult pressures for greater public expenditure on health, maternal and child care, educational infrastructure and other services. Third, some countries could be considered underpopulated in relation to land, mineral or other physical resources. The Commission therefore emphasized the importance of careful population planning as a basis for sound human resources development policies and for having a differentiated population policy in keeping with economic and social development goals and in harmony with environmental protection, ecological balance and the use of natural resources.

225. Such planning should also take into account the fact that most countries of the region had a relatively high proportion of youth in their population, demanding the creation of opportunities for their education, training and employment. It was noted that population variables such as size, growth rate, composition, spatial distribution and mobility were of great significance for investment decisions in such fields as housing, health and education.

226. The Commission observed that health and nutrition had an important bearing on human resources development. Health and nutrition conditions and policies determined the vitality and participation rate of the labour force.

227. While many countries in the region had made significant strides in the area of health and nutrition, as was shown in the reduction of infant mortality and the increase in life expectancy, there was still a long way to go. Nutrition remained a major problem in many areas, particularly among children and women. In many of the countries of the Pacific, the problem had been compounded by dietary changes owing to exposure to imported food. Millions of people still lived in shanty dwellings. Many children in the region died before their first birthday. The problem was more serious in the least developed countries.

228. The Commission took note of the urgency of providing adequate nutrition to all segments of the population, expanding primary health care facilities and strengthening preventive programmes in health systems.

229. Education was perhaps the most essential element in human resources development. There was hardly any dispute about the cognitive as well as non-cognitive benefits of education for human resources development. Schooling imparted specific knowledge and developed general reasoning and skills which served as a basis for all further training, whether vocational, informal or formal. It also induced changes in beliefs, ideas and attitudes towards work and society. It played a crucial role in overcoming poverty, not only by increasing incomes but also by improving health and nutrition. However, it was important to note that educational schemes should enhance knowledge, skill and experience in order to be useful, consistent and

flexible in meeting various components of demand. The schemes were a means to maximize labour utilization and productivity.

230. The structural changes that would be inevitable in the economies of the region in the near future would require more varied human resources development in terms of greater mobility of the labour force across sectors, occupations and regions. That in turn demanded higher levels of literacy and education with the flexibility to produce skill patterns which would have to change with the new requirements of the market, placing new demands on technological, engineering, research and development and marketing capabilities.

231. The aggregate literacy rate in the region was about 64 per cent. It was well below the regional average in most of the least developed countries. There was therefore a pressing need to pay urgent attention to primary education and mass literacy.

232. The Commission took note of the need to expand education systems while ensuring equitable access and conditions for success, improving the internal efficiency and establishing greater relevance of the output of schools to the skill requirements of economies. Those issues were also relevant to the skill delivery systems.

233. The Commission took note of the existing inequalities in the distribution of services related to human resources development. An important aspect of those inequalities was that the majority of people in the region lived in the rural areas with comparatively little access to the minimum basic facilities of education and health. It expressed the view that correcting those inequalities was difficult without any growth in per capita resources and hence there was a need for greater allocation of funds to human resources development activities at both national and international levels.

234. Many delegations spoke of the progress achieved and strategies and policies adopted in their countries in respect of expanding access to a variety of services related to human resources development, increasing efficiency in their delivery, improving equity in their distribution and involving local communities in financing and management of those

services. The Commission also took note of the work done by various member States in the field of girls' education and improvement of the status of women through education.

235. Several delegations mentioned the contribution that their countries/organizations were making towards human resources development by providing scholarships, fellowships and training facilities and supporting ECDC/TCDC activities.

236. Taking note of the relevance and importance of regional co-operation and multi-disciplinary research in the field of human resources development, the Commission endorsed a number of suggestions on which the ESCAP secretariat could work in the future, among which were the following:

(1) Preparation of a long-term integrated plan of action on human resources development, taking into account the special needs of the least developed countries.

(2) Development of a comprehensive human resources development index.

(3) Playing an advocacy role in providing early warning against measures that retarded human resources development.

(4) Establishment of a focal point within ESCAP to maintain close relations among various international organizations in the region working in the area of human resources development.

(5) Establishment of linkages between countries in the fields of manpower planning, employment, and research and training in scientific and technological fields.

(6) Research and development of data-based information systems on the structure and processes of labour markets.

(7) Dissemination of information, provision of a forum for exchange of experience and personnel, and promotion of research and training activities, including training of trainers and experts, especially those for popularizing science and technology in rural areas, and ECDC/TCDC activities, so necessary for human resources development.

(8) Laying emphasis on the removal of disparities and equalization of educational opportunities.

(9) Undertaking comparative, intercountry, analytical studies on policies and programmes in human resources development as identified in the Survey for 1986, and particularly those relating to the implications and consequences of aging population in developing countries, cost-effective measures to bring about improvements in the urban health environment and patterns of inequality in access to human resources development services.

237. The Commission adopted resolution 260 (XLIII) on an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development and resolution 263 (XLIII) on the social aspects of human resources development.

Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994: review of progress of implementation

238. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/544.

239. It reiterated its strong support for the goals and objectives of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994. It endorsed the strategy for the implementation of the programmes for the Decade adopted by the secretariat: human resources development; transfer of technology; intraregional, interregional and international co-operation; optimum utilization of infrastructure, including maintenance; and improvement of transport and communications to rural and isolated communities. It emphasized that the approach to the implementation of those programmes should be rational, practical and pragmatic to ensure the effective and optimum utilization of the limited existing resources. Emphasis should be placed on low-cost, action-oriented projects, and programmes should be geared to the immediate and direct needs of the developing countries of the region.

240. The Commission noted with satisfaction the implementation of a number of the programmes for the Decade and projects by the secretariat since the forty-second session. In that connection, the Commission recalled that out of

51 project profiles under the regional programme of action for the Decade, 10 had been deferred or deleted as a result of the further sharpening by the secretariat of the priority of projects as recommended by the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications at its ninth session and the Commission at its forty-second session. It also took note of a recommendation of the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting, which had been held in December 1986, that a demonstration project on a cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunications system be included in the programmes of the Decade for implementation during 1987-1991.

241. In reviewing the priority of the programmes for the Decade, the Commission recommended that the following projects should be accorded high priority: (a) modernization and rehabilitation of existing railways: (b) umbrella project on regional co-operation for the development of rural road transport infrastructure as a part of integrated rural development: (c) umbrella project on rationalization of energy used in transport: (d) economic modelling of the transport and communications sector for development, (e) projects on land-use planning: (f) study to promote intra-regional and interregional rail-cum-sea transport: (g) the urban transport crisis in the developing ESCAP region: (h) modernization of telecommunication systems of railways: (i) improved training programmes for railway personnel: (j) survey of technological developments and adaptation in the field of railways: (k) expansion of the Asian Highway network and promotion of international traffic: (l) the Asian Railway master plan: (m) standardization for the different segments of the Trans-Asian Railway network: (n) technology transfer: (o) energy-saving technology: (p) manpower development: (q) development of a standard cost-effective electrification system for railways of the region: (r) port pricing and investment policy: (s) a regional approach to appropriate computerization in ports: and (t) development of inland water transport.

242. The Commission noted that since the Decade had already entered its second phase, it might be desirable for the secretariat to take a further step, through country missions, to assist the member countries in the evaluation of their implementation of the programmes for the Decade at national and regional

levels, since the results of such an evaluation would determine the direction in which the secretariat activities for the Decade would be carried out in the middle and second part of the Decade. The Commission also felt that the secretariat should consider convening a meeting of national co-ordination committees for the Decade to identify the major areas of activity to be implemented during the later part of the Decade. The view was expressed that following the theme of the current session of the Commission, "Human resources development", the secretariat should study the question of the usefulness of establishing a regional transport research centre to enable the developing member countries to increase the professional skills of their transport officials. The Commission felt that the secretariat should co-ordinate fully with the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) in the implementation of the activities for the Decade relating to maritime transport, and avoid duplication of activities that were included in the SPEC maritime development programme.

243. The Commission noted with appreciation the provision by the Government of France, of an air transport planning expert, based in Bangkok, and attached to the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division. The expert would carry out his duties within the ESCAP region with a special emphasis on the Pacific countries. Such an arrangement would be ideal for the execution of his assignment. It also noted with appreciation: the offer made by the USSR to conduct in 1987 a seminar-cum-study tour on road construction and maintenance in marshy and arid areas; the fact that the Soviet Union was considering the question of organizing trial rail-cum-sea shipments between Europe and the ESCAP region by the Soviet Railways and the USSR Merchant Marine; and its offer to provide 35 extra fellowships annually in the USSR railway institutes for the countries of the region.

244. The Commission took note of a request made by Thailand for the secretariat to explore the possibility of exchanging experience and information on the role of the private sector in investment, operation and service, quality improvement as well as in tariff reviews so as to allow the State enterprises in all modes of transport and communications to be self-financed and to reduce government

subsidies. It also took note of a suggestion by a delegation that the secretariat should study and disseminate information on the efficient operation of State-owned transport and communications organizations. The Commission took note of a request made by Bhutan that suspension bridges, cable ways, and mule tracks should be brought under the purview of the activities planned for the Decade since those continued to play a vital role in providing accessibility to large sections of the rural population living in isolated valleys of the country. The Commission also noted a request for the secretariat to carry out an inventory of the main navigable rivers of the region and to prepare a report for the Commission at its forty-fourth session covering the work undertaken and any problems encountered by ESCAP and other United Nations organizations concerned during the Decade to date.

245. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) had received an allocation of \$US 1.4 million for implementing two regional telecommunication projects within the framework of the Transport and Communications Decade. It also noted with satisfaction the continued co-operation and co-ordination between the ESCAP secretariat and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) with regard to activities in the field of air transport. It noted with appreciation the offers of technical assistance and co-operation to the ESCAP secretariat by other organizations, such as the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the South East Asian Agency for Regional Transport and Communications Development (SEATAC), in the implementation of the programmes for the Decade.

246. The Commission urged the donor countries and financial institutions, particularly UNDP, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank, to consider favourably the provision of financial assistance to the secretariat to enable it to implement the regional action programme of the Decade more effectively.

247. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Governments of Australia, China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the USSR, and to UNDP, for their active support of

ESCAP activities within the framework of the Transport and Communications Decade, and to those countries which informed the Commission of their continued support, namely Australia, China, France, Japan and the USSR.

Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP

248. The Commission considered the reports of the legislative committees which had met during the year prior to the forty-third session, and of the Meetings of Ministers of Industry and Technology and Ministers of Trade, and the sectoral issue papers.

249. In his opening statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the major issues in the various fields of activity of ESCAP presented in the documents. Attention was drawn to the possible causes of and solutions for dealing with the debt crisis within the region and the impact of price instability on agricultural commodities. Attention was also drawn to such issues as the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific and the activities under the ESCAP Plan of Action on National and Regional Initiatives for Human Resources Development: Its Technological Dimensions.

250. The Commission reviewed the issues in the various sectors, as reflected below.

Issues in various fields of activity

Food and agriculture

251. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/558.

252. It reiterated the importance of agriculture in the national economies and regional development of ESCAP members and associate members. The agricultural sector continued to constitute a high proportion of gross domestic product in most countries. Consequently, the sector had a direct bearing on the livelihood of farmers as well as on social stability. While many countries of the region had attained considerable success in developing their food and agriculture sector, the rate of growth remained slow, to a large extent owing to farmers' limited

knowledge of modern technologies. The restricted progressive structure of the economy was cited as another reason for slow agricultural growth and was represented by sluggish development of co-operatives, outdated forms of land ownership and use, and lack of integrated planning for rural areas. Furthermore, agricultural development was currently hampered owing to trade protectionism and the downward trend of agricultural prices.

253. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's continuing efforts to improve the food and agricultural situation in the region. It also commended its steady and practical initiatives in that direction. The suggestion was made that the programme activities in the field of food and agriculture be evaluated at the forthcoming session of the Committee on Agricultural Development, with a view to continuing the successful programme in that field.

Regional co-operative arrangement for fertilizer marketing

254. The Commission expressed support in principle for the proposed regional co-operative arrangement for fertilizer marketing, as it felt that benefits could be derived through increased bargaining power and better knowledge of the fertilizer market. It was felt that especially countries with limited fertilizer requirements, landlocked and island developing countries, might be interested in the establishment of such a multinational fertilizer marketing enterprise.

255. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Technical Meeting on Co-operation among State Trading Organizations in Fertilizers, held at Jakarta in October 1986, that a technical working group be formed which would make an in-depth study of the economic viability of the enterprise and define its equity structure. It recognized that in view of the wide variation in the size of potential members and their demands for fertilizer, equal contributions would not be justified. The technical working group should examine the possibility of a fixed minimum participation, with additional amounts of equity to be contributed according to the annual fertilizer volume purchased through the enterprise. It should take into consideration, among other things, the different national

requirements based on fertilizer recommendations and the seasonal pattern of its use. Furthermore, it was pointed out that purchases under aid or through grants, as well as bilateral trade agreements and procurement under barter and counter-trade arrangements, would probably not qualify for channelling through the enterprise. That could exclude certain countries from participating in the co-operative arrangement.

256. Some delegations expressed the view that the membership of the enterprise should not be restricted to State trading organizations alone and that the private sector should be allowed to participate. It should also be considered that the activities of the enterprise were not in conflict with the liberal import policies of certain member countries. Concern was expressed over the availability of financial resources for the study to be conducted by the technical working group as well as for the establishment of the proposed enterprise. The Commission requested that the report of the technical working group be submitted to the Committee on Agricultural Development at its seventh session to be held at Bangkok in November 1987.

Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific

257. The Commission expressed overwhelming support for the ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) in promoting the judicious use of fertilizers through advisory services, training programmes, workshops, study tours and the dissemination of fertilizer-related information. It was felt that member countries in the region had benefited considerably from the above activities in the development of their fertilizer sector. FADINAP was viewed as a well-co-ordinated and successful venture, strongly founded on inter-agency and intercountry co-operation. The Commission endorsed the proposed activities of FADINAP as outlined in document E/ESCAP/558. Many of those activities were guided by the principle of TCDC, which was highly commended.

258. The Commission noted with appreciation the assistance of FADINAP to member countries in conducting training of fertilizer retailers. Those training programmes were viewed as being highly

beneficial because the trained retailers were not only selling fertilizers to the farmers but also imparting technical know-how. The Commission requested FADINAP to organize such training activities at regular intervals for the benefit of member countries.

259. It commended FADINAP on having organized two training courses on negotiation techniques for fertilizer importers. Those programmes had given fertilizer marketing executives an excellent opportunity to improve their negotiating skills, which would help them in future procurement exercises.

260. The Commission expressed appreciation of the initiative of FADINAP in establishing a network of fertilizer information systems. The representative of Japan informed the Commission of his Government's contribution to that activity for 1987. The advisory services provided by FADINAP in the identification of national participating centres of the network were considered to be very beneficial. Donor countries and agencies were urged to provide the requisite resources for the establishment of those national fertilizer information centres. The Commission also commended FADINAP on having organized the regional training workshop on fertilizer information transfer, which had familiarized the participants with the latest developments in information technology.

261. The representative of the United Kingdom informed the Commission of the involvement of his Government in FADINAP activities through the provision of an information expert. He confirmed that support at a similar level would be available in 1987, with the possibility of additional support through a consultant who would help FADINAP member countries to establish national fertilizer information centres. In that connection, the representative of Thailand requested the assistance of FADINAP in establishing a computerized fertilizer information centre along international standards, including the training of its staff.

262. The Commission noted with satisfaction the organization of the Seminar on Import Management of Chemical Fertilizers, held at Helsinki, Finland and Rotterdam, the Netherlands in May 1986. The Seminar had provided the participants with an opportunity to acquire better knowledge of fertilizer procurement through discussions and study visits.

263. It also noted with satisfaction the organization of the Symposium on Fertilizer Sulphur Requirements and Sources in Developing Countries of Asia and the Pacific, held at Bangkok in January 1987, to which the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research had contributed. The Symposium had created an awareness of the need to replenish plant nutrient sulphur in the soils of the region.

264. The Commission expressed appreciation of the fertilizer trade information service provided by FADINAP to member countries, both regularly and on an ad hoc basis, and urged it to continue that valuable service.

265. It expressed sincere gratitude to the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands for providing continuous financial assistance to FADINAP. It also thanked the Governments of Belgium, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and all other donors for the assistance provided in various activities of FADINAP.

266. The Commission noted with satisfaction the support received by FADINAP from FAO in technical matters, and the provision of the services of the team leader and two associate professional officers within the framework of the FAO fertilizer programme.

267. The representative of the Netherlands gratefully acknowledged the compliments of the Commission on its being the pioneer and the most important donor of FADINAP. He recommended that the past activities and experience of FADINAP should be evaluated. He urged the member countries to shoulder the institutional burden of FADINAP. In that connection, he suggested that the cost of FADINAP publications could be partially covered through earnings from advertisements.

268. The Commission urged the donor countries and agencies to continue and further expand their generous support to enable FADINAP to carry out its important activities.

Agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific

269. The Commission noted with appreciation the continued efforts of the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) to disseminate information

on pesticides, as well as to promote their safe handling and efficient use. The publications distributed by ARSAP were considered to be highly relevant for the safety of farmers and pesticide industry workers. Two delegations expressed appreciation of the provision of such publications in their respective national languages. The Commission further suggested that ARSAP should link its useful activities to the FAO efforts in implementing the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, which had been adopted by the FAO Conference at its twenty-third session in 1985, and for which the Government of Japan was generously providing financial resources. The Commission thanked the Governments of France and the Netherlands for their continued generous support of ARSAP activities.

270. The Commission endorsed the proposal for the establishment of a pesticide safety, training, information and communication network for Asia and the Pacific. Several delegations suggested that, in view of its technical nature, the proposal should be presented to the Committee on Agricultural Development for discussion at its seventh session.

271. The Commission noted with satisfaction the ARSAP initiative with regard to the establishment of a regional information system on high-quality seeds, in co-operation with FAO and the International Co-operation Center of Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD) of France. In that connection, the hope was expressed that that initiative would contribute to the research and development of improved local varieties, since imported seeds had proved to be unsuitable in many instances. The Government of France was thanked for its generous support to that project.

272. Recognizing the important role of agricultural requisites in agricultural development, the representative of France expressed his Government's intention to give further support to ARSAP with regard to the consolidation of its activities in the area of seeds, as well as information dissemination and environmental impact analysis of pesticides.

Agricultural development plans and programmes

273. The Commission note that dryland and rainfed farming accounted for over 60

per cent of the farmland in the region. The development of those areas were, therefore, very important in order to increase agricultural production and 'attain rural development. The Commission supported the initiatives taken jointly by ESCAP and the Commonwealth Secretariat to promote appropriate understanding of dryland farming. It endorsed the recommendations of the Expert Consultation On the Economics of Dryland and Rainfed Farming, held at Dhaka in November 1986, and requested the secretariat to undertake follow-up work on the economic dimensions of the topic. It urged donors to provide the needed resources for that purpose.

274. The Commission felt that a multi-dimensional regional study on agricultural prices, trade and production linkages was of the utmost importance because of the current adverse impact of declining world agricultural export prices on the production, employment and export earnings of ESCAP members and associate members. It welcomed the proposal of the secretariat to conduct a study on the subject. It requested that in pursuance of the study, data collected and analysed by FAO and other organizations should be utilized as much as possible. Furthermore, the suggestion was made that measures to solve the problems of tariff and non-tariff barriers and subsidies should be entrusted to GATT. The Commission requested donors to financially support the proposed activities of the secretariat in that area.

275. The Commission expressed its appreciation to China for 'hosting the Seminar on the Responsibility System in Agricultural Production in China, in August-September 1986. The Seminar was considered to be useful as it had shown the remarkable results achieved in the agricultural sector through reforms made in the production system of China. The representative of China announced that two follow-up projects were expected to be implemented in his country in 1988 or beyond: one seminar on agricultural development and township enterprises and another on the use of recycled organic matter.

Agricultural information and farm broadcasting

276. The Commission highly commended the coverage, content and quality of the Agricultural Information Development Bulletin, which had been very helpful in supporting agricultural extension

programmes. The secretariat was urged to continue its communication-related activities by publishing the Bulletin on a regular basis and making further efforts to improve its quality so as to make it more useful.

277. The representative of Japan announced the decision of his Government to contribute \$US 40,115 for that project. The Commission expressed appreciation to Japan for the contribution.

278. The Commission commended the secretariat on having assisted in the organization of a series of workshop/training courses on farm broadcasting for the benefit of a number of ESCAP members and associate members since 1980, including two training workshops conducted in Viet Nam in 1986. It appreciated the benefits derived from the training workshops in improving the capabilities of farm broadcasting programme planners and producers. It was felt that the secretariat should strengthen as well as diversify the project activities in the light of recent remarkable progress in technology and programme design in the field of mass communications.

279. The Commission welcomed the secretariat's plan to organize a regional symposium to provide member countries with an opportunity to share their experience in farm broadcasting and to develop a set of training guidelines on the subject. The representative of Japan expressed the intention of his Government to continue support to the project on regional co-operation in farm broadcasting. He informed the Commission that his Government had already allocated funds for the regional symposium. The Commission expressed appreciation of the generous support of Japan to the project on a continuing basis.

Food supply and distribution

280. The Commission commended the ESCAP/United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/United States Agency for International Development (USAID) agro-climatic assessment project which, during the period 1984-1986, had enabled nine countries of the region to become self-reliant in a rainfall-based, drought early warning system. Thailand, currently facing a severe drought, was especially thankful for the technology because the very

timely early warning had enabled the Government to take corrective action. The Commission noted the efforts of the secretariat to secure funding for the second phase of the project, which was designed to introduce inexpensive satellite crop-monitoring to complement and strengthen the simple rainfall analysis system introduced during the earlier phase. In view of the contribution that that technology had made towards self-reliant resource management of the member countries, the Commission strongly urged donors to fund that follow-up to the very successful project.

281. It was noted that the project on a South Asian food security reserve had made rapid progress in recent months. It was considered important for food-deficit countries to devise such a system. In that context, the self-help efforts of the countries concerned were praised.

Fisheries and aquaculture development

282. The Commission commended the secretariat on placing emphasis on fishery development, especially aquaculture, which was gaining in importance as a source of protein food supply, rural employment and foreign currency earning, and hoped that it would continue activities in that field. In that context, interest was expressed in benefiting from the Indian experience in recycling wastes for fish culture. The representative of Bangladesh conveyed appreciation of the secretariat's assistance in conducting a socio-economic survey of fish ponds in his country.

Rural development

283. With rising populations juxtaposed against shrinking employment opportunities on the land, non-farm employment needed to be vigorously pursued, especially in the less developed countries of the region. The Commission therefore strongly endorsed the joint ESCAP/ILO non-farm employment promotion project.

284. The representative of the Republic of Korea reported his Government's efforts to increase the non-farm income of farmers through the introduction of small and medium-scale industries in the rural areas. He expressed his country's willingness to share its experience through TCDC programmes or other types of arrangement. The representative of ILO

reiterated his organization's support to the project.

285. The secretariat's local-level planning project was noted with interest. The project had clarified many important issues of decentralized planning and had proved useful in formulating planning guidelines. Regret was expressed at its discontinuation in the work programme on food and agriculture for 1988-1989.

Utilization of agricultural residues

286. The Commission was informed of the progress made on the activities related to utilization of agricultural residues as an energy source for productive activities, which had recently been implemented as a part of phase II of the regional energy development programme funded by UNDP.

287. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had produced a useful publication entitled *Utilization of Agricultural Residues as Energy Sources for Productive Activities in the ESCAP Region*, containing selected papers that had been presented to the regional planning workshop on that topic held at Bangkok in June 1985. It also noted that the secretariat had organized a regional workshop, with special reference to the socio-economic and policy issues of agricultural residue use for energy, which had been held at Bangkok in November 1986. The workshop had been attended by representatives of China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand, as well as an observer from the Netherlands. It adopted recommendations for follow-up activities, including a study of socio-economic constraints to the diffusion of new and renewable sources of energy and a seminar-cum-study tour on gasification of rice husks and other biomass.

288. The Commission fully endorsed the recommendations for follow-up activities of the regional workshop. It expressed gratitude to UNDP for its financial support to the project and urged UNDP and donor Countries to provide the necessary financial support for follow-up activities.

Development planning

289. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/538, containing the

report of the Committee on Development Planning on its sixth session, and generally endorsed its recommendations.

290. It expressed satisfaction with the high quality of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986*, and indicated that the publication had become a useful source of information and contained valuable analysis concerning the social and economic development of ESCAP members and associate members.

291. The Commission stressed the need for emphasizing in the work of the secretariat the major aspects of human resources development having a considerable bearing on economic growth, distributive justice, employment and technology development. Those aspects and relationships should be closely examined in future issues of the Survey, especially in the context of production efficiency and the development of the service sector. It also emphasized the need to pay closer attention to major domestic policy issues, including poverty and unemployment, structural imbalances and long-run economic growth, fertility changes and the age structure of population. The Commission supported the secretariat's new series of seminars on development experience in the developing countries of the ESCAP region, the first of which had been held in China. It urged the secretariat to undertake more such seminars to enable the member countries to benefit from the exchange of information on the rich variety of experience in development policies in the region. The Commission requested the donors to provide increased extra-budgetary funds for conducting such activities, subject to the availability of resources.

292. The Commission appreciated the secretariat's continuing work on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the *International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade*. It recommended that issues relating to the mutual interdependence of international resource flows, trade and finance should be further highlighted in the secretariat's work. The Commission reiterated its endorsement of a comprehensive review of the implementation of the *International Development Strategy* as the topic for part two of the Survey for 1989.

293. The Commission expressed concern at the serious development problems facing the least developed and island developing

countries. It endorsed the secretariat's emphasis on technical assistance, in the form of advisory, consultancy and training services in its activities in favour of those countries. It also pointed out the need for redeployment of secretariat resources for the effective implementation of a priority secretariat activity in the new subprogramme on special measures in favour of island developing countries.

294. It expressed strong support for the secretariat activities in the fields of macro-economic modelling and projections. It urged the secretariat to pay closer attention to the need for improved data bases, and to undertake a less ambitious extension of the short-term model covering only merchandise and non-factor services flows.

295. The Commission took note of the successful conduct of training courses and seminars, and the continuing co-operation extended to ESCAP by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the implementation of secretariat training activities in development planning and management. It, however, emphasized the need for a continuous review of the choice of topics for those courses and seminars to reflect their relevance to the needs of the countries. The Commission took note of the offer of the Government of India, made at the sixth session of the Committee on Development Planning, to host and bear the associated expenses for a seminar on fiscal relations between central and state/provincial governments some time during fiscal year 1988/89. The Commission supported the secretariat's renewed activity in the field of public finance and urged it to concentrate on training activities in that field.

Transnational corporations

296. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/538 and E/ESCAP/551.

297. It endorsed the conclusions and recommendations pertaining to transnational corporations in the report of the Committee on Development Planning on its sixth session.

298. The Commission noted recent trends and problems with respect to flows of foreign direct investment to developing countries in the region, and the policies

and measures introduced by countries in order to maintain or enhance direct investment in the face of recent adverse developments. Some delegations also noted the close interrelationship which existed between foreign direct investment by transnational corporations and recent adverse developments with respect to international trade and finance, particularly protectionist tendencies in major world markets and external debt problems affecting the capabilities of developing countries to service foreign debt and investments. Those factors, among others, limited the scope for rapid expansion of foreign direct investment and replacement of debt by equity in developing countries. The Commission observed, however, that despite those constraints, several developing countries in the region had taken steps to further liberalize their foreign investment policies so as to encourage larger flows of capital and technology in accordance with national priorities. It further noted that the success of such efforts depended to a considerable extent upon the maintenance of a liberal environment for world trade and the establishment of a stable and equitable international framework governing direct investment and technology transfer by transnational corporations.

299. Most delegations recognized the significant and positive role played by transnational corporations in world economic development generally, as well as the development of the Asian and Pacific region in particular. They also agreed that transnational corporations had proved to be dynamic agents for economic development by making available capital, technology, management skills and marketing expertise, providing market access, and assisting in the development of local entrepreneurship. They had contributed, *inter alia*, to industrialization, creation of employment opportunities, and stimulation of export earnings of developing countries in the region.

300. Most delegations also recognized that transnational corporations could exact a heavy toll from host developing countries in terms of payments for services and through the negative impact of some of their activities. While noting that the profit maximization goal of transnational corporations did not necessarily harm the interests of host countries, most delegations stressed the need for ensuring that the activities of such corporations were compatible with

the socio-economic objectives of the host country. In that context most delegations expressed the view that transnational corporation activities should be complementary to national efforts, and contribute, in particular, to the development of high technology fields, capital-intensive projects, export-oriented ventures, and activities with high local value-added and forward and backward linkages. Most delegations also acknowledged the need for establishing and implementing appropriate national policies and regulations in order to maximize the benefits and minimize the negative impact of transnational corporation activities. Many delegations recognized the need for providing a stable and sound environment for transnational corporation investments.

301. Many delegations acknowledged that transnational corporations could play a significant role in human resources development in the host countries, especially by generating high-level technological and managerial skills. Training programmes offered by transnational corporations provided an effective means for enhancing skills and knowledge; however, one delegation also noted that transnational corporations had a limited capacity to influence human resources development in extractive sectors. Host developing countries could maximize the benefits from transnational corporations in the area of human resources by encouraging joint ventures with those corporations, stipulating rules regarding employment and training, and incorporating training requirements into contractual agreements with them.

302. Many delegations stressed the importance of considering carefully the environmental consequences of transnational corporation activities in host countries and taking steps to minimize possible adverse environmental consequences resulting from those activities. The Commission recommended that due consideration should be given to environmental protection by incorporating environmental and industrial safety considerations into the approval process for foreign investment and other forms of participation by transnational corporations. It was also acknowledged that private business, including transnational corporations, could play a constructive role in maintaining the quality of the environment. One delegation pointed out that transnational corporations might indulge in double standards in environ-

mental and occupational safety matters. Improved co-ordination between government, business and non-governmental organizations could ameliorate the environmental impact of transnational corporations. In view of the critical role played by such corporations in many areas sensitive to environmental damage, many delegations suggested that the secretariat consider the possibility of undertaking some work in conjunction with the International Programme on Chemical Safety on the question of management of hazardous chemicals.

303. The Commission's attention was drawn to the findings of the Seminar on the Role of Business and Government in Environmental Management in Asia and the Pacific, held at Bangkok in January 1986, organized by the World Resource Institute in collaboration with the East-West Center, with assistance from UNEP, which showed that foreign-owned businesses had important financial, technological and managerial resources which could be harnessed for sustainable development in host developing countries, along with those of large domestically-owned firms. Attention was also drawn to the recommendation of that Seminar that greater attention needed to be paid by developing countries to implementation, monitoring and enforcement of environmental regulations. The Commission noted with appreciation the collaboration of UNEP with the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations in conducting a survey of transnational corporations in environmental management in selected countries of the Asian and Pacific region, and the continued willingness of UNEP to collaborate with ESCAP in order to strengthen activities related to the environmental aspects of the operations of transnational corporations.

304. Many delegations recognized the significant role played by transnational corporations in the service sector, which constituted an important part of the economies of most Asian and Pacific developing countries. They noted that transnational corporation participation had been increasing, owing to a variety of factors, in a wide range of service industries of developing countries in the region. They also noted the diversity of host country policies and recent policy changes with respect to transnational corporation activities in the service sectors of Asian and Pacific developing economies. In view of the vital role of

the service sector in providing the infrastructure for socio-economic development and providing employment, and the socio-cultural significance of certain service industries, they emphasized the need for a careful consideration of issues and analysis of costs and benefits relating to transnational corporation participation in services.

305. The Commission underlined the importance of regional co-operation on matters relating to transnational corporations, in the form of exchange of information, experience and expertise which could promote mutually beneficial arrangements between transnational corporations and host countries and encourage intraregional flows of investment and technology. It reiterated its support for the establishment of a regional information network on transnational corporations, which would improve the knowledge and understanding of host developing countries regarding transnational corporations, and help countries to formulate appropriate policies and evaluate costs and benefits relating to transnational corporation participation. It agreed that the establishment of a regional information network would enhance the capabilities of host developing countries in the region to mobilize the contributions of transnational corporations for national development while minimizing any negative effects that such corporations might have. It expressed the hope that the activities of the secretariat with respect to the regional information network would be undertaken without much delay and that the requisite financial and human resources support would be forthcoming.

306. The Commission expressed the view that negotiations on the draft code of conduct on transnational corporations should be completed without further delay. The early adoption of the code would provide clear and common terms of reference and assist significantly in contributing towards enhancing the socio-economic benefits from transnational corporation activities while minimizing their negative effects. Most delegations emphasized the need for maintaining harmonious and mutually beneficial relationships between host countries and transnational corporations. The Commission agreed that there was an urgent need for developed countries to co-operate and for developing countries to press for an early conclusion to the code of conduct.

In the context of international arrangements with respect to foreign investment, many delegations also noted that the establishment of the Multi-lateral Investment Guarantee Agency to provide guarantees against certain categories of risk and undertake activities to promote foreign direct investment could encourage the flow of transnational corporation investments to developing countries. One delegation, however, expressed doubt as to whether resources should be expended on the implementation activities of the code of conduct, given the lack of progress in concluding it.

307. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the research, information and advisory activities of the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations. Several delegations expressed the view that the training programmes and advisory services offered by ESCAP and UNCTC had effectively improved the negotiating capabilities of national private and public sectors in dealing with transnational corporations and assisted the efforts of their Governments to promote and regulate foreign investment. One delegation cautioned that proposals for technical and advisory services should be carefully examined to ensure that they delivered real and positive results. The Commission expressed its strong support for the continuation and expansion of the services provided by the Joint Unit in order to assist developing countries, particularly those with limited experience, in their efforts to maximize the benefits of transnational corporation activities in their economies while minimizing the negative impact of such activities.

Industry, technology and human settlements

308. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/537 and E/ESCAP/545.

309. It expressed appreciation to the Ministers of Industry and Technology, and to their senior officials, for their hard work at their meetings and of the high quality of the findings and recommendations, as reflected in document E/ESCAP/537. It welcomed the initiative taken by the secretariat in holding a meeting on the subjects of both industry and technology, as the two were closely linked and of equal importance in promoting the growth, diversification and modernization

of the economy. It considered the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology to have been a success and endorsed its report.

310. The Commission supported the emphasis given by the Ministers to the importance of a favourable world trade and economic environment to promote further industrial growth and technical progress in the region. In that context, particular mention was made of the harmful effects of growing protectionism, low commodity prices and subsidized agricultural exports. Those problems persisted and had increasingly threatened the prospects for recovery of the developing countries.

311. The attention given by the Ministers to the diversity that existed among countries with respect to experience and approaches to development was considered highly appropriate. That diversity pointed to the need for each country to adopt policies and strategies to suit its own circumstances and resource endowments. It also created opportunities for useful exchange of views and learning from each other's experience.

312. The Commission held the view that substantive discussions had taken place at the Ministers' Meeting on policy issues related to industrial and technological development and on measures to strengthen regional and subregional co-operation in those two fields. It felt that the issues considered were topical and relevant to the problems facing the region. It further noted that the report of the Meeting contained valuable advice to the Commission and provided useful guidance to the secretariat in planning its work, especially with regard to giving consideration to a wide range of policy issues of concern to the region.

313. The Commission supported the recommendation that the secretariat should organize expert group meetings and seminars on such matters as industrial restructuring, rationalization of industrial incentive systems and foreign investment and prepare studies on specific policy issues, using in-house expertise. It also urged early initiation of follow-up action on several important recommendations made by the Ministers, such as those concerning employment-generating activities suitable for different levels of human settlements, micro-electronics, biotechnology, metallurgy and new industrial materials. It

was also suggested that the secretariat carry out studies on the role of the public sector and on evaluation of privatization programmes. The Commission was informed that some of the above studies were already under preparation and a progress report on them would be submitted to the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its tenth session to be held in September 1987, or to the Commission at its forty-fourth session, as appropriate.

Industry

314. The Commission endorsed in general the orientation and priorities of work of the secretariat in the field of industrial development. It expressed appreciation of the activities already undertaken to accelerate the pace of industrial growth in the region. It also expressed satisfaction with the various measures implemented for promoting regional and sub-regional industrial co-operation.

315. It appreciated the secretariat's activities in the field of energy conservation in small- and medium-scale industries. It emphasized that adequate provision and conservation of energy were of critical concern to member States and therefore urged the secretariat to continue to implement projects in those fields. Conservation was felt to be as important as finding new and renewable sources of energy.

316. The Commission noted the activities on industrial investment promotion and appreciated the inter-agency collaboration in that area, especially with UNIDO. It directed the secretariat to extend its investment promotion activities, especially through economic and technical co-operation among member countries. It felt that substantial opportunities and potential existed in the region for sharing policy experience, investment funds, technical know-how, training and technology for industrial growth in the region.

317. The Commission noted with interest the secretariat's activities in promoting foreign investment and joint ventures and in initiating mutually beneficial industrial projects in member countries, and directed the secretariat to further strengthen those activities aimed at greater co-operation among countries of the region. It felt that ESCAP could

play a significant role in those areas, particularly in promoting joint ventures.

318. The least developed and island developing countries of the region were experiencing slow industrial and economic growth. The Commission therefore supported the strong emphasis given to the need to intensify assistance to those countries to supplement their industrialization efforts. While noting that overall development in those countries depended on adoption of appropriate domestic policies, plans and programmes suitable to their resource endowments and needs, the Commission emphasized that increased external resource transfers to them would supplement national efforts and greatly facilitate their industrial and technological development. Furthermore, the Commission directed the secretariat to strengthen its activities in support of technical and managerial skill development, including the development of entrepreneurial skills especially tailored to meet the needs of least developed and island developing countries. It also urged the secretariat to undertake new measures aimed at strengthening training programmes in those countries.

319. The Commission appreciated the activities implemented in the area of sectoral studies. It felt that the workshop-cum-study tours on the development of the machine tools industry and on electrically-operated battery vehicles for urban application were beneficial to the developing countries of the region. It directed the secretariat to expand such activities into other industrial sectors, especially those with high potential for growth. It emphasized the need for inter-agency co-operation, particularly with specialized agencies such as UNIDO, in organizing such activities.

320. Several delegations felt that the secretariat could assist the developing countries, especially the less developed ones, in their efforts towards improving efficiency in their public sector industries. They felt that certain pilot projects, at country-specific levels, could be initiated by the secretariat.

321. The Commission noted the activities that had been initiated in the field of human resources development. It noted with appreciation that the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea, in close collaboration with the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT),

had taken various preparatory steps to organize the Workshop on Human Resources Development for Technology and Development scheduled to be held in October-November 1987. It further felt that the secretariat's future work programme should give special attention to the need for human resources development for industrialization in developing countries of the region. It was also emphasized that the activities related to human resources development should include upgrading of skills in the service sector.

322. The Commission held the view that the secretariat should continue to strengthen its activities in the fields of advisory services and technical assistance programmes, and in organizing seminars/workshops, study tours and expert group meetings in various fields of industrial development. Such activities would not only facilitate greater regional and subregional co-operation and sharing of experience but also assist the developing countries in strengthening their national capabilities for policy reformulation and institution-building.

323. It commended the work of the secretariat in the field of small- and medium-scale industries. The development of such industries would assist in the diversification of industries. It was also a sector which provided ample opportunities for private foreign investment and promotion of joint ventures. The expert group meeting jointly convened by ESCAP and UNIDO, in co-operation with the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, held at Seoul in September 1985 had identified several areas as being of high relevance for further development of small-scale industries. Those included policies and strategies, linkage with large-scale industries, export-orientation, financing, technology, and rural industrialization. In view of the dynamic nature of the small- and medium-scale industries in the economies of the developing countries of the region, and their importance, the Commission recommended that high priority should be accorded to that sector in the secretariat's work programme.

324. The Commission noted with interest the substantial benefits that could accrue from rural industrialization and development of township industries, which helped in the utilization of indigenous resources, and provided opportunities for employment generation and income

distribution. The experience of some countries had demonstrated that the development of township industries and the concomitant benefits of such industrialization should form the criteria for selection of projects in rural areas.

325. The Commission recommended that training programmes, seminars and workshops should be organized to improve the level of management in small- and medium-scale industries in the developing countries of the region.

326. It commended the high quality and usefulness of the Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific. It noted that issue No.21, published in 1986, having as its main theme "Transfer of technology from developed to developing countries in small- and medium-scale industries", was interesting and useful to the developing countries. As recommended by the Commission at its forty-second session, the main theme for issue No.22 would be "Human resources development for small and medium enterprises". It further recommended that the main theme for issue No.23 should be "Promotion of export-oriented small- and medium-scale industries".

327. The Commission again emphasized the importance accorded by the Meeting of Ministers to agro- and allied industries, in view of the immense potential for processing indigenous agricultural raw materials in the developing countries of the region. The development of those industries on modern lines would serve the purpose of import substitution and, more particularly, of augmenting foreign exchange earnings by the export of manufactured products of high quality. The technology and equipment required for processing agricultural raw materials were generally available within the region. The Commission therefore recommended that high priority should be accorded to the development of agro- and allied industries in the work programme of the secretariat.

328. The Commission further endorsed the observation of the Ministers that the planning and implementation of projects in the field of agro- and allied industries would contribute to promoting rural industrialization and subsequently to improving the quality of life in rural areas.

329. It noted that in a large number of developing countries, agro- and allied

industries contributed substantially to the gross domestic product (GDP) and export earnings. They also provided extensive opportunities for employment generation and income distribution, thereby promoting the social objectives of industrialization. The Commission supported the programme of work in the field of agro- and allied industries.

330. It noted with appreciation the offer of co-operation of FAO in operational projects formulated and implemented by ESCAP in the broad field of agro- and allied industries.

331. The Commission noted with interest several new measures in the areas of foreign investment and joint ventures undertaken by the members of ASEAN to enhance industrial co-operation. Although it was too early to assess results, there had been positive indications that co-operation was likely to become more substantial.

332. It also noted with interest the achievements of the Afro-Asian Conference on Industrial Co-operation held at New Delhi in November 1986 with a view to promoting and strengthening Afro-Asian industrial co-operation within the framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Agreement was reached on implementing a large number of industrial projects in several important areas, including interregional projects aimed at providing training, transfer of technology and the setting up of national, sub-regional and regional institutions.

333. The Commission noted the desirability of improving contacts and co-operation between ESCAP and CMEA in industrial, technological and other development spheres, which would contribute significantly to the socio-economic development of the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region. Vast opportunities for fruitful co-operation between the two organizations existed in such areas as enhancing the role of the public sector in economic and social development, and in promoting joint ventures, as well as in many other fields. The Commission expressed appreciation to CMEA of its offer of co-operation with ESCAP and was of the view that such co-operation would be of mutual benefit.

334. The Commission noted with appreciation the excellent productive

relationship and co-operation between ESCAP and UNIDO in carrying out activities in the fields of industry and technology. It was confident that the working arrangements and relationship between them would be even more fruitful in the future. The representative of UNIDO also gave the assurance that, consistent with the mandate given by its legislative bodies, meaningful co-operation with ESCAP for industrial and economic restructuring of the region would continue to be the policy of UNIDO.

335. It also noted with appreciation the preparatory arrangements that were under way for the convening of the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, scheduled to be held at Bangkok from 9 to 13 November 1987. It was pleased to note that a high-level Organizing Committee had been established by the Royal Thai Government and that, in parallel with the Conference, an industrial exhibition and an international seminar on investment in Thailand would be held. The Commission urged the ESCAP secretariat to render all possible assistance to preparations for the Conference. It also urged all member countries to extend their full co-operation and support to the Organizing Committee and to participate actively in the Conference to make it a success.

Technology

336. Application of science and technology was a key factor for social and economic development. The Commission observed that science and technology policy must aim at achieving national socio-economic objectives.

337. The Commission reiterated the view expressed by the Ministers that new technological advances in such areas as micro-electronics, biotechnology, computer science, metallurgy and new materials, and laser technology would affect a wide range of industrial and technological activities in the developing countries in the near future. It directed the secretariat to continue studies and to launch regional activities in the field of new technologies, in order to increase awareness, to exchange experience and information, and to provide technical assistance and training, particularly on a TCDC basis, wherever appropriate.

338. The Commission commended the efforts made in the implementation of resolution

235 (XL) on the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific and called for further activities in areas identified in the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development adopted by that resolution.

339. It noted with satisfaction that the Seminar and Training Course on the Evaluation, Design and Implementation of Photovoltaic Systems in Developing Countries had been held in Indonesia in January 1987 for 64 participants from 17 countries, and that the research, development and demonstration project on solar photovoltaic power generation in the Pacific island countries had started in February 1987. It appealed to all concerned to make further efforts towards early implementation of the project in Pakistan. The Commission welcomed the offer by the Government of Japan to continue to provide additional financial co-operation for appropriate projects related to research, development and demonstration of solar photovoltaic power in the Pacific island countries.

340. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Government of India was willing to extend support to the research and development project on powder metallurgy.

341. It noted the work under way in regard to the technology atlas project. It emphasized the usefulness of the atlas for technology-based development planning and expressed hope for its early completion. It welcomed the offer by the Government of Japan to make additional contributions to the project.

342. The Commission commended the action taken by the secretariat in implementing resolution 241 (XLI) on science and technology policy, planning and management for the promotion of economic and social development and expressed satisfaction with the seminar-cum-study tour organized in China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which had been instructive and interesting. The activities undertaken had been pragmatic and useful and provided a framework for formulating future projects to promote science and technology policy, planning and management.

343. It drew attention to resolution 247 (XLII) on forecasting, planning and development of technological human resources, for the implementation of

which the convening of a seminar was proposed. Appreciation was expressed of the generous financial contribution of the Government of China to meet the local costs, and the Commission appealed to donor countries to provide funding for necessary international travel and other costs.

344. The Commission noted that human resources development was an essential element in improving the technological capabilities of the developing countries and called upon the secretariat to ensure that future projects dealing with human resources development received priority attention, as underscored in resolution 256 (XLII) on the ESCAP Plan of Action on National and Regional Initiatives for Human Resources Development: Its Technological Dimensions.

345. The Commission also stressed the need for measures to improve the access of developing countries to technology from developed countries and the desirability of increasing joint research and technical and economic co-operation between developed and developing countries. Developed countries within the region were potential sources of industrial and technological know-how. They appreciated the opportunity that ESCAP meetings provided to discuss a range of policy issues of common concern.

346. It was pointed out that developed countries should improve their mechanism for the transfer of technology to developing countries, particularly by making the conditions more flexible and eliminating restrictive and discriminatory practices and policies. The Commission called for assistance to the developing countries in the appraisal, choice and mastering of imported technologies so as to cater for their real needs and lessen the negative effects of technology. In that context, the advisory services and training seminars provided by the secretariat on contractual and legal aspects of technology transfer, negotiating techniques, management and entrepreneurship development were highly appreciated, and the Commission called for strengthening of efforts in that area of importance and concern to the developing countries.

347. The Commission emphasized that advancement of science and technology called for a concerted attempt by developing countries to co-operate among themselves in order to promote some measure

of "self-reliance" through the pooling of resources and development of complementary capabilities.

348. It observed that consultants formed a very important link in the chain of technology transfer. The Commission appreciated the offer by the Government of India to share the resources of its recently-established Consultancy Development Centre with other countries in the region, and to host a seminar on consultancy for national development. It also called for co-operation with UNIDO in establishing a regional consultancy network.

349. The Commission commended the organization of the Meeting of Heads of Standards Institutions on the Exchange of Experience and Strengthening of Co-operation among ESCAP Developing Countries in Standardization, Quality Control and Metrology held at Beijing in November 1984, for which the Government of China had generously provided financial assistance and host facilities. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had been taking follow-up action for implementation of the recommendations of the Meeting in collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization and UNIDO, and hoped that appropriate activities could be successfully undertaken.

350. The attention of the Commission was drawn to the complex problems of the extremely dualistic structure of the economy that often characterized small island developing countries, where a modern sector using up-to-date technology in mining, plantation agriculture, forestry, manufacturing and certain services co-existed with a traditional sector, comprising production and services of a subsistence nature. A comprehensive approach was needed and assistance was requested in efforts to upgrade skills in the traditional sector of the economy, so that a decentralized semi-formal sector absorbing a large proportion of the working population could be developed.

351. The Commission again emphasized the special problems that least developed and island developing countries faced in applying science and technology to development, and called for continuing strong support and assistance to their efforts.

352. In endorsing the recommendations of the Ministers, the Commission identified

the following areas as requiring priority attention in the secretariat's future programme of work: (a) conducting studies to identify areas for energy conservation, explore new and renewable forms of energy, and improve energy utilization in industries, particularly for the small-scale industry sector; (b) providing assistance in specific fields of emerging technologies, such as biotechnology, micro-electronics, application of computers, information technology, and new materials; (c) providing technical assistance in developing human resources in the field of technology, particularly for the least developed countries of the region; (d) promoting technology transfer among member countries through appropriate mechanisms; and (e) co-operating closely with UNIDO in: (i) establishing a regional network on industrial consultancy, (ii) new and emerging technologies, (iii) investment promotion activities, and (iv) promotion of ECDC/TCDC.

Human settlements

353. The Commission stressed the importance of integrating spatial and human settlements considerations into industrial planning and technology development programmes. It noted with interest that as the location of industries markedly affected the distribution of population and the pattern of human settlements, it was important to adopt policies which ensured equitable development from the social and spatial points of view.

354. It agreed that there was considerable scope for developing countries of the region to learn from each other's experience and urged the secretariat to apply ECDC-TCDC concepts in organizing seminar-cum-study tours in some of the countries which had gained successful experience in industrial decentralization and the development of small- and medium-sized cities. In that context, the Commission stressed the importance of adopting an integrated approach to settlement planning, encompassing industrial and agricultural aspects, among others, within a spatial framework for human settlements development.

355. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the progress made in implementing resolution 258 (XLII) on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, and endorsed the report in document E/ESCAP/545, which highlighted some of the important national-level initiatives

and the major ESCAP activities undertaken towards the implementation of the resolution, with additional reference to the activities of UNCHS and UNHCR. Among those completed between May 1986 and April 1987, special note was taken of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Low-cost Shelter Projects hosted by Sri Lanka in September-October 1986, with assistance from the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands.

356. It noted that countries of the region had continuously tried to resolve the problems involved in assisting the poor and disadvantaged to obtain their own shelter, and considered with interest the overview in E/ESCAP/545 of the current initiatives in that regard, which included new or revised shelter strategies: integrated development of urban and rural settlements and shelter: land and security of tenure: development of indigenous building materials and technology; appropriate infrastructure and services: finance and credit facilities for the provision of shelter: enabling legislation: improved institutional capacity: urban management: joint ventures with non-governmental organizations: community participation: training of trainers and promotion of research. The Commission recommended that specific attention should be given to urban and rural settlement planning: urban land policies: formal and informal sources of financing and development of institutional and legal frameworks.

357. The Commission noted with appreciation the support provided to national action for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless by voluntary agencies and non-governmental organizations, and recommended that such co-operation be strengthened to attain the objective of shelter for all by the year 2000.

358. The Commission also noted with interest the activities planned for implementation during the second half of 1987. In particular, it was pleased to note that the preparations for the Second Congress of Local Authorities for the Development of Human Settlements in Asia and the Pacific, scheduled to be held at Nagoya, Japan from 21 to 27 July 1987, were progressing well, and that several cities had received assistance in preparing for their participation. It urged member Governments to encourage and assist local authorities, as well as

other government agencies and non-governmental organizations, in participating actively in the Congress. The Commission was informed that an expected outcome of the Congress was the establishment of a network of local authorities to promote regional co-operation.

359. As a follow-up to the International Year, the Commission stressed the need to develop national strategies for shelter provision up to the year 2000 and urged the secretariat to assist in their formulation and, whenever possible, arrange seminars to extend assistance in exchanging experience on the subject. It noted with interest that the Regional Colloquium on Shelter Strategies was planned for 21-22 September 1987. That would provide countries of the region an opportunity to assess the results of the many programmes and projects which had been identified by Governments as demonstration projects for the Year, and to discuss the strategy and approaches those countries should follow in the years to come to improve shelter and neighbourhoods for the poor and disadvantaged.

360. Considering the promotion of resettlement of refugees and war-stricken people, the Commission noted the activities of UNCHS and particularly those of UNHCR, which responded to the different needs of temporary accommodation in countries of first asylum, voluntary repatriation, or permanent resettlement. In view of the extensive experience of UNHCR in promoting resettlement, as well as in providing general shelter and infrastructure assistance for refugees and war-stricken people, the Commission also recommended that the implementation of its resolution 258 (XLII) be continued through further co-operation and co-ordination between UNCHS, UNEP, UNHCR, WHO and any other relevant United Nations agencies in concerned countries of the region.

361. The Commission reminded members and associate members which had not yet designated their national focal points for the Year of the importance of doing so, with a view to making the network for promoting exchange and sharing of information and experience more effective. It also recommended that international assistance be continued to respond to the needs of shelter for the homeless and disadvantaged as follow-up to the Year.

362. The Commission expressed support and

encouragement to efforts by ESCAP members and associate members to learn from each other's experience and innovations, and to promote exchanges through programmes of co-operation, on the basis of new policies and strategies derived from the fresh approaches and methods developed and demonstrated in preparation for the Year. The Commission observed that wide scope for experience-sharing existed among developing countries of the region in the field of human settlements, and noted with appreciation the emphasis accorded to TCDC as a modality for implementing those human settlements programmes involving various levels of government, research/training institutions, as well as non-governmental or community-based organizations.

363. Several countries provided additional information on their activities related to the Year. The Commission heard with interest that Australia had given the objectives of the Year considerable attention and that comprehensive policies to alleviate the housing problems of the poor were under implementation. It also appreciated Australia's assistance to South Pacific island countries through a contribution of \$A 50,000 to a UNDP/UNCHS project to promote development of appropriate shelter policies and production and use of indigenous building materials.

364. The Commission was informed that the Ministry of Works in Bangladesh had been designated as the national focal point for the Year and that, along with a programme of administrative decentralization, emphasis had been placed on the development of small- and medium-sized towns. Development of indigenous low-cost building materials was a primary research topic at the Housing and Building Research Institute, in order to make housing more affordable.

365. Sri Lanka reported on its extensive National Action Programme and the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee, involving 19 ministries, to co-ordinate human settlements programmes covering provision of shelter, infrastructure and services, security of tenure and many other relevant activities. The Million Houses Programme, implemented under the direction of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, led national activities for the Year and had incorporated new perceptions and strategies in introducing decentralized local community-based shelter policies and programmes.

366. The Commission noted that the Government of Thailand had nominated the National Housing Authority, under the Ministry of Interior, as national focal point for the Year, that three demonstration projects had been identified and that a national shelter strategy for the period 1988-2000 would be formulated shortly.

367. The Commission also noted that in Viet Nam, the Ministry of Construction had been designated the national focal point. To achieve the objectives of providing shelter for the people, a State-level research programme had been adopted to find appropriate and low-cost housing designs, using improved indigenous low-cost building materials, and to improve dwellings in war-devastated areas and in areas prone to natural calamities. To that end, comprehensive strategies and policies had been adopted mobilizing all social resources on a nation-wide scale.

368. The Commission appreciated the several activities carried out and planned by WHO in recognition and support of the Year, including a separate programme on environmental health in rural and urban development and housing.

369. It emphasized that a stronger political commitment to shelter at the national, subregional and regional levels was a prerequisite for providing shelter for all by the year 2000. To that end, it noted with appreciation that the tenth (commemorative) session of the Commission on Human Settlements, held at Nairobi in April 1987, had adopted a resolution entitled "Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000". In that resolution, Governments had been urged to commit themselves to the objectives of the Strategy, and the international community had been requested to support the formulation of the Global Strategy along the lines defined by the Commission on Human Settlements. In particular, the regional economic commissions of the United Nations had been urged to encourage and assist in the formulation of national shelter strategies in their respective regions and in the exchange of information thereon. The Executive Director of UNCHS had been invited to make full use of contacts with Governments through the regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies.

370. The Commission expressed its apprecia-

tion to the Governments of Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands and Sri Lanka for their generous contributions to ESCAP for implementation of human settlements activities.

Environment

371. In the field of the environment, the Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/546.

372. The Commission expressed concern about the severity of the problems of desertification in the region. It noted that, in terms of both area and human dimension, the Asian and Pacific region was the worst affected of all the regions, with more rangeland, cropland and even irrigated land going out of production each year despite many positive measures undertaken in the countries for their rehabilitation. In that context, it welcomed the activities of the secretariat in combating desertification and, particularly, its efforts in the establishment of a regional network of research and training centres on desertification control in close co-operation with the affected countries and the various United Nations bodies and agencies involved.

373. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control, held at Bangkok from 9 to 15 September 1986, and the modality of operation of that network, as presented in document E/ESCAP/546. In that respect, it affirmed the central role of ESCAP in coordinating and implementing the activities of the regional network in close co-operation with the relevant United Nations bodies and organizations. It expressed the view that the establishment and operation of the regional network would be a practical and reasonable step towards combating desertification and would assist the developing countries of the region in pooling information, expertise and resources. It would also strengthen the efforts of the national focal points, and research and training centres involved in anti-desertification activities in their efforts in the rehabilitation and improvement of productivity of land to meet the essential needs of food and energy supply for their growing population.

374. The Commission endorsed the establishment of a regional consultative group, consisting of the representatives of participating Governments, concerned United Nations bodies and agencies and interested donor countries and agencies, to provide policy guidance and ensure necessary co-ordination for the operation of the regional network.

375. The Commission endorsed the biennial programme of work (1987-1988) of the regional network, as presented to it by the secretariat. It expressed the view that the regional network should attach priority to such activities as promotion of national case studies, training of experts and local-level officials, promotion of public awareness and people's participation, and dissemination and exchange of information on desertification control.

376. The Commission recommended that the regional network should identify areas affected and threatened by desertification and carry out research on the rehabilitation of derelict mining lands and lands affected by shifting cultivation. It suggested that consideration should be given to the preparation of guidelines for the alienation of forest lands for development activities, the encouragement of plantation of economically useful and ecologically compatible tree species on wastelands and the pursuance of a programme of conservation of genetic resources and management of the existing forests on a scientific basis.

377. The delegation of Viet Nam informed the Commission of the offer made by Viet Nam to host a regional seminar-cum-study tour on anti-desertification measures some time in 1988. Preparations were being made with co-operation and assistance from the ESCAP secretariat.

378. The Commission expressed the view that the project on economics of dryland degradation and rehabilitation being implemented by the Government of Australia in collaboration with UNEP, the East-West Center at Honolulu and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) could contribute significantly to the activities of the regional network. The executive and technical guidelines on economics of dryland degradation and rehabilitation developed by the project could serve as an important input for the activities of the regional network.

379. The Commission noted with satisfaction the offer of technical and financial assistance of the participating countries and the concerned United Nations bodies and agencies in the operation of the regional network. It urged potential donors, in particular UNDP, to extend the additional extrabudgetary resources required for implementation of the programme of work of the regional network.

380. The Commission noted with appreciation the effort made by the secretariat for the integration and strengthening of the environmental dimensions in the overall programme of work of the Commission, and in particular the development of environmental check-lists and guidelines and the incorporation of environmental considerations in project planning. It welcomed the establishment of the network of environmental focal points within the secretariat, which had provided a significant institutional base for integration of environmental dimensions into the work programme of the Commission.

381. The Commission commended the effort of the secretariat in undertaking joint activities by the Environment Co-ordinating Unit and the various substantive divisions in the fields of agriculture, natural resources, transport, industry, human settlements and technology. It recommended further strengthening of the environmental dimensions in related sectoral areas through similar activities in other sectors, such as social development, and with the help of environmental focal points within the secretariat.

382. The Commission expressed the view that integration of environmental considerations into all major development activities and application of environmental impact assessment before planning and implementation of major investment projects should be prerequisites for any strategy aimed at sustainable development. It considered that general guidelines on environmental impact assessment for planners and decision makers and those for water resources and road transport prepared by the secretariat were informative and useful. It recommended that the secretariat should develop and disseminate additional guidelines and check-lists in development sectors such as industry and human settlements. In that regard, it noted with appreciation the financial contribution of \$US 75,000 made in 1987 by the Government of Japan for the second phase of the project on the incorporation

of environmental considerations into development planning and processes.

383. The Commission welcomed the study undertaken by the secretariat on the environmental aspects of production, marketing and use of pesticides in the ESCAP region. In that respect, it recognized the need to strengthen legislative and technical guidelines for minimizing the hazards of pesticides.

384. The Commission recommended that industrial pollution control should receive priority in the work programme of the Commission in the field of the environment. It was suggested that close and active co-operation of all relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, such as UNEP, ILO and UNIDO, should be sought in the implementation of that activity.

385. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should co-operate with the International Programme on Chemical Safety jointly promoted by UNEP, ILO and WHO in identifying areas of concern of the developing countries in the field of hazardous wastes and in developing and implementing a programme on the strategies of management and control of such wastes.

386. The Commission emphasized that the promotion of environmental awareness and people's participation were important tasks to be dealt with in the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment. It noted the efforts of the secretariat to promote environmental awareness among youth by organizing poster and painting competitions *inter alia*. It was suggested that the secretariat should support national activities as a part of its regional effort.

387. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should assist the developing countries of the region in training and manpower development, information exchange and dissemination, and provide technical assistance and advisory services for promoting environmental programmes. In that regard, the suggestion was made that the secretariat should provide technical assistance to interested member countries in the establishment and management of wildlife areas and preservation of endangered species.

388. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme highlighted the activities of his organization in the

field of desertification control. He mentioned the close co-operation between UNEP and ESCAP in organizing various activities on desertification control, including the establishment of a regional network of research and training centres on desertification control in the ESCAP region. He indicated that UNEP had provided \$US 255,000 for the implementation of selected activities under the regional network project. Referring to the UNEP/Australian Government/East-West Center/CIDA project on economics of dryland degradation and rehabilitation, which had resulted in the development of executive and technical guidelines and case studies, he indicated that those would provide the countries in the region with methodological tools to rehabilitate degraded lands. He welcomed the establishment of the network of environmental focal points in the secretariat and emphasized the role of the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit in the integration of environmental dimensions into the Commission's programme of work. Finally, he stressed that UNEP would continue to collaborate with ESCAP and other United Nations organizations as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations in order to strengthen the implementation of the concept of sustainable development, within available resources and in conformity with its mandate.

389. The representative of the World Health Organization referred to the close working relationship of his organization with the secretariat for the past several years. He considered the establishment of a network of environmental focal points not only a significant step in the integration of environmental dimensions into the overall programme of work of the Commission, but also an example of how various and diverse programmes could be brought together through one common entry point in that case, the environment. Because of its importance, he requested the ESCAP secretariat to consider the WHO liaison officer with ESCAP as one of the focal points, and to invite him to various activities of the network. He offered to provide the technical support of WHO to the activity of the network, wherever necessary. Finally, he assured the Commission of the enhanced close co-operation of his agency with ESCAP in the field of the environment.

390. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme shared the concern of the Commission at the

large-scale environmental problems in the region, particularly those connected with the loss of productivity of some 860 million hectares of land area, affecting 150 million people, which merited urgent attention. In that regard, he considered the formation of a regional consultative group of the regional network on desertification control to be a step in the right direction to combat the problem. UNDP had initiated a dialogue with the secretariat and looked forward to strengthening support on that matter.

391. The representative of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance noted with appreciation the work of the secretariat in the field of the environment, particularly integration of environmental dimensions into sectoral development projects. CMEA had undertaken substantial work on the project on environmental aspects of water development and would be interested in cooperating with ESCAP in that area.

392. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization expressed his organization's support for the activities of the regional network and indicated that a number of activities, workshops and training courses under the Man and the Biosphere Programme and other programmes had been convened or planned, which would supplement the work of the regional network on desertification control.

International trade

393. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/547, E/ESCAP/548 and E/ESCAP/550.

394. In reviewing the main trends in international trade, the Commission noted that the major trade issues and concerns dwelt upon by the Ministers of Trade of members and associate members of ESCAP in their Declaration, following the Meeting held at Bangkok from 16 to 18 June 1986, continued to be of major relevance. The recovery of the developed market economies, although uneven, had continued, while growth in the economies of some developing countries in the region continued to be unsatisfactory. Fluctuations in the exchange rates of major currencies, continued depression in most commodity prices, large payments imbalances and high external debt burdens,

decline in capital inflows, and erosion of the terms of trade of developing countries, were important factors adversely affecting the economic growth of countries, particularly developing countries of the region.

395. Most delegations observed that increasing trade conflicts, continuing infringement and circumvention of the principles and rules of the international trading system, proliferation of trading arrangements outside GATT, and the increasing resort to protectionist measures through tariff and non-tariff measures posed a serious threat to the development of the region.

396. Recognizing the need to strengthen an open and free multilateral trading system and achieve greater trade liberalization, the Commission welcomed the Ministerial Declaration adopted on 20 September 1966, at the special session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), held at Punta del Este, launching the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. The Commission noted the statements made by a number of countries on their commitment to an open trading system and the steps taken by them to liberalize trade and improve access to their markets.

397. Some delegations drew particular attention to the distortive effects of various factors, particularly subsidies on trade in agriculture and their adverse effect on the trade of commodity producing countries in the region, and emphasized the need for strengthened and more operationally effective GATT rules and disciplines in that sector. In that context, a suggestion was made that international trade could be an appropriate theme for the forty-fourth session of the Commission. Most delegations emphasized the importance of the principle of special and differential treatment to developing countries that was incorporated in GATT and the need to implement it meaningfully. The Commission supported the feeling that standstill and rollback of protectionist measures would facilitate negotiations in the Uruguay Round. Most delegations emphasized the need to reach agreement on a comprehensive code on safeguards, improvement of the dispute settlement mechanism, and restoration of the conduct of trade in textiles under the normal rules of GATT. Other delegations also emphasized the need to reach agreement on

a comprehensive code on services and intellectual property.

398. The Commission observed that the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations included complex and new issues for negotiation. It called upon the ESCAP secretariat to provide appropriate technical and advisory services to developing countries in the region and to conduct research and disseminate information relevant to the negotiations.

399. The Commission recognized that primary commodities continued to play an important role in the economies of a number of countries in the region, particularly those for which commodities represented the main source of foreign exchange earnings. It further observed that the continued depressed level and instability of commodity prices were hampering the development efforts of those countries. Expressing concern at that disturbing situation, most delegations noted the need to deal with commodity issues within the Integrated Programme for Commodities. They also emphasized the need to intensify where feasible regional co-operation in the field of commodities in order to strengthen various commodity agreements. Some delegations also saw the need for relevant adjustments and diversification where countries faced irreversibly altered patterns of demand or supply, or were overdependent on particular commodities.

400. In that context, suggestions were made concerning new areas of activity where the secretariat should be of assistance to developing countries of the region, such as studies on marketing strategies for tea; projects on regional co-operation among rubber producing countries, computerized networking of State trading organizations in the region, and production, processing, packaging and marketing of edible marine products; and commodity inspection. The Commission further requested the secretariat to undertake studies on the causes and consequences of depressed and fluctuating prices of agricultural products of importance to the ESCAP region, drawing where appropriate on the work of other relevant bodies such as UNCTAD and FAO.

401. The Commission took note of the statements of the representatives of the International Jute Organization (IJO) and the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community

(APCC) reviewing the work undertaken in their respective bodies. It urged international institutions, and other donor countries, to provide financial assistance to IJO. It also urged the secretariat to continue to provide technical assistance and advisory services to member countries and to the regional communities/associations on matters related to the development of commodities.

402. The Commission noted the important roles of the existing regional institutional arrangements for trade and monetary co-operation and expressed the view that such co-operative efforts should be intensified. It urged more countries to participate in the Bangkok Agreement, the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC).

403. The Commission commended the various activities of the Trade Promotion Centre of ESCAP. It urged that activities related to export promotion and market and product development, such as trade fairs, marketing missions, training activities, trade information, and publication of market guidebooks, should be intensified.

404. The Commission emphasized the need for the development of human resources and skills in the conduct of international trade. It requested the secretariat to assist in enhancing the capabilities of export development organizations, training institutions, and public and private enterprises through comprehensive training programmes. It requested UNDP, other donor agencies and countries to provide financial and technical assistance to the ESCAP secretariat to enable it to carry out training activities, including the strengthening of activities in support of business and trade educational facilities, suited to the trade development needs of developing countries.

405. The Commission welcomed the offers of the representatives of China and India to provide host facilities to train trade officials from countries of the ESCAP region in their specialized trade research institutes.

406. Many representatives had found the fourth Asia-Pacific Trade Fair (ASPAT'85) held at Beijing in November 1985 useful, and expressed interest in participating in the next fair. Representatives of the least developed countries requested ESCAP to provide technical and financial

assistance for their participation in future fairs. However, doubt was expressed about the value of general trade fairs and the suggestion made that exhibitions should concentrate on specialized areas or particular industry groups.

407. The Commission noted the statement of the representative of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC) and appreciated the close co-operation of ITC with the Trade Promotion Centre. It urged further strengthening of that co-operation in order to assist the trade expansion efforts of the developing countries of the region.

408. The Commission was informed of the recent reforms in the management of the foreign trade sector in some socialist countries that could provide opportunities for further trade expansion among member countries of ESCAP, through promotion of joint ventures and long-term trade and economic co-operation programmes.

409. Recognizing the structural problems of the least developed countries of the region, the Commission stressed the need to take supportive measures towards removing the trade problems of those countries. Some delegations called for full and expeditious implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

410. While endorsing the report of the Meeting of Ministers of Trade, and their Declaration of 18 June 1986, and noting the follow-up steps taken by the secretariat, the Commission requested the secretariat to implement to the extent possible the recommendations incorporated in the Declaration, particularly those directed towards promotion of the trade of countries in the region, in the field of manufactures, through joint ventures and investment opportunities, and through development of human resources for trade expansion.

411. The Commission considered that secretariat document E/ESCAP/548 gave a balanced analysis of the current debt situation, assessing possible approaches to alleviate external payment difficulties. Many delegations noted that the large size and increasing trend of

outstanding debt caused great concern to both developed and developing countries, although most countries in the ESCAP region had avoided the serious debt problems encountered in other regions. They noted that various factors causing debt-servicing difficulties, such as deteriorating trends of primary commodity prices, rising protectionism, mounting interest payments, and the reduced flow of private funds to developing countries, continued to play an adverse role. Some delegations emphasized that concerted efforts were essential to reverse worsening terms of trade, expand exports of developing countries and increase financial flows from both multilateral and private sources for the improvement of current debt-servicing difficulties. Some delegations recognized that a lasting and durable solution to the debt problem required the acceptance of the principle of joint responsibility of debtors and creditors for the crisis, in the most balanced and realistic manner.

412. The Commission, while recognizing the important role of a favourable external economic environment, noted that adequate financing of structural adjustment programmes of developing countries deserved high priority. That would facilitate the adoption of such programmes, consistent with their development needs. In addition, appropriate adjustment measures directed towards reduced protection of inefficient domestic sectors of production in order to enlarge trade flows also needed to be taken by some developed countries. Some delegations referred to the need for continued adjustments and sound domestic policies on the part of developing countries, with the developed countries pursuing a more constructive role in establishing economic equilibrium in their countries, and for IMF and World Bank involvement as a route to restore confidence of commercial lenders and foreign investors.

413. A number of delegations emphasized the need for a new allocation of special drawing rights and an expanded role of multilateral financial institutions by such means as a general capital increase and more active involvement in multi-year re-scheduling arrangements; other measures, such as debt-equity swap arrangements, enhanced commercial bank lending and direct foreign investment, were also useful approaches.

414. Most delegations recognized the need for increased bilateral and multilateral aid and concessional funds to the least developed countries so as to enable them to implement their development programmes and to reduce poverty.

415. Some of the specific matters suggested for further examination by the secretariat included individual country experience in debt management, external debt problems of the least developed countries, and implications of various proposals referred to in the secretariat document.

416. The Commission noted that the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held in July 1987, would have under consideration important issues related to world trade and economic development, the successful resolution of which could contribute greatly towards global prosperity and trade expansion.

417. The Commission noted the close co-operation between ESCAP and other United Nations agencies and international organizations in the field of international trade and called for the continuation of such co-operation in the implementation of the secretariat's work programmes.

Natural resources and energy

418. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/539 and E/ESCAP/549.

419. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its thirteenth session, subject to paragraph 437.

Energy resources

420. The Commission expressed its appreciation of a large number of activities carried out by the secretariat in the energy sector. A number of delegations appreciated the benefits their countries received from various technical assistance programmes. One delegation stated that it would be desirable if the activities of the regional energy development programme (REDP), the Pacific energy development programme (PEDP) and the Regional Network on Biomass, Solar and Wind Energy could be carried out under the purview of the Natural Resources Division during their period of tenure, and that when those programmes terminated

the Natural Resources Division should continue the activities that had emerged. It was also recommended that the capability of the Division should be strengthened in order to undertake those activities. One other delegation suggested that some thought should be given to streamlining project formulation mechanisms in view of the large number of related, small-scale projects included in the three project packages: REDP, PEDP and the ESCAP new and renewable sources of energy priority project package.

421. The Commission appreciated the efforts of the secretariat in updating the new and renewable sources of energy priority project package and commencing its implementation. It noted that the implementation of the projects in the package would help in providing energy for rural development to which countries gave a high priority. The delegation of the United Kingdom stated that that country had provided support for two projects in the package in the field of cooking-stove technology and rural electrification, and indicated that it would be happy to consider providing further support.

422. In relation to the research, development and demonstration solar photovoltaic project, it was noted that the training course held in Indonesia in January 1987 had been of great value to the participating countries. The Commission urged all the parties involved in the organization of the proposed solar photovoltaic project in Pakistan to make every effort to ensure its speedy implementation. Support was also expressed for the solar photovoltaic project which had already started in the Pacific. The Government of Japan indicated its willingness to provide further financial support for a suitable project in the Pacific.

423. The Commission noted with appreciation the support being extended by various donor countries and agencies to carry out energy activities, including the assistance of Australia and Japan to the biomass, solar and wind energy project, as well as that of France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, and UNDP, to other energy activities.

Mineral resources

424. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the substantial progress achieved by the secretariat in the implementation of the work programme in

the mineral sector, particularly the training activities in various areas of mineral resource exploration and development. It commended the activities undertaken in the appraisal of geology and distribution of mineral and hydrocarbon resources in the region, the compilation of geological and thematic maps, and the preparation of technical publications on special topics.

425. Several delegations noted the current depressed nature of the mineral commodities market and recognized the need for a study of the major global structural changes affecting the mineral industry.

426. In spite of the reduced demand for minerals, several countries reported that they continued to give high priority to the exploration and development of minerals and hydrocarbons, and expressed the hope that the secretariat would continue to assist them in improving their mining technology and efficiency. They further requested the secretariat to seek means of appropriate technology transfer and human resources development activities in that field. The Commission considered that the ESCAP region possessed high potential for metallic and non-metallic minerals, and that ESCAP should continue to play its catalytic role in regional co-operation in the appraisal and development of mineral resources by providing technical support to the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP), the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre (SEATRADC) and the regional mineral resources development project.

427. Some delegations expressed strong support for the geology for urban planning programme, noting that geological and geotechnical data were essential for the proper planning of human settlements. Several delegations informed the Commission that they were preparing to receive missions concerned with the preparation of thematic maps which would be useful to planners and decision makers. It was strongly recommended that the secretariat take steps to ensure the continued funding of the programme, which was currently borne primarily by the Netherlands.

428. The delegation of China informed the Commission that China was still prepared to host a training course on equipment

and techniques for small-scale mining and exploratory tunnelling, and expressed the hope that the necessary funds could be mobilized. It further noted that good progress was being made in the organization of the expert working group meeting-cum-workshop on the urban geology of coastal areas, which was jointly funded by China and the Netherlands. The delegation of China was pleased to advise the Commission that it also wished to express its support for the proposal by the secretariat to organize a seminar on occurrence of and exploration for base metals and gold in the volcanic terrains of the circum-Pacific belt and again requested that funding be sought.

429. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to host in 1988 a seminar on modern methods of mineral exploration. Moreover, the delegation of the USSR indicated the possibility that in the near future it could host a seminar on the application of remote sensing data for mapping and metallogenic analysis of geologic environments affected by plate tectonics.

430. The delegation of Viet Nam informed the Commission of the offer of the Government of Viet Nam to host a regional seminar on an appropriate topic in the area of mineral resources, subject to further discussion with the secretariat.

431. The Commission expressed appreciation to UNDP, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, the United States and the USSR for providing experts and, in some cases, funding, for its workshops, seminars and training courses.

Water resources

432. The Commission expressed appreciation of the work of the secretariat in the field of water resources. In particular, it expressed strong support for the Regional Network for Training in Water Resources Development, and urged UNDP to provide financial support for that activity. One delegation, however, felt that institutional support for the Network should be provided by the participating member countries.

433. China and New Zealand informed the Commission that they had adequate expertise and training facilities, and expressed their willingness to provide

training in various fields of water resources development. Malaysia reconfirmed the designation of its National Water Management Training Centre at Rota Bharu as a participating institute in the Regional Network. Indonesia expressed its interest in participating in the Regional Network under TCDC arrangements, and nominated five institutes under the Ministry of Public Works.

434. The Commission commended the report on the status of the progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan prepared by the secretariat, and expressed the hope that its conclusions could be useful in planning future activities towards achieving the goals of the Plan.

435. Several delegations recommended the continuation of the integration of environmental concerns into water resources development projects. It was expected that the exchange of information and experience on that subject would be beneficial to the member countries.

436. The secretariat's work in the field of ground-water development was appreciated and its continued emphasis was recommended.

437. The Commission discussed the issue of shared water resources but no conclusion was reached. Three delegations strongly urged that the study on the problems of shared water resources in various regions of the world, called for in the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its thirteenth session, should go ahead. One delegation strongly opposed that study, pointing out that the decision taken on the subject at the thirteenth session of the Committee on Natural Resources had not been based on consensus. Taking those considerations into account, the Commission requested the Committee on Natural Resources at its fourteenth session to consider and recommend the priority to be assigned to agreed activities in the field of shared water resources, ensuring that that recommendation did not include any bilateral problems.

438. The Commission noted with appreciation the readiness of the USSR to host in 1988 a workshop on the role of water-use statistics in the long-term planning of water resources development, and to provide assistance in the formulation of guidelines for the preparation of national master water plans.

439. The representative of UNESOO informed the Commission that his organization would continue its co-operation with ESCAP and would complement the work of ESCAP in the training activities of the Regional Network.

Cartography and remote sensing

440. The Commission considered remote sensing an important tool for the development planning of natural resources and commended the activities of the regional remote sensing programme of ESCAP funded by UNDP.

441. It expressed the view that the regional remote sensing programme should be given the opportunity to present a progress report on its activities as a regional project to the annual sessions of both the Committee on Natural Resources and the Commission.

442. The Commission acknowledged the offers made by Australia, France, New Zealand and the USSR on technical exchange activities in remote sensing and commended UNDP OR its continuing support to the regional remote sensing programme.

Marine resources

443. The Commission generally endorsed the activities carried out under the marine resources programme as well as the relevant sections of the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its thirteenth session.

444. The representative of China reiterated the willingness of his Government to host a training course on coastal geology for the benefit of South Pacific island countries. He further suggested that, the training course be held at Guangzhou in the autumn of 1988, to enable the ESCAP secretariat to make proper financial arrangements and achieve anticipated results. He further indicated that the Department concerned in China wished to continue to explore, in the spirit of South-south co-operation, ways and means for further development of its co-operation with the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (COOP/SOPAC), including its experts service to COOP/SOPAC members on a TCDC basis.

445. The representative of the USSR asserted his country's readiness to provide assistance in the field of marine mineral resources.

446. The delegation of India expressed the view that the proposal made by his delegation at the thirteenth session of the Committee on Natural Resources as reflected in paragraph 101 of document E/ESCAP/539 should be taken into consideration in the work programme.

Population

447. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/559.

448. It observed that more than half of the population of the world lived in the ESCAP region (nearly 2.8 billion persons) and that population trends in the region largely determined global trends. The Commission noted that fertility in the region as a whole had declined substantially. Over the past two decades as a result of government population programmes and steady increases in socio-economic development. None the less, in most countries of the region the level of fertility and the rate of population growth were higher than desired. Furthermore, most countries were currently finding decreases in the birth rate difficult to achieve as the large numbers of persons born during the period of peak fertility in the early 1960s reached child-bearing age. That difficulty would continue over the next decade. The Commission noted the great diversity in the demographic situation in the region and urged the secretariat to maintain its flexibility in responding to the needs of individual countries.

449. The Commission observed that a prerequisite for incorporating population factors into development planning was high-quality demographic data and information. It underscored the necessity of implementing regular population censuses, surveys and registration. It also recommended that the secretariat prepare population projections and analyse their implications for education, housing and health care planning.

450. Family planning programmes were the major component of most national population programmes, and the Commission stressed that they should remain so. It also stressed the necessity of further strengthening such programmes through expansion and consolidation of family planning services. In that regard, the Commission recognized the importance of community participation, enhancement of

women's status, improvement of service delivery systems through innovative approaches for reaching target populations which hitherto had not been properly served, and well-developed management information systems. It also recognized the importance of training and supervision of grass-roots family planning workers in creating greater motivation. It commended the activities of the secretariat and urged it to continue to provide assistance.

451. In order to deal effectively with the problem of persisting high fertility in some countries of the region, the Commission underscored the necessity of undertaking research on the dynamics of human fertility behaviour. It urged the member Governments and the secretariat to continue their efforts in that endeavour.

452. The Commission commended the secretariat document on the long-term view it had given of the developmental implications of changing age structure resulting from declining rates of fertility and mortality, and their effect on social infrastructure. As the proportion of young children in the population declined, countries were able to increase school enrolment ratios and to improve the quality of education.

453. As a consequence of declining fertility and mortality, several countries in the region were experiencing a rapid increase in the proportion of the population at older ages, for example, above age 60. The Commission noted that countries were actively seeking to devise policies for their aged population. It urged the secretariat to continue its research and assistance in "that rapidly-emerging area of concern."

454. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the work of the secretariat in studying mortality and health issues and providing assistance to policy makers through its publications and seminars on those topics. It stressed that data on mortality, especially on cause of death, needed to be much improved in order to be useful for planning purposes.

455. It observed that many countries had gained confidence in the implementation of successful family planning programmes and were increasingly stressing the importance of the quality of life of their population. One form that that emphasis had taken was in programmes to

further the development of human resources. Countries were striving to upgrade the development of personnel at all levels. The Commission expressed appreciation to the secretariat of its programme of providing fellowships for a year of study at the International Institute for Population Sciences at Bombay, India. The Commission was informed of the demographic courses offered by Moscow State University and that students from developing countries in the ESCAP region participated regularly in them. The Commission also noted the offer of the Government of Australia to provide training at the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

456. The Commission endorsed the human resources development activities in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989. It observed that the secretariat assisted members through direct technical backstopping, training, research and information dissemination. The Commission commended the secretariat on the large number of training courses, workshops and seminars it conducted each year as well as its research activities and the dissemination of information through publications, which were useful in providing knowledge about demographic trends in other countries of the region.

457. It noted that several countries had established integrated, multi-sectoral population programmes. Such programmes provided family planning, maternal and child health care, and sometimes primary health care or nutrition programmes. Some involved co-operation with local institutions and with non-governmental organizations. It observed that a strength of the secretariat's programme of work was the ability to implement multi-sectoral activities and recommended that secretariat programmes be integrated to a greater degree.

458. The Commission observed that the population of labour force age was expanding rapidly in the region as a result of past high fertility. Many countries were confronting the problem of unemployment or under-utilization of the work force. The Commission called upon the secretariat to increase its assistance to meet that challenge. Pointing out that current expansion of the labour force was related to demographic trends 15-20 years in the past, several delegations emphasized the importance of perspective planning beyond a five-year

period in order to anticipate the economic impact of population changes.

459. The Commission observed that an important aspect of the quality of life was related to spatial distribution of the population. Several of the world's largest cities were located in developing countries of the ESCAP region. The rapid growth of large cities put great stress on urban services such as sanitation, education, transport, shelter and water supply, and resulted in underemployment. Rapid urbanization also impeded the development of rural areas by removing many of the most able and ambitious persons. The Commission noted that several countries of the region had implemented major programmes of population redistribution. It was acknowledged that the demographic impact of such programmes was usually not large, but they were valuable in generating employment and in the economic development of poor or remote areas. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat planned to conduct a project on urbanization during the biennium 1988-1989.

460. The Commission recognized the crucial importance and central role of population data and information in the formulation of integrated population policies, plans and programmes, and endorsed the general orientation of secretariat efforts aimed at improving the utilization of population data and information at the national level.

461. It commended the secretariat on its role in the development of national population information centres and networks in the region. It observed that the secretariat had executed several projects funded by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) to establish and upgrade national population information centres. Through those projects the secretariat had provided equipment, books and other documents, and training of personnel. The Commission noted with satisfaction that those centres were co-ordinated by the efforts of the secretariat through Asia-Pacific POPIN, a decentralized regional network of national population information centres, and that the network was being linked with HELLIS, the Health Literature and Library Information Services of WHO.

462. The Commission recognized the importance of microcomputer technology for data and information collection and analysis,

and recommended that the secretariat continue to offer training in relevant microcomputer applications.

463. The Commission noted with gratitude that several developed member countries of ESCAP were offering Support and technical assistance. The bilateral financial Support to the secretariat from the Government of Japan was noted with appreciation, as were the extensive programmes in the field of population undertaken by WHO, ILO, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA. It expressed satisfaction with the close co-operation between those agencies and ESCAP on population matters. Nevertheless, the Commission urged the secretariat to maintain its regular budget commitment to the population programme so as not to become overly dependent on extrabudgetary sources of funding.

464. It noted with appreciation the technical assistance and advisory services provided by the secretariat in the population field, and urged the secretariat to continue and expand those activities.

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

465. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/540. It generally endorsed the report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing) on its tenth session contained in that document, and expressed satisfaction with the work done and progress made in the implementation of activities in that field.

466. It observed that the general situation in shipping had not improved markedly, with the overtonnaged shipping capacity remaining a serious problem facing the maritime industry. It considered that under the current difficult economic climate in shipping, the secretariat had a critical role to play in helping to co-ordinate and direct available maritime development energies and resources into the most cost-effective and realistic channels.

467. The Commission heard statements by many delegations on the development of the maritime industry in their respective countries and expressed gratitude to the donor countries and UNDP for the generous financial and expert assistance and host facilities provided to the secretariat.

468. It noted the difficulties faced by the shipping industries of developing countries in financing fleet modernization in order to secure an adequate share of international trade. In that context, it agreed that the secretariat should consider organizing seminars to prepare member countries for the review conference on the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences in 1988 and the review of the U.S. Shipping Act in 1989. It welcomed the offers by the USSR to continue the practice of organizing seminars on issues related to merchant shipping, and by Japan to finance a regional seminar on seafarers training.

469. The Commission noted the development of a new programme of assistance for coastal, feeder and inter-island shipping funded by the Government of Norway and requested the secretariat to include in its work programme activities relating to the revision of domestic sea-freight rates and passage tariffs.

470. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's programme in the field of maritime legislation as being directly beneficial to the maritime industry and stressed the need for continued support and assistance to member countries in the future.

471. Recognizing the usefulness of shipping statistics for planning and decisionmaking purposes, the Commission reaffirmed the need for assistance to member countries in the preparation and publication of relevant and reliable maritime transport statistics.

472. The Commission recognized the importance of regular direct dialogue undertaken by the secretariat with key personalities in the sectors of shipping, ports, inland waterways and shippers' co-operation. It considered that those contacts, as well as the periodic meetings of chief executives of concerned associations, were beneficial not only in enhancing co-operation and mutual understanding but also for purposes of updating information and discussing issues relevant to the commercial, operational, financial and policy fields.

473. It recognized that ports of developing countries in the region had to accept and adopt new maritime technologies if they were to maintain and attract more

shipping and cargoes to their ports. The general shift from manpower-intensive methods to capital-intensive systems had placed a heavy burden on developing countries where skilled and trained manpower was in short supply and where scarcity of investment capital existed. It noted the wide spectrum of activities which had been undertaken by the secretariat to upgrade ports and port management in the region, referring in particular to the port management information system (PORTMIS) and the extension of that work in the field of port computerization, which had provided significant benefits to port authorities of the region.

474. In that context, the Commission welcomed the offer by China to host a regional seminar on port management information systems in 1987 and the ongoing assistance of the Netherlands in the field of computerization. The Commission also acknowledged the generosity of Japan in providing funds for a study tour on port development and evaluation policy in developing countries, which would be convened in 1988. It also noted the significant ongoing assistance of Japan to the Commission in providing on-the-job training courses on modern port equipment management at Yokohama, and the services of long-term port and shipping experts within the secretariat.

475. The Commission commended the work done by the secretariat in the field of ship users' co-operation. It noted that that project was aimed at not only developing and strengthening shippers' organizations but also achieving close co-operation and co-ordination between shipowners and shippers. It appreciated the efforts of the secretariat in continuing to place emphasis on the development of manpower as a key component of the project. While appreciating the assistance extended by the Government of Norway in that field, the Commission urged the secretariat to explore the possibility of strengthening the existing manpower complement of the ship users' co-operation project so as to enable it to respond to the needs of various shippers' organizations.

476. The Commission was informed that the teacher development programme conducted at Shanghai, China, under the Ship users' co-operation programme had been completed satisfactorily and noted that the services of graduates could be made available to member countries of the region.

477. In the field of freight forwarding, the Commission noted that the secretariat's programme of work proposed in that field was of great benefit and importance to the member countries in the region. With an expanded network of inland container depots in the hinterland, there was an increased need for freight forwarders to offer a variety of services.

478. The Commission noted with satisfaction the activities carried out and planned in the field of multimodal transport, and the co-operation developed in that field with UNCTAD. It requested the secretariat to include within the programme not only the land-sea transport modes but also the sea-land-air concept, as a growing trend towards such an arrangement had been experienced recently in several countries of the region.

479. It recognized the important role of inland water transport in the economies of the countries in the region and welcomed the offer by the Government of China to share its experience and expertise with other countries of the region and its willingness to host a regional seminar-cum-study tour on river training and low-cost dredging techniques for inland waterways. The Commission also appreciated the willingness of the Government of France to continue its technical assistance in that field.

480. The Commission recognized the importance of dredging in the development and maintenance of ports and inland waterways, particularly in smaller ports in the ESCAP region, and emphasized the need for effective use of the highly capital-intensive dredgers and dredging equipment in order to reduce the dredging costs. In that respect, it urged the secretariat to organize more activities, including seminars and workshops, in that field and to accord priority to projects on low-cost dredging techniques.

481. The Commission heard a statement by the representative of the International Maritime Organization on its activities in relation to marine safety and prevention of marine pollution from ships, the two main objectives of IMO. He mentioned the several projects in the maritime field which his organization had executed in the region during the preceding UNDP programme cycle. He also gave details of the World Maritime University, Malmö, Sweden, in which several students from the region had enrolled and graduated.

The services of IMO advisers in various maritime disciplines were available to member countries free of charge. The Commission warmly noted the offer of assistance by IMO to member countries of the region and the growing co-operation between that organization and the secretariat.

Regional maritime development strategy

482. The Commission endorsed the proposals as set out in document E/ESCAP/552 and Corr.1 and supported the inclusion in the programme of work of the project on the strategy options for maritime sector development and management in the ESCAP region.

483. The Commission reiterated its concern that changes in maritime technology, over-supply of world tonnage and restructuring of world shipping, including the introduction of round-the-world container services, would have significant impacts on the maritime infrastructural requirements of countries in the ESCAP region. The Commission agreed to the focus of the project, namely, to achieve a coordinated regional approach to maritime development expenditure by developing maritime countries, but considered that with the wide diversity of maritime capabilities and requirements in the region, a subregional approach would be required to develop distinct sub-strategies within the overall framework of the project in order to assist national maritime development decisions. It was also noted that the project would provide a tool to assist developing member countries in developing strategies to respond to changing maritime conditions in the 1990s and beyond.

484. The Commission noted the close collaboration between the secretariat and the World Bank, ADB and UNCTAD in implementing the project and was grateful for the inputs already made by the Governments of Norway and the United Kingdom into the preliminary activities for the study. It also welcomed the generous offer of further assistance from those countries and from the Government of the Netherlands to undertake activities within the project. It proposed that an advisory policy body be established to offer guidance and advice to the secretariat; such a body would have no resource implications.

485. The Commission approved the inclusion of preliminary activities related to the project implementation within the programme of work, 1986-1987, which would require two work-months of regular budget and nine work-months of extrabudgetary resources.

Establishment of a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh

486. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/553, on the establishment of a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh to assist in the implementation of the programme of work.

487. At its forty-second session, the Commission had unanimously endorsed the programme of work recommended in the report of the Meeting of Experts on Inland Water Transport, held at Bangkok in 1985. It had recognized that inland water transport played a significant role in the economies of many countries in the region and noted that it had many advantages as compared with other modes of transport in terms of energy efficiency and cost-effectiveness, particularly for the long-distance transport of bulk commodities. It had emphasized the need for substantial technical and development assistance to the developing countries of the region for accelerating development in the field of inland water transport. At that session, the representative of UNDP had informed the Commission that UNDP was willing to support that programme during its next programming cycle. The representative of ILO had expressed his organization's support for the establishment of the regional inland water transport centre.

488. However, the Commission at that session had been unable to reach consensus regarding the establishment of the regional inland water transport centre at Dhaka, *inter alia*, for two reasons: first, the lack of institutional support, and second, the financial constraints and crisis within the United Nations system itself.

489. In document E/ESCAP/553, it was stated that the Government of Bangladesh had recently confirmed its readiness to fulfil its obligation as the host country by providing an allocation of 10 million taka (approximately \$US 333,000) in its third five-year plan, 1985-1990, under which necessary local institutional

support, including office space, would be provided to facilitate the establishment of the proposed regional inland water transport centre, and other institutional support as might be necessary could be provided.

490. The Commission warmly welcomed the generous offer by the Government of Bangladesh to provide institutional support in the establishment of the centre; it again endorsed the programme of work in inland water transport recommended by the Meeting of Experts, and reaffirmed the priority that should be given to that programme.

491. Eight of the eleven delegations that spoke on the subject supported the establishment of the centre at Dhaka on the grounds that it would greatly facilitate the implementation of the inland water transport programme of work the Commission had endorsed. Of the eight delegations, seven expressed the view that, despite the current financial constraints, the establishment of the centre should proceed because of the high priority accorded to the programme.

492. Three delegations were opposed to the establishment of a new regional institution in view of the financial crisis being faced by the United Nations system and existing regional institutions. They and another delegation felt it was necessary to seek assurances that long-term funding of the centre was available before it was established. It was pointed out that the secretariat must take account of the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, with regard to the establishment of new institutions. Reference was made to the decision by ESCAP to close down the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre. However, two other delegations suggested that the proposed centre should be judged on its own merits and pointed out that the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology in India and the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery in the Philippines were providing expert services to the satisfaction of the region.

493. Two delegations suggested that there was insufficient information at that time to take a decision, and one of them suggested that the programme could be implemented through the ESCAP secretariat. The possibility of establishing a network

of national institutions in preference to establishing a new regional institution to implement the programme was also suggested by one delegation.

494. The secretariat advised that the report of the Meeting of Experts that had been endorsed at the forty-second session had stated that the discussion on the establishment of the centre should not delay the implementation of the most important projects identified in the programme. Therefore, following that session of the Commission, the secretariat, in consultation with UNDP, had prepared a five-year programme of work for implementation during the UNDP fourth intercountry programme cycle. The secretariat programme consisted of projects from the inland water transport programme that had been rated critical or highly important for implementation; UNDP had indicated in principle its support for that programme. The secretariat further advised that it warmly welcomed the establishment of a national inland water transport institution in India, would give support and encouragement to the establishment of similar centres in other countries of the region, and would at all times work through such institutions for the implementation of the programme. It was pointed out, however, that the secretariat was not in a position to provide financial or manpower resources for the establishment of such national institutions.

495. In the light of the above considerations, the Commission decided that a consensus at that point of time on the establishment of a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh had not been reached. It was suggested that the secretariat examine and advise on the viability of the proposed centre as well as of the alternatives, namely the use of existing ESCAP resources or the establishment of a network of national institutions.

Transport, communications and tourism

496. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/554 on rail-based urban and suburban transport, E/ESCAP/555 on development and strengthening of intra-regional and interregional railway linkages, E/ESCAP/556 on rationalization of energy in transport, and E/ESCAP/557 on planning for tourism development, which were commended by the Commission for their succinctness.

Rail-based urban and suburban transport

497. The Commission noted that it was becoming increasingly evident that urban congestion, pollution and constraints on the provision of essential economic and social services were reaching crisis proportions in many developing countries of the region, as urban areas continued to expand and develop. A full-scale reassessment of urban transport policies and development programmes in the region was urgently needed.

498. The Commission noted with interest that in China, where the urban population was projected to reach about 400 million by the end of the century, policies had been adopted to introduce energy-efficient environmentally-sound systems. The public transport systems of Beijing, Shanghai and some other big cities of China would consist of high-speed heavy-rail subways and bus and trolleybus systems. Each mode would be carefully coordinated to form a multi-level integrated system. In Manila, the recently-opened Light Rail Transport (LRT) system was fulfilling its planned role. The Commission noted that in developing urban transport systems it was important to assess the potential for the local production of equipment. Adequate training of staff to operate the system was also required.

499. The Commission endorsed the secretariat proposal to carry out a preparatory assistance mission in order to define more clearly the problems facing the rapidly growing urban centres. That would lead to a clearer understanding of the problems and assist in the preparation of a detailed plan of action concerning alternative approaches, and improving various aspects of the system, such as transport planning in harmony with land-use planning, engineering, design and construction of infrastructure, traffic management, and so on. 500. The Commission suggested that the cities to be selected for the preparatory assistance mission needed to be chosen carefully; it was suggested that Semarang should replace Jakarta in Indonesia and that Delhi be added to the cities to be studied in India. UNDP and bilateral donors were urged to support that secretariat initiative. The Commission noted with gratitude the offer of Japan to host a seminar-cum-study tour on the role of railways in urban transport in 1987.

501. The Commission recognized that solutions to urban transport problems were expensive to implement. There was a range of options, each of which would need to be examined carefully to ascertain the optimum solution for any given city in terms of practicability, construction and operating costs, and environmental impact. Urban heavy-rail systems were the most expensive: light-rail systems were less costly and were effective where lower traffic flows occurred. Light-rail systems were being introduced in several cities in the region. Other solutions included guided bus-ways and separate bus lanes, which were generally the cheapest solution, although limited in terms of capacity. The Commission noted that several cities were introducing options from the range of systems, depending on individual circumstances.

502. The Commission also noted that data were available from a number of sources, such as the World Bank and national institutions dealing specifically with traffic and transport problems. It was important to take advantage of that experience. Automatic guided rail systems enhanced safety of operations.

Development and strengthening of intraregional and interregional railway linkages

503. The Commission noted that the Trans-Asian Railway project, the Asian Railway master plan, and the development of rail-cum-sea transport were all important long-term regional activities of ESCAP designed to meet one of the major objectives of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, namely, the development and strengthening of intraregional and inter-regional transport and communications linkages.

504. Recognizing the scale of those activities, the Commission noted that the following approach would be adopted in order to concentrate efforts and resources available on the most promising alternatives:

(a) Based on the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting held in 1985 that priority should be given to the modernization and rehabilitation of existing railways, the Commission felt that priorities in general should be established following

detailed studies of likely demands and cost/benefit analyses, which should be produced in all cases and particularly where heavy capital costs were involved;

(b) Emphasis should be placed on the development and strengthening of interregional and intraregional railway linkages between Europe and the South Asian countries and between Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand;

(c) More emphasis should be placed on the development of trans-border railway traffic between neighbouring countries where the facilities existed. A plan for the development of such traffic should be considered by the countries concerned, with assistance from ESCAP where necessary;

(d) Increased attention should be given to the introduction and development of rail-cum-sea transport routes, particularly between the regions covered by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and ESCAP.

505. In considering the positive results of a preliminary examination of rail, rail-cum-sea and all-sea routes, as reflected in document E/ESCAP/555, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should undertake a study of rail-cum-sea multimodal transport routes from Europe to South and South-East Asia, taking into account all economic and operational aspects. Such routes, making use of the parts of the Trans-Asian Railway already in operation, could facilitate international trade by providing quicker transit times. It recommended that projects to develop rail-cum-sea transport routes should be given high priority within the Transport and Communications Decade.

506. The Commission felt that containerization of inland transport should play an increasingly important role in the development of interregional and intraregional transport, not only in view of world-wide development of container transport but also owing to the fact that it was likely to be an attractive alternative for railway traffic transit over gauge-break points.

507. It also felt that in the development of the Trans-Asian Railway project and the Asian Railway master plan, the activities of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, and in particular its

subgroup on the promotion and facilitation of international traffic and standardization, should deal, *inter alia*, with technical problems related to the development and strengthening of intraregional and interregional railway linkages.

508. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of the USSR for its offer to conduct in 1988 a meeting of experts on the Trans-Asian Railway and the Asian Railway master plan and the above subgroup, together with a seminar-cum-study tour on railway integrated development planning, with the same arrangements as for the meeting and seminar conducted in 1982.

509. The Commission noted with appreciation the study on the development of a standard cost-effective electrification system for the railways of the region, financed by Japan, as well as studies relevant to the development of interregional and intraregional railway linkages carried out by France and the USSR at the request of ESCAP.

Rationalization of energy in transport

510. The Commission noted that energy conservation had not yet received as much emphasis in the ESCAP region as it had elsewhere. The goal of energy conservation was the efficient and rational use of energy in all potential areas, so that the same amount of energy input would yield greater mileage and reduce operating costs. To that end, the initiative which developing countries had taken so far needed to be further strengthened.

511. The Commission noted with appreciation that some countries were willing to share their experience in the field of alternative fuels in general and in particular in the utilization of compressed natural gas (CNG). Such experience had been gained by Burma, China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Thailand and others.

512. The Commission recognized the importance of collection of data on energy conservation in transport as a precondition for any effective conservation measure and urged member countries to overcome the lack of reliable and comprehensive data, in particular in road freight transport. It noted with interest that India was considering the establishment of a national institute of road

haulage to undertake collection and analysis of data on freight transport.

513. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should provide technical assistance in energy data recording and analysis and function as a centre for collecting data on energy in transport and information on pilot and demonstration projects; such data should be disseminated on a regular basis to member countries.

514. The Commission was fully aware that oil consumption in transport would increase with further highway development and urged member countries to adopt motor-vehicle energy conservation measures, ranging from more efficient driving to improved technology. The Commission identified road transport in urban areas as a priority measure for energy conservation in transport. It took note of a request by China that the secretariat should organize a seminar on highway transport energy-saving.

515. The Commission regarded CNG as a viable alternative fuel in transport and noted with interest that pilot projects on the conversion of diesel buses to CNG had been undertaken by the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) and by the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources in Baroda, India.

516. The Commission supported the secretariat's activities related to the launching of a regional demonstration project on the conversion of diesel buses to CNG and hoped that UNDP funding would soon be secured. It noted with interest that Indonesia was seriously considering hosting that demonstration project, which would be an initial focal point from which all other activities, such as meetings and training courses, could be organized.

517. The Commission took note of the considerable experience of New Zealand in the conversion of gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles to liquefied and compressed natural gas operation. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of New Zealand to share its experience in CNG utilization in transport and to further provide experts and expertise to other interested countries of the region.

516. The Commission took note of the findings of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on

Rational Use of Energy in Transport which had been organized in 1986 in the Federal Republic of Germany.

519. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for hosting the Seminar-cum-Study Tour, and to the Government of New Zealand for making available an expert for the workshop on the same subject, and for an advisory mission to Burma as well as the provision of some conversion equipment.

Planning for tourism development

520. The Commission stressed the increasingly important role of tourism in the socio-economic development of the developing countries. It specifically emphasized such major benefits as foreign exchange earnings and employment generation, and urged the secretariat to intensify its tourism activities. The Commission noted that the fall in primary commodity prices had affected many developing countries severely and that tourism was expected to play a greater role in foreign exchange earning.

521. The Commission noted that there was an urgent need to understand the socio-economic benefits and costs of tourism, and requested that ESCAP intensify assistance to member countries in measuring the economic impact of tourism. It specifically urged the secretariat to lay special emphasis on activities to assist member countries in the application of input-output analysis through studies, meetings, training programmes and fellowships. The Commission stressed that owing to inadequate data on the contribution of tourism to the overall economy, tourism had been given unduly low priority in the allocation of development resources and in the receipt of financial aid from foreign sources.

522. The secretariat was requested to strengthen activities to maximize socio-economic benefits accruing from tourism and to minimize the negative impact. It urged ESCAP to undertake activities to study the socio-cultural and environmental impact of tourism.

523. The Commission endorsed document E/ESCAP/557 on planning for tourism development, and urged the secretariat to arrange for the expeditious execution of the activities proposed therein: (a) studies on the economic impact of tourism:

(b) an expert group meeting on measurement of the economic impact of tourism by input-output analysis: (c) a seminar on regional co-operation for tourism manpower development: (d) a seminar on tourism marketing for women executives: and (e) a seminar on tourism development in developing countries of the ESCAP region.

524. The secretariat was requested to undertake: (a) a study on manpower absorption in the field of tourism: (b) a convention market study: and (c) marketing and promotion-oriented activities. The Commission noted that in many developing countries there was an acute shortage of qualified manpower, especially at the managerial level, and requested that ESCAP should undertake activities addressing that problem.

525. The Commission commended the secretariat on the successful completion of the Seminar on Tourism Development in Pacific Island Countries, held at Suva in December 1986. It noted that tourism could play a particularly important role in socio-economic development in the Pacific island countries and requested the secretariat to intensify activities to assist those countries.

526. The Commission noted that for some of the least developed and land-locked countries, tourism was one of the "major avenues for earning foreign exchange and requested the secretariat to intensify activities to assist those countries.

527. The Commission noted with appreciation the effective co-operation rendered by ILO through the ESCAP/ILO Tourism Unit. It appreciated the co-operation of ILO with regard to the Seminar on Tourism Development in Pacific Island Countries. It noted with appreciation that ILO was willing to co-operate further concerning manpower development in ESCAP tourism activities.

528. The Commission noted that effective co-operation had been maintained with the World Tourism Organization and urged the secretariat to intensify co-operation with WTO and other organizations directly or indirectly involved in tourism.

529. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for financing the above-mentioned Seminar and other tourism activities through the project "Assistance to developing countries in tourism development through policy-

oriented research". It also appreciated that Government's pledge to finance a workshop on tourism management development.

530. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Governments of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the USSR, and to UNDP, for their active support of ESCAP activities in the field of transport, communications and tourism.

Social development

531. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/560 and E/ESCAP/561; it commended the secretariat on the excellence of that documentation, which provided a very useful basis for discussion on issues in social development.

532. The Commission recommended the formulation of a regional social development strategy for Asia and the Pacific for the year 2000 and beyond. It indicated that the regional strategy should incorporate the basic principles and policy goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development adopted by the General Assembly in 1980 and 1969 respectively.

533. The Commission considered that the regional strategy could be best formulated and implemented in terms of the development and full employment of human resources, ensuring the full integration of social considerations within overall development planning. It should aim at developing practical policy guidelines, planning approaches and institutional arrangements for the full participation of all social groups in the development process and the equitable sharing of the benefits of development among them.

534. The Commission recommended that the decisions of the Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, held at Bangkok in October 1985, be given full consideration in the formulation of an effective regional strategy. Several countries stressed the importance of giving priority to the most pressing issues in the formulation of the regional strategy. It was considered essential to keep the criteria of practicality and feasibility

in mind. Several countries suggested that the regional strategy should pay due attention to cultural variations between countries. A number of countries urged inter-sectoral co-operation in the formulation of the regional strategy, in order to harness the secretariat's expertise effectively, conserve scarce resources and fulfil the Commission's multi-sectoral mandate.

535. The Commission endorsed the agenda for action in the field of social development as proposed in document E/ESCAP/560. In doing so, some countries commended the agenda's focus on disadvantaged groups. Others attached significance to the incorporation of participative goals. Still others called special attention to consideration given in the agenda to the revitalization of the role of the family, the community and non-governmental organizations in the development and delivery of social services.

536. The Commission recognized that the problems faced by disadvantaged groups in the Asian and Pacific region were in important ways a consequence of development itself. The loss of family and community support in the presence of rapid industrialization and urbanization, compounded by the continuing associated trend towards consumerism, required growing attention by policy makers to the needs of the disadvantaged.

537. The Commission recommended that policies should be pursued which strengthened the family in the performance of its traditional social functions. It endorsed the proposal that a critical analysis be undertaken of the manner in which development policy and planning had influenced the structure and functions of the family as a basic unit of society in Asia and the Pacific. It was recommended that such an analysis should give emphasis to the family unit as a component of integrated social development planning.

538. The Commission noted that comprehensive programmes to provide locally-based, community-generated and consciously-integrated social services were a prerequisite to the solution of the problems of disadvantaged groups. It welcomed the initiatives taken by the secretariat in promoting the development of basic community services. It supported the need to examine available options for strengthening community institutions that could complement those of the State in

the performance of that critical function, and noted that improved data collection and the exchange of experience among countries would contribute substantially to the successful delivery of basic community services.

539. Many countries endorsed the strategy of developing close collaboration between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the delivery of social services, not limited solely to expectations of financial help but involving co-operation at the policy and planning levels as well as in the implementation phase at the local level.

540. The Commission indicated its support, within existing budgetary resources, for a cross-national study and evaluation of specific anti-poverty strategies and programmes with which many of the countries in the region had accumulated considerable experience.

541. General support was expressed for the secretariat's proposed activities in the area of manpower planning for social development. One delegation confirmed its country's readiness to participate in the implementation of in-depth country studies and pilot national manpower planning exercises. Training of social development personnel to raise the level of expertise in all sub-sectors of social development was recognized to be a continuing necessity in the region.

542. The Commission noted the central role of the secretariat in facilitating exchange of information and experience concerning social development issues and requested that the secretariat strengthen its activities as a clearing-house of information on social development data and experience in regard to effective social development strategies. Some delegations expressed the need for regional advisory services to assist Governments in developing social information systems. Moreover, the role of regional advisory services on social development and planning in facilitating exchange of regional experiences was stressed.

543. The Commission noted with appreciation the varied achievements of many countries in the region in integrating women into development, as well as the publication of a review of the regional achievements during the United Nations Decade for Women and of five studies on

issues affecting the status of women in the region. It stressed the need for further activities on issues such as the fuller participation of rural women in development; the role and status of women in the informal sector; the socio-economic implications of female-headed households as a result of internal and international migration; the role of cultural values in women's integration into development; the protection of women as consumers and functional literacy among women. It was noted that the Pacific countries should be given commensurate emphasis with the Asian countries in the secretariat's activities concerning the participation of women.

544. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Regional Seminar on the Development of a Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific, held at Saitama, Japan in December 1986, and urged the secretariat to make every effort to fulfil its role as the regional focal point of the network, as specified in the report of that Seminar. The services of a regional women's information expert were requested to provide technical assistance to the network's national, subregional and regional focal points.

545. The Commission recognized the important role of non-governmental organizations in promoting women's full participation in development. Women's nongovernmental organizations were seen to be useful, not only in their co-operation with government agencies in providing services for women but also in their critical role of sustaining the momentum of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. The secretariat was therefore urged to develop and pursue activities which would strengthen the role of such women's organizations in the region.

546. With regard to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000, the Commission called on the countries in the region to redouble their efforts, and enjoined the secretariat to continue to extend assistance, as well as to extend full support to the United Nations system-wide medium-term plan on women (1990-1995).

547. Particular attention was called to the need for all countries to incorporate

women's concerns in their development plans and to ensure that those elements of the plans would be executed. It was felt that women's education and the monitoring of women's situation with appropriate indicators should continue to receive high priority.

548. The Commission noted the activities of the inter-agency committee for women in development and encouraged continued collaboration between the secretariat and United Nations specialized agencies, international organizations and non-governmental organizations in the region in line with the forthcoming United Nations system-wide medium-term plan on women.

549. The Commission welcomed the announcements by the Government of Japan that it would fund the second phase of the regional project on the women's information network, and by the Government of the USSR that it would host in 1987 a regional seminar on the role of women in social and economic development, with special reference to rural development.

550. Several countries expressed concern over the phenomenon of the widespread linkages between prostitution and tourism. The secretariat was urged to render further assistance to Governments in formulating policies and programmes for the prevention of exploitation and entrapment in prostitution of young women who were socially and economically deprived.

551. The Commission commended the secretariat on its programme of activities following the International Youth Year. It noted with appreciation the secretariat's contribution to human resources development in the region through its training programme, conducted, *inter alia*, to assist developing countries in improving the contribution of youth to rural development, promoting peer group and community organization for self-help endeavours and meeting the need for leadership development among young women. While underlining the need for continued emphasis on training in the ESCAP youth programme, the Commission welcomed the proposed sharper focus on the training of young trainers in rural/urban youth work. It noted the relevance of regional programmes to facilitate the exchange of experience among the personnel concerned. The Commission further suggested that increased attention should be placed on

the importance of youth awareness and appreciation of the national cultural traditions in the region.

552. The Commission urged continued emphasis on research to assess the situation of youth in the region. It considered that up-to-date national profiles of youth, as well as assessments of the needs and contributions of youth to development, were a necessary basis for improving national policies and programmes concerning youth.

553. The Commission recommended that systematic efforts should be made to assist its members and associate members in strengthening policies and programmes, with a view to generating youth work opportunities and stemming the rural-urban migration of youth. Such efforts could include analytical studies of successful youth self-employment programmes, and technical assistance through national and subregional workshops for policy makers and programme managers on the subject.

554. To discourage youth out-migration from rural areas, it was noted that incentive measures should include the provision of skills development and rural-based work opportunities as well as adequate services to meet the needs of rural youth. The Commission welcomed a proposed workshop on the role of youth organizations in the organization of industrial skills training for rural youth to be hosted by China in 1988.

555. Recognizing the important contribution of non-governmental organizations in promoting the interests of youth, the Commission commended the secretariat's collaboration with non-governmental youth organizations. It urged that new modalities be found to strengthen the partnership between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the formation of a comprehensive regional network on youth.

556. The Commission supported the secretariat's initiatives directed at the establishment of an inter-agency standing committee on youth, which would seek dialogue and co-operation with non-governmental organizations and national focal points for youth. The Commission underlined the importance of effective channels of communication between the United Nations and youth organizations. It noted the contribution being made in

that connection by the publication of the ESCAP youth newsletter.

557. In its consideration of the issue of crime prevention and criminal justice, the Commission recognized the need to address the causal basis of youth crime in the context of the prevailing socioeconomic circumstances. Measures to prevent the onset of youth delinquency and crime required the co-operative efforts of all sectors of society, particularly the family, educational and training institutions, and non-governmental organizations, to undertake programmes to involve youth in creative and productive forms of activity.

558. The Commission also reiterated its earlier proposal that a regional seminar on adolescence and crime prevention be organized with the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) as a specific follow-up to the Workshop on the Role of Youth Organizations in the Prevention of Crime Among Youth, held at Tokyo in 1985.

559. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the valuable work of the regional adviser on crime prevention and criminal justice in assisting member countries to translate United Nations directives and guidelines into national- and local-level operational activities. It thanked the Government of Japan for its generous support of those activities and expressed the hope that that assistance would continue.

560. The Commission recognized that drug abuse was a rapidly growing problem in the region. Of particular concern was the effect of drug abuse on youth in the region. The problem had regional dimensions. The contribution of the secretariat to the forthcoming International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was welcomed, as was its initiative in the development of several proposed activities related to the demand aspects of drug abuse.

561. The representative of the World Health Organization said that WHO welcomed the entry of ESCAP into the field of drug abuse control, indicated its full support and co-operation, and referred to the imminent implementation of a joint WHO/ESCAP project on the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers in the region. The representative

of the Colombo Plan Bureau welcomed the initiative of ESCAP in undertaking work in that field, and affirmed its interest in developing co-operative endeavours between ESCAP and the Bureau's Drug Advisory Programme.

562. The Commission endorsed the proposed agenda of action concerning disability issues. It recognized the largely untapped human resource potential of disabled persons and their capacity for increased productivity and self-reliance given the vital opportunities for their access, among other aspects, to essential rehabilitation services, disability aids and equipment and a barrier-free environment.

563. In that regard, the Commission noted with appreciation the active measures reported by some Governments in dealing with the issues and needs in disability prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities for disabled persons. It viewed with interest the nation-wide census of disabled persons being undertaken in China. It was expected that the lessons learned from the census would have regional application and greatly facilitate improved accounting of disabled persons as well as planning and mobilization of national resources for programmes for disability prevention and rehabilitation in the region.

564. Aware that 1987 was the mid-point of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, the Commission expressed its appreciation of the secretariat's increased endeavours to assist Governments in efforts towards achieving the objectives of the Decade.

565. The Commission noted the activities under way for promoting information flows to facilitate regional co-operation concerning disability prevention and rehabilitation, such as the preparation of a resource handbook on support programmes for disability-related services in the Asian and Pacific region. It recommended that continued support be provided to Governments in that regard.

566. The Commission welcomed the provision of consultancy and technical assistance activities to strengthen the development of comprehensive national disability prevention and rehabilitation programmes, with emphasis on the least developed countries. It attached particular

importance to the strengthening of existing national and regional institutions concerned with disability and the promotion of a regional network for the training of personnel working at all levels in the provision of rehabilitation services.

567. In planning ahead for the second half of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, the Commission noted that special attention should be addressed to the particular needs of women with disabilities, the intellectually impaired and rural disabled persons. It further underlined the significant role of non-governmental organizations as vital partners in the field of disability and called for practical measures to support their role.

568. The Commission stressed the need for continued regional monitoring of the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.

569. Importance was attached to the organization of training workshops, seminars and fellowship programmes as well as pilot projects and studies to promote the participation and integration of disabled persons in development through community-based approaches. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the decision of the Government of Japan to provide financial support for the second phase of a regional project on assistance for disability prevention and rehabilitation programmes for the least developed countries.

570. The Commission reiterated the importance of inter-agency co-operation and collaboration in that field and commended the activities of the Asia-Pacific inter-organizational task force on disability-related concerns.

571. The Commission noted the increasing attention being paid by Governments to their aging populations in the context of current trends in the industrialization and modernization of their societies and in anticipation of the aging of their population structures in the coming decades. There was concern that rapid social change and gradual erosion of traditional social values had in many cases diminished the capacity of families to provide adequately for their elderly members. Several countries expressed the view that that situation would necessitate increased State intervention and that

ESCAP should provide technical assistance through seminars, studies and advisory services on appropriate legislation, policies and programmes in that regard.

572. Several countries voiced their concern that resource constraints had precluded the implementation of regional co-operation and technical assistance activities concerning the problems of the aging. They urged that the necessary resources should be provided to assist concerned Governments in the context of the objectives of the global and regional action frameworks provided, respectively, by the International Plan of Action on aging adopted at Vienna and endorsed by the General Assembly in 1982 and the regional programme of action on aging endorsed by the Commission in 1982.

573. The Commission voiced satisfaction with the implementation of resolution 249 (XLII) on the participation of women in socio-economic development and resolution 251 (XLII) on the International Year of Peace. It expressed appreciation of the secretariat report on the implementation of those resolutions as contained in document E/ESCAP/561. It commended, in particular, the secretariat's efforts to incorporate women's concerns in all sectors of the work programme of the Commission.

574. The representatives of ILO, UNESCO and WHO expressed their organizations' appreciation of the active role played by the ESCAP secretariat in convening inter-agency meetings concerning issues on women, youth and disabled persons in development and reaffirmed their organizations' support of the implementation of the work programme of ESCAP.

575. The Commission expressed gratitude to the members and associate members for their active support of the secretariat's work in the field of social development. The financial assistance provided by the Governments of Australia, Japan, the Netherlands and Norway to various social development projects was acknowledged with appreciation. The Commission also voiced its appreciation of the contributions by the Governments of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea for host facilities and financial support in connection with various seminars and training programmes in the field of social development. The Commission noted with thanks the contributions made by various international

agencies, including UNICEF, WHO, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. In addition, it thanked various non-governmental organizations, including Disabled Peoples' International and the World Council of Churches, as well as the Asian Community Trust and the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, for their contributions to the social development programme.

Statistics

576. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/562. .

577. It recognized that statistics were fundamental to the policy, planning and decision-making processes of government. Rapid structural adjustments and social changes were increasing the demand for detailed and geographically disaggregated information, sometimes faster than the development of national statistical services. The Commission recognized that significant resources were needed to deliver a sustained supply of reliable and timely statistics, not only to government but also to the private sector and the academic community.

578. Document E/ESCAP/562 was welcomed by the Commission as a clear description of the major problems relating to the international comparability of statistical information, and of computer developments in the field of statistics. The Commission noted the importance of the issues raised, and generally endorsed the views expressed in the secretariat paper. It noted that the Statistics Division of ESCAP was particularly well placed to promote and co-ordinate work on inter-country comparability of data and identification of the interrelationship between economic and social statistics in the context of national socio-economic development; such activities would be of considerable value to all countries of the region.

579. The Commission therefore supported the efforts of the secretariat in improving the comparability of national data, and appreciated its work in promoting their timeliness and enhancing their quality through its statistical programme. It emphasized the important role which regional advisory services, seminars and workshops played in those

tasks. The Commission recognized that countries might incur additional costs in reporting internationally comparable statistics: the view was therefore expressed that tangible incentives might be accorded to countries for their efforts, perhaps using revenue from full-cost pricing of data provided to non-governmental users.

580. The Commission noted that faithful but judicious adherence to the various United Nations standards and guidelines would help accelerate the achievement of comparability of data across national boundaries. Where departures from those standards were needed for national purposes, efforts should be made to structure collection and presentation processes in a flexible manner so that national data could be converted for international Use. In that regard, the building-block approach as outlined in document E/ESCAP/562 was endorsed. The Commission recognized that international statistical standards not only facilitated intercountry comparisons but also stimulated national statistical development: several countries reported on the use of, for example, national classifications based on international guidelines. It recommended that in the process of evolving or revising international statistical standards, regional commissions should be consulted so that they could incorporate the special requirements of their member countries.

581. The Commission noted that in countries with relatively decentralized statistical systems, it was especially important that the national statistical organization should have effective control over the development and maintenance of standards to which all data-collecting agencies would adhere. That would help to ensure that comparability of statistical information was achieved. It noted with interest that several countries were already following that practice.

582. The Commission again emphasized the crucial role played by computer technology in statistical development. Apart from the processing and analysis of data, the technology could also be utilized for the collection of information and for its speedier dissemination, and the secretariat was urged to pay increased attention to the latter issue. Computer technology was also important in improving international comparability, particularly in the conversion of information from national to international standards.

583. The Commission noted a number of factors which were important for the effective utilization of electronic media for data dissemination. Those included the availability and compatibility of software and hardware; given the existing capabilities and facilities of the countries of the region, many national statistical offices were not yet equipped to benefit fully from recent technological developments. Confidentiality, copyright and pricing were other issues affecting electronic dissemination.

584. It noted a number of additional issues in relation to computer applications for statistical purposes. For example, rapid technological development was confronting countries with the problems of equipment obsolescence and high maintenance costs, especially for mainframe computers. It also noted the difficulty of obtaining appropriate software packages for statistical purposes. Shortage of computer specialists and high turnover of staff still constituted a problem in many countries. Training, especially on microcomputers, was therefore identified as an urgent need. Promotion of computer literacy as part of human resources development was also important and was being pursued in some countries. The Commission noted with interest the growing use of micro-computers by national statistical services, at both central and local levels.

585. The Commission recognized that the emergence of integrated data bases was a logical development in the future, at both national and international levels. Some countries reported significant work in that area, but although various ministries and departments had initiated their own computer-based information systems, concrete efforts to harmonize those systems were lacking. While the advances in computer technology and its utilization for the development of integrated data bases were important, the Commission emphasized that the information in such systems had to be meaningful and conform to certain standards to be of significant utility.

586. The Commission recommended that a sufficiently high-level body in each country should co-ordinate the establishment of integrated statistical data bases. It was suggested that such powers could be vested in the national statistical office, which generally had the necessary infrastructure. It was also suggested

that such data bases could form the starting point and an important component of national information systems. The Commission noted that the close relationship between government information systems and statistical activities should be taken into account in the implementation of the ESCAP project on improved government information systems. It also felt that statisticians could beneficially be trained in computer procedures and data management and that their services could be used with advantage in developing information systems.

587. At the regional level, the Commission welcomed the plan to develop a network of integrated data bases within the secretariat and to utilize the experience gained to assist developing countries in that area. Recognizing the Statistics Division's need for access to appropriate modern computer equipment for that purpose, the Commission emphasized that careful planning was important and should take into account the potential electronic exchange of information within the United Nations system.

588. The Commission noted with interest that the developed countries of the region had acquired extensive experience and expertise in developing and using computer facilities, and welcomed the offer of the Government of Australia to provide on-the-job training and advice in statistical computing applications, as well as in other aspects of statistical work, subject to the availability of resources.

589. The Commission commended the secretariat's work in the field of statistics. It noted that ESCAP had a central role to play in technical co-operation activities and recognized that the secretariat's work could have a particularly significant impact in the smaller countries of the region, where trained manpower was scarce. The basic thrust of the secretariat's statistical development efforts, namely the strengthening of national statistical capabilities, was fully endorsed by the Commission.

590. The value of the multi-disciplinary regional advisory services provided by ESCAP and the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) was strongly reiterated by the Commission. Such services continued to be in high demand from member countries as an important instrument for capability-building. The Commission noted that

regional advisory services needed to be extended to other subject areas, and strengthened in the field of population censuses and surveys. It recommended restoring advisory services in national accounts as soon as possible, especially as the process of reviewing the United Nations System of National Accounts was under way.

591. The Commission noted that technical seminars and workshops in statistics organized by the secretariat constituted, among other things, useful forums for the promotion and adaptation of international recommendations and classifications. Such meetings also provided opportunities for the exchange of views and important technical information, and it was hoped that donor support for those activities would increase. The continued convening of technical meetings in the Pacific was welcomed in view of the special requirements of national statistical services in that subregion. The Commission noted that the ESCAP/SIAP Workshop on the International Comparison Project (ICP) Phase V Activities had contributed significantly to the promotion of ICP in the region, and welcomed the continued support of the Government of Japan for ICP work. It also noted with appreciation the willingness of the Government of the USSR to consider further support for statistical seminars to be organized by ESCAP, as well as the provision of expertise in the implementation of the secretariat's work programme.

592. The Commission heard with interest that the forty-sixth session of the International Statistical Institute would be held in Tokyo from 8 to 16 September 1987.

593. The Commission expressed its warm gratitude to the bilateral and multi-lateral donors that had supported the secretariat's statistical work over the past year. India, Japan and the United Kingdom had contributed manpower and financial resources, while among the donor organizations, UNDP, UNFPA and ILO had been prominent. The Commission noted with appreciation that support was also expected from Australia, the Cook Islands, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Korea, and the USSR, as well as from ADB, and requested those and other donors to continue their assistance in the future.

Government information systems

594. In the field of government-sector computerization, the Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/563. The Commission noted that a revolution was occurring in the information services industry that would soon transform the industry into the world's largest. Already, a country's ability to absorb and utilize new information technologies had become a critical measure of its economic and social development.

595. The Commission was informed that information technology increasingly supported, and was becoming an integral part of, the substantive functions and "content" of the public sector in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific; however, although information technology was spreading apace throughout the region, the gap with the developed countries in utilization of the technology continued to widen. The Commission noted that there were common problems that obstructed the government computerization process in developing countries in that connection. The main problems were institutional, organizational and human-resource-related.

596. Against that background, the Commission recalled that at its forty-second session it had endorsed a strategy to develop an action-oriented set of activities towards assisting member countries to make optimum use of modern information technology as a critical tool for accelerating their social and economic development. The Commission noted with satisfaction that consequently the secretariat had undertaken a number of high-level preparatory missions to selected developing countries and areas of the region and had on that basis formulated a comprehensive project proposal in collaboration with UNDP, entitled "ESCAP/UNDP project on improved government information systems". The project was planned for implementation under the fourth UNDP intercountry programme cycle (1987-1991).

597. The Commission noted that, following closely the strategy that it had endorsed at its forty-second session, the primary thrust of the project was to reduce bottle-necks to government-sector computerization and to assist in the development of the organizational and technical infrastructure and human resources that were necessary to enable government

administrations to exploit the potential of information technology in an efficient and effective manner. A special Pacific component of the project would address the human resource problems in the utilization of information technology in the Pacific island countries.

598. The Commission concurred with the project assumption that the region's industrialized and advanced developing countries could be a source of technical resources, training facilities and information technology experience, which, on a TCDC basis, could contribute to the transfer of technology and skills to the less developed countries of the region. It welcomed the planned project activities in that area. The Commission felt that the project's immediate objectives and proposals for strategic studies and pilot projects appeared appropriate to the countries concerned, and that the success criteria and verifiers that were listed in document E/ESCAP/563 should provide effective monitoring of those activities.

599. The Commission commended the general provisions in the project for human resources development. It expressed concern at the lack of trained professionals and experienced trainers, and at training facilities that were inadequate to supply the regional human resource base for the utilization of the rapidly evolving technology. It noted that there were wide-ranging and continually changing requirements for education in the application of information technology to government-sector computerization.

600. In connection with the project, the Commission noted that although advances in networking-related technology, for example, offered the potential to bring down some of the past technical barriers to government-sector computerization, the inadequacy of telecommunication facilities and general problems with the acquisition and development of software had the effect of impeding the realization of such potential in the less developed countries. It also noted that there was a need to focus in those countries on the primary planning, decision-making and management and user conditions in relation to computers that should be met in order to utilize computers more appropriately.

601. The Commission noted that there were close relationships between government

information systems and other sectorial activities, such as statistics, and that that should be considered in the implementation of the project.

602. The Commission welcomed the thrust of the proposed project, since it was of great potential importance in the region; the project addressed a central and critical need, and filled a clear gap left by other assistance programmes. As the regional arm of the United Nations, ESCAP, through the project, could play a major role in providing some of that needed assistance.

603. The Commission expressed its appreciation to UNDP of its support in the field of government-sector computerization.

604. The Commission noted the need to establish liaison between the relevant national-level organizational focal points which were responsible in the member countries for the promotion and co-ordination of computerization developments in the government sector and the ESCAP secretariat. It observed that those focal points constituted the natural national counterparts in regard to ESCAP activities in government-sector computerization; it was most appropriate, therefore, that they should be the ones to review and evaluate the secretariat's activities in the area. It noted that the current arrangements at ESCAP, where the Committee on Statistics and the Working Group of Statistical Experts were the only bodies responsible for reviewing activities in government-sector computerization, did not ensure the involvement of the focal points.

Integrated rural development

605. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/564. It emphasized that co-operation and co-ordination among United Nations agencies and the developing countries of the region were essential for the successful implementation of integrated rural development programmes. The structure of co-operation and co-ordination among the agencies and participating countries under the integrated programme on rural development had been laid down in the guidelines prepared in 1977 as a follow-up to Commission resolution 172 (XXXIII) on the integrated programme on rural development. The

institutional arrangements to promote continual dialogue, interaction and co-operation among the United Nations agencies through the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and its technical body, the Interagency Task Force on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, and co-operation between the Interagency Committee and the participating countries through a network of national liaison officers, were organized to deal with matters connected with the planning, implementation and review of progress of activities under the Inter-agency Co-ordinated Plan of Action for Integrated Rural Development in the ESCAP Region. Those arrangements had been playing a catalytic role in facilitating a complementarity of efforts to provide more effective support to the countries and had identified the main issues for future action by the Interagency Committee.

606. The Commission emphasized that there was a continued need to maintain close co-operation and co-ordination among the United Nations agencies and the developing countries of the region to enhance the impact of the integrated rural development programmes which had direct bearing on the alleviation of poverty in rural areas. In that connection, the current arrangement under the regional integrated programme for rural development was considered to be an essential means to promote co-operation and co-ordination. While the assistance provided jointly by the United Nations agencies through the Interagency Committee had been quite useful in the past, it was pointed out that in view of the continued dismal condition of the rural poor, the co-operation and co-ordination among agencies, as well as with the developing countries of the region, in the preparation and implementation of the rural anti-poverty programmes had gained more importance in the 1980s and would continue to do so in the 1990s. Hence there was a need to give higher priority to assisting the developing countries of the region in that regard.

607. The Commission was told of the experience of several countries in the field of integrated rural development during the past decade or so. The need for consultation with the target groups in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the integrated rural development programmes was stressed, and

it was noted that there were many examples of such consultation at the district/provincial level of the countries. In many countries the preparation of the integrated rural development programmes was entirely in the hands of grass-roots agencies. To develop the human resources capability to undertake such tasks at the grass-roots level it was felt that there was a need to undertake special innovative training for trainers.

608. The Commission endorsed the proposal to increase the exchange, on a regular basis, of information on the results of action research, case studies etc., new rural development efforts made at the grass-roots level by governments as well as non-governmental agencies, and activities and programmes of the member United Nations agencies. The Commission also called for increased resources to undertake that work.

609. The Commission emphasized the need for sharing the experience of different countries in implementing poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas. Many developing countries expressed their willingness to welcome visits of experts from other developing countries and to learn from their experience under TCDC-ECDC arrangements.

610. The Commission emphasized the need for active participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparation and implementation of integrated rural development programmes.

611. Several members of the Interagency Committee, UNDP, UNEP, ILO, FAO and WHO, informed the Commission of their past and ongoing programmes on integrated rural development, continuing co-operation and co-ordination among themselves under the existing structure and commitment to work jointly in the future. The Commission was highly appreciative of their offer to continue to co-operate and collaborate in future activities.

612. The Commission acknowledged with gratitude the financial support provided to the interagency programme on integrated rural development by the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands. It also strongly urged donors to increase the level of financial support to implement the interagency programme in the future.

Progress reports of special regional projects, regional institutions and other related bodies:

Administrative and financial issues related to the Commission's regional institutions

613. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/S6S.

614. It recalled that the financial situation of the four regional institutions, particularly financial support for institutional costs, had been discussed since 1983. It also recalled the financial targets for cash contributions for institutional support in 1986 for APCTT (Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology), the CGPRT Centre (Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific) and RMRDC (Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre), set at its forty-second session, its request that the secretariat look into the financial viability of the regional institutions, and its authorization to the Executive Secretary to make arrangements for the closure of RMRDC if its financial target was not met in the following six months. It further recalled its suggestion that if the financial viability of any regional institution was not ensured, alternative mechanisms and approaches for delivering its programmes of technical assistance should be explored.

615. The Commission noted that the financial targets for APCTT, the CGPRT Centre and RMRDC for 1986 had not been met. It endorsed the recommendations of the Governing Council of RMRDC, made during its meeting in January 1987, on the transfer of the Centre's functions, together with its staff, equipment and financial resources, to the ESCAP secretariat, and on the formulation of a regional mineral resources development project consolidating the main elements of the programmes that had been implemented by RMRDC. It noted the Council's request that the Executive Secretary take the necessary measures to give effect to its proposals.

616. The Commission noted that in accordance with the directive of the Commission and in the light of the recommendation of the Governing Council, the office of the Centre in Bandung had been closed as from 1 March 1987 and arrangements had been made for the transfer of the two

Professional staff members, in consultation with the donor countries, to the secretariat. The Commission expressed gratitude for the generous support that the host country of Indonesia had provided to the Centre during its location in Bandung.

617. The Commission noted with appreciation that the secretariat was preparing a project document for financial support of a programme for regional mineral resources development. The balance of member countries' contributions would be used for the first phase of the project covering 1987 and early 1988. As from 1988, fresh donor support would be required, for which UNDP would be approached.

618. The Commission noted with concern the insufficient institutional support from recipient countries for APCTT and the CGPRT Centre. It commended the efforts of the secretariat to increase cash contributions. In that context, it noted a proposal from the secretariat aimed at ensuring the financial viability of APCTT and the CGPRT Centre. The least developed countries might wish to consider SUS 1,000 and other developing countries SUS 15,000 as minimum voluntary contributions for APCTT and the CGPRT Centre. Those were indicative figures and were not intended to limit the contribution of member countries to different institutions made in accordance with their own assessment.

619. The Commission expressed appreciation of the substantial programme support rendered by bilateral and multilateral donors, in particular UNDP, and expressed the hope that such support would be increased.

620. While urging member countries to provide and increase cash contributions, the Commission reiterated that financial support for the institutional costs of the regional institutions was the direct responsibility of the recipient countries and donor countries should take the burden of programme support. It also expressed the view that host countries should provide cash contributions for institutional support, in addition to the host facilities.

621. Recognizing the valuable services that the regional institutions had been performing for their member countries, the Commission held the view that their financial viability should be ensured. In that context, it was suggested that

the participation of member countries in regional institutions should be broadened: their active involvement in the formulation and adoption of the programme of activities of the regional institutions, leading to improvement in their work programme content and increased efficiency in terms of meeting the needs of member countries, should be encouraged: and additional support in kind, apart from cash contributions, from recipient countries should be explored.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

622. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/570.

623. It noted the transfer of the functions of the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre (RMRDC) together with its resources, from Bandung to the ESCAP secretariat in Bangkok with effect from 1 March 1987. It also noted that ESCAP had formulated a proposal for a regional mineral resources development project into which had been incorporated the main elements of the programmes that had been delivered by RMRDC in the past.

624. The Commission noted with appreciation that the new project had been incorporated in the draft programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989 and that, in accordance with the recommendations of the evaluation missions, the project structure and scope had been simplified and limited to addressing mainly the exploration phase of mineral resources development for non-metallic minerals, precious metals, solid fuels and polymetallic deposits. The Commission noted further that the prepared project document would be submitted to UNDP and other potential donors for funding.

625. The Commission commended RMRDC activities on training and advisory services and urged the secretariat to continue carrying out those activities in the future. It requested the secretariat to report on the progress made in that regard to the Committee on Natural Resources at its fourteenth session in October 1987.

626. The Commission acknowledged the generous support that had been extended to RMRDC by several donor countries and UNDP, and expressed its gratitude to the Government of Indonesia for the generous support it had provided as the host country.

**Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research
and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses,
Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid
Tropics of Asia and the Pacific**

627. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/568 containing the report of the fifth session of the Governing Board of the Centre, which presented an account of the progress of the activities of the Centre during the period under review, the staffing and financial situation of the Centre, including budget requirements for operations for 1987-1988, and issues for consideration. The Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Board.

628. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made by the Centre during the period since the forty-second session of the Commission, during which the Centre had produced meaningful outputs through the implementation of its three interrelated programmes: information and documentation, training, and research on CGPRT crops.

629. The Commission was informed that in undertaking those programmes, the Centre had strengthened its co-operation with national agricultural research institutes and agencies of developing member countries as well as with international and regional research institutes such as the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre, the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, the International Potato Centre, the International Food Policy Research Institute, and the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre. The collaborative activities with those institutes were in progress with positive participation of the relevant institutions and agencies of developing member countries. The Commission noted with satisfaction that in 1986 the Centre had also continued its close collaboration with the International Cooperation Center of Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD) of France, and FAO.

630. With regard to the information and documentation programme of the Centre, the Commission was informed that the Centre had issued five publications in 1985-1986, of which three books had been published since the forty-second session of the Commission. In addition, it had distributed two newsletters in 1986. The Commission expressed appreciation to the

Government of the Netherlands for the financial support, starting in March 1987, to the Centre's information and documentation programme. It was informed that in order to strengthen that programme implementation, two specialists in that specific field had joined the Centre under the assistance of the Canadian University Service Overseas.

631. As regards the training programme, the Commission was informed that during the period under review, the Centre had proceeded with preparatory work to organize a three-week training course relating to research resource allocation and comparative advantage analysis for CGPRT crops. The Centre had selected that subject in co-operation with national agricultural research institutes, since such research was a useful tool for policy makers and research administrators in making decisions regarding allocation of research resources and the selection of appropriate crops, production regions and technologies. The training programme had strong links with the Centre's research programme, which would be implemented in the coming years in close co-operation with relevant national research institutions and government agencies. The Commission commended the efforts of the Centre in formulating a co-operative training-cum-research programme on that important subject.

632. The Commission was informed that as of April 1987, 10 study projects had been completed or nearly completed, including: (a) socio-economic studies of soybean-based farming systems at the village level in Indonesia: (b) analysis of socio-economic constraints to increased productivity of selected food legumes and coarse grains (phase II): (c) inventory survey on farming systems research (phase I): (d) study of the demand for CGPRT commodities in human consumption in Bangladesh and Indonesia: (e) study on demand for root and tuber crops in human consumption in Bangladesh: (f) analytical study of the demand for CGPRT commodities in East Asia: (g) survey of the utilization of CGPRT crops as livestock feed in developing countries of Asia: (h) agricultural marketing and processing in rural Java, with special emphasis on soybean: (i) survey on the potential for pigeon pea in South-East Asia: and (j) review of French publications and studies on CGPRT crops in the Pacific. The results of those studies would be published in 1987 and early 1988.

633. The Commission was informed that, in accordance with the direction provided by the Governing Board, the Centre had prepared a draft of the six-year review (1981-1986) and the long-term plan of work (1987-1994) of the Centre with the assistance of the Technical Advisory Committee. The draft had been considered by the Board at its fifth session.

634. The Commission commended the efforts of the Centre in preparing a draft review and long-term plan. It recognized that the draft had adequately covered the Centre's mandate, its plan and the role of CGPRT crops in the region. It concurred with the recommendation of the Board that some revisions be made to the proposed plan on the following aspects: first, with a view to maximizing the benefits from the Centre's activities under the limited available resources, further assignment of priorities to programme activities would be required; second, the regional function of the Centre should be reflected further in its programme implementation; third, the Centre's activities on information and training programmes should be strengthened in order to keep an adequate balance with those of the research programme; fourth, the proposed plan of resource mobilization relied heavily on financial contributions from donor countries for the Centre's institutional support in the coming years.

635. As regards the programme of work of the Centre for 1987-1988, the Commission concurred with the recommendations of the Board. It endorsed the Board's view that further allocation of priorities to the activities would be needed and that the Centre's relations with national agricultural research institutions should be strengthened in the coming years. In that respect, the Commission was of the view that the soybean project should receive high priority in the implementation of the Centre's research programme.

636. With regard to staff development of the Centre, the Commission noted with satisfaction that, as of April 1987, eight professional staff had been assigned to the Centre: the director, one senior agricultural economist, four agricultural economists and two information and documentation specialists. In addition, three agricultural economists had been assigned to the Centre by two agricultural research institutes, of Indonesia as research associate and assistants.

637. The Commission was informed that the Centre had received considerable assistance from the UNDP office in Jakarta with regard to accounting and administrative matters. It had also been assisted with communication facilities by the Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development in Bogor. Furthermore, it had received support from the ESCAP secretariat in various aspects of its operation. The Commission expressed appreciation to those institutions and agencies for their valuable support to the Centre extended during the period under review.

638. The Commission was informed that the total financial resources available in 1986 amounted to \$US 778,200, which comprised: (a) support for institutional costs of \$US 605,800 in the form of a saving of \$US 292,500 from 1985 and cash contributions of \$US 313,300 received from member countries in 1986, including France, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea; and (b) support for specific programme activities of the Centre amounting to \$US 172,400, which consisted of a balance of \$US 168,900 from 1985 and contributions in 1986 from the European Economic Community through CIRAD. The Commission thanked the Governments of those countries and CIRAD for their financial support to the Centre in 1986. The Commission also noted with appreciation that the Centre had received contributions in kind from the Governments of Indonesia and Japan, and expert technical services from the Governments of France, Indonesia, Japan and the Netherlands; those contributions were estimated to be equivalent to approximately \$US 170,000. The total value of resources available for 1986, including financial and in-kind, contributions, amounted to approximately \$US 948,200. Of the total resources, an amount of approximately \$US 737,000 had been spent in 1986, for both institutional support and programme activities. A balance of approximately \$US 211,200 had been carried over to 1987.

639. The Commission was informed that the Board had endorsed the total budget requirements for optimum-level implementation amounting to \$US 1,358,000, consisting of \$US 472,000 for institutional support costs and \$US 886,000 for programme costs. Budget estimates for the minimum-level implementation were estimated at \$US 959,000, comprising \$US 432,000 for institutional support and \$US 527,000 for programme activities. With a

view to ensuring the financial and operational viability of the Centre, the Commission endorsed the view expressed by the Governing Board at its fifth session that recipient countries and the host country should, in principle, bear all expenses related to institutional costs of the Centre's operation. In that regard, the Commission recalled that at its forty-first session it had recognized that responsibility for institutional support for the regional institutions should increasingly be taken by recipient countries and that programme support would depend principally on donor countries. It also recalled that at its forty-second session it had strongly urged the developing member countries to support the regional institutions on a continuing basis and suggested that participation of member countries in regional institutions be broadened and their active participation in the decision-making process encouraged. Taking into account those directives, the Commission appealed to members and associate members, donor countries and agencies to provide greater financial and technical support to the work of the Centre.

640. The Commission expressed appreciation of the announcements of continued support made by the Governments of Australia, Bangladesh, France, Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand.

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

641. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/566.

642. It noted with appreciation the successful completion of the two-year (1985-1986) UNDP project on technology information sharing. The three specific aspects of that project promoting transfer and utilization of selected technologies, facilitating technology transfer through information services in priority areas, and strengthening national technology policy and planning infrastructure -were all considered to be very useful by the participating developing countries. The Commission commended APCTT on its valuable contribution through a series of publications, including 12 country studies, a regional report, 2 guidebooks, a reference manual, and the regular publication of the bi-monthly *journal Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor*.

It appreciated the organization of a number of national- and regional-level workshops, expositions and missions to share the experience documented in APCTT publications and to enhance technical co-operation among the countries of the ESCAP region.

643. The Commission showed considerable interest in the progress of the technology atlas project. It felt that the atlas would be a useful decision-support data base for science and technology policy makers in developing countries. It urged that the data collection be completed speedily and the technology atlas, representing assessment of technological capabilities, gaps and levels of development, be published as soon as possible to help integrate technological considerations into the national socio-economic development planning process.

644. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Centre was implementing two new projects in 1987: promotion of technology utilization, and human resources development. UNDP had already approved the first two-year phase of the promotion of technology utilization project, to start from July 1987. The new UNDP project attempted to take advantage of the proved strength of the Centre and to build upon what had been accomplished during the past two years. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea for their generous contributions to the project on human resources development, which would include a workshop for middle- and senior-level officials in charge of policy-making and management of technological manpower engaged in the generation, promotion and transfer of technology for national development. The Commission felt that the planned future activities of the Centre reflected the desired focus of the participating developing countries.

645. Noting the substantial increase in the activities undertaken by the Centre during the past two years, the Commission commended APCTT on its work. It expressed satisfaction with the progress in respect of the relocation of the Centre from its current location in Bangalore to the permanent headquarters being built in New Delhi by the host Government, India. The Commission noted with gratitude the offers of programme support to the Centre, in both cash and kind, by the Governments of Australia, China, France, India, Japan,

and the Republic of Korea. However, it also noted that the financial situation of APCTT, in terms of institutional costs for smooth operation, was still inadequate. Recipient countries were therefore encouraged to increase their efforts to meet the institutional costs of APCTT.

646. The Commission further noted that member countries were making increased demands on the services of APCTT. It therefore requested members and associate members of ESCAP, other interested countries, UNDP and other international agencies to enhance their support and extend their co-operation to ensure the effective functioning of APCTT.

647. The Commission observed that for continuity as well as for balanced development of the work plan and activities of APCTT, it was desirable for all participating countries, particularly the beneficiary countries, to designate permanent focal point institutions and national liaison persons and also to consider the secondment of professional staff to APCTT.

648. It expressed appreciation to all donor countries, UNDP and the host country, India, of their extremely valuable support in both cash and kind for the operation of APCTT during the past year.

649. The Commission, at its forty-second session in 1986, had amended article 9 of the Statute of APCTT to broaden the membership base and made provision for a minimum of eight elected members and one representative of the host country. At the same session, 10 countries had been elected as members of the Board in addition to the host country. The Commission at its forty-third session unanimously elected two additional members, Indonesia and Thailand, to the Governing Board.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

650. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/572. It noted that the Institute had not only accomplished its planned activities but had exceeded programmed targets in certain areas, thereby having a greater impact. A total of 256 participants from 32 countries had attended various SIAP training programmes during the period under review. The Commission further noted the more practical orientation

in the SIAP training courses, the new course on microcomputing to be introduced in 1987, and the start of preliminary work on its new outreach programme to be implemented during the fourth phase of the Institute.

651. The Commission recognized the important developmental role being played by SIAP in training statistical personnel, including increasing numbers of Pacific statisticians. SIAP was considered to be a highly competent provider of statistical training designed specifically to meet the needs of the region's developing countries. Such training was instrumental in upgrading the knowledge and skills of statisticians, which was an important factor in strengthening national statistical capabilities.

652. The Commission gratefully acknowledged the continuing strong support from countries for SIAP planned training programmes for 1987. Concern was expressed, however, that owing to the steep decline in the exchange rate between the dollar and the yen, there would be a deficit of at least \$50,000 in institutional costs. It was strongly suggested that member countries increase their direct cash contributions to the Institute to cover the expected shortfall and forestall any unnecessary disruptions in the Institute's operations. The Commission also suggested that SIAP should continue to adopt economy measures.

653. The Commission noted that facilities had been installed and the curriculum prepared for the microcomputer course planned for the later part of 1987. It emphasized the need for training in microcomputers and urged donor countries and international organizations to provide where possible the extrabudgetary resources necessary to meet the participation costs of trainees.

654. The Commission was informed of the significant recommendations made by the Advisory Council, at its meeting in November 1986, for the fourth phase (1985-1990) of the Institute. It endorsed those recommendations, and supported in particular the Council's forthcoming review of the Institute's objectives to ensure that contemporary and future needs of countries in the region were adequately catered for. It was suggested that the review should pay due attention to the special problems of island developing countries and to

training in the use of microcomputers and related software for statistical operations.

655. The Commission expressed its deep gratitude to the host Government of Japan, for the continuing financial, in-kind and fellowship support, as part of its technical co-operation programme, to the Institute; to the Government of the Netherlands, for financial contributions which regrettably would end in 1987 owing to a policy change unrelated to the performance of the Institute; to the Government of the United Kingdom and to ADB, for providing guest lecturers on a non-reimbursable basis; to the Government of India, for providing instructors on a cost-sharing basis; to the United States, and many international organizations, for their co-operation and assistance in various activities of the Institute; and to UNDP, for its generous provision of \$615,000 as programme support during 1986 and \$2 million during the fourth UNDP intercountry programme cycle (1987-1991).

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

656. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/571.

657. It recognized the continued usefulness of RNAM to the participating countries in increasing the productivity of the farmers and improving their working conditions. It supported the RNAM plan to concentrate on only the following four subprogrammes during the fourth phase (1987-1991) :

(a) Formulation and implementation of appropriate agricultural mechanization policies and strategies;

(b) Design and development of selected agricultural machinery;

(c) Local manufacture of selected agricultural machinery;

(d) Extension of appropriate agricultural mechanization technology.

Special emphasis would be placed on the last subprogramme in order to spread the benefits of the project to the largest number of farmers in the region.

658. The Commission reviewed the activities of the project for the past year and

noted the progress made in human resources development and transfer of technology efforts sponsored by the project. It also noted that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Governing Body of RNAM, ESCAP had secured from UNIDO headquarters the software package COMFAR (Computer Model for Feasibility Analysis and Reporting) for use in training programmes.

659. While urging the participating countries to increase their contributions for institutional support costs, the Commission appealed to UNDP and the donor countries to continue their support for the institutional costs and not to reduce it abruptly, so that that very useful project could continue functioning without a break caused by lack of funds. It also urged UNDP to increase its contributions to cover the cost of the additional members in the project.

660. On the subject of holding the Technical Advisory Committee and Governing Body meetings one after the other at the same location, as had been suggested by UNDP, it was the consensus that that arrangement should be followed on a trial basis for one or two years. If it was successful, it might be followed for the duration of the project.

661. The Commission welcomed the participation of Bangladesh and Nepal with effect from 1 January 1987, and hoped that their membership would prove beneficial to both them and the project.

Regional energy development programme

662. The Commission endorsed document E/ESCAP/569, which had been presented to it for consideration and updated during its introduction by the Senior Co-ordinator. It expressed appreciation of the activities and sub-activities of the programme, noted with satisfaction the completion of phase II (1984-1986), and thanked the participating Governments, the secretariat and all associated executing agencies of the programme for their active co-operation and contributions in bringing that phase to a successful and timely completion. The programme, particularly activities and sub-activities relating to energy conservation in small-scale industries; manpower assessment and training; use of natural gas in transport; coal utilization in industries as well as rural

energy planning, particularly small hydropower, had been especially beneficial for the participating Governments. It was pointed out that REDP had played a positive role in the promotion of energy development in the region, and in the exchange of information and technology.

663. In that regard, the Commission noted with appreciation the preparation of the consolidated report and internal evaluation of the phase II programme by the secretariat and urged the participating Governments to undertake a joint assessment as requested, as the feed-back would provide valuable information and guidance to the secretariat and the participating Governments, as well as the associated executing agencies, in optimizing the effectiveness of the second cycle (1987-1991) programme.

664. The Commission commended the programme activities and sub-activities that had been assigned priority by the Steering Committee of the Regional Energy Development Programme at its fourth session in 1986, which were now contained in the phase III programme of REDP covering the period 1987-1989. Many member countries commended the inclusion of a strong human resources development component pertaining to the energy sector. They also expressed their strong support for the phase III programme and their readiness to contribute to the programme activities and sub-activities. The programme was considered to be relevant to the needs and priorities of the participating Governments and to complement their national energy programmes.

665. The Commission noted with appreciation the approval of the project document for the second five-year cycle of REDP (1987-1991) with a UNDP input of \$US 4,441,750, and expressed its gratitude to UNDP for continued support for the programme.

666. The Commission expressed confidence that, with the active support of all concerned, the objectives of the second intercountry programme cycle could be attained, and that self-sustained co-operative initiatives in the field of energy would eventually evolve through the tripartite institutional arrangement which characterized the approach of the second cycle programme and had been reported to the Commission at its forty-second session in 1986. It stressed that the merits of such an institutional

arrangement had been well demonstrated through the implementation of phase II activity A-4.

Pacific energy development programme

667. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/567, a report of project activities during 1986. It endorsed the report and commended the Pacific energy development programme on its effective and useful assistance to the Pacific countries.

668. It noted with satisfaction the closer working relationship of PEDP with the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) and suggested that the proposed merger of PEDP with SPEC during the 1987-1991 cycle should be effected on terms which assured continued flexibility and rapid response, and that outstanding issues should be resolved expeditiously.

669. The Commission also noted with appreciation the continued support being provided to PEDP by UNDP, Australia, France, Japan and New Zealand.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

670. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/573.

671. The Director of APDC briefed the Commission on its achievements in 1986.

672. With regard to institutional development, efforts towards strengthening the institutional capability of the Centre had included the introduction of the integrated computer service system (ICSS), the setting up of the Research and Development Unit, evolving a new salary structure, and improvement and updating of the financial and accounting systems.

673. With respect to the financial status of the Centre, the Centre had not had to dip into its reserve for three years, owing mainly to the timely payment of contributions by member countries, to a conscious effort to curb expenditure and to a good response to the Centre's income-generating activities. The future prospects were also promising, as member countries and donors, such as UNDP, had pledged financial support.

674. In implementation of the programme in 1986, 31 research and training projects had been undertaken. Some important shifts had occurred in the work programme.

While national issues relating to rural poverty, human resources development, women in development, and energy planning and management continued to receive the attention of the Centre, for the first time regional and international issues, such as those relating to technology transfer, trade and economic co-operation had emerged as new areas of concern. That trend would promote greater complementarities in such areas as trade and production and the institutional support needed to facilitate them. In the implementation of those projects the Centre would establish consultative and working relationships with other international and regional organizations.

675. Several countries commended the development of the Centre and expressed satisfaction with its progress. While urging more countries to join the Centre, Japan pledged a financial contribution of \$US 350,000 for 1987, subject to the approval of the Diet. In appreciation of the good work of the Centre, the representative of the Republic of Korea announced that for 1987 that country would increase its contribution from \$US 35,000 to \$US 45,000. The representative of China said that China welcomed the APDC focus on issues and problems relating to economic co-operation and underlined its comparative advantage to undertake research initiatives on that subject. China had benefited from participation in APDC activities. The representative of Nepal expressed the hope that APDC would continue to respond to the needs of the region. The representative of Viet Nam expressed his country's interest in becoming more involved in future activities of the Centre. The representative of Malaysia said that his country, noting the good work of the Centre, pledged to provide APDC with an annual grant of \$M 400,000 and an annual programme support contribution of \$US 42,000.

Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

676. The Commission had before it the report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1986 (E/ESCAP/576), which was presented for information by its Acting Chairman for 1987, assisted by the Executive Agent. In bringing out salient points of the annual report, the

Acting Chairman mentioned that 1986 had been an active year during which significant steps had been taken by the Committee to strengthen and streamline its administrative machinery and work programme, with the ultimate purpose of harnessing the formidable resources of the lower Mekong basin. She referred to progress achieved in various sectors of the work programme, including hydrology and meteorology, water management, irrigation, flood control, energy generation and transport and navigation. As a result of the progress made, a number of activities and projects had been successfully concluded in 1986.

677. In her statement, the Acting Chairman expressed the Committee's gratitude to the co-operating countries and agencies, both within and outside the United Nations system, and stressed their indispensable role in financing the operations of the Committee. She expressed the Committee's particular gratification that UNDP, in its fourth intercountry programme cycle (1987-1991), had decided to provide programme support to the Committee at the same funding level as the combined programme and institutional support given in the preceding cycle. The new UNDP project, covering the first three years of the cycle, was seen as an important continuation of and at the same time a new direction in the Committee's long-standing relationship with UNDP. She expressed the hope that the continued support on the part of the international community would enable the Committee to meet its long-term objectives, for the welfare of all the basin's inhabitants.

678. In statements made by representatives of the co-operating countries, the general consensus was that the Interim Mekong Committee continued to play an important role in promoting regional co-operation in the integrated development of the basin's resources for the benefit of its inhabitants, and deserved the active support of the international community. Several representatives expressed their satisfaction with many important projects and the improved management of their contributions, and complimented the Committee and the Executive Agent on the operation of the restructured Mekong Secretariat. The Secretariat was also commended on the clear presentation of the annual report and work programme, and continuing assistance was pledged by several representatives. The riparian countries themselves expressed their warm

appreciation to the co-operating countries of the assistance provided.

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas

679. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/574.

680. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the Committee was reporting to it and expressed the hope that it would continue to do so at future sessions.

681. The Commission was informed that on 25 March 1987, the Committee had held the signing ceremony of its Memorandum of Understanding at Government House in Bangkok. The event had been chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand and attended by six nominated signatories from China, Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Thailand. The Commission was informed that the Committee required one more signature from any of the other member countries to meet the requirement of seven signatures so that the Memorandum of Understanding could come into force. It could then apply for a Headquarters Agreement with the Government of Thailand.

682. Appreciation was expressed of the work carried out by the CCOP Technical Secretariat in the programmes of hydrocarbon exploration, offshore geophysical and geological investigations, Quaternary geology studies, fellowships, on-the-job and in-house training, workshops, seminars, publication programmes, and the programme on Studies in East Asian Tectonics and Resources (SEATAR).

683. The Commission was informed that the work programme for the period 1987-1991 had been approved by the Committee, and that the detailed work plan for 1987 with the generalized plan for 1988-1989 had also been approved.

684. The Commission was informed that considerable financial and other inputs would be needed to implement the work programme. Annual cash contributions from member countries had been provided and some of them had increased their contributions to the Committee. Similar increased contributions by other member countries were needed to ensure that all institutional costs could be met so that the Technical Secretariat could function effectively.

685. The Commission noted the appreciation expressed by CCOP of the programme support provided by UNDP, ESCAP and co-operating countries. It noted with appreciation that UNDP support for phase IV of the project in the years 1987-1991 had been approved in its project document number RAS/86/138/A/01/53 and that that was the most important programme support for the core activity of CCOP. Co-operating countries had also provided assistance to CCOP and would continue to do so in the future.

Typhoon Committee

686. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/577 and expressed appreciation of the activities of the Typhoon Committee. It noted the considerable progress in the improvement of the capabilities of the Committee in typhoon and flood forecasting and warning systems, and disaster prevention and preparedness.

687. It was pleased to note that ESCAP had provided the member countries with various substantive services, such as presentation of a paper on comprehensive flood loss prevention and management at the First Meeting on Flood Risk Analysis and Flood Plain Management in Bangkok and its Vicinity, and organization of technical advisory missions on flood risk analysis and mapping to Malaysia and Thailand.

688. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Philippines had pledged to continue hosting the Typhoon Committee Secretariat and that Japan had given reassurance that its Government would continue to play an active role in the programmes of the Committee by such assistance as provision of the hydrologist to the Typhoon Committee Secretariat and organization of training courses on meteorology and river engineering. The Commission was also pleased to note that Thailand had reaffirmed that its contribution would be made on the conditions as stated at the fortieth session of the Commission held at Tokyo, and that China would contribute 50,000 yuan renminbi to the Committee in 1987.

689. The Commission was also pleased to learn of the inclusion of programme support to the Committee in the UNDP fourth intercountry programme cycle (1987-1991) and expressed the hope that any reduction in the amount from the

previous cycle could be restored by additional funding in order to ensure the effective implementation of the newly-planned regional co-operation programme.

690. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization congratulated the Commission on its fortieth anniversary and expressed willingness to co-operate further with ESCAP. He also expressed his organization's hope for continued ESCAP involvement in supporting the programmes of the Committee as well as the Panel on Tropical Cyclones.

691. The Commission endorsed the view of the Committee, confirmed at its nineteenth session, that the Typhoon Committee was a joint programme of ESCAP and WMO. The Commission also endorsed the continuation of the substantive support of ESCAP to the Committee's activities and expressed the strong hope that other Committee members would follow the lead of the Republic of Korea as well as China, Japan, the Philippines and Thailand on the matter of cash contributions to the Committee towards meeting its publication, meeting and other institutional costs.

692. The Commission took note of the readiness of the USSR to expand co-operation with the member countries of the Committee in the field of meteorology, hydrology and mitigation of natural disasters, by exchange of scientists and meteorological data etc., and to assist them in training experts through the provision of WMO voluntary co-operation programme scholarships and in the development of their national meteorological services by sending experts and consultants.

Programme of work and priorities

693. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/578 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/579, E/ESCAP/580 and Corr.1, and E/ESCAP/582 and Corr.1 and 2. It also had for its information documents E/ESCAP/581 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/583, and ESCAP/(XLIII)/INF.1 and 2.

Draft programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989

694. The Commission noted that the draft programme of work had been considered extensively at the recent special session of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

(ACPR), and at several resumed sessions thereafter. On the basis of the comments made at ACPR, the secretariat had made modifications to the programme where it had been found possible to make such changes.

695. The Commission noted that the draft programme budget represented zero growth in regular budget resources for the biennium 1988-1989. It felt that the activities proposed were generally realistic and relevant to the needs of members and associate members, and the most effective that could be devised with the resources estimated to be available. It found the consolidation which had been made in the programme to be useful. That consolidation reflected the manner in which the work programme was organized and implemented, and allowed the Commission to see the relations between the objectives of subprogrammes and programme elements, and the activities proposed to achieve them.

696. Some delegations expressed concern about the resource situation, and in that context noted the need to establish priorities for the future, so that resources would continue to be allocated to those parts of the programme considered most useful and effective by the region itself.

697. After discussion, the Commission endorsed the draft programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989, as set out in document E/ESCAP/578 and Corr.1, with the following modifications.

698. In the programme on food and agriculture, while no changes were made, it was recommended that the secretariat should continue its efforts to promote scientific and technical co-operation among agricultural, scientific, research and experimental institutions in the region.

699. In the programme on development issues and policies, the Commission recommended that more resources be redeployed within the programme to subprogramme 5, "Special measures in favour of island developing countries".

700. In the programme on energy, one delegation reiterated its reservation concerning the inclusion of output 3.4 (i) (a), "Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on resource options for electric power generation in the coming decade".

701. In the programme on the environment, the Commission was advised that the title of output 1.4 (ii) should be amended to read "Project on a regional network of desertification control". Several delegations expressed deep concern over the use of chemical weapons and its impact on the environment. One delegation suggested that the secretariat should undertake a general in-depth study in the region on the adverse effects of the use of chemical weapons on the environment. A few delegations did not favour the study on the ground that ESCAP was not the appropriate body to undertake such a study.

702. In the programme on industrial development, the Commission recommended that the title of output 1.5 (ii) should be amended to read, "Project on entrepreneurship development, export-oriented industries, technology-sharing and energy conservation in small- and medium-scale industries".

703. In the programme on international trade and development finance, the Commission recommended that programme element 2.1 should include the implementation of econometric models for the benefit of forecasting the trend of commodity prices on a short-term basis. Under programme element 2.3, output 2.3 (ii) (b), "Project on market and product development", a trader's manual of other regions should be included in order to support interregional trade expansion.

704. In the programme on marine resources, it was recommended that the objectives of output 1.1 (ii), "Project on marine geology and geophysics training", as reflected in document ESCAP/(XLIII)/INF.2, should include the management of geoscientific activities, while the list of activities to be implemented under the project should include a study tour on marine geology and geophysical programme planning and assessment. It was further recommended that under programme element 1.2, a new output be added entitled "1.2 (iii) Technical assistance: Project on appraisal of the geology, occurrence, development and management of marine resources". Under the same programme element, the title of output 1.2 (i) should be amended to read: "Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources with emphasis on the specific needs of the interested developing countries of the region in marine resources development. Under programme element 1.4, the title of output 1.4

(iii) should be amended to read "Project on strengthening national capabilities of interested developing countries with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in selected subregions of Asia and the Pacific".

705. In the programme on population, the Commission recommended that the output under programme element 1.5, "Project on human resources development in population", should include activities designed to raise the quality of life of national populations.

706. In the programme on social development, the Commission suggested that the secretariat should include in the activities as listed in ESCAP/(XLIII)/INF.2 for output 1.3 (iii), "Project on assessing the situation of youth in development", an analysis of the situation of young rural workers. It also suggested that output 2.2 (iii), "Project on selected emerging social development issues", should include an analysis of the negative impact of industrialization on women and the matching of labour force skills with employment opportunities. The Commission further recommended that the title of output 2.3 (iii) should be amended to read "Project on strengthening co-ordination between non-governmental organizations and Governments in promoting social development".

707. In the programme on statistics, the Commission recommended that programme element 1.5, "Government information systems", should also receive priority.

708. In the programme on Transport II (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways), the Commission recommended that output 4.1 (ii) (b), "Project on improvement of information and statistical systems on inland water transport", should include the development of an inventory of navigable rivers of the region.

709. After clarification on certain points, the Commission endorsed the tentative calendar of meetings, 1987-1988, as contained in document E/ESCAP/582 and Corr.1 and 2.

710. The programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989, as endorsed by the Commission, is contained in annex I.

Programme changes for 1987

711. The Commission endorsed the proposed changes contained in document E/ESCAP/579, with the following amendments.

712. In the programme on international trade and development finance, one delegation recorded its reservation concerning output 1.4 (i) (a), "Report on the feasibility of the establishment of a regional export refinancing scheme".

713. In the programme on natural resources, the Commission requested clarification on the proposed deletion of output 2.4 (ii) (c), "Seminar on the use of microcomputers in water resource development". The secretariat explained that lack of extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of the seminar could bring into question the effectiveness of regular budget work-months devoted to the output. The Commission decided that the output was of such importance that the lack of resources foreseen for its implementation should not debar it from appearing in the work programme, and recommended that it be retained. It further urged the secretariat to redouble its efforts to find the resources needed to implement the output.

714. The Commission decided that preparation of the report to the Committee on Natural Resources on shared water resources development in various regions of the world be deferred until the Committee considered the matter at its fourteenth session and recommended the priority to be assigned to agreed activities in the field of shared water resources for the consideration of the Commission, also ensuring that that recommendation did not include any bilateral problems.

715. In the programme on Transport II (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways), "Project on the formulation of a regional maritime development strategy", which was listed as output 1.1 (iii) in the draft programme of work for 1988-1989, was of such importance that preliminary work should begin during the current biennium. It therefore approved the inclusion of preliminary activities related to the project within the programme of work, 1986-1987, and directed that 2 work-months of regular budget resources, to be redeployed from elsewhere in the programme, and 9 work-months of extrabudgetary resources, be devoted to the project in 1987.

General guidelines for the medium-term plan, 1990-1995

716. The Commission welcomed the proposals which were contained in document E/ESCAP/580 and Corr.1. It considered that the document gave the Commission the opportunity to provide the secretariat with concise instructions regarding the direction and priorities of future work. It endorsed the general guidelines as presented in the document with the following comments.

717. The Commission reiterated that the objectives and strategies of the plan should continue to reflect consensus among countries of the region, in which activities promoting regional co-operation enjoyed the consent of all participating members and associate members. It further stressed that the plan should be formulated with due regard to the plans of the other agencies of the United Nations system which were operating in the region.

718. The Commission considered that priority should continue to be given to economic growth and social development which would lead to the alleviation of poverty, and that the Commission's activities in that regard should be in harmony with the national development plans of the region.

719. In the field of development issues and policies, problems relating to external debt should be approached carefully, to ensure that work did not duplicate that being done by other organizations.

720. In the field of international trade and development finance, the strategy section of the plan should include activities involving projects on computerized networking among State trading organizations; regional co-operation among rubber producing countries; marketing strategies for orthodox tea and green tea; and on production, processing, packaging and marketing of edible marine products.

721. In the field of population, emphasis could be placed on family planning, urban mobility and related employment potential, and the impact of changing age structures.

722. In the detailed discussions which the Commission expected to occur during the preparation of the medium-term plan, 1990-1995, it hoped that further evaluations would be made, which would indicate

the need for continuation or termination of various areas of work. Various delegations indicated that they would provide detailed comments on programmes as the plan was developed in the coming year.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

723. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/584 and Corr.1. It commended the secretariat on having prepared a comprehensive and useful document.

724. In introducing the subject, the Executive Secretary pointed out the three main issues affecting ESCAP efforts to promote and support the ECDC-TCDC activities of its members: first, the under-utilization of the existing ESCAP facilities and infrastructure; second, the availability of sufficient TCDC funds in the form of both local and foreign currencies; and third and most important, the readiness of members and associate members themselves to identify and participate in specific ECDC and TCDC undertakings promoted by ESCAP which were beneficial to them. He suggested that members and associate members could make fuller use of the existing ESCAP facilities to promote and expand their ECDC and TCDC activities. In addition, he requested members and associate members to consider any possible sources of funding to cover both the local and foreign currencies to support their TCDC and ECDC activities at bilateral, subregional, regional and interregional levels. He requested ESCAP members and associate members having TCDC capacities to offer, to consider establishing a member country-ESCAP co-operation fund to promote such activities.

725. The Commission noted with regret the under-utilization of the existing ESCAP facilities and infrastructures for promoting ECDC and TCDC among its members. It endorsed the proposal of the secretariat that member countries should make fuller use of the large potential available in the secretariat for promoting and supporting such activities. In that connection, and in line with Commission resolution 245 (XLI) on mobilization of resources for the promotion of and support for technical and economic co-operation activities among developing

countries, the Commission requested its members and associate members to indicate the following:

(a) Those work programmes, projects and activities of the Commission in which ECOC or TCOC modalities could be incorporated;

(b) Specific national programmes which formed a linkage with the regional programme selected under item (a) above;

(c) Their requirements for the services of ESCAP regional advisers and staff members to assist them in the formulation of ECDC and TCOC programmes at national and subregional/regional levels.

726. With a view to encouraging members and associate members to utilize fully the secretariat's facilities as well as to promote the participation of member and associate member countries in ECDC-TCDC activities promoted by the secretariat, the Commission directed the secretariat to identify and analyse factors which impeded such activities.

727. The Commission commended the initiative and activities of the secretariat in promoting ECOC and TCOC activities in numerous fields, in particular the export market promotion of silk and silk products supported by the International Trade Division of the secretariat. Based on that successful ECDC and TCDC experience, it urged members and associate members to identify and develop similar programmes in the form of licensing and technical agreements, joint trade promotion and joint ventures in production, processing or marketing for other products of common interest to developing countries, such as leather and leather products, and wooden and rattan furniture.

728. In order to attract and expand the participation of business sectors in the ECDC and TCDC activities of members and associate members, the Commission suggested that the secretariat prepare draft guidelines on the procedure and legal framework for such co-operation for consideration at its forty-fourth session.

729. The Commission noted with appreciation that in addition to the ECDC and TCDC activities promoted and supported by the secretariat, a significant number of ECDC and TCDC undertakings were implemented by the member countries themselves at bilateral, regional, subregional and

interregional levels. It noted also that significant progress had been achieved by regional and sub-regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations such as ASEAN, the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC), and the Asian and Pacific Regional Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA) in promoting economic and technical co-operation among their members. It urged the secretariat to maintain closer communication and harmonize its activities with those organizations so that duplication of efforts could be prevented and complementarities of such activities could be achieved.

730. The Commission recognized the important role that the national ECDC and TCDC focal points could play in identifying, planning and implementing ECDC and TCDC activities by the countries concerned. It therefore urged members and associate members to strengthen their national focal points and directed the secretariat to establish a closer working relationship with them. It noted with appreciation the offer made by the Government of India to host the second session of the Meeting of TCDC-ECDC National Focal Points on Review of Activities and Formulation of a Programme, to be held at New Delhi from 19 to 25 November 1987.

731. The Commission took special note of the success of the Inter-governmental TCDC Programming Exercise, hosted by the Government of China at Beijing in November 1986, which had been supported by GNDP And the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, at which 205 TCDC operational plans of action were agreed upon by the participating countries. In view of the success of that exercise, the Commission urged other members and associate members to consider using such an effective modality for promoting and expanding their ECDC and TCDC activities. It further noted with appreciation the willingness of member countries to share with each other experience and expertise in their socio-economic development efforts.

732. The Commission noted that in principle ECDC and TCDC activities should be the primary responsibility of the developing countries themselves. However, recognizing the limited resources and financial constraints faced by many developing countries, particularly the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, the Commission appealed to donor

countries, UNDP and other international organizations, as well as public and private organizations, to contribute where possible to the TCDC supplementary fund so as to strengthen the catalytic role of the secretariat in those important activities. It noted that the industrialized countries had a significant role to play in the promotion of ECDC and TCDC, particularly in terms of financial and technological support from their technical assistance projects and programmes. In that connection, it noted with appreciation that for 1987, the Governments of the Netherlands and Norway had contributed \$US 80,000 and \$US 42,000 respectively to the fund. The Commission also welcomed the decision taken by the Republic of Korea to make a contribution of \$US 300,000 to ESCAP in the form of a Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund for 1987 to promote regional co-operation and socio-economic development among members. It appealed to other members and associate members to develop such a fund also.

733. With a view to expanding the TCDC activities of ESCAP members and associate members, the Commission suggested that the secretariat consult UNDP in formulating a mutually-agreed procedure on the use of the TCDC fund from UNDP project INT/83/904.

734. The Commission heard with interest a statement from the representative of UNESCO concerning the importance of interagency collaboration in the promotion of TCDC activities. It noted with appreciation the technical and financial contribution made by the UNESCO Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific in conducting a regional survey of TCDC experience. It welcomed the offer made by the representative to make the report of the survey available to the second session of the Meeting of TCDC-ECDC National Focal Points on Review of Activities and Formulation of a Programme.

735. The Commission took note of the statement of the representative of the International Pepper Community (IPC) concerning the progress made in incorporating the participation of the business sector into its activities, including the launching of a joint market promotion programme and regular dialogue with the representative of the importers' association. It noted also the proposed TCDC programmes to be undertaken by the Community: (a) follow-up of the first exchange visit programme of extension

workers and leading pepper farmers; (b) workshop on an integrated programme on disease and pest control for pepper; (c) technical co-operation among IPC member countries in developing competence in forecasting the supply of and demand for pepper and pepper products; and (d) symposium on improvement of quality control and storage of pepper and pepper products. It further noted the request of the Community for TCDC supplementary funds from the secretariat to cover the international cost component of the programme.

The Commission's activities in the Pacific

736. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/585. It commended the secretariat on undertaking for the first time a very informative and useful report on the progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 244 (XLI) on the Commission's activities in the Pacific. It was recommended that a similar format in presentation and analysis be followed in compiling future reports to the Commission.

737. It congratulated the Executive Secretary on his successful efforts to establish the new subprogramme on "Special measures in favour of island developing countries- within the ESCAP programme on development issues and policies, and to have the new subprogramme incorporated in the revised medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989.

738. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to secure the appointment of a suitable national from the Pacific island subregion as the new Head of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC). In that connection, the Commission recorded its appreciation of the services of the former Head of EPOC in the promotion of greater mutual understanding between ESCAP and its member and associate member countries in the Pacific.

739. The Commission appreciated the financial problems facing the secretariat in implementing its activities in the Pacific but strongly urged the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources and redeploy internal resources required for the implementation of activities under the subprogramme. In any case the problems with extrabudgetary funding of EPOC should not be allowed to

undermine the activities and presence of ESCAP in the Pacific. If necessary the shortfall should be made up through an internal reordering of priorities and redeployment of resources.

740. The Commission noted that the Government of Australia had been the largest single contributor to EPOC but, owing to budgetary restrictions, was unable to contribute financially to EPOC during fiscal year 1986/87. The Commission was informed that the final decision on the global aid budget of Australia, including its voluntary contribution to EPOC, for fiscal year 1987/88 would be made later in 1987. The Commission also took note of the intention of the Government of Japan, in response to financial difficulties of EPOC, to raise to some extent its contribution in support of EPOC activities. Several other delegations outlined the various areas of technical assistance provided under the national ECDC and TCDC modalities, and announced their willingness to extend co-operation to Pacific island Governments in suitable areas of identified needs through those modalities.

741. The Commission recognized that ESCAP had a mandate to promote social and economic development in the Pacific, and that it could play a useful catalytic role in fulfilling that task. It was imperative that Pacific island Governments should be fully consulted on ESCAP programmes and projects. The Commission also noted the need to foster closer co-operation and co-ordination with the regional institutions such as the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) and the South Pacific Commission (SPC), to avoid wasteful duplication of effort. There was also the need for effective co-operation between ESCAP and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, and the regional institutions. The possibilities for further cost-effective decentralization to the relevant regional agencies and offices in the implementation of projects, and for an increased role by SPEC in the execution of United Nations regional projects also needed to be explored. However, any such measures should guard against the possibility of an increase in the isolation of the Pacific island countries from the mainstream of developments in the ESCAP region.

742. The Commission endorsed the activities proposed for implementation under the subprogramme and commended the strong

emphasis of the subprogramme on the provision of technical assistance in the form of advisory, consultancy and training services. In particular, the Commission supported the proposed projects on a training course on development planning in the Pacific, and a scheme of short-term attachments at the ESCAP secretariat. It endorsed the proposed project to identify and evaluate the potential for closer economic and technical co-operation in the fields of foreign trade and investment between the Pacific islands and other ESCAP subregions, particularly ASEAN.

743. The Commission took note of the wide range of activities implemented by the secretariat for the benefit of Pacific island countries and territories during 1986, as detailed in document E/ESCAP/585. It commended the increased level of technical assistance activities, and advisory services in particular, provided through EPOC. It was indicated that development planning had been widely utilized as a means of pursuing national social and economic development goals and priorities in the Pacific island sub-region. The constant need for external technical assistance in that field would thus justify the assignment to EPOC of an experienced development planner and/or macro-economist.

744. The Commission noted that several Pacific island countries had not benefited much from EPOC activities, and urged the secretariat to have a more balanced distribution of its activities in the coming year. In that context, the need for external technical advice on co-operative society legislation, petroleum management, planning and implementation of energy conservation, inter-island shipping and women's development programmes was indicated. The Commission appreciated the generally greater degree of Pacific island participation, in 20 of the training courses and fellowship schemes, and 24 of the meetings organized by secretariat divisions/offices/units during 1986. It also expressed appreciation of the ESCAP orientation programme and of secretariat advisory missions to the Pacific island subregion, particularly in the field of statistics, and emphasized the need of Pacific island countries for greater awareness of and involvement in ESCAP activities.

Announcement of intended contributions

745. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/586 and Corr.1.

746. The Executive Secretary noted that total cash contributions of slightly over \$US 20 million had been received in 1986, representing an increase of 6 per cent over the level of 1985. The extrabudgetary funding of ESCAP had surpassed the funding provided by the regular budget. Given the prevailing financial constraints of the regular budget, the extrabudgetary resources would become even more important, although such resources could not, in principle, replace regular budget funds.

747. Expressing gratitude to all donors that had provided cash contributions in 1986, the Executive Secretary further noted that over half, \$US 11.5 million, had come from the United Nations family, with UNDP contributing over \$US 8 million. Donor countries had contributed almost \$US 9 million, with five major donors, Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and Norway, contributing over 80 per cent.

748. The Executive Secretary noted the continued gap between available extrabudgetary resources and the requirements as formulated in the ESCAP programme of work for the biennium 1988-1989, in spite of the serious efforts of the secretariat to limit over-programming. The programme of work, 1988-1989 had been estimated at \$US 36 million, representing a scale-down of \$US 10 million from the current biennium. Despite that reduction, the level of implementation would fall short of the requirements if donor contributions, multilateral and bilateral alike, did not increase. Although UNDP support during the new funding cycle showed a satisfactory increase, the implementation of a large portion of the work programme would continue to depend heavily on bilateral donor support. For 1986, 57 per cent of the extrabudgetary resources had been made available for activities of the secretariat's work programme. The balance of the contributions had gone to the regional institutions and special regional projects which were operational activities outside the secretariat's work programme.

749. With respect to the regional institutions, the Executive Secretary recalled the serious shortfall in institutional support to the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, the measures undertaken in respect of the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre, and the suggestions of accepting a minimum contribution for institutional support by developing recipient countries as was explained under item 7 (b) of the agenda. With regard to RMRDC, the Executive Secretary invited member countries to continue providing contributions which could be used to finance the project on regional mineral resources development.

750. The Executive Secretary reaffirmed the secretariat's efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary support for its activities, the special regional projects and the regional institutions. Developing member countries were urged to contribute, in particular within the framework of ECOC-TCDC where different arrangements could be worked out. The importance of evaluation, particularly within the context of the current financial crisis, could not be overemphasized. However, continued support from the donor countries for manning the Operations Evaluation Unit and undertaking the evaluation exercises might be required.

751. The Executive Secretary strongly appealed to member countries to contribute generously and to share more proportionately in the financing of the activities that the Commission had endorsed.

752. The Commission took note of the following intended contributions announced for 1987.

753. *Afghanistan.* The representative of Afghanistan announced that his Government would make a contribution of \$US 3,000 to the work programme of ESCAP.

754. *Australia.* The representative of Australia announced that the contributions for 1987 would depend on the allocation for the global aid programme by his Government later in the year.

755. *Bangladesh.* The representative of Bangladesh announced the following

contributions:

APCTT	\$US	5,000
CGPRT Centre	\$US	1,000
RMRDC	\$US	1,000
SIAP	\$US	5,000

In addition, a contribution of \$US 15,000 would be made to APDC.

756. *Brunei Darussalam.* The representative of Brunei Darussalam announced the following contributions:

RMRDC	\$US	5,000
SIAP	\$US	5,000

In addition, a contribution of \$US 10,000 would be made to APDC.

757. *Burma.* The representative of Burma announced that his Government would make a contribution of \$US 2,000 to the work programme of ESCAP.

758. *China.* The representative of China announced the following contributions:

(a) *Work programme for China-ESCAP co-operation projects*

¥RMB 360,000 and \$US 120,000

(b) *Regional institutions*

APCTT	\$US	15,000
SIAP	\$US	20,000

In addition, China would contribute \$US 40,000 to CCOP, \$US 50,000 to APDC and ¥RMB 50,000 to the Typhoon Committee.

759. *Democratic Kampuchea.* The representative of Democratic Kampuchea stated that it would revert to the matter at a later stage.

760. *France.* The representative of France announced that in 1987 the intended contribution of his Government would be at least at the same level as in 1986. He stated that F 800,000 would be paid directly in cash, mainly for the CGPRT Centre and the Interim Mekong Committee. In addition, a programme of technical assistance to ESCAP amounting to F 8.6 million would be established by the Government of France. The total contribution would therefore amount to F 9.4 million.

761. *India.* The representative of India announced the following contributions:

APCTT	\$US	100,000	(in national currency)
RMRDC	\$US	5,000	
SIAP	\$US	10,000	

The contribution for the CGPRT Centre would be communicated to the secretariat at a later date.

762. *Indonesia.* The representative of Indonesia announced the following contributions:

APCTT	\$US	5,000	
CGPRT Centre	\$US	30,000	(in kind for host facilities and other services)
RMRDC	\$US	15,000	
SIAP	\$US	40,000	
RNAM	\$US	6,666	

In addition, Indonesia would contribute \$US 40,000 to CCOP, \$US 47,000 to APDC, \$M 587,450 to SEATRADC, and \$US 10,000 to CIRDAP.

763. *Islamic Republic of Iran.* The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced a total contribution of \$US 15,000, of which \$US 2,000 would be for APCTT and the balance of \$US 13,000 would be for the work programme of ESCAP.

764. *Japan.* The representative of Japan announced that the total assistance of his Government for 1987, subject to the approval of the Diet, was expected to amount to about \$US 6.4 million, distributed as follows:

(a) \$US 2.5 million for the implementation of ESCAP projects under the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund, which represented an increase of approximately 21 per cent over the previous year's contribution;

(b) A cash contribution of about \$US 719,000 to SIAP;

(c) An estimated provision of about \$US 1,179,000 for host facilities and personnel at SIAP;

(d) Expert services provided on a non-reimbursable loan basis by the Japan International Co-operation Agency at an estimated cost of \$US 687,000;

(e) Five group training courses, of which two would be conducted jointly with SIAP, at an estimated cost of \$US 943,000;

(f) A cash contribution of \$US 350,000 to APDCI

(g) A cash contribution of \$US 40,000 to the Interim Mekong Committee.

The amounts indicated in United States dollars could fluctuate according to the exchange rate.

765. *Malaysia.* The representative of Malaysia announced that his Government would contribute \$US 7,000 to SIAP. In addition, it would contribute \$US 40,000 to CCOP, and \$M 400,000 in grant form and \$US 42,000 for programme support to APDC.

766. *Mongolia.* The representative of Mongolia indicated that his Government would contribute the equivalent of \$US 1,000 in its national currency to the ESCAP work programme.

767. *Nepal.* The representative of Nepal announced that his Government would contribute in 1987 at the same level as 1986, which was as follows:

ESCAP work programme	\$US 2,492
APCTT	\$US 500
CGPRT Centre	\$US 500
RMRDC	\$US 500
SIAP	\$US 500

In addition, Nepal would contribute \$US 1,500 to APDC.

768. *The Netherlands.* The representative of the Netherlands stated the full support of his Government to the efforts of the Executive Secretary in broadening the resource base for ESCAP activities in order to reach more balanced burden-sharing in the near future. He therefore welcomed the announcement of the Republic of Korea of the establishment of the Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund. He further proposed that developing countries which were in a position to do so, could eventually pay partially for the services ESCAP had rendered to them in the form of advice, information or projects, while, as was the case with support from UNDP, member States with a GNP per capita of more than \$US 3,000 should pay for all the costs of the services they had received from ESCAP. While considering evaluation an integral part of the projects and activities, the Government was of the opinion that the Operations Evaluation Unit should be financed from the regular budget, and that in case of

failure of renewed efforts towards that goal by the Executive Secretary, only redeployment could bring a lasting solution to the staffing problems of the Unit. Meanwhile, he stated that his Government would be prepared to provide a lump-sum contribution to the activities of the Unit. He further stated that contributions to the TCDC supplementary fund and EPOC in 1987 were still under active consideration. The total cash contribution to ESCAP in 1987 would be of the order of f. 3 million. In addition, an amount of f. 200,000 would be provided for the last time for advanced training courses at SIAP under the studies in the region programme. Furthermore, his Government would continue providing the ongoing services of an industrial adviser and associate experts. In addition, a new associate expert on evaluation would be assigned to the Operations Evaluation Unit during the course of 1987.

769. *Pakistan.* The representative of Pakistan announced the following contributions for 1987:

APCTT	\$US 7,500
RMRDC	\$US 500
SIAP	\$US 8,000
RNAM (Phase IV)	\$US 14,000

He also announced that his Government would contribute \$US 30,000 to APDC and \$US 7,260 to the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity.

770. *The Philippines.* The representative of the Philippines announced the following contributions for 1987:

CGPRT Centre	\$US 5,000
SIAP	\$US 6,000
RNAM	P 512,500

771. *Republic of Korea.* The representative of the Republic of Korea announced that the total assistance of his Government for 1987 was expected to amount to \$US 475,500, distributed as follows:

\$US 300,000 for the ESCAP work programme under the newly-established Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund

SIAP	\$US 20,000
APCTT	\$US 20,000
RNAM	\$US 10,500

An estimated in-kind contribution of \$US 70,000 for the hosting of a human resources development workshop at Seoul in 1987

COOP	\$US 10,000
APDC	\$US 45,000

772. *Singapore.* The representative of Singapore announced that a contribution of \$US 5,000 to SIAP would be made for 1987.

773. *Sri Lanka.* The representative of Sri Lanka announced that his Government would make the following contributions for 1987:

APCTT	\$US 5,000
SIAP	\$US 5,000
RNAM	\$US 3,500

In addition, Sri Lanka would contribute \$US 27,500 to APDC.

774. *Thailand.* The representative of Thailand announced the following contributions in 1987:

APCTT	\$US 5,000
RMRDC	\$US 5,000
SIAP	\$US 10,000

He further announced that the contribution of Thailand to the CGPRT Centre and RNAM would be communicated to the secretariat at a later date. In addition, Thailand would contribute \$US 30,000 to CCOP and \$US 40,000 to APDC. The contribution of Thailand to the Typhoon Committee would be made on the condition which had been stated during the fortieth session of the Commission held at Tokyo in 1984.

775. *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.* The representative of the USSR announced that in 1987 his Government would conduct four seminars and training courses in the USSR on a unified comprehensive approach to rural development planning, the role of women in social and economic development, with special reference to rural development, low-cost techniques of constructing and maintaining roads through marshy, wet and arid areas, and planning science and technologies. In addition, 15 fellowships would be offered through the ESCAP secretariat for the training of students from developing countries in the region. The Government also announced its readiness to provide consultancy services to developing members of ESCAP.

776. *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.* The representative of the United Kingdom indicated that his Government's assistance to ESCAP, during the current financial year of the United Kingdom, would remain at broadly the same level as in 1986/87, which would include:

- (a) Assistance to the Division for Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways (follow-up of previous contributions to that sector);
- (b) Continued provision of lecturers to SIAP, as in previous years;
- (c) Further assistance to FADINAP;
- (d) Follow-up assistance on certain projects in the energy sector.

Further assistance to the Interim Mekong Committee in 1987 would be announced in June 1987.

777. *United States of America.* The representative of the United States indicated that the level of extrabudgetary support to be given in 1987 by various United States Government agencies which had been involved in the work of the Commission in the past was still under consideration and would be communicated at a later date.

778. *Vanuatu.* The representative of Vanuatu announced a contribution of \$US 2,000 towards the work programme of ESCAP.

779. *Viet Nam.* The representative of Viet Nam announced that the contribution of his Government would be made in national currency, the exact amount of which would be communicated at a later stage.

780. *Hong Kong.* The representative of Hong Kong announced that his Government's contribution to SIAP in 1987 would be \$US 20,000.

781. *Federal Republic of Germany.* The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany indicated that his Government would concentrate its assistance to ESCAP in the following areas:

- (a) Transport (regional advisory services in railways within the framework of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994);
- (b) Agriculture, in particular FADINAP;
- (c) Natural resources, in particular energy resources;
- (d) International trade.

For the assistance to be provided by the Government of the Federal Republic of

Germany to ESCAP in 1987-1988, comprising trust fund contributions as well as non-reimbursable loans, the previous level of DM 4 million for 1986-1987 would serve as an orientation. The Government hoped that the findings and recommendations of the evaluation study, earlier assisted by it to the amount of about DM 500,000, would help improve the efficiency of the organization. The Government further hoped that ESCAP would be in a position to integrate evaluation as a regular and permanent feature into its activities.

782. *Norway.* The representative of Norway advised the secretariat that assistance in 1987 would amount to K 10.5 million for activities in the field of shipping, the environment and ECDC-TCDC.

783. The total pledges for 1987 made by 23 member countries and two observer States amounted to approximately \$US 14.38 million. That total, mainly in the form of cash contributions, included financial assistance amounting to about \$US 1.28 million to CCOP, APDC, the Interim Mekong Committee, and other affiliated programmes of ESCAP, thus resulting in a net contribution of \$US 13.1 million to the ESCAP work programme, special regional projects, and regional institutions. The net contribution of \$US 13.1 million represented an increase of \$US 2.5 million, or 23.6 per cent over the intended contribution of \$US 10.6 million announced for 1986.

784. The Commission noted with appreciation the announcement by the Government of the Republic of Korea of a contribution of \$US 300,000 for the establishment of a Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund for funding activities of the ESCAP work programme. It also welcomed the substantial increase of the intended contributions of the Government of Japan to the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund.

785. It was noted that the above forecast did not include possible contributions from other member and donor countries such as Australia, Denmark and Viet Nam, as well as the value of several un-accounted contributions pledged in kind. In addition, extrabudgetary resources received from UNDP, UNFPA and other agencies of the United Nations system for ESCAP-executed projects were not reflected in the forecast.

786. The Executive Secretary expressed deep appreciation of the announcements of

intended contributions by member and donor Governments to the extrabudgetary resources of ESCAP, which could assist the secretariat in implementing the activities mandated by the Commission. He also stated that the increased net intended contributions towards the work programme of ESCAP, special regional projects and regional institutions reflected the goodwill for the Commission and the confidence of member and donor countries in the secretariat's capacity to play an active role in the social and economic development of the region.

**Activities of the Advisory Committee of
Permanent Representatives and Other
Representatives Designated by
Members of the Commission**

787. The Commission had before it and endorsed document E/ESCAP/588 which was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee, the Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ESCAP. It expressed appreciation of the constructive role that the Advisory Committee had played in promoting general understanding between member Governments represented in ACPR and the secretariat. It recognized the value of the discussions held in the regular and special sessions of ACPR.

788. The Commission noted that ACPR had held 10 regular sessions and four resumed sessions, as well as a special session at which the deliberations had been devoted exclusively to programme evaluation, planning and co-ordination and at which detailed consideration had been given to the draft programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989, and proposed programme changes for 1987. It expressed appreciation of the efforts made by ACPR to further improve the formulation of the work programme.

789. The Commission noted that ACPR had an important role to play in giving advice on setting priorities and improving programme planning. It also noted the need to strengthen the working relationship between ACPR and the secretariat, which was considered vital in enhancing the role of ACPR. The effective performance of that role would ensure the active participation of Governments, the need for which was emphasized in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning

of the United Nations as being important to the better functioning of the United Nations system.

790. The Commission commended and supported the views of ACPR on its review of the forty-second session of the Commission in which it had agreed on ways of further improving the conduct and organization of future sessions of the Commission. It agreed with the Advisory Committee's recommendation that, while recognizing the fundamental rights of members and associate members to propose resolutions, chairmen should be strict in not allowing matters to be raised which were not within the Commission's mandate and which were extraneous to the agenda. The Commission agreed that resolutions should be related to the agenda items of the session.

791. When the above paragraph was considered for adoption, a few delegations stated their disagreement in principle on the second sentence of the paragraph.

792. The Commission also expressed appreciation of the contribution of the Advisory Committee in preparing the draft text of the Commission's declaration on the fortieth anniversary of ESCAP, as well as its assistance in the preparations for the two ministerial meetings which had taken place within the past year as well as for meetings of the legislative committees.

793. The Commission was pleased to note that the Pacific island countries had participated in one of the ACPR sessions, which had proved especially valuable since it had given them an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the work programme of the Commission. The secretariat was encouraged to explore more ways in which to enhance the participation of the Pacific island countries in the activities of ACPR.

794. The Commission recognized the desirability of wider representation of members and associate members of the Commission in ACPR. In that context, in order that the views of countries which had no representation or liaison office in Bangkok could be more timely and be adequately heard, it was suggested that those countries which were represented in Bangkok could act as liaison in transmitting relevant messages to those which were not represented, in accordance with arrangements which could be discussed and defined by the parties concerned.

795. The Executive Secretary also expressed his appreciation of the constructive and conscientious work undertaken by the Advisory Committee. Its role in advising on co-ordination matters and on the work programme had been beneficial to the secretariat and had been greatly valued.

**In-depth study of the United Nations
intergovernmental structure and
functions in the economic
and social fields**

796. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/575. It recognized the importance of the review of the intergovernmental structure of the United Nations system in the economic and social sectors which was taking place in response to Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112.

797. The Commission was of the view that during the past 40 years, it had played a historic role in initiating and nurturing regional co-operation in various fields, and in promoting economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific. Its activities had been extremely fruitful in a wide range of fields. In its central role as a region-wide intergovernmental forum, the Commission had most effectively enabled the aspirations of the peoples of its members and associate members for the enhancement of economic and social progress to be articulated. It had been instrumental in helping countries to attain self-sustained growth and economic self-reliance, and that had led to increased prosperity and well-being for the people of the region. Its catalytic role in promoting subregional, regional, interregional and international co-operation had contributed to the progress of the region. Those as well as future roles, functions and responsibilities of the Commission had been put under critical review during discussion of item 4 (a) of the agenda, on the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission.

798. The Commission had made commendable efforts in endeavouring to function as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for its region, as it had been mandated to do by General Assembly resolution 32/197. It had also endeavoured to exercise team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level. Furthermore, it had been successful in

mobilizing substantial amounts of extra-budgetary contributions for the provision of operational activities, which had been greatly appreciated by the developing members and associate members of the Commission.

799. The focus of review by the Commission should be on the enhancement of its current efficiency through more effective use of existing resources, and the strengthening of its role in the system, with the objective of improving regional co-operation, of improving inter-agency co-ordination at the regional level, and of streamlining the structure of the Commission, the effectiveness of its work and its subsidiary machinery, having due regard for the responsibilities of other agencies which were operating in Asia and the Pacific.

800. The Commission stressed that any changes in the intergovernmental structure of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations which might ultimately be decided by the Economic and Social Council should not have adverse effects on the existing role and functions of ESCAP, nor should they interfere with the current operating efficiency of the secretariat. The Commission was of the view that the complexity of the questions merited further investigation beyond that which was possible during the current session. Some delegations suggested that the matter be discussed further within the context of ACPR. The view was expressed that a review at the regional level would be more appropriate after the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, including the regional commissions, had been reviewed as a whole.

801. The Commission felt that an amendment of its terms of reference to reflect more closely the role given to it by General Assembly resolution 32/197 should be considered, but that such an amendment should take into account any obstacles to better co-ordination within the United Nations system. It noted the desirability of improving inter-agency co-ordination at the regional level, in which regional programmes of the United Nations system in Asia and the Pacific could be examined with a view to enhancing co-ordination and avoiding duplication of work.

802. The Commission decided that its existing nine legislative committees should be reduced to seven, which, tentatively, would meet once every two years

for five working days. It authorized the Executive Secretary to take steps to implement that decision by December 1988. While most delegations considered that there would be desirable economies from such a reduction, they stressed that those changes should not adversely affect the functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

803. The Commission agreed that the sessions of the Commission should continue to take place annually, since that gave all members and associate members the opportunity for regular interaction. It was decided, however, that the duration could be shortened to nine or eight working days, as necessary. The suggestion was made that some technical matters could be left to other expert groups and bodies within the conference structure. The suggestion was also made that the Commission session could be held in two parts, with the discussions which were now on the agendas of the main Committees preceding the ministerial session of the Plenary.

804. The view was expressed that the relevance of the work of the Commission was greatly enhanced by its practical projects of technical co-operation. Those were responsive to the needs of the developing countries, and opened up important avenues for regional co-operation. In that respect, it urged that efforts be made to strengthen an efficient system of evaluation and management. Activities carried out by the Commission should continue to emphasize both the economic and social sectors. They should place greater emphasis on strengthening regional co-operation, greater utilization of networking for training and information purposes, more use of in-country and local expertise, and intensification of activities within programmes which were considered of high priority.

805. The Commission adopted resolution 262 (XLIII) on in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure

and functions in the economic and social fields.

Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-fourth session of the Commission

806. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/589 and accepted with appreciation the invitation of the Government of Indonesia to hold the forty-fourth session at Jakarta, tentatively from 11 to 20 April 1988. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with the host Government and the Chairman, would determine the exact dates of the session and would inform the members and associate members of the Commission accordingly. The Government of Indonesia agreed to bear all responsibility for the additional administrative, logistic and financial expenditure involved in holding the session away from the headquarters of the Commission.

807. In view of the comprehensive nature of the subject, the "Commission endorsed the continuation of "Human resources development" as the theme for its forty-fourth session in 1988. It also endorsed the proposal that part two of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1987 would focus on international trade in primary commodities, and that the subject would receive special attention during the session.

Other matters

808. The need for strict observance of the six-week rule in respect of circulation of pre-session documentation for the Commission session was noted.

Adoption of the report of the Commission

809. At its 661st meeting on 30 April 1987, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-THIRD SESSION

259 (XLIII). Declaration on the fortieth anniversary of ESCAP^{1/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Taking note of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission, which has provided an opportunity to assess its past activities and consider the likely directions of its future work in the regional context of the United Nations family,

Recognizing the historic role that the Commission has played in initiating and nurturing regional co-operation in various fields and in promoting economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific,

Bearing in mind that the Commission is the unique region-wide inter-governmental body for undertaking and co-ordinating economic and social co-operation among members and associate members,

Recognizing the significance of a peaceful environment and harmonious co-operation in the pursuit of economic and social development,

Recalling the steady progress made by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), previously known as the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), since its inception in 1947, in extending its functions and making them action-oriented, as marked by the various landmark declarations and resolutions cited in annex I,

Further recalling the successful establishment by the Commission of various institutions and projects such as those listed in annex II,

Convinced of its central role as the region-wide forum that most effectively

enables the aspirations of the peoples of its members and associate members for the enhancement of economic and social progress to be articulated, and that promotes regional co-operation and co-ordination with other international organizations in the fields of economic and social development,

Expressing its appreciation of the services rendered by successive Executive Secretaries of ESCAP to the region over the years,

Conscious of the efforts that the Commission has made, and will continue to make, to reform and improve the management of the secretariat and to refine the programme of work and priorities so as to meet more closely the needs of members and associate members, bearing in mind the need for budgetary restraint, avoidance of duplication of activities where appropriate, and the ongoing reform of the United Nations system,

Commending the spirit with which the members and associate members of the Commission have accepted the development challenge posed to them by the difficult economic and social environment,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Reaffirming the genuine will of members and associate members to co-operate among themselves, by faithfully adhering to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Declares* that the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission should be marked by co-ordinated efforts and new initiatives to assist in strengthening national plans and processes for economic and social development, to intensify regional economic and social co-operation, including *inter alia* scientific and technical co-operation, to create a

^{1/} See paras. 175-186 above.

more favourable external environment for all members and associate members, in particular developing countries, and to bolster intercountry arrangements to help attain self-sustained growth and economic self-reliance leading to increased prosperity and well-being for the people of the region, and enhance progress in the region through increase of sub-regional, regional, interregional and international co-operation;

2. *Considers* it essential for the Commission to work with renewed vigour towards the achievement of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, for implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and in carrying out special measures in favour of the island developing countries of the region;

3. *Calls upon* its members and associate members to undertake specific programmes in the field of human resources development, keeping in view the ESCAP plan of action in this field;

4. *Calls upon* its members and associate members to continue to work actively with the ESCAP secretariat for the implementation, to the extent possible, of the recommendations of the ESCAP ministerial meetings held in recent years, including recommendations of the Ministerial-level Conference on the Environment in Asia (1985), the Meeting of Ministers of Transport and Communications (1985), the Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (1985), the Meeting of Ministers of Trade (1986) and the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology (1986);

5. *Calls upon* the secretariat, within the basic mandate of the Commission (annex III) and with the available resources, to further strengthen its work on the collection, analysis and dissemination of economic and social development information and data, and to organize appropriate activities relating to the further study of major economic and social development problems and experiences of common concern and interest to the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region, continuing to adopt, where possible, an integrated multidisciplinary approach;

6. *Calls upon* its members and associate members to bear in mind the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and the Caracas Programme of Action on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries and to rededicate themselves to the strengthening and expansion of technical co-operation among developing countries at subregional, regional and inter-regional levels, as well as on a bilateral basis;

7. *Reaffirms* that the tradition built up in ESCAP over the years of conducting business in the Commission and the Committees in a spirit of goodwill, harmony and co-operation must be sustained;

8. *Calls upon* all international organizations to extend their fullest support to ESCAP in carrying out its mandate, as specified in its terms of reference and Commission resolutions;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps to provide the Commission with the means, commensurate with its status as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region, to undertake the tasks assigned to it.

661st meeting
30 April 1987

Annex I

The declaration at the seventh session of the Commission in 1951, held at Lahore, generally known as "the Lahore Convention" (see paragraphs 340-341 of the report on the seventh session)

The resolutions on Asian economic co-operation, dynamic Asian economic co-operation, and on the strategy of integrated regional co-operation adopted by the first three Ministerial Conferences on Asian Economic Co-operation, in 1963, 1965 and 1968 respectively

The resolution on the commemoration of ECAFE's twentieth anniversary and the Tokyo Declaration [resolutions 77 (XXIII) and 78 (XXIII) of 12 April 1967]

The resolution on the Second United Nations Development Decade [resolution 94 (XXV) of 26 April 1969]

The resolution on the United Nations Twenty-fifth Anniversary: ECAFE Declaration [resolution 103 (XXVI) of 23 April 1970]

The resolution on strengthening and co-ordination of the regional structures of the United Nations [resolution 119 (XXVII) of 28 April 1971]

The Kabul Declaration on Asian Economic and Development Co-operation issued by the Fourth Council of Ministers on Asian Economic Co-operation in 1970

Declaration adopted on the twenty-fifth anniversary of ECAFE [resolution 120 (XXXVIII) of 25 March 1972]

The Colombo Declaration issued on the occasion of the thirtieth session of the Commission [resolution 140 (XXX) of 5 April 1974]

The New Delhi Declaration on a regional contribution to the establishment of a New International Economic Order [resolution 154 (XXXI) of 6 March 1975]

The resolution on regional inputs into the New International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade [resolution 199 (XXXV) of 16 March 1979]

The resolution on expanding and strengthening the functions of the Commission in the context of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system [resolution 219 (XXXVII) of 20 March 1981]

The resolution on the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific [resolution 235 (XL) of 27 April 1984]

The proclamation of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 [resolution 236 (XL) of 27 April 1984]

The ESCAP Plan of Action on National and Regional Initiatives for Human Resources Development: Its Technological Dimensions [resolution 256 (XLII) of 2 May 1986]

The Declaration and Framework for Action Plans for the Management of the Asian Environment, 1985, as adopted by the Ministerial-level Conference on the Environment in Asia and endorsed by the Commission at its forty-first session (E/ESCAP/417 and Cort.1)

The Declaration of the Ministers of Trade of Members and Associate Members of ESCAP, June 1986 (E/ESCAP/547)

Annex II

(In order of establishment)

Asian Development Bank

Asian Industrial Development Council

Asian and Pacific Coconut Community

Asian Highway

International Pepper Community

Asian Population Programme

Typhoon Committee

Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries

Asian Telecommunication Network

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre

Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

Joint prospecting for mineral resources in Asian offshore areas

Asian and Pacific Development Centre—integrating the previously established Asian and Pacific Development Institute, Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre, Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific and Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

Annex III

The basic mandate of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

To facilitate concerted action for the economic and social development of Asia and the Pacific by sponsoring investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments, undertaking the collection, evaluation and dissemination of economic, technological and statistical information, organizing training, consultations, research and development, and networking among national institutions; in the process, the Commission will make available technical and advisory services and promote economic and technical co-operation among the countries of the region, in particular developing countries, in the fields of: (a) food and agriculture, including rural development; (b) development planning; (c) transnational corporations; (d) industry and technology, with particular emphasis on industrial development, science and technology, and transfer of technology; (e) human settlements and the environment; (f) water, energy and mineral resources development; (g) population; (h) shipping, ports and inland waterways; (i) transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic; (j) social development, including the fostering of the welfare of children, popular participation and integration and greater participation of women and youth in the development process, social defence, social consequences of the problem of displaced persons, alleviation of poverty, promotion of equitable distribution of development benefits and improvement of the quality of life; (k) statistics; (l) regional, subregional and inter-regional trade, and commercial policies, including matters relating to financial institutions and financing of trade, export credit insurance, insurance and reinsurance, debt servicing, standardization of commodities, commercial arbitration, customs administration, marketing and market research, product development and packaging, raw materials and commodities.

260 (XLIII). ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development^{2/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

^{2/} See paras. 216-237 above.

Recalling its resolution 247 (XLII) of 1 May 1986 on forecasting, planning and development of technological human resources and 256 (XLII) of 2 May 1986 on the ESCAP Plan of Action on National and Regional Initiatives for Human Resources Development: Its Technological Dimensions,

Recognizing that economic and social development involves basic structural changes requiring progressively better levels of human resources development with diversified skills, especially in the context of global dynamic technological changes,

Also recognizing that human resources development is a broad concept encompassing many components and requires sustained efforts over long periods,

Bearing in mind that the Commission at its forty-third session examined as its main theme the issue "Human resources development in Asia and the Pacific: policy options",

Recognizing the need to formulate an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development,

Welcoming the proposal by the Government of Japan to host an expert group meeting in Tokyo to assist in the formulation of guidelines on an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development and to provide substantial funding therefor,

1. *Resolves* that the theme of the forty-fourth session of the Commission shall again be human resources development, so that special attention can be given at that session to the formulation of an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development, taking into account all its relevant components~

2. *Notes* that the relevant issues of employment and manpower development should be fully addressed in the formulation of an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development;

3. *Calls upon* members and associate members in the region to continue and strengthen efforts to devise and execute their operational plans and programmes for human resources development;

4. *Invites* members and associate members in a position to do so, as well as other interested countries, to continue to support the Commission's efforts to

promote human resources development through the provision of financial and other assistance in consultation with and for the benefit of countries of the Asian and Pacific region:

5. *Requests* relevant agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental bodies, to extend early and effective support to the preparation of an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development and participate actively in the implementation of specific programmes included in the plan:

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, upon the availability of the necessary extrabudgetary resources:

(a) To convene an expert group meeting to formulate guidelines for an ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development:

(b) To formulate a draft ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development, in pursuance of the decisions and recommendations of the Commission at its forty-second and forty-third sessions and in the light of the report of the above-mentioned expert group meeting:

7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to consult members and associate members for the purpose of obtaining their suggestions on the formulation of the draft ESCAP integrated plan of action on human resources development and to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*661st meeting
30 April 1987*

261 (XLIII). Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries^{3/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted by the

^{3/} See paras. 209-217 above.

United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/224 of 20 December 1982, 38/195 of 20 December 1983, and 39/174 of 17 December 1984 on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 40/205 of 17 December 1985 endorsing the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries on the mid-term global review of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Recalling also Commission resolutions 242 (XLI) of 29 March 1985 and 257 (XLII) of 2 May 1986 on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will provide an opportunity for the international community to discuss the problems of least developed countries in enhancing the implementation of the Programme during the rest of the 1980s,

Expressing serious concern at the critical economic and social conditions in the least developed countries in spite of their national efforts as well as efforts made by the international community since the adoption of the Substantial New Programme of Action, and stressing the urgent need for increased support measures, as well as enhanced national efforts, towards self-reliance so that the objectives of the Programme can be fully realized during the remaining period of the decade,

1. *Calls upon* the international community to exert every effort towards providing increased transfer of resources and commercial policy support measures to the least developed countries of the Asian and Pacific region:

2. *Urges* those donor countries whose official development assistance contributions have not yet reached 0.15 per cent of their gross national product, or which have not yet doubled their official development assistance to least developed countries, to make every possible effort to attain those targets as contained in the Substantial New Programme of Action;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session to urge all Governments, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to renew their efforts to implement the Programme, so as to enable each least developed country to achieve a minimum standard of performance in socio-economic development;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session to discuss a possible follow-up in the 1990s on the Substantial New Programme of Action;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*661st meeting
30 April 1987*

262 (XLIII). In-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields^{4/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, and Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112 of 6 February 1987 on an in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields,

Noting the views of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its forty-first session in response to recommendation 27 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations that "the suitability of the activities of the regional commissions is a matter to be determined primarily by the Member States concerned and that the regional commissions should be consulted on any action to be taken in this regard",

Recalling in this respect General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic

^{4/} See paras. 796-805 above.

and social sectors of the United Nations system, and in particular section IV of the annex to that resolution, which addressed the role and functions of regional commissions as the main general economic and social centres within the United Nations system, exercising team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level, thereby having due regard to the responsibilities of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectoral fields and the co-ordinating role of the United Nations Development Programme in respect of technical co-operation activities,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 33/202 of 29 January 1979 affirming the status of the regional commissions as executing agencies in their own right for projects as specified in paragraph 23 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197,

Noting that necessary measures aimed at decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations system as envisaged in General Assembly resolutions 32/197, 33/202, and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 are not fully implemented,

Bearing in mind Commission resolutions 143 (XXX) of 5 April 1974, 193 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, 210 (XXXVI) of 29 March 1980, 219 (XXXVII) of 20 March 1981 and 222 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 with regard to streamlining the structure of the Commission, the effectiveness of its work and its subsidiary machinery, and conscious that further measures to that end are necessary,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare his report to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council, within thirty days, covering the extent of co-operation with other inter-governmental organs in the region, and making suggestions, as appropriate, which would facilitate the Special Commission's work with respect to United Nations activities in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Requests* the Special Commission to:

(a) Examine the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 32/197, 33/202 and 34/206 and work out proposals aimed at further implementation of those resolutions;

(b) Give particular attention to any problems of inter-agency co-ordination at the regional level and to work out, in close consultation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectors, proposals for improved co-ordination at the regional level;

(c) Work out proposals for the establishment of a closer intergovernmental linkage between the regional commissions and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in determining United Nations regional programmes so that the Commission's decisions on policies and programmes in the economic and social fields are taken fully into account:

3. *Decides* that the existing nine legislative committees of the Commission be reduced to seven, which, tentatively, would meet once every two years for five working days, and authorizes the Executive Secretary to take steps to implement this decision by December 1988;

4. *Decides* that sessions of the Commission continue to be held on an annual basis and that the duration be shortened to nine or eight working days, as necessary;

5. *Decides further* to review the conference structure at its forty-sixth session and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at that session on the effectiveness of the conference structure:

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to pay special attention to the need to implement reorganization and rationalization programmes to improve the performance of the secretariat in the implementation of the programme of work and priorities, through suitable measures, including evaluation:

(b) To continue to work out proposals for selective economies concerning the volume and number of documents in consultation with the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission;

7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to transmit this resolution to

the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council within thirty days as a report to the Special Commission along with his report as referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution and a summary record of the discussion on agenda item 12 of the forty-third session, and to report on the implementation of this resolution to the Commission at its forty-fourth session for its review.

*661st meeting
30 April 1987*

263 (XLIII). Social aspects of human resources development^{5/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969 containing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,

Recalling also Commission resolutions 217 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981 on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries, 247 (XLII) of 1 May 1986 on forecasting, planning and development of technological human resources, and 256 (XLII) of 2 May 1986 on the ESCAP Plan of Action on National and Regional Initiatives for Human Resources Development: Its Technological Dimensions,

Taking into account the deliberations on the problems of human resources development in the Asian and Pacific region at its forty-second session and the current session,

Emphasizing the pressing need to give greater attention to the social aspects of human resources development, such as employment, education, training of qualified national personnel, health and nutrition, income distribution, housing, social status of women, the disabled, children, youth and the aging,

1. *Commends* the secretariat on the preparation of the comprehensive study in the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986 on "Human resources development in Asia and the Pacific: problems, policies and perspectives";

^{5/} See paras. 218-237 above.

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to make arrangements to introduce in the Social Development Newsletter a section dealing with different social aspects of human resources development, in particular children, the role of qualified national personnel, raising the social status of women, and the role of governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in human resources development;

3. *Also requests* members and associate members to submit to the Executive Secretary, on a voluntary basis, when and where feasible, national reports

containing updated information on the human resources development situation in their respective countries and areas and articulating the existing problems and needs in that field;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its forty-fourth session and a final report for submission at its forty-seventh session.

661st meeting
30 April 1987

Annex I

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1988-1989

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PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

Subprogramme 1: Economic and social development strategies and policies

Programme elements:

- 1.1 Anal sis of and assistance in special economic and social' issues of major concern to the region*

Output:

Substantive servicing of the seventh session of the Committee on Development Planning (fourth quarter, 1988)

- 1.2 Review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nation Development Decade*

Output:

Reports to the Commission on review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in the developing ESCAP region (one, first quarter, 1988) one, first quarter, 1989)

- 1.3 Comparative analysis of strategies, policies, policy instruments and institutions for economic and social development in the region

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on problems of foreign indebtedness; (b) Project on new roles for private and public sectors; (c) Project on employment and productivity in the light of new technological developments

- 1.4 Studies on opportunities and mechanisms for subregional, regional and interregional co-operation

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on interregional and regional co-operation

Subprogramme 2. Development planning methods, modelling and projections and administrative systems

- 2.1 Strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on training for planners for developing ESCAP countries

- 2.2 Development modelling and projections*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on an interlinked model system

* Indicates priority programme element.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES *(continued)*

2.3 Research and assistance in public finance

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on fiscal relations between central and state/provincial governments; (b) Project on mechanisms and procedures for control over public expenditure

Subprogramme 3. **Special measures in favour of the least developed countries**

3.1 Monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region*

Output:

(i) Reports to the Commission on progress in the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Substantial New programme of Action in the region and inputs to the global review process (one, first quarter, 1988; one, first quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Missions to assist the least developed countries in strengthening their capabilities in the monitoring, review and appraisal of progress in implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (two, fourth quarter, 1988; two, fourth quarter, 1989)

3.2 In-depth studies on problems of special concern to the least developed countries of the region

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on the functioning of financial markets and their relationship to development; (b) Project on the process of planning and plan implementation

3.3 Assistance to the least developed countries in formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development*

Output:

Technical assistance: Missions to least developed countries in the region to advise on formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development (one each in first and third quarters, 1988; one each in first and third quarters, 1989)

Subprogramme 4. **Surveys and information on economic and social developments**

4.1 Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*

Output:

Technical publications: (a) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (one, third quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989) ; (b) Expert group meeting on development issues and policies (one, third quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989) (intermediate activity)

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES *(continued)*

4.2 Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on major development issues and problems

Output:

Technical publications: (a) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1988; two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1989) 1 (b) Development Papers (two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1988; two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1989) 1 (c) Development Planning Newsletter (three issues, second, third and fourth quarters, 1988; three issues, second, third and fourth quarters, 1989)

Subprogramme 5. **Special measures in favour of island developing countries**

5.1 Advisor and consultancy services on development planning, policies and issues*

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on the development advisory team; (b) Project on short-term consultancy services

5.2 Training for development

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on selected aspects of development policy and planning

5.3 Research on policy and planning

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the promotion of closer trade and investment relations between the Pacific island subregion and other ESCAP subregions

PROGRAMME: ENERGY

Subprogramme 1. Energy assessment and planning in Asia and the Pacific

Programme elements:

1.1 Regional energy scenes and economy

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on the regional energy scenes as projected to the year 2010 (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publication: Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: Advisory missions on national energy planning issues (one, second quarter, 1988; one, first quarter, 1989)

1.2 Strengthening of national capabilities in integrated energy planning and programming and management of energy demand: policy options and strategies*

Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources on: (a) Progress in national energy planning capabilities in the ESCAP region (third quarter, 1989); (b) TCOC group on national energy planning (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Energy resources development problems in the ESCAP region (second quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in energy planning in a rapidly changing economic environment

Subprogramme 2. Accelerated development and use of new and renewable sources of energy

2.1 Assessment of energy for rural applications and integrated planning*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on rural energy planning and development (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Rural energy and integrated planning in the Asian and Pacific region (fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in rural energy planning and development

2.2 Co-operative research, development and demonstration of new and renewable sources of energy

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on new biogas developments in the Asian and Pacific region (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in rural energy planning techniques

ENERGY *(continued)*

2.3 Transfer, adaptation and a application of mature new and renewable energy technologies

Output:

(i) Technical publications: ESCAP Energy News (two, second and fourth quarters, 1988; two, second and fourth quarters, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in and efficient utilization of new and renewable sources of energy

Subprogramme 3. Integrated investigation, development, conservation and efficient use of overall energy, with emphasis on conventional sources of energy

3.1 Development and utilization of coal resources

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on the regional TCOC group on coal (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in coal utilization and development

3.2 Development and utilization of oil and natural gas resources

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on oil investment and price developments and the effects of a possible price "backlash" in the medium term (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Oil supply trading in an era of changing oil prices and changing industry structure, with specific reference to Pacific island countries (fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in development and utilization of oil and natural gas

3.3 Energy conservation and conversion policy

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on energy conservation and conversion; (b) Missions on energy conservation (two, second and fourth quarters, 1988; two, second and fourth quarters, 1989)

3.4 Power system planning and management

Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources on: (a) Resource options for electric power generation in the coming decade (third quarter, 1989); (b) TCOC group on electric power (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on the optimization of the utilization of electricity generating plants (one each quarter, 1988; one each quarter, 1989); (b) Project on strengthening national capabilities in and efficient utilization of electric power systems

ENERGY *(continued)*

3.5 Peaceful uses of nuclear energy

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on exchange of information on the peaceful uses of nuclear techniques in the life sciences (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Support to interregional technical co-operation project within the framework of the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) Regional Co-operative Arrangements for the Asian and Pacific region in the uses of nuclear techniques in the life sciences (1988, 1989)

PROGRAMME.ENVIRONMENT

Subprogramme 1: Environmental problems in the ESCAP region

Programme elements:

1.1 Environmental awareness

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) State of the environment in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1989) I (b) Newsletter on environment and development issues (one, every quarter, 1988) one, every quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on promotion of environmental awareness in the ESCAP region

1.2 Strengthening the environmental dimensions of the Commission's work programme

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1989)

(ii) Reports to the Commission on special studies relating to the environmental aspects of the development of transport, and agriculture (one, second quarter, 1988) one, second quarter, 1989)

1.3 Incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning and processes*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on integration of environmental considerations into development (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Project on integration of environment into development; (b) Project on planning and management 'of environmental technology

1.4 Management of terrestrial ecosystems*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on management of terrestrial ecosystems (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on a regional network for desertification control

1.5 Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on the marine environment and related ecosystems (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Support to Co-ordinating Group meetings of South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (third quarter, 1988) 1 (b) Project on protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Subprogramme 1: Agricultural development policy, planning and information systems

Programme elements:

1.1 Review of agricultural development policies, strategies and performance*

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the eighth session of the Committee on Agricultural Development (fourth quarter, 1989) 1 (b) Ad hoc expert group meeting to appraise the impact of international agricultural price instability on primary producers (fourth quarter, 1988) (intermediate output)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines on modernizing near-shore fishing operations (fourth quarter, 1988), (b) International agricultural prices, trade and impact on the socio-economic condition of primary producers (fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on socio-economic development policies, strategies, and performance concerning food and agriculture covering areas such as impact of international agriculture trade on primary producers, fisheries modernization, agribusiness and investment and agriculture-industry linkages, as well as agricultural achievements in the region focusing, among others, on interaction between technological research and field application

1.2 Food supply assessment and distribution

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on agro-climatic assessment of food supplies in Asia (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on food supply assessment and distribution measures to mitigate the effects of weather aberrations

1.3 Development of agricultural information systems

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Agricultural Information Development Bulletin (one issue, each quarter, 1988, 1989), (b) Training manual and guidelines for rural broadcasting (first quarter, 1988) 1 (c) Directory of fertilizer-related projects in Asia (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Project on strengthening agricultural communication systems, including rural/farm broadcasting services, (b) Project on computerization of data and information on fertilizers, including strengthening the network of fertilizer information systems

1.4 Follow-up action on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea concerning the management of living resources

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on the law of the sea in respect of management of living resources (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on regional co-operation in fisheries through joint ventures and other arrangements

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE *(continued)*

Subprogramme 2. **Understanding of critical elements of agricultural development**

2.1 Operation of the fertilizer advisory, development and information network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP)*

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Regional Information Support Service (RISS) on Agro-chemicals (monthly) : (b) Agro-chemicals News in Brief (one issue, first and third quarters, 1988: two issues, second and third quarters, 1989): (c) Fertilizer Trade Information (monthly): (d) Calendar of meetings on Agro-chemicals (quarterly): (e) Country studies on supply, marketing distribution and use of fertilizers (one issue, second, third and fourth quarters, 1988, 1989): (f) Studies on fertilizer logistics management, farm-level distribution systems, pricing policies, credit availability and economics of fertilizer use (one, second, third and fourth quarters, 1988: one, third and fourth quarters, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Project on production, marketing, distribution and promotion of fertilizers: (b) Project on regional and interregional co-operation in fertilizer marketing

2.2 Agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP)

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Regional data on production, import, export and use of pesticides (one, fourth quarter, 1988, one, fourth quarter, 1989): (b) ARSAP pesticide index -revised edition (fourth quarter, 1989): (c) Agro-pesticides: their management and application -revised edition (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Project on safe handling and efficient use of pesticides: (b) Project on collection of regional data concerning production, import and use of pesticides, including preparation of a regional pesticide index

2.3 Research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber crops*

Output:

Technical assistance: Substantive support to the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific. Bogor, Indonesia .'

2.4 Improving agricultural credit, marketing and extension systems

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Methods for improving price information systems (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on economic/institutional aspects of innovative methods for improving market access, credit delivery and recovery systems and extension services

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE *(continued)*

subprogramme 3. **Rural development focusing on improving the condition of disadvantaged groups**

3.1 Improving the socio-economic condition of rural poor and disadvantaged groups such as small farmers, tenants, fisherfolk and women

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Study on promoting non-farm employment (third quarter, 1988); (b) Study on poverty alleviation in rural areas and in fishing communities (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on improving the socio-economic condition of the rural poor and disadvantaged groups through innovative activities for income improvement and employment creation

3.2 Utilization of agricultural residues as energy source for productive activities

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study of the socio-economic aspects of utilizing agricultural residues as an energy source (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on the socio-economic aspects of utilizing agricultural residues as an energy source for productive activities

PROGRAMME : HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Subprogramme 1: **Integrated settlements policies and planning**

Programme elements:

1.1 Policies and strategies

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (third quarter, 1988)1 third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on settlements policies and planning

1.2 Settlements planning and development*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on regional TCDC activities in shelter and settlements planning and management

Subprogramme 2: **Development of shelter, infrastructure and land**

2.1 Promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on promotion of innovative and appropriate building technologies

2.2 Low-income shelter development

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on delivery of shelter and basic services for low-income settlements

2.3 Land policies and management

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on land development and management

Subprogramme 3: **Stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation**

3.1 Strengthening institutional capabilities through technical co-operation*

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Support to the regional activities of the United Nations Regional Housing Centre, New Delhi, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Research on Human Settlements, Bandung (fourth quarter, 1989)1 (b) Project on strengthening the network of local authorities on a TCDC basis

3.2 Public participation in human settlements financing and development*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on promotion of public participation in human settlements financing and development processes

PROGRAMME : INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1: **Policies and strategies**

Programme elements:

1.1 Regional review of industrial progress

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Meeting of Ministers of Industry (fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical publication: Industrial Development News in Asia and the Pacific (one, third quarter, 1988, one, third quarter, 1989)

1.2 Industrial plans and policies

Output:

Technical assistance: Advisory missions on planning and policy formulation on industrial development (one, second quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989)

1.3 Assistance to least developed countries and island developing countries*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the least developed and island developing countries for industrial development, project identification and formulation, and promotion of industrial activities and pilot projects

1.4 Development of agro- and allied industries*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on development of agro- and allied industries

1.5 Development of small- and medium-scale industries*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Small Industries Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (one, fourth quarter, 1988; one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on entrepreneurship development, export-oriented industries, technology-sharing and energy conservation' in small- and medium-scale industries

1.6 Investment promotion activities and enhancement of the private sector in industrialization

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on policies, investment and productivity of the private sector (one, third quarter, 1988; one, second quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on investment promotion activities

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

Subprogramme 2. Resource mobilization and project development and implementation

2.1 Resource mobilization programme*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on human resources development

2.2 Programme on project development and implementation

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on sectoral industrial development (one, third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on sectoral industrial development

Subprogramme 3. Regional and subregional industrial development

3.1 Regional industrial co-operation (ESCAP "club" for industrial co-operation)*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting on technical and economic co-operation among developing countries (one, first quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on industrial co-operation

Subprogramme 4. Enhancing the role and efficiency of industrial undertakings in the public sector

4.1 Development and improvement of technical and managerial efficiency public sector industries

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on effects of privatization of public sector industries in selected developing countries (one, fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on improvement of technical and managerial efficiency in the public sector

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Subprogramme 1: Trade expansion, trade facilitation measures and monetary co-operation

Programme elements:

1.1 Trade expansion and major trade policy issues*

Output:

- (i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on Trade (fourth quarter, 1988)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Intergovernmental meeting on the feasibility of establishing a regional network on counter-trade facilitation (second quarter, 1988): (b) Intergovernmental meeting on the utilization of the generalized system of preferences (first quarter, 1989): (c) Project on the role of services in the economies and trade of the region and international trade negotiations: (d) Project on modalities for trade expansion between countries having different economic and social systems: (e) project on counter-trade facilitation and long-term contracts and trading arrangements

1.2 Trade-creating joint ventures and investment opportunities

Output:

- (i) Substantive servicing of an ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on trade-creating joint ventures and investment opportunities (second quarter, 1988)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Project on trade-creating joint ventures and investment opportunities

1.3 Monetary co-operation, trade and development finance, balance-of-payments support

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on the expansion of membership and scope of activities of the Asian Clearing Union and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation: (b) Project on the development of financial and credit facilities for trade expansion

1.4 Trade facilitation measures

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Organization of the meeting of national trade facilitation bodies (fourth quarter, 1989) : (b) Project on manpower development in the field of trade facilitation

1.5 Trade in manufactures

Output:

- (i) Organization of an ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on an integrated programme on manufactures (first quarter, 1988)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Project on an integrated programme for promotion of trade in manufactures

1.6 Customs administration co-operation

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on promotion of the acceptance and implementation of international customs conventions of particular relevance to ESCAP countries

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE *(continued)*

Subprogramme 2: Trade promotion and development

2.1 Trade information services*

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Trade information source data bank (monthly); (b) Trade information source directory (quarterly); (c) TISNET trade information sheet (biweekly); (d) TIS QUICK (weekly); (e) Trade profiles (fourth quarter, 1989); (f) Prices of selected Asia/Pacific products (monthly); (g) Directory of trade promotion and development organizations (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Provision of trade information services and strengthening of the regional trade information network (TISNET) (1988, 1989); (b) Project on the development and strengthening of national and regional trade/commodity information centres

2.2 Trade promotion development*

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on trade promotion development; (b) Organization of meeting of heads of national trade development and promotion agencies (third quarter, 1988)

2.3 Market and product development*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Market profiles of selected products/commodities (one, third quarter, 1988; one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Organization of the Fifth Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (1988, 1989); (b) Project on market and product development

Subprogramme 3: Raw materials and commodities

3.1 Promotion of subregional regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities of socio-economic importance to member countries of the region

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Organization of intergovernmental meetings of regional co-operative bodies in jute, silk and tropical timber (one, third and fourth quarters, 1988; one, second quarter, 1989); (b) Project on co-operation in jute, silk and tropical timber

3.2 Development of commodities of interest to the region*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on development of commodities of socio-economic interest

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE *(continued)*

Subprogramme 4: **Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries**

4.1 Improvement of trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on improvement of the trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

4.2 Promotion of trade and economic co-operation with least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on promotion of trade and economic co-operation with least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Subprogramme 5: **Economic co-operation among developing countries in trade-related areas**

5.1 Promotion of subregional and interregional trade co-operation*

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Project on the development of subregional and regional trade co-operation, including the Bangkok Agreement and its Standing Committee; (b) Project on interregional trade co-operation

PROORAMME : MARINE RESOURCES

Subprogramme 1: **Exploration, evaluation development and management of marine mineral resources**

Programme elements:

1.1 Strengthening of national capabilities in exploration and development of marine mineral resources*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (one, fourth quarter, 1988; one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on marine geology and geophysics training

1.2 Review and appraisal of the geology, occurrence, development and management of marine resources

Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources with emphasis on the specific needs of the interested developing countries of the region in marine resources development (one, fourth quarter, 1988; one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publication: Study on ocean energy resources (one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on appraisal of the geology, occurrence, development and management of marine resources

1.3 Technical support to regional and subregional projects concerning marine mineral resources and geology

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on progress of regional projects in support of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) and the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (CCOP/SOPAC) (two, fourth quarter, 1988; two, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Technical backstopping of ESCAP/UNDP regional projects in support of CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC (1988, 1989)

1.4 Strengthening of national capabilities and promotion of regional co-operation relating to implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on progress in the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (one, fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Study on the implications of the new ocean regime deriving from the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for selected subregions of Asia and the Pacific (one, fourth quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities of interested developing countries with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in selected subregions of Asia and the Pacific

PROGRAMME : NATURAL RESOURCES

Subprogramme 1: Exploration, evaluation, rational utilization and management of mineral resources

Programme elements:

1.1 Exploration, assessment and development of mineral resources

Output:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (fourth quarter, 1988)
- (ii) Sales publications: (a) Atlas of Stratigraphy (vol. VIII, third quarter, 1988; vol. IX, third quarter, 1989); (b) Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region (one, third quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989)
- (iii) Technical publications: (a) Study on industrial minerals potential in the region and the status of development in the industrial minerals sector (third quarter, 1988); (b) Study on assessment of exploration activities in the region (third quarter, 1989)
- (iv) Technical assistance: Project on stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the ESCAP region

1.2 Technical support to regional and subregional mineral projects

Output:

- (i) Technical assistance: Support to the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre (SEATRADC) (1988-1989)

1.3 Strengthening of national capabilities of investigation and development of mineral resources*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on regional mineral resources development

1.4 Management and utilization of mineral resources in support of economic and social development plans*

Output:

- (i) Technical publication: (a) Review of mineral development in the region, 1985-1988 (second quarter, 1989); (b) Study on the impact of the structural changes and the effects of conservation, substitution and recycling on the mineral industry of the region (fourth quarter, 1989)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Project on training activities on the changing patterns in the mineral industry and on comparative geologic modelling in resources assessment and exploration

1.5 Geology and urban development*

Output:

- (i) Technical publications: Atlas of urban geology (one, third quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989)

NATURAL RESOURCES *(continued)*

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on thematic mapping of volcanic hazards in the urban environment and exploration, assessment and development of construction materials

Subprogramme 2. **Rational development, management and utilization of water resources**

2.1 Support for the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan*

Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources on: (a) Status of implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan at the end of the first decade (second quarter, 1989); (b) Development and conservation of ground-water resources in selected least developed countries and developing island countries in the region (first quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publication: Guidelines for preparation of national master water plans (second quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting to review and finalize draft guidelines for preparation of national master water plans (first quarter, 1989) ; (b) Advisory missions on water resources development (four, 1988; four, 1989)

2.2 Promotion of regional co-operation in water resources development*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the sixteenth session of the Committee on Natural Resources (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources on the co-ordination of the activities of the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (one, third quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Water quality monitoring systems in the ESCAP region (third quarter, 1989) ; (b) Water-use data systems in the ESCAP region (second quarter, 1989)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (first and third quarters, 1988; first and third quarters, 1989) ; (b) Project on water-use statistics and water quality and promotion of TCDC in water resources

2.3 Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on problems caused by natural disasters in selected least developed countries and developing island countries of the region and long-term effective measures to mitigate the effects of disasters (second quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Support to Typhoon Committee (1988, 1989); (b) Support to Panel on Tropical Cyclones (1988, 1989)

NATURAL RESOURCES *(continued)*

2.4 Information and training in water resources development*

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Water Resources Journal (one each quarter, 1988; one each quarter, 1989) ; (b) Confluence (one each, second and fourth quarters, 1988; one each, second and third quarters, 1989); (c) Water Resources Series (one, fourth quarter, 1988; one each, second, third and fourth quarters, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on the regional network for training in water resources development, phase II

2.5 Non-conventional water development

Output:

Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on assessment of experience in application of solar and wind energies in water resources development ;and prospects for application in the region (fourth quarter, 1989)

Subprogramme 3. Cartography and remote sensing

3.1 Promotion of regional co-operation in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient management of natural resources and the environment:

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (fourth quarter, 1988; fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources on current status of application of remote sensing techniques for efficient assessment, development, utilization and management of natural resources and the environment (fourth quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient assessment, development, utilization and management of natural resources and the environment

PROGRAMME: POPULATION

Subprogramme 1: **Population and development**

Programme elements:

1.1 Formulation and implementation of integrated policies and programmes for development*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Population (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the objectives of the Asia and the Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development (fourth quarter, 1988) I (b) Ad hoc expert group meeting on developing methodologies for review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the objectives of the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development (third quarter, 1988) (intermediate output) I (c) Comparative study and systems analyses of the interrelationships between women's role and status and population changes (fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Advisory missions on population and development matters (one each, third and fourth quarters, 1988) one each, third and fourth quarters, 1989)

1.2 Mortality, morbidity, aging and development*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on emerging issues of the aging of population (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Advisory missions to assist in the analysis of infant and childhood mortality differentials (one each, third and fourth quarters, 1988) one each, third and fourth quarters, 1989)

1.3 Urbanization, population distribution, migration and development*

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Study on urbanization patterns and policies in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1989) (b) Study on urbanization and the status of women (fourth quarter, 1989)

1.4 Population composition, estimates and projections

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Estimates of demographic indicators for Asian and Pacific countries (first quarter, 1988) first quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Advisory missions on demographic analysis and population projections (two, third quarter, 1988) two, third quarter, 1989)

1.5 Human resources development in population

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on human resources development in population

POPULATION *(continued)*

Subprogramme 2. population policies

2.1 Support to countries in developing and implementing population policies and family planning programme*

Output:

- (i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on population (third quarter, 1989)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Project for backstopping national fertility research and family planning evaluation activities: (b) Missions to promote TCDC in family planning (two, 1988: two, 1989)

2.2 Promotion of new approaches in service delivery systems

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the introduction of community participation in respective national family planning programmes

2.3 Improvement of skills of family planning programme personnel and researchers

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on skill development in family planning management information systems and the use of microcomputers for survey analysis and programme evaluation

2.4 Changing role of women and family planning

Output:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on the changing role of women and acceptance of family planning practices (third quarter, 1988: third quarter, 1989)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Project on the changing role of women and acceptance of family planning practices

2.5 Studies on fertility, family planning and related policies and programmes*

Output:

- (i) Technical publication: Study related to management information systems, acceptance of family planning and determinants of fertility (fourth quarter, 1989)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Project on improvement of management information systems, family planning motivation and practices and determinants of fertility

Subprogramme 3. Population information

3.1 Information support to member countries for integration of population and development, policy formulation and programme implementation*

Output:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Asia-Pacific population Journal (four issues per year): (b) population Headliners (12 issues per year): (c) population Research Leads (three issues per year): (d) Ad hoc publications -brochures, data sheets etc. (one or two issues per year)

POPULATION *(continued)*

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on translation of selected ESCAP technical publications into national languages

3.2 Assistance in development of national population information centres and networks in ESCAP member countries*

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Organization of TCOC workshop on population information for staff of national population information centres (fourth quarter, 1989); (b) Project on technical assistance and back-stopping to population information centres and UNFPA country programme execution; (c) Fellowships for country project personnel in national population information centres (three, third quarter, 1988: three, third quarter, 1989)

3.3 Co-ordination of the Asia-Pacific population Information Network (Asia-Pacific POPIN)

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Asia and the Pacific and world-wide documents on population topics (ADOPT) (12 issues in 1988: six issues in 1989); (b) Asia-Pacific POPIN Newsletter (four issues per year); (c) Recommended titles in population (four issues per year); (d) Directory of population data bases in Asia-Pacific region (fourth quarter, 1988); (e) Report of Asia-Pacific POPIN expert group meeting (1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Project on Asia-Pacific POPIN; (b) Project on development of regional and subregional population information systems and networks in co-operation with the POPIN global programme; (c) Missions to promote the concept of population information networks (two, first quarter, 1988: two, first quarter, 1989)

3.4 Development of a regional population data bank

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on development of a regional population data bank

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Subprogramme 1: Institutional and policy infrastructure for science and technology

Programme elements:

1.1 Improvements in science and technology policy and institutional structure*

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of sessions of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (one, third quarter, 1988: one, third quarter, 1989) : (b) Ad hoc expert group meeting on integration of women in technological development (second quarter, 1989) (intermediate output)

(ii) Technical publication: Regional end-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development (fourth quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strategies for technological development of the ESCAP region

1.2 Assessment of technological capabilities and needs*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting' on technological capabilities and needs (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on in-depth assessment of technological needs and capabilities in Asia and the Pacific

1.3 Strengthening of research and development organization and management*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on strengthening of research and development organization and management

1.4 Promotion of the application of energy-efficient technology

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on energy conservation in commercial and domestic sectors

Subprogramme 2: Strengthening the technological capabilities of member countries

2.1 Substantive backstopping of regional institutions

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Support to the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (1988, 1989): (b) Support to the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (1988, 1989)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY *(continued)*

2.2 Upgrading of negotiating capabilities and improvement of terms of acquisition of technology

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Revised training manual on the acquisition of foreign technologies and negotiation and execution of contracts (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on upgrading capabilities for acquisition of foreign technologies

2.3 Promotion of technology transfer in specific areas

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on specific problems relating to technology transfer (two, second and fourth quarters, 1988) (two, second and fourth quarters, 1989) (b) Project on technology transfer

2.4 Promotion of intraregional technology trade and diffusion of technological innovations*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Directory of marketable technology of the ESCAP region (first quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on diffusion of technological innovations

2.5 Strengthening of project generation capabilities, engineering design and consultancy services

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on industrial consultancy development

2.6 Standardization and related activities

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the intergovernmental meeting of heads of standards institutions (second quarter 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on standardization and quality control

2.7 Technology for selected industries

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on technology application for selected industries

2.8 Development of human resources*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on development of human resources for technological progress

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY *(continued)*

Subprogramme 3. Monitoring major breakthroughs in science and technology

3.1 Assessment of new technologies

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on assessment of new technologies

3.2 Assimilation and development of new technologies*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on research, development and demonstration projects in selected areas of technology

PROORAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1: **Popular participation**

Programme elements:

1.1 Strengthening of national mechanisms for the integration of women in development*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Social Development on the regional implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (second quarter. 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Guidelines on upgrading the legal status of women (third quarter. 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory services to strengthen national mechanisms for the integration of women in development (three. 1988; three. 1989); (b) Project on strengthening of national mechanisms for the integration of women in development

1.2 Participation of women in development

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Study on the status of women in the informal sector and their contribution to the economy (second quarter, 1989); (b) Regional directories on women's participation in development (first and fourth quarters, 1989); (c) Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific Newsletter (second and fourth quarters. 1988: second and fourth quarters, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory services to promote the participation of women in development (six. 1988: six. 1989); (b) Project on promoting the participation of women in development

1.3 Assessment of the situation of youth in development* (NEW)

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Social Development on social aspects of unemployment among youth (second quarter. 1988)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the social impact of urbanization on youth (fourth quarter, 1989) ; (b) Youth development information publication (one, second and fourth quarters, 1988: one, second and fourth quarters, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on assessing the situation of youth in development

1.4 Mobilization of youth for development

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Regional directory of governmental and non-governmental organizations working for the mobilization of youth for development (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Ad hoc expert group meetings on critical issues facing rural, migrant and urban youth, including skills development, unemployment and crime (one each in second and third quarters, 1988: one each in second and fourth quarters, 1989); (b) Advisory services to strengthen national efforts in mobilizing youth for development (three. 1988: three. 1989) : (c) Project on promoting the participation of youth in development

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

1.5 Promotion of opportunities for the participation of the disabled and aging in development (NEW) .

Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Social Development on the regional situation of the disabled and aging (two, second quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on legislation concerning the integration of the aging in development (fourth quarter, 1988): (b) Survey of community awareness programmes concerning disability (fourth quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory services to promote the participation of the disabled and aging in development (one, 1988: one, 1989): (b) Project on promoting the participation of the disabled and aging in development

Subprogramme 2: **Social development policies and co-ordination**

2.1 Integrated social development planning*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on Social Development (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Social Development on current issues in the field of integrated social development planning and policy (second quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory services on strengthening national efforts in social development planning and policy (four, 1988: four, 1989): (b) Project on promoting integrated social development planning

2.2 Policy analysis of emerging social development issues* (NEW)

Output:

(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Social Development on the regional social situation (second quarter, 1988) : (b) Report to the Commission on the status of the family in the context of socio-economic change (fourth quarter, 1988): (c) Report to the Commission on the impact of science and technology on disadvantaged population groups (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publication: Study on consumer protection issues in the ESCAP region (first quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on selected emerging social development issues

2.3 Participation of non-governmental organizations in social development* (NEW)

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Social Development on the role of non-governmental organizations in promoting social development (second quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Study on measures to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations in social development (first quarter, 1989)

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening co-ordination between non-governmental organizations and Governments in promoting social development

2.4 Social development information system

Output:

Technical publications: (a) Social Development Newsletter (one, first, second and third quarters, 1988: one, first, second and third quarters, 1989) : (b) Compendium of social development indicators in the ESCAP region (third quarter, 1988): (c) Study on indicators for the assessment of social conditions and trends (third quarter, 1989)

Subprogramme 3. **Health and development**

3.1 Development of basic community services*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Social Development on current issues in the delivery of basic community services (second quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publication: Regional survey of community participatory approaches in the provision of basic community services (second quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on strengthening national capabilities for community participation in basic community services

3.2 Promotion of drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes* (NEW)

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Social Development on conditions and trends in drug abuse and drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation (second quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publications: Compendium of drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes (third quarter, 1989) : (b) Data base on drug abuse (1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on promoting drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation

PROORAMME: STATISTICS

Subprogramme 1: **Statistical development**

Programme elements:

1.1 Promotion, co-ordination and management of statistical development activities in the region

Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Statistics, eighth session (fourth quarter, 1989): (b) Organization of a working group of statistical experts (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Reports to the Committee on Statistics on various aspects of statistical development and information service activities (15, third quarter, 1989)

(iii) Reports to the Commission on selected issues in statistical development and information services (two, first quarter, 1988: one, first quarter, 1989)

(iv) Report to United Nations Statistical Commission, twenty-fifth session (first quarter, 1989)

(v) Technical publication: Statistical Newsletter (quarterly)

(vi) Technical assistance: Technical and substantive support co the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (1988, 1989)

1.2 Promotion of overall national statistical capabilities*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Sample surveys in the ESCAP region (one, third quarter, 1988, one, third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Missions to countries to advise on general statistical organization and development (one, second quarter, 1988: one, second quarter, 1989): (b) Project on strengthening national statistical capabilities

1.3 Development of economic statistics analysis, including national accounts*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Revised manual on international trade statistics in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on the development, improvement and analysis of economic statistics, including national accounts

1.4 Development of social, demographic and other related statistics*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Manuals on socio-economic indicators and on statistics on women (one, second quarter, one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on the development and improvement of social, demographic, and other related statistics

STATISTICS (continued)

1.5 Government information systems^{a/}

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Statistics on a review of government information systems (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publication: Government Information Systems Newsletter (quarterly)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on government information systems

Subprogramme 2: **Statistical information services**

2.1 Collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their edit and maintenance in time series records, and their retrieval for dissemination through special compilations and secretariat publications

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Statistical pocket book for Asia and the Pacific (one, third quarter, 1988: one, third quarter, 1989): (b) Handbook on statistics relating to women (first quarter, 1989): in addition, ad hoc information services and special compilations are provided

(ii) Sales publications: (a) Statistical Indicators for" Asia and the Pacific (quarterly): (b) Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific (quarterly): (c) Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific (one, first quarter, 1988, one, first quarter, 1989): (d) Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific (one, second quarter, 1988: one, second quarter, 1989)

2.2 Development of a network of statistical data bases within ESCAP

Output:

This activity will not result in any standard final output delivered directly to member Governments. The network of statistical data bases planned to be established within ESCAP under this programme element will use certain standard procedures for data collection, storage, retrieval, manipulation, analysis and dissemination. Apart from the benefit of in-house use of such a co-ordinated network of data bases, member Governments should benefit through a reduction or elimination of duplicative data requests from different ESCAP units, as well as through greater consistency in the statistical information disseminated by ESCAP. Prototypes of such data base systems may be replicated in developing countries, based on ESCAP experience.

^{a/} This programme element is implemented by the Data Processing Section of the Division of Administration, deriving the resources from the programme on administration and common services.

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM)

Subprogramme 1. General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic

Programme elements:

1.1 Strategies, policies and planning for transport development*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing) (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Reports to the Commission on progress of implementation of the Transport and Communications Decade (one, first quarter, 1988: one, first quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical publication: Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (one, second quarter 1988: one, second quarter 1989)

(iv) Technical assistance: Project on promotion of public awareness of the role of transport and communications and multimodal transport systems in the national development process

1.2 Development of urban and public transport*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on techniques for urban and public transport planning and urban traffic management

1.3 Environmental impact of transport planning

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the applicability of environmental impact assessment and cost-benefit aspects of environmental management in transport planning

1.4 Facilitation of international surface transport

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on facilitation of international transport

Subprogramme 2. Development of highways and highway transport

2.1 Formulation of strategies for development of highways and highway transport*

Output:

(i) Substantive preparation and servicing of an intergovernmental meeting of highway experts (third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on development of and trends in roads and road transport

2.2 Rational use of energy in transport*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on research and development in the utilization of natural gas and evaluation techniques for energy conservation in the transport sector

TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM) (continued)

2.3 Development of improved and low-cost road transport infrastructure*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on low-cost motorized means of transport, optimum design standards and analysis of rural transport systems

2.4 Improvement of road construction and maintenance

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on information systems relating to road fleets and improvement of road maintenance management

2.5 Improvement of traffic engineering

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on application of electronic data processing systems in traffic engineering

2.6 Road traffic safety and accident prevention*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on educational road safety campaigns

2.7 Promotion of regional and international road transport*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on promotion of regional and international road transport, including the Asian Highway, and improvement of efficiency in transport companies through application of electronic data processing

2.8 Manpower development and training in roads and road transport*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on improvement of skills of road transport executives through computer-assisted management techniques

Subprogramme 3. Development of railways and railway transport

3.1 Railway development planning*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of: (a) Intergovernmental railway group meeting (fourth quarter, 1988); (b) Railway research co-ordination group meeting (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Review of railway development plans of the countries in the region (phase I) (second quarter, 1989); (b) Study on existing co-operative arrangements in the region in the field of railways (second quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Project on railway development planning; (b) Organization of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Railways of South Asian Countries (1989)

TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM) (continued)

3.2 Development and strengthening of intraregional and interregional railway linkages*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications on the Trans-Asian Railway network and the Asian Railway master plan (first quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Review of the development of railway linkages between the ESCAP and ECE regions (third quarter, 1989) 1 (b) Study on the possibility of using the existing sections of the Trans-Asian Railway for the development of rail-cum-sea transport (third quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on the Trans-Asian Railway network and Asian Railway master plan

3.3 Optimum utilization of railway infrastructure and rolling stock, including maintenance*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications on ESCAP activities in the field of optimum utilization of railway infrastructures and rolling stock, and maintenance (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on the technical, managerial and operational aspects of railway transport

3.4 Modernization of railways, including technology transfer*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications on modernization of railways (one, fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical publication: Review of modern railway technology (second quarter, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on improvement of railway safety and modernization of railway telecommunication systems

3.5 Development of regional and interregional co-operation through the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group*

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Support to the meetings of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group and sub-groups (1988, 1989) 1 (b) Project on promotion of regional and interregional co-operation in the field of railways

3.6 Railway manpower development and training*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on railway manpower development, including newly-established railway statistics and information systems

TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM) (continued)

Subprogramme 4. Development of air cargo transport

4.1 Promotion of economic aspects of air cargo transport

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Guidelines on the role of air cargo transport in multimodal transport systems (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on an air cargo management system applicable to the ESCAP developing countries

Subprogramme 5. Development of communications infrastructure

5.1 Promotion of telecommunication development

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the socio-economic impact of telecommunication development in rural areas

5.2 Promotion of regional co-operation in the development of postal services and evaluation of their social and economic impact*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the social and economic impact of improvement in postal services in rural and isolated areas

Subprogramme 6. Development of tourism

6.1 Role of tourism in promotion of appropriate development strategies policies

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting on measurement of the economic impact of tourism by input-output analysis (fourth quarter, 1988)~ (b) Project on enhancing the role of tourism

6.2 Planning for co-ordinated tourism development:

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on planning and fostering of tourism growth

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS)

Subprogramme 1. Development of maritime policy and institutions

Programme elements:

1.1 Maritime policy*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Report to the Committee on regional developments in shipping, ports and inland waterways (fourth quarter, 1988)

(iii) Technical assistance: Project on the formulation of a regional maritime development strategy

1.2 Maritime legislation

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on maritime legislation

1.3 Maritime information service

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on enhancement of the maritime data base and development of maritime transport statistics

1.4 Maritime training and education

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on development of maritime training and education

Subprogramme 2. Development of merchant marines and shipping services

2.1 Shipping management and operations*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on shipping management and operations

2.2 Ship construction, repair and maintenance

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on enhancement of ship construction, repair and maintenance

2.3 Fleet development and financing*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on fleet development and financing

TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND IHLAHD WATBDAY8) (continued)

2.4 Co-operation in shipping

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on co-operation in shipping

Subprogramme 3. **Port development**

3.1 Port development policy, planning and construction

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Port statistical review (one, second quarter, 1988, one, third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on port planning requirements and meetings of chief executives of port authorities

3.2 Port operations, containerization and multimodal trans stems

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on container operations and equipment, establishment and strengthening of port training institutes and multimodal transport systems

3.3 Port management services*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Revision of port management information system (PORTMIS) (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on management and marketing strategies, techniques and middle-level personnel

3.4 Port computerization (Transport Decade)*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: ESCAP port computer handbook (2nd edition) (fourth quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on port computerization and software development, and exchange of port computer staff on a TCDC basis

3.5 Port pricing and investment (Transport Decade)*

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on implementation of improved financial management procedures and port pricing and investment

TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS) (continued)

Subprogramme 4. Development of inland water transport

4.1 Policy and planning*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Audio-visuals on inland water transport (one, third quarter, 1988; one, third quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Ad hoc expert group meeting to review activities and future programme of action in inland water transport (third quarter, 1989); (b) Project on improvement of information and statistical systems on inland water transport

4.2 Development and maintenance of inland waterways*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Guidelines for design of navigation canals (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on development and maintenance of waterways, including low-cost dredging techniques

4.3 Fleet improvement

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Standard designs and technical specifications of river coasters (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on development, management, economic and technical operations of inland water transport fleets

4.4 Development of terminals and land facilities

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on development and maintenance of terminals and landing facilities

4.5 Upgrading of dredging capability

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on operational and management aspects of dredging and related hydrographic surveying and sedimentology, equipment processes and instrumentation

Subprogramme 5. Shippers' organizations and co-operation

5.1 Establishment and strengthening of national shippers' organizations

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on the promotion of shippers' organizations

TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS) (continued)

5.2 Promotion of regional and subregional co-operation among shippers' organizations

Output:

Technical assistance: Project on promotion of co-operation among shippers' organizations

5.3 Cargo consolidation, freight booking and chartering activities*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Guidelines on the establishment and management of a freight booking centre (third quarter, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on cargo consolidation and freight booking

5.4 Strengthening of freight forwarders' organizations*

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Manual on freight forwarding (fourth quarter, 1989)

(ii) Technical assistance: Project on the establishment and strengthening of national freight forwarders' associations and organizations

PROGRAMME: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Subprogramme 1. **Securing an effective code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations II**

Programme elements:

- 1.1 Support to the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in securing and implementing an effective code of conduct and other international and regional arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations

Output:

Reports to the Commission on the current status of the code of conduct on TNCs and other international and regional arrangements and agreements relating to TNCs (one, 1988, one, 1989)

- 1.2 Provision of assistance to ESCAP member Governments in securing and implementing an effective code of conduct and other international and regional arrangements relating to transnational corporations

Output:

(i) Technical publications: Study on issues related to international and regional arrangements relating to TNCs (one, 1988)

(ii) Technical assistance: Advisory mission on issues related to the code of conduct and cooperative arrangements concerning TNC operation in the ESCAP region (one, 1989)

Subprogramme 2. **Minimizing the negative effects of transnational corporations and enhancing their contribution to development**

- 2.1 Regional support to the UNCTC global research programme

Output:

Reports to the Commission on the role and impact of TNCs in priority sectors in the ESCAP region as identified by the Commission on Transnational Corporations (one, 1988, one, 1989)

- 2.2 Research on transnational corporations in the region*

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Development Planning on main issues in the field of transnational corporations (1988)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Studies on specific issues regarding the activities of TNCs (two, 1988)1 (b) Studies on TNC activities in least developed and developing island countries (one, 1988, one, 1989)1 (c) Studies on TNCs in selected industries (two, 1989)1 (d) Studies on impact of TNCs on the economic and social development process (one, 1988, one, 1989)

TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (*continued*)

Subprogramme 3. Strengthening the capability of host developing countries in dealing with matters related to transnational corporations

3.1 Support to UNCTC in the provision of advisory and information services to member Governments*

Output:

(i) Reports to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the provision of advisory, training and information services in the ESCAP countries (one, 1988, one, 1989)

(ii) Servicing the annual session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations (one, 1988, one, 1989)

3.2 Provision of advisory and information services to member Governments*

Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the seventh session of the Committee on Development Planning (1988)

(ii) Technical publication: TNC Review (one, 1988, one, 1989)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Workshop/seminar on issues relating to transnational corporations (one, 1988); (b) Ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on TNCs (1989)

Appendix

**SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAMME OF
WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1988-1989**

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
		<i>--(work-months) --</i>			
PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES					
1.1	Analysis of and assistance in special economic and social policy issues of major concern to the region*	-	-	-	
1.2	Review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade*	-	-	-	
1.3	Comparative analysis of strategies, policies, policy instruments and institutions for economic and social development in the region	-	-		56
1.4	Studies on opportunities and mechanisms for subregional, regional and interregional co-operation	-	-		80
2.1	Strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities	-	-		600
2.2	Development modelling and projections*	48	-	-	174
2.3	Research and assistance in public finance	24	-	-	70
3.1	Monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region*	18	-	-	-
3.2	In-depth studies on problems of special concern to the least developed countries of the region	18	-	-	77
3.3	Assistance to the least developed countries in formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development*	18	-	-	-
4.1	Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*	90	-	-	-
4.2	Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on major development issues and problems	24	-	-	30

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES (continued)

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
		<i>--(work-months) --</i>			
5.1	Advisory and consultancy services on development planning, policies and issues*	8	24	96	522
5.2	Training for development	12	-	-	112
5.3	Research on policy and planning	4	-	-	90
		<u>360</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>1 811</u>

PROGRAMME : ENERGY

1.1	Regional energy scenes and economy	24	8	-	-
1.2	Strengthening of national capabilities in integrated energy planning and programming and management of energy demand: policy options and strategies*	36	-	-	495
2.1	Assessment of energy for rural applications and integrated planning*	23	-	-	550
2.2	Co-operative research, development and demonstration of new and renewable sources of energy	15	-	-	595
2.3	Transfer, adaptation and application of mature new and renewable energy technologies	22	-	-	186
3.1	Development and utilization of coal resources	18	-	-	175
3.2	Development and utilization of oil and natural gas resources	30	-	-	66
3.3	Energy conservation and conversion policy*	12	8	-	127
3.4	Power system planning and management*	20	8	-	145 ...
3.5	Peaceful uses of nuclear energy	4	-	-	-
		<u>204</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2 339</u>

PROGRAMME : ENVIRONMENT

1.1	Environmental awareness	8	-	16	293
1.2	Strengthening the environmental dimensions of the Commission's work programme	12	-	-	-
1.3	Incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning and processes*	6	-	60	594
1.4	Management of terrestrial ecosystems*	10	-	18	425
1.5	Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems*	12	-	26	539
		<u>48</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>1 851</u>

<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
<i>--(work-months) --</i>			

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1.1	Review of agricultural development policies strategies and performance*	41	-	-	111
1.2	Food supply assessment and distribution*	16	-	-	77
1.3	Development of agricultural information systems*	24	-	8	397
1.4	Follow-up action on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea concerning the management of living resources	5	-	-	56
2.1	Operation of the fertilizer advisory. development and information network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP)*	42	-	24	816
2.2	Agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP)	6	-	64	305
2.3	Research and development of coarse grains. pulses. roots and tuber crops*	14	-	-	-
2.4	Improving agricultural credit. marketing and extension systems	32	-	-	130
3.1	Improving the socio-economic condition of rural poor and disadvantaged groups such as small farmers. tenants. fisherfolk and women	40	-	-	175
3.2	Utilization of agricultural residues as energy source for productive activities	20	-	-	52
		<u>240</u>	-	<u>96</u>	<u>2 119</u>

PROGRAMME: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

1.1	Policies and strategies	9	-	17	200
1.2	Settlements planning and development*	6	-	17	115
2.1	Promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies	8	-	-	70
2.2	Low-income shelter development	15	-	6	160
2.3	Land policies and management	11	-	-	160
3.1	Strengthening institutional capabilities through technical co-operation*	19	-	-	176
3.2	Public participation in human settlements financing and development*	4	-	8	55
		<u>72</u>	-	<u>48</u>	<u>936</u>

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
		<i>--(work-months) --</i>			
PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT					
1.1	Regional review of industrial progress	18	-	-	-
1.2	Industrial plans and policies	5	12	-	-
1.3	Assistance to least developed countries and island developing countries*	15	-	-	60
1.4	Development of agro- and allied industries*	34	-	-	110
1.5	Development of small- and medium-scale industries*	36	-	-	125
1.6	Investment promotion activities and enhancement of the private sector in industrialization	17	-	12	120
2.1	Resource mobilization programme*	20	-	-	120
2.2	Programme on project development and implementation	18	-	-	60
3.1	Regional industrial co-operation (ESCAP *club* for industrial co-operation)	12	12	24	40
4.1	Development and improvement of technical and managerial efficiency in public sector industries	17	-	12	60
		192	24	48	695

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

1.1	Trade expansion and major trade policy issues*	46	12	-	72
1.2	Trade-creating joint ventures and investment opportunities	16	-	-	163
1.3	Monetary co-operation, trade and development finance, balance-of-payments support	8	-	-	50
1.4	Trade facilitation measures	20	-	-	135
1.5	Trade in manufactures	21	-	-	90
1.6	Customs administration co-operation	8	-	-	50
2.1	Trade information services*	48	-	48	234
2.2	Trade promotion development*	35	12	-	77
2.3	Market and product development*	34	-	-	29
3.1	Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities of socio-economic importance to member countries of the region	36	12	-	44

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
		<i>--(work-months) --</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>	
INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE					
<i>(continued)</i>					
3.2	Development of commodities of interest to the region.	16	12	-	44
4.1	Improvement of trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries	12	-	-	66
4.2	Promotion of trade and economic co-operation with least developed, land-locked and island developing countries	12	-	-	52
5.1	Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional trade co-operation	24	-	-	140
		<u>336</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>1 246</u>

PROGRAMME : MARINE RESOURCES

1.1	Strengthening of national capabilities in exploration and development of marine mineral resources.	16	-	-	100
1.2	Review and appraisal of the geology, occurrence, development and management of marine resources	8	-	-	-
1.3	Technical support to regional and subregional projects concerning marine mineral resources and geology	11	-	-	-
1.4	Strengthening of national capabilities and promotion of regional co-operation relating to implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*	24	-	-	100
		<u>59</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200</u>

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES

1.1	Exploration, assessment and development of mineral resources	26	-	-	83
1.2	Technical support to regional and subregional mineral projects	8	-	-	-
1.3	Strengthening of national capabilities of investigation and development of mineral resources*	20	-	48	180
1.4	Management and utilization of mineral resources in support of economic and social development plans*	20	-	-	160
1.5	Geology and urban development*	24	-	-	160

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
		<i>--(work-months) --</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>	
NATURAL RESOURCES <i>(continued)</i>					
2.1	Support for the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan.	35	24	-	-
2.2	Promotion of regional co-operation in water resources development.	56	-	4	225
2.3	Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts	40	-	-	-
2.4	Information and training in water resources development*	34	-	8	400
2.5	Non-conventional water development	17	-	-	-
3.1	Promotion of regional co-operation in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient management of natural resources and the environment	9	-	60	474
		<u>289</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>1 682</u>

PROGRAMME: POPULATION

1.1	Formulation and implementation of integrated population policies and programmes for development.	13	-	22	145
1.2	Mortality, morbidity, aging and development	14	-	-	87
1.3	Urbanization, population distribution, migration and development.	17	-	2	254
1.4	Population composition, estimates and projections	7	-	-	8
1.5	Human resources development in population	13	-	12	421
2.1	Support to countries in developing and implementing population policies and family planning programmes.	13	-	8	20
2.2	Promotion of new approaches in service delivery systems	10	-	-	165
2.3	Improvement of skills of family planning programme personnel and researchers	4	-	12	178
2.4	Changing role of women and family planning	12	-	-	125
2.5	Studies on fertility, family planning and related policies and programmes.	25	-	40	690
3.1	Information support to member countries for integration of population and development, policy formulation and programme implementation.	16	-	24	102

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
		<i>--(work-months) --</i>			
POPULATION (continued)					
3.2	Assistance in development of national population information centres and networks in ESCAP member countries*	14	-	24	94
3.3	Co-ordination of the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network (Asia-Pacific POPIN)	8	-	24	106
3.4	Development of a regional population data bank	2	-	24	29
		<u>168</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>2 424</u>
PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY					
1.1	Improvements in science and technology policy and institutional structure*	18	-	-	50
1.2	Assessment of technological capabilities and needs*	8	-	36	13
1.3	Strengthening of research and development organization and management*	8	-	-	120
1.4	Promotion of the application of energy-efficient technology	8	-	-	250
2.1	Substantive backstopping of regional institutions	8	-	-	-
2.2	Upgrading of negotiating capabilities and improvement of terms of acquisition of technology*	6	6	-	60
2.3	Promotion of technology transfer in specific areas	12	18	-	60
2.4	Promotion of intraregional technology trade and diffusion of technological innovations*	8	-	6	180
2.5	Strengthening of project generation capabilities, engineering design and consultancy services	8	-	4	100
2.6	Standardization and related activities	12	-	8	150
2.7	Technology for selected industries	10	-	6	180
2.8	Development of human resources*	12	-	4	400
3.1	Assessment of new technologies	10	-	-	50
3.2	Assimilation and development of new technologies*	16	-	8	860
		<u>144</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>2 473</u>

<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i> <i>(thousands of</i> <i>US dollars)</i>
<i>--(work-months) --</i>			

PROGRAMME : SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1.1	Strengthening of national mechanisms for the integration of women in development.	19	-	12	150
1.2	Participation of women in development	28	24	12	279
1.3	Assessment of the situation of youth in development. (NEW)	22	-	12	160
1.4	Mobilization of youth for development	26	-	12	100
1.5	Promotion of opportunities for the participation of the disabled and aging in development (NEW)	11	-	-	155
2.1	Integrated social development planning	19	24	-	180
2.2	Policy analysis of emerging social development issues. (NEW)	17	-	24	70
2.3	Participation of non-governmental organizations in promoting social development. (NEW)	10	-	-	155
2.4	Social development information system	19	-	-	-
3.1	Development of basic community services	8	-	12	183
3.2	Promotion of drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes. (NEW)	13	-	12	200
		192	48	96	1 632

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS

1.1	Promotion, co-ordination and management of statistical development activities in the region	40	-	2	-
1.2	Promotion of overall national statistical capabilities.	30	-	32	90
1.3	Development of economic statistics analysis, including national accounts.	24	24	-	75
1.4	Development of social, demographic and other related statistics.	26	-	38	137
1.5	Government information systems ^{a/}	(40)	-	(8)	(380)
2.1	Collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their edit and maintenance in time series records, and their retrieval for dissemination through special compilations and secretariat publications	64	-	-	-

<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
<i>--(work-months) --</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>	

STATISTICS (continued)

2.2	Development of a network of statistical data bases within ESCAP	8	-	24	25
		192	24	96	327

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM)

1.1	Strategies, policies and planning for transport development*	28	-	6	135
1.2	Development of urban and public transport*	14	-	6	120
1.3	Environmental impact of transport planning	12	-	30	115
1.4	Facilitation of international surface transport	20	-	2	10
2.1	Formulation of strategies for development of highways and highway transport*	7	-	4	52
2.2	Rational use of energy in transport*	6	-	8	60
2.3	Development of improved and low-cost road transport infrastructure*	7	-	9	90
2.4	Improvement of road construction and maintenance	8	-	4	54
2.5	Improvement of traffic engineering	11	-	5	53
2.6	Road traffic safety and accident prevention*	5	-	6	33
2.7	Promotion of regional and international road transport*	5	-	8	50
2.8	Manpower development and training in roads and road transport*	5	-	4	50
3.1	Railway development planning*	16	-	14	50
3.2	Development and strengthening of intraregional and inter-regional railway linkages*	12	-	14	53
3.3	Optimum utilization of railway infrastructure and rolling stock, including maintenance*	12	-	14	25
3.4	Modernization of railways, including technology transfer*	14	-	14	35
3.5	Development of regional and interregional co-operation through the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group*	10	-	16	50
3.6	Railway manpower development and training*	12	-	10	40

<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
<i>--(work-months) --</i>			

TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM) (continued)

4.1	Promotion of economic aspects of air cargo transport	26	-	-	75
5.1	Promotion of telecommunication development	3	-	18	30
5.2	Promotion of regional co-operation in the development of postal services and evaluation of their social and economic impact*	3	-	-	30
6.1	Role of tourism in promotion of appropriate development strategies and policies	14	-	12	50
6.2	Planning for co-ordinated tourism development	14	-	12	56
		<u>264</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>1 316</u>

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS)

1.1	Maritime policy*	10	-	2	470
1.2	Maritime legislation	7	-	-	277
1.3	Maritime information service	4	-	-	162
1.4	Maritime training and education	7	-	-	350
2.1	Shipping management and operations*	16	-	28	1 669
2.2	Ship construction, repair and maintenance	5	-	4	265
2.3	Fleet development and financing*	10	-	6	340
2.4	Co-operation in shipping	4	-	4	18
3.1	Port development policy, planning and construction	12	-	12	120
3.2	Port operations, containerization and multimodal transport systems	12	-	6	70
3.3	Port management services*	12	-	9	224
3.4	Port computerization (Transport Decade)*	15	-	14	414
3.5	Port pricing and investment (Transport Decade)*	15	-	9	355.5
4.1	Policy and planning*	13	-	2	357.5
4.2	Development and maintenance of inland waterways*	16	-	6	48.5
4.3	Fleet improvement	7	-	-	84
4.4	Development of terminals and land facilities	7	-	-	93

		<i>Resource requirements 1988-1989</i>			
		<i>RB</i>	<i>RA</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i> <i>(thousands of</i> <i>--(work-months) -- US dollars)</i>
TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS) (continued)					
4.5	Upgrading of dredging capability	4	-	18	318
5.1	Establishment and strengthening of national shippers' organizations	10	-	-	24.5
5.2	Promotion of regional and subregional co-operation among shippers' organizations	7	-	-	72
5.3	Cargo consolidation, freight booking and chartering activities*	9	-	-	90
5.4	Strengthening of freight forwarders' organizations*	14	-	-	177
		<u>216</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>5 999</u>

PROGRAMME: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

1.1	Support to the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in securing and implementing an effective code of conduct and other international and regional arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations	4	-	-	-
1.2	Provision of assistance to ESCAP member Governments in securing and implementing an effective code of conduct and other international and regional arrangements relating to transnational corporations	4	-	-	-
2.1	Regional support to the UNCTC global research programme	12	-	-	-
2.2	Research on transnational corporations in the region*	20	-	-	200
3.1	Support to UNCTC in the provision of advisory and information services to member Governments*	20	-	-	-
3.2	Provision of advisory and information services to member Governments*	12	-	<u>b/</u>	<u>b/</u>
		<u>72</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200</u>
Total:		<u>3 048</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>1 368</u>	<u>27 250</u>

a/ This programme element is implemented by the Data Processing Section of the Division of Administration, deriving the resources from the programme on administration and common services.

b/ Input to be provided by UNCTC.

Annex II

STATEMENT OF PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

1. The decisions and resolutions of the Commission described in the report on its forty-third session, including the endorsed programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989 and the changes to the programme of work in 1987, have no financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations, with the exception of the following resolution:

Resolution 262 (XLIII) on an in-depth study of the
United Nations intergovernmental structure and
functions in the economic and social fields

2. At present, ESCAP has nine legislative committees, three of which meet annually and the remaining six biennially.

3. The Commission, in its resolution 262 (XLIII), decided to reduce the number of committees from nine to seven, with each committee meeting once every two years, thus resulting in a reduction from the present 12 committee sessions to 7 in a biennium -a reduction of five committee sessions — and authorized the Executive Secretary to take steps to implement this decision by December 1988.

4. The programme budget implications of the above decision are estimated to be a reduction by the following:

Professional work-months:	85 work-months
General Service work-months:	120 work-months
Cost of supplies, electricity, overtime, etc.:	\$US 26,500

Annex III

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING .~
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Subsidiary body and officers	Session	Document symbol . of report ^{a/}
Meeting of Ministers of Trade	Bangkok 16-18 June 1986	E/ESCAP/547
<i>Chairman:</i> Kazi Zafar Ahmed (Bangladesh)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Fazl Haque Khaliqyat (Afghanistan)		
Om Pradhan (Bhutan)		
Wang Pinqing (China)		
Brahm Dutt (India)		
Hussain Manikfan (Maldives)		
J. Dulmaa (Mongolia)		
Yung-Euy Chung (Republic of Korea)		
Mahindra Wijeratne (Sri Lanka)		
Phairojana Jayaphorn (Thailand)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Hiroomi Sakai (Japan)		
Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology	Bangkok 22-24 September 1986	E/ESCAP/537
<i>Chairman:</i> Moudud Ahmed (Bangladesh)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Fateh Mohammad Tarin (Afghanistan)		
Zhu Lilan (China)		

^{a/} Copies of reports that are not available through normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at Geneva may be obtained from the Regional Commission Liaison Unit at United Nations Headquarters.

Subsidiary body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report ^{a/}
Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology (<i>continued</i>)		
<p><i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> N.D. Tiwari (India)</p> <p>Ali Asghar Towfigh (Islamic Republic of Iran)</p> <p>Hidenao Nakagawa (Japan)</p> <p>B.B. Pradhan (Nepal)</p> <p>C. Follosco (Philippines) !</p> <p>Denzil Fernando (Sri Lanka)</p> <p>Korn Dabbaransi (Thailand)</p> <p>Hoang Dinh Phu (Viet Nam)</p> <p><i>Rapporteur:</i> Ofelia V. Bulaong (Philippines)</p>		
Committee on Natural Resources	Thirteenth session Bangkok 14-20 October 1986	E/ESCAP/539
<p><i>Chairman:</i> Benjamin T. Leong (Philippines)</p> <p><i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Boonyok Vadhanaphuti (Thailand)</p> <p>Hiroomi Sakai (Japan)</p> <p><i>Chairman of the Drafting Committee and Rapporteur:</i> Sarbini Ronodibroto (Indonesia)</p>		
Committee on Development Planning	Sixth session Bangkok 4-10 November 1986	E/ESCAP/538
<p><i>Chairman:</i> Bijaya Bahadur pradhan (Nepal)</p>		

Subsidiary body and officers	session	Document symbol of report ^{a/}
Committee on Development Planning (continued)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> M.S. Jillani (Pakistan)		
Wilfredo G. Nuqui (Philippines)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> H. Tampubolon (Indonesia)		
Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing)	Tenth session Bangkok 8-12 December 1986	E/ESCAP/S40
<i>Chairman:</i> Sribhumi Sukhanetr (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> W. Amarasekera (Sri Lanka)		
Shen Zhaoqi (China)		
M. Tukuaho (Tonga)		
<i>Chairman of the Drafting Committee:</i> H.P.T. de Jong (Netherlands)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> B. Tang (Hong Kong)		

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. Publications

<i>Title</i>	<i>United Nations publications Sales number</i>
<u>Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986</u>	E.87.II.F.1
<u>Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific</u>	
Vol. XXXVI, No.1, June 1985	E.86.II.F.9
Vol. XXXVI, No.2, December 1985	E.86.II.F.16
Vol. XXXVII, No. 1, June 1986	E.87.II.F.2
<u>Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific 1983 and 1984</u>	E.86.II.F.23
<u>The Estimation and Forecasting of Trade Shares (Development Papers No.5)</u>	E.B6.II.F.17
<u>Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific</u>	
Vol. XVII, Series B 1981-1984	E.86.II.F.18
<u>International Labour Migration and Remittances between the Developing ESCAP Countries and the Middle East: Trends, Issues and Policies (Development Papers No.6)</u>	E.B7.II.F.6
<u>Proceedings of the Regional Seminar on Systems Analysis for Water Resources Development (Water Resources Series No. 61)</u>	E.86.II.F.13
<u>Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific</u>	
Vol. XV, No.3, September 1985	E.86.II.F.11
Vol. XV, No.4, December 1985	E.86.II.F.14
Vol. XVI, Nos. 1-2, March and June 1986	E.86.II.F.19
Vol. XVI, No.3, September 1986	E.86.II.F.22
Vol. XVI, No.4, December 1986	E.87.II.F.3
<u>Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No.21</u>	E.B6.II.F.25
<u>Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific</u>	
Vol. XV, No.1, March 1985	E.85.II.F.11
Vol. XV, No.2, June 1985	E.85.II.F.17
Vol. XV, No.3, September 1985	E.85.II.F.20
Vol. XV, No.4, December 1985	E.85.II.F.7
Vol. XVI, No.1, March 1986	E.86.II.F.12
Vol. XVI, No.2, June 1986	E.86.II.F.15
Vol. XVI, No.3, September 1986	E.86.II.F.20
Vol. XVI, No.4, December 1986	E.87.II.F.4
<u>Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1985</u>	E/F.86.II.F.24

<i>Title</i>	<i>United Nations publications Sales number</i>
<u>ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy</u>	
Vol. V, Republic of Korea (Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region, vol. XI) (Mineral Resources Development Series No. 53)	E.86.II.F.5
Vol. VI, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region, vol. XII) (Mineral Resources Development Series No. 54)	E.86.II.F.21
<u>Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 58</u>	E.86.II.F.10
<u>The Triennial Review of Mineral Development Activities in the ESCAP Region, 1982-1984</u> (Mineral Resources Development Series No. 55)	E.87.II.F.5

B. Documents submitted to the Commission

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/537 Technology	Report of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and	7(a)
E/ESCAP/538	Report of the Committee on Development Planning on its sixth session	7(a)
E/ESCAP/539	Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its thirteenth session	7(a)
E/ESCAP/540	Report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing) on its tenth session	7(a)
E/ESCAP/541 and Corr.1	Work of the Commission since the forty-second session	4(b)
E/ESCAP/542 and Corr.1	Report on secretariat activities in support of the implementation in the ESCAP region of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries	4(d)
E/ESCAP/543	Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy	4(c)
E/ESCAP/544	Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994: review of progress of implementation	6
E/ESCAP/545	Progress report on the implementation of resolutions 241 (XLI), on science and technology policy, planning and management for the promotion of economic and social development, and 258 (XLII), on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless	7(a)

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/546	Establishment of a regional network of research and training centres on desertification control and other selected. issues in the field of the environment	7(a)
E/ESCAP/547	Report of the Meeting of Ministers of Trade and Declaration of the Ministers of Trade of Members and Associate Members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	7(a)
E/ESCAP/548	Possible causes of and solutions for dealing with the debt crisis of developing members and associate members of ESCAP	7(a)
E/ESCAP/549	Natural resources and energy	7(a)
E/ESCAP/550	Report of progress in the implementation of resolution 248 (XLII) on the Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (AS PAT)	7(a)
E/ESCAP/551	Main issues in the field of transnational corporations	7(a)
E/ESCAP/552 and Corr.1	Regional maritime development strategy	7(a)
E/ESCAP/553	Establishment of a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh	7(a)
E/ESCAP/554	Rail-based urban and suburban transport	7(a)
E/ESCAP/555	Development and strengthening of intraregional and interregional railway linkages	7(a)
E/ESCAP/556	Rationalization of energy in transport	7(a)
E/ESCAP/557	Planning for tourism development	7(a)
E/ESCAP/558	Proposal for a regional co-operative arrangement for fertilizer marketing and other issues arising from secretariat activities in the field of food and agriculture	7(a)
E/ESCAP/559	Implications of changing age structure for current and future development planning	7(a)
E/ESCAP/560	Emerging issues in social development	7(a)
E/ESCAP/561	Progress report on the implementation of Commission resolutions 249 (XLII), on participation of women in socio-economic development, and 251 (XLII) I on the International Year of Peace	7(a)
E/ESCAP/562	Issues relating to international comparability and computerization	7(a)
E/ESCAP/563	Information technology: focus on the region	7(a)
E/ESCAP/564	Co-operation and co-ordination among United Nations agencies and the developing countries of the region on integrated rural development programmes	7(a)

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/565	Report on the administrative and financial issues related to the regional institutions	7(b)
E/ESCAP/566	Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	7(b)
E/ESCAP/567	Pacific energy development programme	7(b)
E/ESCAP/568	Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific	7(b)
E/ESCAP/569	Regional energy development programme	7(b)
E/ESCAP/570	Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre	7(b)
E/ESCAP/571	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery	7(b)
E/ESCAP/572	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	7(b)
E/ESCAP/573	Report of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre	7(b)
E/ESCAP/574	Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	7(b)
E/ESCAP/575	In-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields	12
E/ESCAP/576	Annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1986	7(b)
E/ESCAP/577	Report of the Typhoon Committee	7(b)
E/ESCAP/578 and Corr.1	Draft programme of work and priorities, 1988-1989	7(c)
E/ESCAP/579	Programme changes for 1987	7(c)
E/ESCAP/580 and Corr.1	General guidelines for the medium-term plan, 1990-1995	7(c)
E/ESCAP/581 and Corr.1	Report on the implementation of the programme of work	7(c)
E/ESCAP/582 and Corr.1 and 2	Tentative calendar of meetings, 1987-1988	7(c)
E/ESCAP/583	Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council	7(c)
E/ESCAP/584 and Corr.1	Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	8
E/ESCAP/585	Report on the Commission's activities in the Pacific	9
E/ESCAP/586 and Corr.1	Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources	10

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/587	Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific in 1986: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme and the II United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	10
E/ESCAP/588	Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	11
E/ESCAP/589	Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-fourth session of the Commission	13

Annex V

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its fourth session, amended by the Council at subsequent sessions, and revised in consequence of various General Assembly resolutions.

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 46(1) of 11 December 1946, in which the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of ...an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East", and

Having noted the report of the Working Group for Asia and the Far East of the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas,

Establishes an Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Asia and the Pacific, for raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Pacific and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Asia and the Pacific as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;

(d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agencies or the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council, at its request, in discharging its functions within the region in connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;

(f) In carrying out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of the economic and social factors.

2. The territories of Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, the Cook Islands, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kiribati, Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, provided that any State in the area which may hereafter become a Member of the United Nations shall be there-upon admitted as a member of the Commission.

4. The associate members shall include the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Niue, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau.

5. Any territory, part or group of territories within the geographical scope of the Commission as defined in paragraph 2 may, on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be admitted by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission. If it has become responsible for its own international relations, such territory, part or group of territories may be admitted as an associate member of the Commission on itself presenting its application to the Commission.

6. Representatives of associate members shall be entitled to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole.

7. Representatives of associate members shall be eligible to be appointed as members of any committee, or other subordinate body, which may be set up by the Commission and shall be eligible to vote and hold office in such body.

8. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matters within its competence directly to the Governments of members or associate members concerned, Governments admitted in consultative capacity, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals of activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

9. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

10. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization following the practice of the Economic and Social Council.

11. The Commission shall make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which have been granted consultative status by the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in Council

resolution 1296 (XLN).

12. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies. The Commission shall establish appropriate liaison and co-operation with other regional economic commissions in accordance with the resolutions and directives of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

13. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate, for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

14. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

15. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

16. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

18. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at Bangkok, Thailand.

19. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission.

Annex VI

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As drawn up at the first session, confirmed and adopted at the second session, and amended at subsequent sessions of the Commission.

Chapter I SESSIONS *Rule 1*

The following principles shall apply as regards date and place for the sessions of the Commission:

(a) The Commission shall at each session recommend the date and place for its next session subject to the approval of the Council and in consultation with the Secretary-General. Sessions of the Commission shall also be held within forty-five days of the communication to the Executive Secretary of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council, and, in that case, the Secretary-General shall establish the place of such sessions in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission;

(b) In special cases the date and place of the session may be altered by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences. At the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, may also alter the date and place of the session;

(c) Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission may recommend holding a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 2

The Executive Secretary shall, at least forty-two days before the commencement of a session, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with three copies of the provisional agenda and of the basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda. Distribution shall be similar to that under rule 49.

Rule 3

The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity

in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that Member.

Chapter II AGENDA *Rule 4*

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for any session shall include:

(a) Items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;

(b) Items proposed by the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Items proposed by any member or associate member of the Commission;

(d) Items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies;

(e) Items proposed by non-governmental organizations in category I, subject to the provisions of rule 6; and

(f) Any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 6

Non-governmental organizations in category I may propose items on matters within their competence for the provisional agenda of the Commission, subject to the following conditions:

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Executive Secretary at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session, and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments he may make;

(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not less than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda of

the Commission if it is adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

Chapter III
REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Chapter IV
OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, designated as First and Second Vice-Chairmen, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman designated by the Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a

member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the First Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. If the First Vice-Chairman also ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Second Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman, shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Chapter V
SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its subcommissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, and any other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Rule 23

Before new proposals which involve expenditure from United Nations funds are approved by the Commission, the Executive Secretary shall prepare and circulate to members an estimate of that part of the cost involved in the proposals which could not be met out of the resources available to the secretariat. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to draw the attention of members to this estimate, and invite discussion on it before the proposals are approved.

Chapter VI
CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 24

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 25

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may raise a point of order. In this case, the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision, and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 27

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against, the motion.

Rule 28

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 29

The Chairman shall take the sense of the

Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 30

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 31

Draft resolutions, and substantial amendments or motions, shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Executive Secretary, who shall circulate copies to the representatives at least twenty-four hours before they are discussed and voted upon, unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 32

Upon the request of any member, any motion and amendment thereto made by any speaker shall be given to the Chairman in writing and shall be read by him before any further speaker is called upon and also immediately before a vote is taken on such motion or amendment. The Chairman may direct that any motion or amendment be circulated to the members present before a vote is taken.

This rule shall not apply to formal motions such as one for closure or adjournment.

Rule 33

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 34

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and, if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 35

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal; then, if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed; and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 36

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

Chapter VII
VOTING
Rule 37

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

Rule 38

Except for the provision of rule 6(b), decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 39

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country .

Rule 40

The Commission shall normally vote by a show of hands. If any representative requests a roll-call, a roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 41

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 42

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 43

After the voting has commenced, no representative shall interrupt voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman, if he deems it necessary .before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

Chapter VIII
LANGUAGES
Rule 44

Chinese, English, French and Russian shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 45

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

Chapter IX
RECORDS
Rule 46

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat, not later than seventy-two hours after the circulation of any summary record, of any changes they wish to have made. Any disagreement concerning such changes shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Rule 47

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution to non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster, .and on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 48

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned, and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 49

As soon as possible, the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies, and to the non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster .

Chapter X
PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS
Rule 50

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

Chapter XI
CONSULTATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED
AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
Rule 51

1. Where an item proposed for the provisional agenda for a session contains a proposal for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relating to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall enter into consultation with the agency or agencies concerned and report to the Commission on the means of achieving co-ordinated use of the resources of the respective agencies.

2. Where a proposal put forward in the course of a meeting for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relates to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall, after such consultation as may be possible with the representatives at the meeting of the other agency or agencies concerned, draw the attention of the meeting to these implications of the proposal.

3. Before deciding on proposals referred to above, the Commission shall satisfy itself that adequate consultations have taken place with the agencies concerned.

Chapter XII
RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS
Rule 52

Non-governmental organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence.

Rule 53

Written statements relevant to the work of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Executive Secretary to the members and associate members of the Commission except those statements which have become obsolete -e.g. those dealing with matters already disposed of, and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members and associate members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 54

The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages;

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Executive Secretary and the organization before circulation;

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Executive Secretary may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form;

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or of one of its subsidiary bodies;

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or other subsidiary bodies;

(f) The Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman or the Commission itself may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements;

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Executive Secretary in the working languages and, upon the request of a member or associate member of the Commission, in any of the official languages.

Rule 55

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organizations in category I or II either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization;

(b) On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and at the request of the Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 56

Subject to rule 23 the Commission may recommend that a non-governmental organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the Commission. The limitations of rule 54 (d) and (e) shall not apply in this case.

Chapter XIII
SUB-COMMISSIONS, OTHER SUBSIDIARY
BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 57

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 58

The Commission may establish such

committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 59

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees, sub-committees and working parties shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Chapter XIV
REPORTS

Rule 60

The Commission shall, once a year, submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies.

Chapter XV
AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 61

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission, provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
ACPR	Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIT	Asian Institute of Technology
APCTT	Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre
ARSAP	Agricultural Requisites Scheme for Asia and the Pacific
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
CCOP	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Off-shore Areas
CCOP/SOPAC	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Off-shore Areas
CGPRT	Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber (crops)
CHOGRM	Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CIRAD	International Cooperation Center of Agricultural Research for Development
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
ECDC	Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries
EPOC	ESCAP Pacific Operation Centre
FADINAP	Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
ITC	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PEDP	Pacific Energy Development Programme
POPIN	Population Information Network
PORTMIS	Port Management Information System
REDP	Regional Energy Development Programme
RMRDC	Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
SACEP	South Asian Cooperative Environment Programme
SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
SPC	South Pacific Commission
SPEC	South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
TCDC	Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTC	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Tourism Organization

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.

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