



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
GENERAL
E/ESCWA/C.1/19/10
6 March 1997
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Technical Committee
Tenth session
Beirut, 5-6 May 1997

Item 6 (g) of the provisional agenda

**FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE
COMMISSION'S PROGRAMMES**

Note by the Executive Secretary

CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. REGULAR BUDGET	1
II. EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES	5
A. Introduction	5
B. Overview	5
C. History of activities	6
<u>Annex I.</u> Statement of expenditure covering all extrabudgetary funds for the biennium 1994-1995	10
<u>Annex II.</u> United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: combined status of trust funds for the biennium 1994-1995	12
III. TRUST FUND FOR ESCWA REGIONAL ACTIVITIES	14
A. Background	14
B. Contributions	14
C. Programme of activities financed from the Trust Fund	15
<u>Annex.</u> Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities	17

I. REGULAR BUDGET

1. The regular budget of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia is prepared and approved on a biennial basis in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3043 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972.

2. For the biennium 1994-1995, the revised appropriations approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/220 of 23 December 1994 on the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, under section 19, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, amounted to US\$ 35,213,100.

Allocation of resources

3. For the biennium 1994-1995, the General Assembly approved a total of 105 Professional and 187 General Service posts for ESCWA.

4. The allotments issued for the biennium 1994-1995, with the expenditure and the balances by subprogramme, were as follows:

Section 19. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Code	Subprogramme ^{a/}	Number of posts		In United States dollars		
		P	GS	Allotments	Expenditure	Balance
010	Policy Making Organs	-	-	43 300	43 362	(62)
110	Executive Direction and Management	8	11	2 537 100	2 605 724	(68 624)
210	Food and Agriculture	5	5	1 286 100	1 232 760	53 340
240	Development Issues and Policies	6	4	1 111 200	1 108 061	3 139
270	Environment	2	2	404 900	396 316	8 584
290	Human Settlements	4	2	699 200	724 406	(25 206)
330	Industrial Development	6	4	1 285 400	1 280 593	4 807
340	International Trade and Development Finance	2	2	326 100	330 949	(4 849)
460	Natural Resources	4	5	992 800	996 377	(3 577)
480	Population	5	4	1 246 100	1 221 898	24 202
510	Public Administration and Finance	3	-	345 900	335 788	10 112
520	Science and Technology	2	2	547 100	537 743	9 357
530	Social Development	5	2	604 600	581 989	22 611
533	Women and Development	3	2	596 400	621 225	(24 825)
540	Statistics	7	8	1 455 300	1 518 030	(62 730)

/...

Section 19. (continued)

Code	Subprogramme ^{a/}	Number of posts		In United States dollars		
		P	GS	Allotments	Expenditure	Balance
550	Transport and Communications	4	4	902 000	891 704	10 296
650	Energy	6	2	465 800	492 972	(27 172)
710	Conference Services	12	25	3 482 400	3 456 946	25 454
770	Information Services	1	1	173 000	157 468	15 532
780	Library Services	1	6	374 000	361 788	12 212
790	Management of Technical Cooperation Activities	5	2	503 000	508 250	(5 250)
800	Administration and Common Services	13	93	10 739 700	10 600 140	139 560
850	Staff training activities	-	-	50 200	49 804	396
	Subtotals	104	186	30 171 600	30 054 293	117 307

^{a/} The titles cited under this heading are those of the subprogrammes before the restructuring of ESCWA since the allotment account codes have not been assigned according to restructured subprogrammes and sections.

Note: A dash (-) indicates that the item is nil or negligible.

5. Below is the breakdown by major area of expenditure of the US\$ 30,054,293 expended during the biennium 1994-1995.

Staff and other personnel costs	US\$ 25,375,724
Consultants' fees and travel	235,578
Overtime and night differential	101,999
Ad hoc expert group meetings	201,418
Travel on official business	426,652
Contractual services	172,113
General operating expenses	2,607,503
Supplies and materials	463,504
Acquisitions	<u>469,802</u>
Total	<u>US\$ 30,054,293</u>

/...

Section 15. Transnational Corporations*

Code	Subprogramme	Number of posts		In United States dollars		
		P	GS	Allotments	Expenditure	Balance
492	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations	1	1	328 700	374 227	(45 527)
	Subtotals	1	1	328 700	374 227	(45 527)

* This section, Allotment Account No. UNJ 15, corresponds with section 11B of the regular programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

6. The total expenditure of US\$ 374,227 in section 15 above is broken down as follows:

Staff and other personnel costs	US\$ 358,995
Travel on official business	<u>15,232</u>
Total	<u>US\$ 374,227</u>

Section 12. Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation*
(Regional and Subregional Advisory Services)

Code	Subprogramme	In United States dollars		
		Allotments	Expenditure	Balance
211	Food and Agriculture	50 200	49 725	475
241	Development Issues and Policies	158 700	160 737	(2 037)
271	Environment	165 100	159 823	5 277
331	Industrial Development	213 600	232 829	(19 229)
461	Natural Resources	431 800	420 873	10 927
521	Science and Technology	196 700	196 829	(129)
531	Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs	162 500	174 067	(11 567)
541	Statistics	598 700	609 133	(10 433)
551	Transport and Communications	276 000	297 874	(21 874)
651	Energy	243 100	249 264	(6 164)
801	Administration and Common Services	146 000	161 487	(15 487)
	Subtotals	2 642 400	2 712 641	(70 241)

* This section, Allotment Account No. UNJ 12, corresponds with section 20 of the regular programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

/...

7. The expenditure of US\$ 2,712,641 in section 12 above is broken down as follows:

Staff and other personnel costs	US\$ 2,371,924
Travel on official business	<u>340,717</u>
Total	<u>US\$ 2,712,641</u>

	Number of posts		In United States dollars		
	P	GS	Allotments	Expenditure	Balance
Total resources under the regular budget allotted for the biennium 1994-1995, actual total expenditure and related balance	105	187	33 142 700	33 141 160	1 540

II. EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES

A. Introduction

8. This chapter on the financial status of the extrabudgetary resources of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) covers the biennium 1994-1995, which ended on 31 December 1995. The accounts reported on relate to all extrabudgetary resources from different contributors in support of activities financed from the regular budget. Excluding the Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities, these resources amounted to US\$ 2,000,177.

9. This chapter summarizes extrabudgetary resources for ESCWA activities during the biennium 1994-1995 in financial terms. After a brief overview of the activities and financial situation of the Commission as a whole, the remaining sections provide financial information relating to the major sources of extrabudgetary funds. Annex I to this chapter provides a consolidated statement of expenditure covering all extrabudgetary funds for the biennium 1994-1995. Annex II to this chapter shows the combined status of trust funds for the biennium 1994-1995.

B. Overview

10. The increasingly serious financial crisis faced by the United Nations in recent years continued during the biennium 1994-1995. This is clearly reflected in the decreasing amounts allocated to ESCWA by the major sources of extrabudgetary funds.

11. The major sources of extrabudgetary funds for the past five bienniums have been the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Government of France and the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations

/...

(AGFUND). UNDP contributions to the Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People and contributions from Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, the Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR), the World Bank and the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR) constituted other major extrabudgetary resources during the biennium 1994-1995. In addition, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) supported ESCWA by financing three posts.

12. It should be noted that, in spite of the Commission's efforts, there has been a steady decline in the level of extrabudgetary resources available to ESCWA. However, the Commission will continue its efforts to raise voluntary contributions for extrabudgetary financing of the programme of work and of studies on advisory services requested by member States.

C. History of activities

1. United Nations Development Programme

13. The financial support of UNDP for ESCWA activities dates from 1979. The contributions have been utilized to finance projects in the fields of planning and training; finance and banking; natural resources; industry; social statistics, surveys and censuses; and transport, communications and maritime activities.

14. During the biennium 1994-1995, contributions of US\$ 215,276 from UNDP were utilized to finance the following activities in the ESCWA region:

- (a) Carrying out the regional project on the Arab Declaration on Social Development;
- (b) Establishing engineering infrastructure industries in the ESCWA region;
- (c) Providing preparatory assistance for regional support of national efforts in pursuit of sustainable human development;
- (d) Providing a fellowship in planning.

2. United Nations Development Programme/Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People

15. In 1994, the Jerusalem-based UNDP/PAPP entered into a subcontract with ESCWA as part of the Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People, and a "Start Your Own Business" training programme was organized. The total amount provided by UNDP/PAPP was US\$ 45,200.

3. United Nations Population Fund

16. The contributions of UNFPA to ESCWA activities started in 1975. During the biennium 1994-1995, contributions of US\$ 698,433 from UNFPA were utilized to finance activities in the ESCWA region related to population and demography, as follows:

- (a) The Conference on Population and Development in the Arab World;

/...

(b) The Regional Workshop on Lobbying and Leadership Skills and Coordination among Arab Official Delegations to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(c) The project on support to population policies in the Arab countries of the ESCWA and North Africa regions;

(d) Technical support services.

4. United Nations Development Fund for Women

17. Cooperation between UNIFEM and ESCWA dates from 1978. In 1994, contributions of US\$ 58,330 from UNIFEM were utilized to finance the following activities in the ESCWA region to further the development of women:

(a) Preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(b) The participation of Arab women in food and textile industries;

(c) The diffusion of biogas technology in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen: development of rural women in Al-Habeel village;

(d) The support of Arab associations for women and development;

(e) ESCWA development initiatives.

5. United Nations Environment Programme

18. UNEP contributions to ESCWA were initiated in 1990. During the biennium 1994-1995, contributions of US\$ 216,710 from UNEP were utilized to finance the following activities related to the environment:

(a) Assessment of water resources in the ESCWA region using remote sensing techniques;

(b) Strengthening environmental planning and management capabilities;

(c) The Expert Group Meeting on the Implications of Agenda 21 for Integrated Water Management in the ESCWA Region.

6. Government of France

19. The support of the Government of France for the programmes of ESCWA, dating from 1980, has focused on support of the work programme. Contributions have been made in two forms, namely the provision of experts and funds for ESCWA to undertake certain activities related to agriculture, natural resources, human settlements, the environment, industries, micro-electronics and statistics.

20. During the biennium 1994-1995, contributions of US\$ 56,829 from the Government of France were utilized to finance the following:

/...

- (a) The collection, harmonization and assessment of national data;
- (b) Micro-electronics and informatics in Western Asia;
- (c) The Autonomous Village project.

7. Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations
Development Organizations

21. AGFUND contributions to ESCWA started in 1989 and have been utilized for Regional Household Surveys, Arab community development and the participation of women in community development. During the biennium 1994-1995, US\$ 147,110 were utilized to finance the following projects and activities:

- (a) The Regional Household Survey Project;
- (b) The Arab Declaration for Social Development;
- (c) The Arab Regional Training Centre for Blind Women;
- (d) Local Community Development in Arab Rural Areas (Egypt - Syrian Arab Republic).

8. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

22. The contributions of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Amman, started in 1993. A total of US\$ 62,608 was utilized during the biennium 1994-1995 for the following activities:

- (a) The Expert Group Meeting on Creation of Indigenous Entrepreneurship and Opportunities for Small- and Medium-Scale Industrial Development;
- (b) The Expert Group Meeting on Operation of Enterprises under Severe and Fast-Changing Conditions;
- (c) The Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrial Strategies and Policies under Conditions of Global and Regional Change;
- (d) The project for the establishment of business incubators in Nablus and Gaza;
- (e) The Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Managerial and Entrepreneurial Skills under Conditions of Global and Regional Change.

9. Center of Arab Women for Training
and Research

23. A total of US\$ 40,350 was utilized during the biennium 1994-1995 for the following activities in the field of social development:

- (a) The Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women;
- (b) The production and publication of "Arab women in ESCWA member States: statistics, indicators and trends".

/...

10. World Bank

24. During 1995, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) contributed US\$ 95,000 towards the implementation of various projects of the Statistics Division; US\$ 42,094 was used to organize and conduct the Seminar on the International Comparison Programme in the ESCWA Region.

11. Palestinian Economic Council for Development
and Reconstruction

25. PECDAR contributed US\$ 109,595 to finance the Conference on Urban and Rural Reconstruction in Palestine, held in Amman from 24 to 27 November 1995. Two hundred participants attended, including 90 from Palestine, 50 from Jordan, 30 from other Arab and non-Arab countries, and 30 from private-sector organizations, the World Bank and other world bodies.

Annex I**STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE COVERING ALL EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995**

1.	United Nations Development Programme	US\$ 215 276
2.	United Nations Development Programme/Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People	45 200
3.	United Nations Population Fund	698 433
4.	United Nations Development Fund for Women	58 330
5.	Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA)	8 826
6.	United Nations Environment Programme	216 710
7.	Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations	147 110
8.	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung	62 608
9.	Islamic Development Bank	29 905
10.	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	21 338
11.	United Nations Office at Vienna	32 638
12.	Government of France	56 829
13.	Government of the Netherlands	1 043
14.	Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development	4 342
15.	Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	33 291
16.	League of Arab States	7 013

/...

17.	Center of Arab Women for Training and Research	40 350
18.	United Nations Fund on Disability	13 404
19.	Welfare Association, Geneva	4 352
20.	Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization	2 679
21.	Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation	4 649
22.	World Bank	42 094
23.	International Labour Organization	11 789
24.	International Association for Research in Income and Wealth	4 132
25.	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	3 891
26.	Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction	109 595
27.	Other sources	23 436
	Subtotal	<u>1 899 263</u>
28.	Programme Support Account	100 914
	Grand total	<u>US\$ 2 000 177</u>

Annex II

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA:
COMBINED STATUS OF TRUST FUNDS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995**
(In United States dollars)

	Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities	Government of France	Government of the Netherlands	Total
I. STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND UNENCUMBERED FUND BALANCE				
<u>Assets</u>				
- Cash	138 644	142 605	5 537	286 786
- Accounts receivable	1 097	--	--	1 097
- Due from United Nations General Fund	--	--	--	--
- Pledged contributions	15 000	--	--	15 000
- Deferred charges/other assets	--	--	--	--
Total assets	154 741	142 605	5 537	302 883
<u>Liabilities</u>				
- Accounts payable	--	--	--	--
- Unliquidated obligations	2 407	13 529	--	15 936
- Contributions received in advance	5 000	--	--	5 000
- Due to United Nations General Fund	32 276	8 111	--	40 387
Total liabilities	39 683	21 640	--	61 323
<u>Unencumbered fund balance</u>				
- Balance available as of 1 January 1994	126 156	131 677	6 250	264 083
- Add: net excess of income over expenditure (see below)	<u>(11 098)</u>	<u>(10 712)</u>	<u>(713)</u>	<u>(22 523)</u>
Balance available	115 058	120 965	5 537	241 560
Total liabilities and unencumbered fund balance as of 31 December 1995	154 741	142 605	5 537	302 883

/...

Annex II. (continued)

	Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities	Government of France	Government of the Netherlands	Total
II. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE				
<u>Income</u>				
- Contributions	10 000	38 938		48 938
- Interest income	13 836	6 441	330	20 607
- Miscellaneous income	17 104	738		17 842
- Income from pledged contributions	--	--	--	
Total income	40 940	46 117	330	87 387
<u>Expenditure</u>				
- Staff and other personnel costs	38 000	7 290		45 290
- Travel	8 360	16 978		25 338
- Contractual services	--	--		--
- Fellowships, scholarships, other expenditure		23 130		23 130
- Acquisitions		--		--
- Operating expenses		2 894	923	3 817
- Programme support costs	5 678	6 537	120	12 335
Total expenditure	52 038	56 829	1 043	109 910
Excess of income over expenditure	<u>(11 098)</u>	<u>(10 712)</u>	<u>(713)</u>	<u>(22 523)</u>

Note: A dash (--) indicates the amount is nil or negligible.

/...

III. TRUST FUND FOR ESCWA REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

A. Background

26. In its review of the programme of work at its second session, the Commission noted that the level of resources provided by the regular programme budget was inadequate to meet the programme needs, particularly for the great number of projects requested for the region; the provision of extrabudgetary resources was therefore necessary for the successful implementation of the Commission's programme of work. In the operative paragraph of its resolution 11 (II) of 9 May 1975 on the Voluntary Fund, the Commission decided to authorize the Chairman of the second session and the Executive Secretary to hold urgent consultations with member States with a view to exploring the best and speediest ways of establishing an additional fund financed from voluntary contributions for the extrabudgetary financing of the Commission's work programmes and for meeting requests by member States for studies and advisory services.

27. In paragraphs 1 and 2 of its resolution 33 (III) of 14 May 1976 on the establishment of a voluntary fund, the Commission decided to establish a voluntary fund and called upon the Executive Secretary to utilize the resources of the fund to finance the greatest possible number of services in the fields of economic and social development in favour of the least developed member States of the Commission.

28. At its fourth session, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 45 (IV) of 28 April 1977 on the financial status of the Commission's programmes and the strengthening of the Voluntary Fund, the Commission urged member States to make voluntary contributions towards the general financing of its programmes or the financing of specific projects. In paragraph 4 of that resolution, the Commission called upon the Executive Secretary to submit a financial statement of the Voluntary Fund for its approval at each session. This chapter and the annex thereto are in response to that request.

B. Contributions

29. In response to resolution 33 (III), the Voluntary Fund (subsequently the Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities) was established by the Secretary-General. The contributions amounted to a total of US\$ 1,008,864. The status of contributions received from 1975 to 31 December 1995 is presented below.

Donor	Year of contribution	Amount contributed (United States dollar equivalent)	Pledges received (United States dollars)
The Government of Iraq	1975	300 000	—
The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	1975	144 000	—
The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development	1975	144 000	—
The Government of Saudi Arabia	1975	300 000	—
The Government of Yemen	1980	5 864	—

/...

Donor	Year of contribution	Amount contributed (United States dollar equivalent)	Pledges received (United States dollars)
The Iraqi Fund for External Development	1982	15 000	—
The Government of Qatar	1983	100 000	—
The Government of Lebanon	1994	—	<u>10 000</u>
The Government of Lebanon	1995	—	<u>5 000</u>
Total contributions and pledges received since the establishment of the Fund		<u>1 008 864</u>	<u>15 000</u>

30. In paragraph 3 of its resolution 45 (IV), the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to invite member States of the Commission six months before the date scheduled for the holding of each session to determine the amount of their contributions towards the resources of the Fund.

31. In accordance with the procedure established by the Secretary-General and approved by the General Assembly, an annual pledging conference is held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, during which all States Members of the United Nations are requested to announce their contributions to all programmes and funds established in the United Nations, including the Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities. A detailed account of ESCWA extrabudgetary resources including the Trust Fund is contained in chapter II.

32. Based on information received from the pledging conferences held on 1 and 2 November 1994 and 1 and 2 November 1995, the Government of Lebanon pledged US\$ 10,000 and US\$ 5,000 for the Trust Fund for 1995 and 1996 respectively. The contributions of the Government of Lebanon were the first made since 1983.

C. Programme of activities financed from the Trust Fund

33. At its second session, the Commission, in its resolution 11 (II) of 9 May 1975, decided to explore ways of establishing a voluntary fund to serve as a source of revenue for the extrabudgetary financing of the Commission's programme of work and for meeting requests by member States for studies and advisory services. At its third session, the Commission, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 33 (III) of 14 May 1976, circumscribed the utilization of the resources of the Fund to the various fields of economic and social development in favour of the least developed States members of the Commission. At its seventh session, in its resolution 79 (VII) of 22 April 1980 on the strengthening of the Financial Contributions Account of the Economic Commission for Western Asia, the Commission expanded the area of activities to be financed from the resources of the Fund to include surveys and statistical research, analytical studies, training, consultant services, and all economic and social sectors and subsectors.

/...

34. During the biennium 1994-1995, US\$ 52,038 were utilized as follows:

	<u>US dollars</u>
(a) Survey of socio-economic development projects in the occupied territories	6 780
(b) Building up the institutional infrastructure of the economy in the occupied territories	11 023
(c) Environmentally sustainable energy-efficient housing	4 520
(d) Industrial restructuring in the Republic of Yemen	4 073
(e) Assessment of water resources in the ESCWA region using remote sensing techniques	<u>25 642</u>
Total	<u><u>52 038</u></u>

Annex**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA:
TRUST FUND FOR ESCWA REGIONAL ACTIVITIES****STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND
ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995**
*(In United States dollars)***I. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE 24-MONTH
PERIOD OF THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995**Income

Voluntary contributions	US\$ 10 000
Bank interest	13 836
Miscellaneous	<u>17 104</u>
Total income	<u>40 940</u>

Expenditure

Salaries and other personnel costs	38 000
Travel	<u>8 360</u>
Subtotal	46 360
Programme support costs	<u>5 678</u>
Total expenditure	<u>52 038</u>

Excess of expenditure over income (11 098)

**II. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE 24-MONTH
PERIOD OF THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995**Assets

Cash at bank	138 644
Accounts receivable	1 097
Pledged contributions	<u>15 000</u>
Total assets	<u>154 741</u>

Liabilities

Contributions received in advance	5 000
Unliquidated obligations	2 407
Accounts payable	--
Due to the United Nations General Fund	<u>32 276</u>
Total liabilities	<u>39 683</u>

Balance available 1 January 1994	126 156
Add: Excess of expenditure over income	<u>(11 098)</u>

Balance available 31 December 1995	<u>115 058</u>
Total liabilities and Fund balance	<u>154 741</u>

UNESCWA LIBRARY



20012553