

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT

30 March 1980 - 20 March 1981

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1981**

SUPPLEMENT No. 12



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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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CONTENTS

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1	1
I. Issues calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention	2-3	1
A. Draft resolution and draft decision for action by the Economic and Social Council	2-3	1
B. Resolutions brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council		1
II. Work of the Commission since the thirty-sixth session	4-182	3
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies	6-116	3
B. Other activities	117-168	17
C. Relations with other United Nations programmes	169-182	21
III. Thirty-seventh session of the Commission	183-848	24
A. Attendance and organization of work	183-197	24
B. Agenda	198	25
C. Account of proceedings	199-848	26
Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand	200-202	26
Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations	203-209	26
Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP	210-217	27
Policies and perspectives for the development of the ESCAP region	218-270	28
Policy statement by the Executive Secretary	218-238	28
Review and appraisal of current economic and social developments in the ESCAP region	239-251	30
Short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region	252-270	31
Expanded functions of the regional commissions: implications for the terms of reference of ESCAP	271-282	33
Progress, proposals and issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP	283-717	34
Food and agriculture	286-314	34
Development planning, projections and policies	315-331	37
Industry, human settlements and technology	332-399	39
International trade, raw materials and commodities and special measures for the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries	400-433	46
Natural resources	434-473	50
Population	474-491	53
Shipping, ports and inland waterways	492-536	55
Social development	537-553	60
Statistics	554-574	62
Transport, communications and tourism	575-628	64
Environment	629-643	70

CONTENTS *(Continued)*

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Information systems and documentation services	644-655	71
Integrated rural development	656-663	72
Progress report on the implementation of resolution 205 (XXXVI) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries	664-670	74
The Commission's activities in the Pacific	671-682	74
Transnational corporations	683-693	75
Programme changes, 1981	694	76
Programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983	695-708	78
Medium-term plan, 1984-1989	709-717	80
Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions	718-792	81
Special regional projects	718-777	81
Regional institutions	778-792	86
Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources	793-798	88
Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	799-813	88
Findings and recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	814-822	90
General Assembly resolution 35/116 on the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea: consequences for the ESCAP region of a new legal régime	823-832	91
Other matters	833-847	92
Adoption of the annual report of the Commission	848	94
IV. Resolutions adopted by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session		95

Annexes

I. Programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983		107
II. Statements of financial implications of actions and proposals of the Commission		146
III. Meetings of subsidiary bodies held during the period under review		147
IV. Publications and documents issued by the Commission		148
V. Terms of reference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific		150
VI. Rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific		152

ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	ITC	UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre
ACPR	Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
ADB	Asian Development Bank	LRCS	League of Red Cross Societies
ANRPC	Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries	MTN	Multilateral trade negotiations
APCC	Asian and Pacific Coconut Community	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
APCWD	Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development	RCTT	Regional Centre for Technology Transfer
APDAC	Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre	RMRDC	Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre	RNAM	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery
APDI	Asian and Pacific Development Institute	SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations	SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
CCOP	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	SPC	South Pacific Commission
CCOP/SOPAC	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas	SPEC	South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance	SWDCAP	Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
ECDC	Economic co-operation among developing countries	UIC	International Union of Railways
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
EEC	European Economic Community	UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
GSP	Generalized system of preferences	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	UPU	Universal Postal Union
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce	WHO	World Health Organization
ILO	International Labour Organisation	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
IMCO	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
IPC	International Pepper Community	WTO	World Tourism Organization

Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 30 March 1980 to 20 March 1981, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 571st meeting on 20 March 1981. It is submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session, 1981, 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. DRAFT RESOLUTION AND DRAFT DECISION FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission: admission of Guam as an associate member of the Commission¹

2. At its 559th meeting, the Commission unanimously approved the following draft resolution for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Noting the recommendation of the Commission with regard to the request of the Government of the United States of America that Guam should be included in the geographical scope of the Commission and admitted as an associate member, as contained in its annual report,

"Decides to amend paragraphs 2 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly."

Annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

3. At its 571st meeting, the Commission unanimously approved the following draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council:

"... Annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

"At its meeting, on 1981, the Council:

"Took note of the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the period 30 March 1980 to 20 March 1981 and of the recommendations and resolutions contained in chapters III and IV of the report."

B. RESOLUTIONS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

211 (XXXVII). Strengthening the Commission in the promotion of the integration of women in the development process

212 (XXXVII). Review and appraisal of the implementation of the new International Development Strategy

¹ See chapter III, section C, paragraph 833 below.

- 213 (XXXVII). Unified approach to economic and social development and planning
- 214 (XXXVII). United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
- 215 (XXXVII). Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre
- 216 (XXXVII). Role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific
- 217 (XXXVII). Role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries
- 218 (XXXVII). Impending retirement of J.B.P. Maramis, Executive Secretary of ESCAP
- 219 (XXXVII). 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

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

4. In pursuance of Commission resolution 206 (XXXVI), the Asian and Pacific Development Centre was established during the year under review, integrating the four regional institutions, namely, APDI, APDAC, SWDCAP and APCWD. The Director of APDC assumed his duties at the Centre.

5. The following are some of the major achievements during the year: (a) the ESCAP/RCTT Symposium on Solar Science and Technology was organized at Bangkok in November-December 1980; (b) the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) started underwriting business effective 1 January 1980 and the gross value of business for the first year of its operation was over \$4 million; ARC is also proposing to undertake the developmental aspect of its activities and is providing technical and advisory services to the insurance markets of its members; (c) the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development was held in October 1980; the Conference made specific recommendations relating to perspectives, priorities and strategies in social welfare and social development for the 1980s and urged their adoption and implementation by member Governments and United Nations agencies; it also recommended that the Conference should be held at four-year intervals, the next one soon after the global meeting of ministers proposed for 1982; (d) the computer system which had been generously offered by the Government of Japan at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission was installed in the secretariat and will strengthen the secretariat's capabilities as a focal point for the transfer of information on the economic and social development of the region; (e) the total value of the 1980 regional technical co-operation programmes administered by ESCAP reached a record level of \$US 22,440,619; and (f) in view of the concern expressed by ESCAP member countries about the present energy situation, the Special Project on Energy was established in the secretariat.

A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

6. The Committees on Development Planning, Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment, Natural Resources, Shipping, and Transport and Communications, and Trade met during the period under review. The Second Asian and Pacific

Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development was held in lieu of the Committee on Social Development.

7. Details concerning the meetings held are given in annex III to the present report.

Agriculture

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

Four ARSAP (agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific) training planning workshops for instructors of agro-pesticide retailers: Bangkok, May 1980; Manila, June 1980; Rangoon, November 1980; Dacca, February 1981

Expert Group Meeting on Agricultural Development Planning and Policies, Bangkok, May 1980

Study Tour of Agricultural and Rural Development Institutions in Bangladesh, June-July 1980

Seminar on Agricultural Development Planning, Tashkent, USSR, September 1980

Workshop on Organizing Small Farmer Groups for Income-generating Activities, Kathmandu, November 1980

Regional Consultative Meeting on the Improvement of Lower-level Fertilizer Distribution Capacity in the Developing Countries of the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, December 1980

ESCAP/FAO Planning Consultation on Small Farmer Group Marketing in Asia, Bangkok, December 1980

Ad Hoc Advisory Group Meeting on a Special Study on Food Supply in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, January 1981

Five national workshops on local-level planning: Manila, Dacca, Colombo, Jakarta, December 1980; Kathmandu, February 1981

9. The Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific completed its third year of operation. In 1980, the Network organized a Regional Consultative Meeting on the Improvement of Lower-level Fertilizer Distribution Capacity in the Developing Countries of the ESCAP

Region, which was an inter-country technical co-operation project. Eleven member countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand, participated in the project.

10. The Expert Group Meeting on Agricultural Development Planning and Policies, which was attended by experts from Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand, discussed the main agricultural planning and policy issues. The Group recommended that ESCAP should give high priority to the following projects: training in plan formulation, agricultural sector analysis, monitoring programmes and projects, technical co-operation among developing countries through exchange of ideas among agricultural planners and scientists, and assistance to developing countries in the formulation of agricultural plans, taking into consideration equity and nutritional and ecological objectives.

11. At the Seminar on Agricultural Development Planning, organized jointly with the Development Planning Division and UNDP, it was suggested that ESCAP should convene a meeting of agricultural development planners once every two years to enable substantive consultations to be held on the modification of intersectoral and intrasectoral relationships in order to improve plan performance, as well as on needed improvements in planning techniques.

12. The *Ad Hoc* Advisory Group Meeting on a Special Study on Food Supply in the ESCAP Region reviewed the preliminary work performed by the secretariat on the subject and recommended the major policy areas for coverage in the study.

Development planning

13. The Seminar on Agricultural Development Planning, mentioned above, was organized jointly with the Agriculture Division and UNDP.

14. In October 1980, the Development Planning Division hosted a meeting of the Working Group on Development Priorities and Policy Needs of South and East Asia, a subsidiary body of the Committee for Development Planning at Headquarters. The Working Group considered the elaboration of regional and subregional strategies for the development of south and east Asia during the Third United Nations Development Decade, examining both the fundamental development issues involved and specific development priorities and policy needs. The Working Group submitted its findings for the ESCAP region to Headquarters, where they were to be combined with those from other regions to provide the basis for the Committee's recommendations to the Economic and Social Council with regard to appropriate strategies for the Decade.

15. A preparatory consultation was convened in December 1980 for the Colloquium on the Administration of Rural Development in the ASEAN countries. The Colloquium was conceived as a follow-up to the ASEAN Consultative Meeting of Experts on Community Development, which had been held at Jakarta in December 1976. It was also felt that the Colloquium would be a logical and useful sequel to the Round Table on Adaptation of Administration to Rural Development: Decentralized Management and People's Participation in Poverty-focused Programmes and the Working Party on Public Service Delivery Systems for the Rural Poor organized with the collaboration of the Government of India in 1978 and 1979 respectively. The preparatory consultation was convened with the basic understanding that the dominant concern of the Colloquium would be to consider the means of improving the administrative capability for rural development within the ASEAN countries in order to alleviate poverty, improve distributive justice and increase productivity and employment opportunities. The meeting considered various aspects of those issues, reviewing goals, policies and strategies for accelerated rural development administration, and also dealt with specific preparatory arrangements for conducting the Colloquium itself. Complementary to this area of work, the services of the regional adviser on public administration were extended on request to member countries to assist them in improving their administrative capabilities in the execution of development planning.

16. The report on a project designed to analyse the long-term development experience of selected member countries, initiated in 1978 with financial assistance from the Government of Japan and undertaken in co-operation with a Japanese national research institution, was completed in April 1980. The name of the project, "Growth, equity and structural change in the developing ESCAP region", suggests its focus and the relevance of its findings to broad issues involving patterns of development and the distribution of the benefits of development. Based on an analysis of historical statistics and institutional evolution in selected economies, the findings included the observed patterns of sectoral change and associated aggregative growth indicators. Of particular interest were the observations relating to changes in patterns in income distribution and their association with aggregative and sectoral development patterns. The implications drawn from those findings were found to bear upon the range of policy alternatives that confronted development planners contemplating development strategies for the 1980s. The project thus served as a component of the secretariat's ongoing work concerning the formulation of regional development strategies for the Third Development Decade.

17. Long-term projections work, initiated in 1977 with a view to providing a quantitative framework for the formulation of development strategies for the

ESCAP region in the 1980s, was further elaborated during 1980. The work was based on a modelling system developed at several Japanese universities and adapted in collaboration with secretariat staff to improve the applicability of the system with respect to the ESCAP region and its development issues. A major report was completed which, making use of a conventional macro-economic projections model and input-output analysis, examined various alternative development scenarios for the ESCAP region, particularly with respect to the oil situation. Another aspect of the work on projections, consisting of the development of a regional LINK model, received assistance from the Government of the Netherlands and was carried out in close collaboration with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters, UNCTAD and national research institutes within the region. It concentrated on the building of an articulated system of country models for the region to provide the Asian component of the developing country bloc in the global LINK system of projections. The work continued into 1981.

18. The secretariat prepared the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1980*. The first part of the *Survey* consists of a review of economic developments in the region within the context of the global economic picture. The second part, which was undertaken as a special project in the Office of the Executive Secretary, provides a special study of the short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region.

Industry, housing and technology

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

Exhibition-cum-Workshop for Master Craftsmen of the ESCAP Region in Selected Handicrafts, Bangalore, April-May 1980

UNESCO/ESCAP Regional Meeting of Experts from South and Central Asia on Follow-up of UNCSTD Recommendations for Development of National and Regional Programmes and Projects in Science and Technology, Colombo, May 1980

Workshop on Technology Development and Technology Transfer for Utilization of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Colombo, May 1980

Working Session on Integrated Industrialization in Non-metropolitan Areas, Manila, June 1980

ESCAP/RCTT Consultative Meeting on Electronics, Islamabad, August 1980

ESCAP/RCTT Consultative Meeting on Science and Technology, Beijing, August 1980

ILO/ESCAP/RCTT Regional Technical Consultation on Information Documentation Processing and Dissemination on Alternative Technologies, Hyderabad, September 1980

Interagency Task Force on Human Settlements (fourth session), Bangkok, September 1980; (fifth session), Bangkok, February 1981

Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (fourth session), Bangkok, October 1980

ESCAP/RCTT Training Workshop on Technology Transfer, Suva, October 1980

Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro-industries, with Emphasis on Production of Energy and New Resources, Tokyo, October 1980

Fourth Seminar on Foreign Investment and Tax Administration, Bangalore, October 1980

Intergovernmental Meeting of Heads of Standards Institutions in the Region, Bangkok, November 1980

ICPE/ESCAP/RCTT Regional Workshop on Management of Transfer of Technology by Public Sector Enterprises in the ESCAP Region, Bangalore, November 1980

UNCHS/ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Physical Planning with Economic and Social Planning in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, November 1980

Governing Body of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (third session), Bangkok, November 1980

ESCAP/RCTT Symposium on Solar Science and Technology, Bangkok, November-December 1980

ESCAP/RCTT Expert Group Meeting on Orientation of Research and Development for Industrial Growth, Beijing, December 1980

WIPO/RCTT/ESCAP national seminars on patent information, Bangkok and Chiang Mai, January 1981

COSTED/ESCAP/RCTT Workshop on the Role of User Education in Technology Transfer, Bangalore, January 1981

Meeting of Senior Officials Preparatory to the ESCAP Meeting of Ministers of Science and Technology, Bangkok, February 1981

20. The Workshop on Technology Development and Technology Transfer for Utilization of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants was organized jointly by ESCAP and RCTT to consider the development of national and regional projects which could be submitted to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. The Workshop evolved guidelines, which were made available to the member countries, and presented some specific themes for the regional projects. It also offered observations and views with regard to the procedures for the operation of the Fund; these were submitted as an input into the first

session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

21. The Working Session on Integrated Industrialization in Non-metropolitan Areas (INA) reviewed the projects so far identified in each participating country and selected two specific projects for each country for further consideration. It recommended that ESCAP should continue to play a co-ordinating role in bringing together the group of seven participating countries and should at the earliest opportunity open a dialogue with the Government of Japan and ADB covering assistance for funding a team of consultants who would prepare a uniform format for the feasibility studies; visit the member countries and assist them with the reformulation of the projects in view of the new approaches recommended; undertake the feasibility studies for the projects recommended; and assist in the conduct of technical programmes for product development and product quality improvement and an integrated processing plant programme. It also recommended that the members of the group should meet once a year to continue the exchange of views and experiences concerning the INA programme and to institutionalize its existing arrangement of co-operation.

22. The ESCAP/RCTT Consultative Meeting on Electronics was held to make a critical survey of the status of the industry in the countries of the ESCAP region and to propose national initiatives and the framework of a regional programme for the promotion of that vital industry. It indicated the lines along which the institutional and policy infrastructure could be evolved in the countries intending to develop the industry. The discussions focused particularly on policies relating to the acquisition of foreign technologies. Emphasis was laid on standardization and quality control. The Meeting considered specific production lines, such as for radio and television, telecommunication equipment, instrumentation and control systems, computers and components, and recommended specific regional and national initiatives. It also established a regional network to provide a forum for contacts, exchange of experiences, interaction and planning of joint activities for the promotion of the electronics industry in the region and proposed the framework of a regional study to be undertaken by the network.

23. The ESCAP/RCTT Consultative Meeting on Science and Technology reviewed the follow-up action taken at the global, regional and national levels since the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, which had been held at Vienna in August 1979. It emphasized that the primary responsibility for implementing the Vienna Programme of Action lay with the national Governments. It recommended the holding of a regional meeting of ministers of science and technology and proposed the establishment of a regional advisory group of eminent scientists and technologists, to replace the regional group of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Deve-

lopment, which had ceased to exist. The Meeting recognized the enlarged role of the ESCAP secretariat in the field of science and technology and proposed the strengthening of its in-house capabilities. It emphasized that if the science and technology input into the development effort was to be substantially increased, there had to be a strategic approach whereby there would be a clear choice of strategic objectives and corresponding determination of the supporting policies, institutional arrangements, allocation of resources, procedures and so forth.

24. The Regional Workshop on Management of Transfer of Technology by Public Sector Enterprises in the ESCAP Region was organized jointly by ESCAP, RCTT and the International Centre for Public Enterprises of Yugoslavia. It based its discussions on specific case studies of technology transfer and development in some of the public sector enterprises in the region. The Workshop made a number of recommendations for action at the national level and at the level of public enterprises and for co-operation among the public enterprises in the developing countries, including the establishment of a network for co-operation among the public enterprises, the conduct of case studies and surveys and the preparation of guidelines.

25. The UNCHS/ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Physical Planning with Economic and Social Planning in Asia and the Pacific recommended a number of measures, including the establishment by ESCAP of a network of country organizations on human settlements for the dissemination of experience on the integrated development planning of human settlements.

26. The ESCAP/RCTT Symposium on Solar Science and Technology took stock of the progress of solar science and technology in the ESCAP region, discussed numerous research papers, identified the direction of future efforts and suggested some regional programmes for co-operation in the field of solar energy. An exhibition of solar equipment, SOLEX '80, organized in conjunction with the Symposium, provided a display of a wide variety of solar equipment, which has been retained permanently as the Energy Park of the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok. In its recommendations, the Symposium emphasized the need for clearly designed policies, an appropriate institutional framework, incentives for the utilization of solar energy, proper direction of research and development and increased availability of technical information. It recommended that a high-level panel of experts on solar science and technology should be attached to RCTT to advise it on building up an appropriate regional programme. It was proposed that RCTT should also examine the feasibility of setting up a regional association of solar energy experts. The deliberations of the Symposium were used as an input into the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

27. While the final decision regarding the holding of an ESCAP meeting of ministers of science and technology, as well as its timing, venue and agenda, will be made by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, the Preparatory Meeting of Senior Officials indicated the way in which the preparations for such a meeting might be undertaken. It observed that the issues to be submitted to the meeting should be sufficiently substantial and of common concern. Furthermore, their presentation should be supported by adequate documentation. It suggested, therefore, that a regional task force consisting of representatives of the United Nations bodies concerned should be established to assist in the preparations for the meeting. It also indicated the nature of the documentation which would be of interest to the ministers and the material on which it might be based.

International trade

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

Consultative Meeting of Regional Commodity Communities and Associations, Bangkok, April 1980

Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement (eighth session), Bangkok, April-May 1980; (ninth session), Bangkok, December 1980

Seminar on Regional Co-operative Measures on Shrimps/Marine Products, Cochin, India, May 1980

UNCTAD/ESCAP Insurance Seminar on Large Risks, Singapore, May 1980

UNCTAD/ESCAP Workshop on International Commodity Issues in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, May 1980

Meeting of Directors of National Trade Development and Promotion Agencies, Bangkok, July 1980

ESCAP/Pepper Community Meeting of Specialists on a Socio-economic Study on Production and Productivity of Pepper Holdings in the Pepper Community Member Countries, Bangkok, July 1980

UNCTAD/ESCAP Seminar on Life Insurance, Bombay, July-August 1980

ESCAP/UNCTAD Meeting of Experts on the Least Developed Countries, Bangkok, July-August 1980

ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Pacific Subregional Workshop on Harmonization of External Trade Statistics and Customs Tariff Nomenclature and Valuation, Apia, Samoa, August 1980

Workshop on Japanese Market Information, Tokyo, August 1980

Subgroups of the Trade Co-operation Group (third sessions), Bangkok, September 1980

Preparatory Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement prior to the Second Round of Negotiations, Bangkok, September 1980

ESCAP/Pepper Community Meeting of Specialists on Determination of Remunerative Price Levels of Pepper Products, Jakarta, November 1980

Trade Co-operation Group (third session), Bangkok, November 1980

Trade Negotiations Group (ninth session), Bangkok, November 1980

UNCTAD/ESCAP Seminar on Insurance Supervision, Manila, November-December 1980

Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries, Dacca, December 1980

UNCTAD/ESCAP Regional Seminar on the Generalized System of Preferences, Bangkok, January 1981

ESCAP/ITC/PRODEC/TMA Regional Seminar on Import Management, Pattaya, Thailand, February 1981

Trade expansion and monetary co-operation

29. At its eighth session, the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement carried out a major review of the operation of the Agreement to determine the means of advancing the aims of promoting trade expansion and complementary economies among member countries. It decided to convene a preparatory meeting in September 1980 which worked out the modalities and guidelines for the second round of negotiations among the members of the Bangkok Agreement with a view to expanding the product coverage of the Agreement under preferential treatment and expanding its membership. At its ninth session, the Standing Committee adopted the recommendations of the preparatory meeting.

30. The countries have agreed to adopt a common set of rules of origin based on existing standard norms and to harmonize their external trade statistics, to the extent possible, by adopting the concepts, standards and definitions of terms used in international trade statistics, as recommended by the United Nations Statistical Office. In the field of customs tariff nomenclatures, the countries also agreed to follow the Customs Co-operation Council's suggested version of tariff nomenclature as at 1 January 1978.

31. At its ninth session, the Trade Negotiations Group (TNG) took note of the proposals relating to the three priority areas of the programme for economic co-operation among developing countries and considered the study on co-operation in import procurement among developing countries of the ESCAP region. It also considered the report of the Pacific Subregional Workshop on Harmonization of External Trade Statistics and Customs Tariff Nomenclature and Valuation.

32. A tripartite review of the Asian trade expansion programme was held in September 1980, during which it was decided that a new project should be formulated on the basis of the results of the sessions of the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement and TNG, after June 1981.

33. The third sessions of the Trade Co-operation Group and of its Subgroups, except the Subgroups for Monetary and Credit Co-operation, and for Encouragement and Liberalization of Trade within the Region, were held during the year.

34. The Trade Co-operation Group reviewed the progress made in implementing the programme of action adopted at the Ministerial Conference on Co-operation in Trade for Asia and the Pacific held in August 1978, as reported by the various Subgroups. While expressing thanks for the assistance so far provided, the Group hoped that adequate resources would be available from UNDP to implement the decisions of the Subgroups.

Trade promotion and development

35. During the year, over 28 developing countries of the region continued to avail themselves of the various services offered by the ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre.

36. The facilities of the Trade Information Service were enlarged through the acquisition of materials and documentation, as well as by developing a substantial data base and updated trade information source data. Dissemination of trade information to member countries was provided through the Trade Information Sources Data Bank and the Trade Information Sources Directory. Special training courses on trade information were conducted at Bangkok for participants from 11 countries of the region.

Raw materials and commodities

37. A joint ESCAP/FAO mission visited major tropical timber producing countries in the region with a view to consulting the government authorities concerned about the co-operative arrangements among major tropical timber producing/exporting countries and the possibilities of establishing a regional tropical timber community along the lines of APCC and IPC. The mission report will be submitted to the Intergovernmental Meeting of Tropical Timber Producing Countries, to be held in June 1981.

38. With a generous contribution from the Government of India, the secretariat organized and serviced the Seminar on Regional Co-operative Measures on Shrimps/Marine Products, which recommended that, with a view to facilitating the identification and implementation of proper regional co-operative measures, a regional consultative group on shrimps/marine products should be established under the auspices of ESCAP. Two feasibility studies on regional co-operative arrangements in tapioca and silk have been completed.

Insurance and reinsurance

39. The Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) started underwriting business effective 1 January 1980 and the gross value of business for the first year of its operation was over \$4 million. ARC is also proposing to undertake the developmental aspect of its activities and is providing technical and advisory services to the insurance markets of its members.

Least developed, land-locked and developing island countries

40. A joint UNDP/UNCTAD/ESCAP inter-country programming mission for the least developed countries in Asia and the Pacific was launched in September-October 1980 to identify project proposals for the UNDP 1982-1986 cycle, in accordance with the views expressed by and the requirements of the Governments concerned.

41. Similarly, a UNDP/ESCAP inter-country programming mission was dispatched to the Pacific island countries in September-October 1980 to consult the Governments and international and regional organizations involved. The mission concentrated on inter-country programme and project identification for the next cycle, taking into account the wishes of the Governments concerned and the expression of interest by other donors.

42. Under project RAS/72/077, "Assistance to least developed land-locked countries", activities continued in accordance with the work plan covering studies on transport and transit routes, multimodal transport systems, cargo handling, warehousing, documentation procedures and training.

Natural resources

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

Meeting on Co-operation in ESCAP Mineral Programmes (sixth session), Bangkok, March 1980; (seventh session), Bangkok, October 1980

Expert Group Meeting on Water Pricing, Bangkok, May 1980

Working Group Meeting on Energy in the South Pacific, Apia, Samoa, June 1980

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (fifth session), Bangkok, July 1980

Training Course on Flood Loss Prevention and Management, Bangkok, July 1980

Study Tour on Methods of Flood Control, China, July-August 1980

Seminar on Modern Methods of Mineral Prospecting, Tashkent, USSR, August-September 1980

Seminar on the Improvement of Irrigation Performance at the Project Level, Krasnodar, USSR, August-September 1980

Joint IOC/WESTPAC-CCOP/SOPAC Second International Workshop on Geology, Mineral Resources and Geophysics of the South Pacific, Noumea, New Caledonia, October 1980

Seminar on Geothermal Energy, Rotorua and Auckland, October-November 1980

Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Bangkok, December 1980

44. The Working Group Meeting on Energy in the South Pacific reviewed the current energy situation of the countries in the Pacific area and the resultant needs for energy development. The main outcome of the Meeting was the formulation of the Pacific regional energy programme, covering energy planning and management, information exchange, resources data, wood and waste utilization, small-scale energy development and large-scale energy development. The Meeting also recommended that the programme should be supported by various donor countries and organizations, as well as UNDP.

45. The participants in the Seminar on the Improvement of Irrigation Performance at the Project Level observed the techniques used by the USSR in improving irrigation performance at the project level, which resulted in high outputs in rice production.

46. In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/31, a regional review report on the preparatory activities for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade was prepared on the basis of the country reports which were submitted to United Nations Headquarters in response to a note by the Secretary-General dated 2 November 1979.

47. Following the request made at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission for UNDP assistance for a three-year regional co-operation programme on remote sensing, a preparatory UNDP/ESCAP mission was organized during May-June 1980 to formulate a programme for regional co-operation in remote sensing.

48. The mission visited and consulted government authorities in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam. By means of a questionnaire, the views of all the remaining ESCAP countries were sought on the formulation of the regional remote sensing programme.

49. The mission identified and recommended a multi-disciplinary regional remote sensing programme comprising information exchange, training, and joint research and pilot applications projects as the main components. The mission also recommended an institutional framework for the programme. UNDP support for the

three-year regional programme is expected to begin in 1982.

50. The UNDP/ESCAP/United Nations natural resources sector review mission visited SEATRADC in July 1980; it reviewed the UNDP project activities and the proposals made by the Centre for specific activities for which continued assistance during the UNDP third programming cycle (1982-1986) was requested. In the mean time, the extension of assistance to the end of 1981 has been approved by UNDP. A project document for a second phase of UNDP assistance of \$1,200,000, covering the period 1982-1984, is under preparation. The Board of Management of the Centre, at its sixth regular session, held at Ipoh in October 1980, approved a budget of over \$M 1,502,000 for 1981. This represented a substantial increase in member country contributions to the 1980 budget of over \$M 800,000 and demonstrated the interest and close co-operation of the three member Governments of the Centre. At present, eight professional staff are provided and funded by the participating Governments. Two additional staff (a mineralogist and a geologist/geophysicist) are being recruited. Four international experts were provided by UNDP. In addition, France provided a geochemist/geologist volunteer while the Federal Republic of Germany provided a funds-in-trust associate expert in mineralogy.

51. At its seventh session, held at Bangkok in March 1980, the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones decided that the Technical Support Unit should be moved periodically to enable all of the members to share the benefits of having the Unit located in their country. The Panel also adopted a time-table for Panel members to take over the duties and responsibilities of the three posts currently filled by internationally recruited staff by providing a hydrologist in 1981, a chief technical officer in 1983 and a telecommunication/electronics expert in 1985.

Population

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

Second Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Impact of Family Planning Programmes: Multivariate Analysis of Family Planning Programmes' Contribution to Fertility Change, Bangkok, May 1980

First Meeting of the Study Directors on the Study of the Relationship between Fertility Behaviour and Size, Structure and Functions of the Family, Bangkok, June 1980

Regional Seminar on the Use of Multivariate Techniques in Second-stage Analysis of World Fertility Survey Data for Selected ESCAP Countries, Bangkok, August 1980

Preparatory Committee for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference (first session), Bangkok, October-November 1980

Advisory Committee on Migration and Urbanization (second session), Bangkok, November 1980

ESCAP/WHO Research Seminar on Social and Psychological Aspects of Fertility and Family Planning Behaviour, Bangkok, November 1980

WHO/ESCAP Meeting on Mortality in Asia: A Review of Changing Trends and Patterns, Manila, December 1980

53. The Preparatory Committee for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference recommended that "an integrated approach to population and related development issues" should be adopted as the theme of the Conference scheduled to be held at Colombo in September 1982. The provisional agenda for the Conference recommended by the Committee includes formulation and implementation of integrated population and development policies; demographic situation and outlook; urbanization and growth of cities; spatial mobility, including redistribution programmes, other internal migration and international migration; strategies for meeting basic socio-economic needs in the context of achieving the goals of population policies and programmes; and evaluation of integrated schemes and strategies in family planning. The Committee also identified a number of important topics which were common to several agenda items, among which were the situation of disadvantaged groups and cultural aspects of population change. The Committee agreed that participation in the Conference should be of a general intergovernmental nature.

54. The secretariat collaborated with the Population Division of United Nations Headquarters in implementing the minimum research programme for comparative analysis of World Fertility Survey data. A report entitled "Levels and trends of fertility in the ESCAP region: comparative analysis of World Fertility Survey data" was prepared and presented to the United Nations Working Group on Comparative Analysis of World Fertility Survey Data at its fourth session, held at Geneva in November 1980.

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

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

Working Group on Co-operation among Shippers, Bangkok, April 1980

Joint Working Group on Co-operation between Shippers and Shipowners, Bangkok, April 1980

Joint *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Co-operation between Shippers in the ESCAP Region and Europe, Bangkok, April 1980

Joint ESCAP/IMCO Regional Meeting of Experts in Maritime Training and Certification, Bangkok, April-May 1980

Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Legal and Institutional Framework and Negotiations in Shipping, Bangkok, August 1980

Third Workshop on Economic Statistics of Shipping, Bangkok, September 1980

Workshop for Port Trainers on Container Terminal Operations and Management, Manila, September 1980

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations (fourth session), Bangkok, September 1980

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Associations (third session), Bangkok, September 1980

Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities (first session), Bangkok, September 1980

Joint Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations, Shipowners' Associations and Port Authorities, Bangkok, September 1980

Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Transport of Copra and Coconut Products, Suva, October 1980

Seminar on Port Construction and Development, Paris, September-October 1980

Study Tour by Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations, Hong Kong/Tokyo/United States of America, November 1980

Workshop on Planning of Shipping Services, Beijing, October-November 1980

Seminar on Planning and Management of Modern Cargo Terminals, Yokohama, November 1980

Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Cargo Consolidation, Calcutta, January 1981

Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Calculation of Ocean Costs, Madras, January 1981

Workshop on the Training of Trainers, Hong Kong, February 1981

56. The Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations recommended that the issues on (a) implications for shippers of the currency adjustment factor and bunker adjustment factor and (b) shippers' contracts with shipping conferences should be taken up in the consultations between shippers in the ESCAP region and Europe. With regard to co-operation between shippers and shipowners, the Meeting requested the secretariat to pursue the concept of establishing a consultation/negotiation machinery for such co-operation.

57. At the Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shipowners' Associations, it was unanimously agreed that the representatives of national shipowners' associations should meet for consultations from time to time and review at a later date the prospects for the establishment of a regional shipowners' association. The Meeting also considered the desirability of developing subregional shipping groups for co-operation in shipping matters. The Meeting recommended a list of items for co-operation among shipowners, shippers and port authorities.

58. The Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities endorsed the ESCAP work programme on port development and considered the training of port personnel at all levels to be a matter of high priority. It noted a number of major problem areas in which co-operation between shippers, shipowners and port authorities would be most profitable.

59. The first Joint Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations, Shipowners' Associations and Port Authorities unanimously agreed that co-operation among the three parties was the most essential step towards the improvement of shipping services and the expansion of trade in the region. The need for co-operation among all parties involved with a view to the proper planning of expansion and development of port facilities was also stressed. The Meeting recognized that documentation was an important element in the smooth flow of traffic. In that connexion, it was stressed that efforts should be made to find ways and means of simplifying and rationalizing documentation and port clearance procedures.

Social development

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

Field Study and Workshop on Self-employment and Family Life Education Programmes for Young Women in Rural Areas through Group Participation, Philippines, April 1980

Seminar/Workshop on the Role of Young Women in Social Progress and Development, Especially in Industries, Singapore, May 1980

Expert Group Meeting on Women and Forest Industries, Bangkok, June 1980

National leadership training workshops for youth leaders and workers: Thailand, June-July 1980; Nepal, August-September 1980; Papua New Guinea, November-December 1980; Bangladesh, January-February 1981

Technical Meeting and Regional Seminar on the Objectives and Plan of Action of the International Year of Disabled Persons, Bangkok, September 1980

Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, Bangkok, October 1980

Subregional Follow-up Meeting for Pacific Women on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, Suva, October-November 1980

Ad Hoc Meeting with Interagency and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the Region, Bangkok, November 1980

ESCAP/OISCA Regional Forum on Active Youth Participation in National Development, Jakarta, December 1980

Expert Group Meeting on the Development of Relevant Indicators for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation of Country Efforts for Promoting Youth's Role in Development, Manila, December 1980

Technical Meeting on Aging for the Asian and Pacific Region, Bangkok, January 1981

Ad Hoc Interagency Meeting on Women and Development, Bangkok, February 1981

Workshop on Social Problems of Low-income Urban Groups: Some Legal Approaches, Bangkok, February 1981

61. The Ministerial Conference, which was attended by representatives of 30 members and associate members, of which 18 were at the ministerial level, made specific recommendations relating to perspectives, priorities and strategies in social welfare and social development for the 1980s and urged their adoption and implementation by member Governments and United Nations agencies. It further urged that APDC should give special organizational identity to programmes relating to social welfare and development. It recommended that the Conference should be held at four-year intervals, the next one soon after the global meeting of ministers proposed for 1982.

62. The Subregional Meeting for Pacific Women was held as a follow-up of the Regional Preparatory Conference for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in 1979, and the World Conference itself, held in 1980. It approved a Plan of Action for Pacific Women containing policy guidelines for adoption by Governments and the United Nations system in promoting and developing action programmes for the effective participation and contribution of women in all aspects of development in the subregion by the end of the second half of the Decade in 1985.

63. The Technical Meeting and Regional Seminar formulated specific proposals for a promotional, preventive and rehabilitative programme for disabled persons in the developing countries, with particular emphasis on those in the rural areas. It recommended the strengthening of regional co-operation in all aspects of rehabilitation and prevention, including the establishment of a unit within the secretariat in which competent disabled persons should be employed. It also recommended that

the secretariat should convene an expert group meeting to consider the feasibility of establishing a regional institute for training and research on the prevention of disability and the rehabilitation of disabled persons as a long-term objective.

64. The *Ad Hoc* Meeting with Interagency and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the Region discussed ways and means to facilitate co-ordination among regional youth organizations and agencies concerned with youth development, including the establishment of an appropriate mechanism for institutionalizing such co-ordination and the development of a preliminary regional plan of action for the observance in 1985 of International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace. The Meeting stressed the role of ESCAP in co-ordinating and integrating efforts for youth development in the region.

65. The *Ad Hoc* Interagency Meeting on Women and Development identified areas for joint action and mechanisms for effecting co-operation in implementing the world, regional and subregional plans of action.

66. Since 1977 the secretariat has received a total of \$1,252,710 from the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. An additional \$450,973 was approved by the Fund during 1980 for the implementation of new projects in the countries of the ESCAP region. The following projects and activities were implemented during the period under review: (a) training of trainers of rural women in income-generating activities and labour-saving devices: Nepal; (b) promotion and training of rural women in income-raising group activities: regional, including the Pacific subregion; (c) national women's co-operative development programme: Philippines; (d) APCWD *Women's Resource Book* (updated and published in 1980); (e) APCWD subregional workshop for project identification, formulation and development; and (f) field training for South Pacific rural services.

Statistics

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

Seminar on Household Surveys, Bangkok, September 1980

ESCAP/IEA/EEC Workshop on Energy Statistics, Karachi, October 1980

UNSO/ESCAP Pacific Workshop on Environment Statistics, Honolulu, October 1980

UNSO/ESCAP Asian Workshop on Environment Statistics, Pattaya, Thailand, February 1981

68. The Seminar on Household Surveys, financed by the Federal Republic of Germany, was attended by survey statisticians from 22 members and associate members of the Commission. The Seminar reviewed the current household survey programmes of the countries

of the region and discussed the role of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP), which was enthusiastically endorsed as a means of strengthening survey capabilities. The Seminar discussed in detail the role of household surveys in national statistical systems, the problems involved in organizing integrated household surveys, sampling methods and designs and the prerequisites of sampling, methodological problems relating to household surveys in various subject fields, the particular difficulties of collecting data on women, children and youth and on disabled persons, data processing and the evaluation, analysis and use of survey data. The Seminar also suggested a future course of action which gives a crucial role to NHSCP.

69. NHSCP has taken shape in the region. A team of regional advisers, three financed by UNFPA and one provided by ILO, was constituted to assist the Statistics Division in implementing the Programme. A project proposal for strengthening national household survey capability in Thailand has been formulated, discussed and subsequently revised, and is now under consideration by the Government. A mission consisting of the NHSCP Co-ordinator and two staff members of the secretariat visited the South Pacific in April-May 1980 and formulated proposals for Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands; these are also under consideration. The preliminary findings of the mission with regard to Tonga were followed up at a later date and a draft project proposal has since been prepared. Interest in the Programme has also been expressed by Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea and Vanuatu. In a related development, a project for the establishment of an integrated statistical system in Sri Lanka, with an in-built national household survey programme, has commenced.

70. Apart from assisting in developing project proposals in selected countries which have shown interest in the Programme, the secretariat has also undertaken a review of the household survey experiences of the countries of the region, especially in the field of labour force and household income and expenditure, and reviews have been prepared in respect of 10 countries. A regional review on household surveys was prepared for inclusion in the revised version of the United Nations *Handbook on Household Surveys*.

71. The Workshop on Energy Statistics was hosted by the Government of Pakistan with financial assistance from the International Energy Agency of OECD and the Commission of the European Communities. Experts from 11, mostly Asian, members and associate members of the Commission participated. The Workshop dealt with statistics on all forms of energy in the context of over-all energy balances, but concentrated its attention on non-conventional energy sources for which data remain extremely scarce; methodologies for collecting such information were discussed in detail. The Workshop also made several recommendations designed to further the development of comprehensive, internationally comparable energy statistics in the ESCAP region.

72. Two subregional workshops on environment statistics were held in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office and with financial support provided through that Office by UNEP. Experts from 10 countries attended the Pacific meeting and experts from 13 countries and organizations attended the Asian meeting, in their personal capacities. The workshops reviewed the state of the environment and statistics in their respective subregions, the activities of the United Nations Statistical Office in the field of environment statistics, and guidelines and a draft framework for development of environment statistics prepared by that Office. The workshops recommended the organization of pilot studies in selected countries; the co-ordinated development, collection and dissemination of environment statistics; and the preparation and publication of manuals, guidelines and classification systems for the sets of information required for environmental analyses and policy planning.

73. The ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Pacific Subregional Workshop on Harmonization of External Trade Statistics and Customs Tariff Nomenclature and Valuation, held at Apia, Samoa, in August 1980, was organized jointly with the International Trade Division.

74. The United Nations Statistical Office contributed significantly to the Third Workshop on Economic Statistics of Shipping, held at Bangkok in September 1980.

Transport, communications and tourism

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

Workshop on Research Towards a Methodology for Defining the Transport Needs of Isolated Communities, Kuching, Malaysia, March 1980

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Evolution and Trends in Design and Modernization of Rolling Stock and Equipment, France, June 1980

Working Group of Experts on an Asian Railway Union, Bangkok, July 1980

Railway Research Co-ordination Group (eighth session), Bangkok, August 1980

Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting, Bangkok, August-September 1980

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Technical and Economic Aspects of Railway Electrification, Brussels, September-October 1980

International Course on Road and Road Transport Problems in Developing Countries, Roorkee, India, October-November 1980

Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts, Bangkok, February 1981

76. The objectives of the Working Group of Experts on an Asian Railway Union, comprising one expert each from Bangladesh, India, Japan and Thailand, were to initiate studies on the requirements for and implications of the establishment of an Asian railway union

and to undertake the preparatory work for a meeting of ministers responsible for railways. The report of the Working Group was submitted to the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting, which recommended that a meeting of an expanded working group of experts should be convened to undertake more detailed in-depth studies and to consider all aspects of the proposal thoroughly. The meeting is scheduled for April 1981.

77. The Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting, which was followed by a study tour, considered such technical issues as new techniques for detecting defects in locomotives, rolling stock and track; the application of pre-stressed and pre-cast concrete in railway bridges and concrete sleepers; modern technology for checking motive power through the application of computer systems and the possibility of phased introduction of such technology into the railway administrations of the ESCAP countries; introduction of micro-computers for the management and operation of the railways of the region; improvement of signalling and telecommunication in the railway systems of the region where electric power supply and adequate transmission lines were not available; the problem of low-cost railway operations in rural areas; modern anti-corrosion technology to prolong the life of railway rolling stock and equipment; and utilization of modern materials for the construction of railway vehicles, particularly to effect savings in energy and maintenance costs. The Group endorsed the report of the Railway Research Co-ordination Group. It also formulated a programme of work and priorities in the field of railways for 1982-1983.

78. The secretariat continued its task of collecting, analysing and disseminating technical information on transport, communications and tourism through its biannual *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*. It also prepared a map of the Asian Highway with interregional links, showing linkages of the Asian Highway with the road networks of the ECA, ECE and ECWA regions. This map, in three parts, the first of its kind to be published by ESCAP, will be ready for distribution to delegations of member Governments during the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

79. The Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts discussed matters relating to strategy for roads and road transport development in view of the scarcity of energy; improvement of traffic safety; the Asian Highway; the facilitation of international traffic; environmental impacts of roads and road transport operations; and rural road planning, construction and maintenance. The experts made a number of recommendations relating to energy-saving measures in transport operations; the economic advantages of road maintenance; the environmental aspects of roads and road transport; teachers' training programmes on rural roads; and the organization of seminars-cum-study tours/training programmes on different aspects of roads and road transport operations.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

80. *ESCAP TCDC publications programme.* As its contribution to a regional information system for ECDC and TCDC, the secretariat published two volumes in its TCDC series: *Inter-country Institutional Arrangements for Economic and Technical Co-operation among Developing Asian and Pacific Countries*, volume I: *Intergovernmental Institutions*, and volume II: *Non-governmental and National Institutions*; preparations were also under way for a third volume covering the Pacific islands exclusively. The sectoral series was increasingly oriented towards emerging development issues. A series on renewable sources of energy was initiated with a publication on solar energy in 1980. Preparations for publications on biogas and wind energy neared completion in 1980, while data and information were collected on mini hydroelectric plants. Information collected on machine tools was also evaluated for publication in the near future.

81. *Regional information system for ECDC and TCDC.* The Regional Interagency Working Group on ECDC and TCDC, which finalized its terms of reference, commenced consideration of the various information services, at the regional level, of the agencies in the United Nations development system. Further consideration and progress towards a regional information system awaited developments following up the proposed UNDP global project on a development information network, on which the secretariat held discussions with a visiting UNDP mission.

82. *Promotion of interregional co-operation.* A report on consultations between the Government of India and Latin American Governments to identify opportunities for interregional ECDC and TCDC was disseminated among member Governments of ESCAP. In keeping with the recommendations of an informal consultative meeting on South-South industrial co-operation, a joint ESCAP/ECWA project proposal to identify prospects for co-operation between the Middle East oil-exporting countries and developing ESCAP countries was drawn up and submitted for funding. The secretariat joined the secretariats of other regional commissions in pursuing the joint decision that the regional commissions should be full partners in the UNDP/UNCTAD multisectoral programme on ECDC and TCDC.

83. *Supplementary external assistance for TCDC activities.* The ESCAP supplementary funding facility was set up, to start with on a modest scale, with extra-budgetary assistance. It incorporates: (a) the TCDC scheme for disadvantaged ESCAP countries, in accordance with Commission resolution 209 (XXXVI), (b) the TCDC training fellowships supplement programme and (c) other supplementary finance, especially for activities leading to further TCDC or ECDC. Detailed criteria were drawn up for fund disbursement, and TCDC programmes supported by the facility included

inter-country as well as bilateral activities, with emphasis on the needs of disadvantaged ESCAP countries and on innovative and regenerative TCDC activities.

84. *Programme development and other promotion and support activities.* In the context of the UNDP inter-country programming exercise, discussions were held with visiting UNDP missions on the need for and modes of identifying TCDC needs and capacities systematically through seminars at the national, subregional and regional levels. Discussions were held with an official mission from China concerning a project proposal on a national seminar for the identification of TCDC needs and capacities; with the object of promoting and supporting an active interchange of appropriate technology as embodied in agricultural planting materials and technology blueprints and prototypes, project proposals for extrabudgetary assistance were drawn up and submitted.

85. *Monitoring and evaluation of progress.* The following detailed reviews were prepared: (a) ESCAP inputs into the UNDP system-wide report to the High-level Meeting on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1981; (b) part of the joint paper by the regional commissions for that Meeting; and (c) the secretariat's report to the Commission at its thirty-seventh session. Such reviews were confined to the promotional and supportive activities of the United Nations development system. Field missions were undertaken to explore on a preliminary basis the possibility of preparing reviews of TCDC activities undertaken by developing member countries of ESCAP.

Energy

86. In view of the concern expressed by ESCAP member countries about the present energy situation, it was decided that "energy" would be the main theme for discussion at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

87. In order to prepare the secretariat report on the subject, the Special Project on Energy was established in the Office of the Executive Secretary in May 1980. An *Ad Hoc* Advisory Group on the Special Project on Energy was convened at Bangkok in June 1980 to advise on the probable content of the secretariat report.

88. The secretariat report was presented for comments to a High-level Expert Group Meeting on Short-term Economic Policy Aspects of the Energy Situation in the ESCAP Region, which met at Bangkok in January 1981. The report of the secretariat and that of the High-level Expert Group Meeting were submitted for discussion at the third session of the Committee on Development Planning, held in March 1981.

Environment

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

Regional Meeting and Study Tour on the Protection of the Marine Environment and Related Ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok and Sweden, August 1980

Regional Seminar on the Application of Systems Analysis Techniques to Environmental Problems, Bangkok, November 1980

In addition, national seminars were convened in China, Singapore and Sri Lanka, as part of a regional project on protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems implemented with the assistance of the Swedish Environmental Protection Service.

90. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Commission at its thirty-sixth session, the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit has continued to implement the Commission's programme of work in the field of the environment in four priority areas as defined by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session: (a) creation of environmental awareness within the region; (b) development and strengthening of the institutional and legal framework for environmental protection and management at the national level; (c) environmental management of land ecosystems, particularly of arid and semi-arid lands; and (d) protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems.

91. With regard to the development and strengthening of the institutional and legal framework, the secretariat has completed a comparative study of marine pollution legislation in selected countries of the region, with particular reference to the five ASEAN countries.

92. The secretariat has also carried out the preliminary work for a manual on environmental impact assessment, including a literature survey and the preparation of guidelines.

93. With regard to management of arid and semi-arid lands, the secretariat has been preparing for a regional workshop on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, scheduled to be held during September-October 1981 with extrabudgetary assistance from the Government of Australia. An interagency consultative meeting was convened at Bangkok in November 1980 to finalize the outline of the workshop and to identify possible technical inputs from relevant agencies. A report on the status of the preparatory activities of the secretariat in the field of desertification was submitted to the meeting.

94. With regard to the development of the South Pacific regional environment programme, a co-ordinating group comprising representatives of the four co-operating agencies (SPC, SPEC, UNEP and ESCAP) has been established to review progress in the successive stages of implementation. Two meetings of the group were held during the period under review, the first at SPC headquarters at Noumea in January 1980 and the second at SPEC headquarters at Suva in November

1980. Country reports were completed with the assistance of the secretariat of the programme with the ultimate objective of preparing a report on the state of the environment for the countries of the South Pacific.

Information systems and documentation services

95. The second session of the Study Group on the Co-ordination of Government Information Systems was held at Bangkok in February 1981. The Study Group stressed the need for compatibility and uniformity in the machine-readable information of government to permit its more effective use for planning and decision making. That goal was attainable through the establishment of co-ordinating authorities that would promote the movement of information between the separate information systems of government.

96. The computer system which was generously offered by the Government of Japan at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission has recently been installed in the secretariat. It will not only strengthen the capabilities of the secretariat as a focal point for the transfer of information on the economic and social development of the region, but will also greatly increase its capability to analyse information which it holds in machine-readable form. Thus, econometric modelling, which previously had to be done under rather costly and restrictive conditions in other countries, can now be performed internally. The work of statistical collection and analysis can be made more timely, and routine demographic analysis can be performed more speedily and in greater depth. The new computer system is expected to result in a fourfold increase in the number of jobs performed monthly.

97. The new computer system is also to be used extensively for the management of documentary information which is contained in the sectoral information systems of substantive divisions of the secretariat. A file of computerized document references can now be searched from terminals on a common indexing basis for the secretariat as a whole. This application will greatly improve the co-ordination of information held in the sectoral information systems of the secretariat.

98. The interest of member countries in export promotion and trade expansion has been reflected in a growing demand for trade data in machine-readable form. During 1980, five countries were continuing to exchange trade information. The Government of the United States has contributed its trade data for the year 1978 and the secretariat is endeavouring to obtain similar data from those countries which represent the main markets for the region's exports. The computer system donated by the Government of Japan will greatly improve the effectiveness of this arrangement in the future.

Integrated programme on rural development

99. The Committees on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment, on Natural Resources and on Shipping, and Transport and Communications met and reviewed past activities and provided guidance with regard to the further implementation of the respective sectoral activities, including those forming part of the integrated programme on rural development. Another important contribution was made by the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, which stressed the need for balanced socio-economic and integrated development to ensure appropriate attention to social, cultural and economic factors in development and diffusion of benefits to all segments of the population, particularly the disadvantaged groups.

Interagency co-ordinated plan of action for integrated rural development

100. The Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific met three times and its Task Force held 11 meetings during the period under review. The Interagency Committee reviewed the progress of work, provided policy guidance for future activities and also considered detailed proposals by the Task Force on follow-up action to the *Ad Hoc* Inter-governmental Meeting on Integrated Rural Development held in December 1979.

101. The following major activities were undertaken or completed under the plan of action during the period under review. In Maldives, completion of a detailed socio-economic survey in Alifu atoll was followed by a planning workshop attended by national officials and representatives of different sections of the local population and finalization of a long-term atoll development project with identified inputs and outputs. A similar preparatory assistance project has been implemented for Pangasinan province in the Philippines. This exercise involved the holding of seven *barangay*-level workshops to identify local problems and potential for development, in close consultation with representatives of different sections of the local population, and to formulate an integrated area development project for the province.

102. A meeting of national experts and officials and selected representatives of United Nations agencies examined draft guidelines formulated to improve existing methodologies on monitoring and evaluating rural development programmes and projects and made specific recommendations on the technical and organizational aspects. These guidelines have now been circulated among the Governments, concerned national agencies and international organizations.

103. Resources were mobilized to enable a representative of the Government of Maldives to participate in the SPC technical seminar on atoll cultivation held at

Papeete in April 1980. The participant used the opportunity to identify possible areas of co-operation between Maldives and the South Pacific countries in respect of atoll development.

Technical co-operation and related activities

104. The total value of the 1980 regional technical co-operation programmes administered by ESCAP reached a record level of SUS 22,440,619. This continuing expansion of the volume of technical co-operation programmes reflects the growing importance of the operational activities of ESCAP on behalf of the countries of the region, which is made possible by the increased resources received by the secretariat from all sources, particularly extrabudgetary assistance.

105. In 1980, a total of 44 missions were undertaken on request by a corps of nine regional advisers and experts to many of the developing member countries of the region. In providing technical and advisory services, particular attention was given to the needs of the least developed and island member countries of the region and to the priority areas indicated by the Commission.

106. The United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT) for the South Pacific enlarged its programme of rendering services to the developing island countries of the region. During the year, the main emphasis was on the provision of advisory services through short-term consultancies at the request of Pacific island countries.

107. As in previous years, the extrabudgetary assistance received by the secretariat from developed and developing member Governments in the form of funds-in-trust and non-reimbursable loans has made a substantial contribution towards the implementation of the secretariat's programme of activities. The approximate value of non-reimbursable loan assistance to the secretariat's activities, although not included in the value of funds-in-trust contributions, is estimated to have been in excess of SUS 8 million.

Transnational corporations

108. During the year under review, the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit on Transnational Corporations further developed and intensified its activities in the fields of research, information and technical co-operation.

109. The research activities of the Joint Unit expanded further by virtue of the fact that extrabudgetary assistance from the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands was extended and a new grant was received from the Federal Republic of Germany.

110. Under the ESCAP/ECLA/ECA interregional project on TNCs and primary export commodities, the Joint Unit finalized the following studies: (a) transnational corporations in export-oriented primary

commodities: a case study of tea in Bangladesh; (b) transnational corporations in the copper industry of south-east Asia; (c) Indonesian forestry development and foreign investment; and (d) transnational corporations and the Philippine banana export industry. These studies, along with those previously completed, provided the background for the Expert Group Meeting on TNCs in Primary Commodity Export Industries convened by the Joint Unit at Pattaya, Thailand, in February 1981.

111. As part of an input into the globally conceived research studies undertaken by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (CTC) on specific economic sectors, the Joint Unit assisted in completing its consultant's study on the impact on Sri Lanka of transnational corporation activities in the food and beverages industry and forwarded it to CTC for follow-up action. In addition, consultants contacted by the Joint Unit have begun further work on studies on banking in Malaysia and Thailand and on tourism in Thailand intended ultimately for the CTC global research study.

112. Under the ESCAP/APDAC project on the regulation, supervision and monitoring of TNCs in Asia, the following studies were completed: (a) monitoring and regulating transnational corporations in the Philippines; (b) monitoring and regulating transnational corporations in India; and (c) regulation, supervision and monitoring of transnational corporations in Asia: in-depth study for the Republic of Korea. The first two studies have been finalized and published in the Joint Unit's working paper series.

113. In response to the changing modes and increasing complexities of TNC involvement in Asia and the Pacific and the specific needs of Asian and Pacific Governments, studies have been undertaken on: (a) the costs of technology transfer and the restrictive business practices of TNCs in selected Asian and Pacific countries; (b) an analysis of the host country benefits from the operations of TNCs in export processing zones in selected Asian and Pacific countries; (c) the taxation of natural resource-based projects in Asia and the Pacific; and (d) joint ventures and other forms of collaboration with transnational corporations in the field of commerce in selected ESCAP countries.

114. The Joint Unit commenced activities on the preparation of corporate profiles of the 50 most important TNC subsidiaries operating in Asia and Pacific, which in turn will be submitted to CTC for synthesis into its corporate profiles of parent companies. General corporate data will be an input into the CTC computerized system, which will eventually consist of over 3,000 company reports, 1,500 specialized reports and more than 300 company directories. During the year, over 300 technology and marketing contracts of one member country were catalogued and will be analysed as part of the research project on the costs of technology transfer from TNCs. Steps have been

taken to collect similar information on technology and marketing contracts in other countries of the region.

115. Under the technical co-operation component, CTC, together with the Joint Unit and FAO, organized the Asia and Pacific Regional Workshop on Negotiations with Transnational Corporations in the Tropical Hardwoods Sector at Pattaya in August-September 1980, which was attended by participants from Bhutan, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

116. As a follow-up of one of the recommendations of the High-level Consultative Group Meeting on Increasing the Negotiating Capacity of Host Governments of the Pacific Island Countries in Their Dealings with Transnational Corporations held in November 1979, CTC and the Joint Unit organized the Subregional Training Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating with Transnational Corporations in Tonga in September-October 1980, in co-operation with UNDAT and SPEC.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Regional training and research institutions

117. In accordance with Commission resolution 206 (XXXVI), the secretariat pursued action for the establishment of APDC. Its activities included the establishment of a preparatory committee to formulate a short-term transitional work programme for the Centre and to discuss administrative matters connected with the establishment of the Centre, the convening of a consultative meeting on its initial work programme, the recruitment of the Director and initial core staff and the convening of an Intergovernmental Meeting on the Draft Charter of the Centre, as directed by the Commission.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

118. The first Director of APDC assumed office on 16 September 1980. A small core group of initial Professional staff as well as the administrative support staff began work at the Centre on 1 July 1980. The Centre moved into its new premises in August 1980.

119. The Centre took action on the formulation of its initial work programme, which was submitted to the Management Board at its first session, held at Kuala Lumpur in December 1980.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

120. Action was taken with regard to the finalization of the project document and the funds-in-trust arrangements for the third five-year phase of SIAP, which commenced on 1 October 1980. The tenth general course, which commenced in October 1979, ended in March 1980. The eleventh general course commenced in October 1980. Thirty participants attended each

of the courses. The Institute also conducted two advanced seminars for senior statisticians. The seminars were on statistics for redistribution and basic needs-oriented development strategies and on processing, analysis and use of the 1980 agricultural census results to meet the new demands of the development strategies for the 1980s. The Institute also conducted five country courses during the year.

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

121. These four institutions ceased their activities on 30 June 1980. During the final phase of their existence, they concentrated mainly on the publication of the outputs from their research and training activities.

122. During the period January-June 1980, APDI conducted two regional training courses and five consultative meetings; APDAC, seven regional and four country training programmes; SWDCAP, seven training activities; and APCWD, four training activities.

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

123. The eighth session of the Interim Mekong Committee was held at Bangkok in March 1980 during the thirty-sixth session of the Commission, the ninth session at Ho Chi Minh City in October 1980 and the tenth session at Bangkok in January 1981.

124. The 1981 work programme, as approved by the Interim Mekong Committee, conforms to the general framework of the indicative basin plan. The programme is composed of 24 sectoral subprogrammes, which, in turn, are subdivided into 107 separate activities.

125. The proposals include provision for both pre-investment work (planning, data collection, surveys, feasibility studies etc.) and investment work (dams, port and ferry facilities, irrigation works, training centres and other permanent installations, as well as improvement of navigation channels and other public works).

126. The work programme will be carried out by the Mekong secretariat, which is largely funded by UNDP under a project of institutional support, approved for a further three-year period which started on 1 May 1979 (phase V), in collaboration with riparian government departments, co-operating countries and institutions, and United Nations agencies.

127. The cumulative total of resources contributed or pledged to the Mekong Committee and the Interim Mekong Committee or to projects sponsored by those bodies as at 31 December 1980 amounted to the equivalent of some \$US 427.7 million. These resources

are made up of about \$US 111.9 million, or 26.2 per cent, for pre-investment work and about \$US 315.8 million, or 73.8 per cent, for construction work. The total may also be divided into \$US 159.3 million, or 37.2 per cent, made available by the Governments of the four riparian countries themselves and \$US 268.4 million, or 62.8 per cent, contributed by co-operating countries, United Nations agencies and other organizations. The equivalent of \$US 318.5 million, or 74.5 per cent, represented grants and budget appropriations, and the equivalent of \$US 109.2 million, or 25.5 per cent, concessional loans.

Delta development

128. Preparatory work has been undertaken by the Committee for a comprehensive programme of agricultural production projects in the delta area, including six projects, totalling some 535,000 hectares, to provide flood protection, drainage, salinity control and irrigation for the purpose of growing two crops of rice per year. In 1980, a preliminary study was carried out by mathematical modelling of the over-all features of salinity intrusion in the Mekong delta. That study was aimed at providing basic data for delta development planning as well as for the expansion of the scope of low-flow forecasting. Plans are being updated for three fishery projects in Viet Nam.

Tributary projects

129. Thirteen dams have been completed and another nine are under construction on the tributaries in the lower Mekong basin. Under Mekong auspices, investigations have also been carried to the feasibility stage for various other tributary projects. The total number of projects so identified by the secretariat is 144.

Agriculture

130. All the agricultural planning studies carried out with Mekong Committee participation and sponsorship in the past have been evaluated. This evaluation has been the basis of suggestions for guiding future agricultural development throughout the basin. With respect to the agricultural development programme, the work sponsored by the Committee is being continued and includes agricultural planning studies (the Vientiane Plain, north-east Thailand, the Vietnamese part of the delta etc.), experimentation and demonstration farms, pioneer agriculture projects and ongoing irrigation projects.

Fishery production programmes

131. Fishery production programmes through the development of aquaculture and the development and management of man-made lakes made good progress in 1980. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in the field of aquaculture, the construction of a 50-ha pilot fish farm at Tha Ngone is nearing completion, and the finished section of the farm is already producing fish

for the market. The hatchery and nursery sections of this farm are operating at full capacity and they produced a record number of 5 million fry of Asiatic carp during the year. An additional 2 million fry have been produced at a recently renovated derelict hatchery at Nong Teng. Experimental trials in fish hybridization have succeeded in producing variable, improved hybrids between Indian and Chinese carp. Some of these hybrids are more productive and have a higher resistance to disease. These projects are being implemented with a grant of about \$US 1 million from the Netherlands.

132. In Thailand, the establishment of a pilot fish farm at Lam Pao has commenced with a grant of \$US 542,000 from the Netherlands.

133. In the field of man-made lake fishery management and development, a project for the development of fisheries in the Nam Ngum reservoir (Lao People's Democratic Republic) is being implemented. In this connexion, the construction of infrastructure facilities such as access roads, a laboratory, office and workshop buildings, an ice plant, a processing centre, water tanks and fish landing areas is in progress. Biological and limnological studies, monitoring of fish catches and experimental and exploratory fishing are also continuing. A programme for distributing engines and spare parts for fishing boats and improved nets to fishermen has also been undertaken with a Netherlands grant of about \$US 1 million.

Environmental studies

134. The third (management studies) phase of the Nam Pong environmental management research project (Thailand) was initiated in 1980 with a one-month workshop in which arrangements were made for a consultant firm to impart training in procedures and methods of "adaptive environmental assessment and management" to participants selected from agencies connected with the Nam Pong project. This phase of the project is being carried out with support (\$US 160,000) from the Ford Foundation and UNEP. The object of this phase of the studies is to integrate the results obtained in the first two phases and to formulate simulation models of the Nam Pong systems, as bases for the formulation of management measures.

Social development and public health

135. In the field of public health, malaria and other vector-borne diseases, schistosomiasis and other water-borne diseases and malnutrition are the main items covered. Improvement of environmental health facilities in the basin is promoted through studies on existing services and advice is given on the best use of available resources for the phased development of water supplies, sewerage and drainage, refuse disposal facilities and rural sanitation. In 1980, attention was restricted to considerations of health aspects as part of environmental studies.

Interpretation of satellite imagery

136. During 1980, the secretariat continued its work on the interpretation of satellite imagery, focusing on applications to aspects of geological, geomorphological and hydrological mapping.

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

137. The seventeenth session of CCOP was held at Bangkok in November 1980. During the period under review, the following meetings were organized under the auspices of the Committee:

Joint Working Group with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) on the International Decade of Ocean Exploration (IDOE) Programme for Studies of East Asia Tectonics and Resources (SEATAR) (sixth session), Bangkok, November 1980

Northwest Quadrant Panel of the Circum-Pacific Map Project (sixth meeting), Bangkok, November 1980

138. The CCOP/SEATAR programme continues to make progress. The *Studies in East Asian Tectonics and Resources* have been published (CCOP/TP 7). Invitations were sent out to 45 experts on minerals and hydrocarbon resources to participate in evaluation of the SEATAR report. An Economic Advisory Panel on Minerals and Hydrocarbon Resources, comprising eight experts, met at Bangkok in September 1980 to recommend ways in which the information contained in the report could be used in the search for mineral and hydrocarbon resources.

139. Under the programme for petroleum data collection, storage and retrieval, a Standing Working Group on Petroleum Data has been established. Three workshops were organized, namely, on standardization of terminology and format for hydrocarbon data, on resources data handling and on the geology and hydrocarbon potential of the South China Sea and possibilities for joint research and development. A seminar/workshop on the methodology of assessment of undiscovered hydrocarbon resources was also held.

140. Within the hydrocarbon assessment programme, a manuscript "Synoptic review of some hydrocarbon- and potential hydrocarbon-bearing basins of southeast Asia" was made available in late May. It has been modified and adapted for use by the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE). Publication by ASCOPE is planned prior to October 1981.

141. A long-term programme on heat-flow measurement and geothermal gradient studies was submitted and subsequently approved by the Committee.

142. Formal signing of the agreement between ASCOPE and CCOP to establish a joint Intersecretariat Steering

Committee took place in the course of the seventeenth session of CCOP at Bangkok. The first meeting of the Steering Committee, the objectives of which are the supervision and implementation of joint projects, had taken place earlier at Bangkok in September 1980. Joint work programmes currently in force cover such matters as stratigraphic correlation studies, a petroleum data bank, the marine environment and geothermometry and heat-flow studies.

143. With the use of the shallow marine geophysical and navigation equipment acquired in late 1978/early 1979, the Project Office assisted Indonesian P.T. Timah in conducting a geophysical survey for tin in the Riau Islands. The survey was completed in early August 1980 after about 6,000 line km had been completed. The most comprehensive coverage was obtained around Singkep Island, where lines were run on a 2 to 5 km grid. On the basis of preliminary interpretation of the data, it was recommended that over 60 boreholes should be drilled around Singkep to check the interpretation and determine the tin content of the sediments.

144. A limited off-shore drilling programme off the east coast of Singapore was carried out in November 1980. The drilling was conducted at locations recommended following interpretation of seismic profiler results obtained in the area in November 1979 in a joint Port of Singapore Authority/Project Office survey. The drilling was conducted by a drilling barge constructed in Singapore for the UNDP/Thailand project in the Andaman Sea and also constituted the final acceptance trials of the barge.

145. In early December 1980 Universiti Sains Malaysia conducted a marine geophysical survey off Kedah to the north of Penang. The Project Office assisted in this survey by providing consultancy services to advise on survey procedures and interpretation of results and by providing some positioning equipment on loan for the survey.

146. Plans for a comprehensive marine geophysical survey in the eastern part of the Philippines were finalized during September-October 1980. The survey is to be carried out between January and June 1981 by the Bureau of Mines and Geosciences using the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey vessel *Atyimba*. The Project Office will provide all geophysical and navigation equipment for the survey and the services of its experts to assist and advise at all stages of the work and provide on-the-job training for Philippine technical personnel.

147. Pursuant to a decision made at the sixteenth session of CCOP, two fact-finding missions were organized, one to study the feasibility of establishing a regional Quaternary centre attached to an existing organization in one of the CCOP member countries and the other to study the feasibility of establishing an east Asia off-shore training centre.

148. Under the programme on the marine environment,

an expert group meeting was held at Bangkok in March 1980 and advisory services were provided to CCOP member countries in south-east Asia.

149. Other investigations and research relevant to CCOP activities are Project MAGNET, isotopic age dating, remote sensing as applied to off-shore surveys and the SEATAR programme, manganese nodules and marine phosphorite, the preparation of sea-floor and continental margin geological maps of eastern Asia and a project on gravity and magnetics and their relation to regional geological structures and distribution of mineral resources.

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

150. The UNDP project staff had been completely recruited by the time of the ninth session of CCOP/SOPAC, which was held at Tarawa, Kiribati, in October 1980.

151. The activities to be carried out by ESCAP as a result of the decisions of the Committee include: (a) providing supplementary information that might be helpful to the Governments of the member countries in their review of the legal status of CCOP/SOPAC; (b) assisting with the preparation of a project document for UNDP support for the period 1982-1986; (c) assisting with the selection of a site for the permanent location of the offices of the technical secretariat and the UNDP project; (d) securing TCDC funds from New Zealand for earth science courses at the University of the South Pacific; (e) persuading supporting Governments, institutions and organizations to maintain and, where appropriate, to increase their participation in scientific research programmes under the auspices of CCOP/SOPAC; (f) facilitating the offer by the USSR to carry out a co-operative cruise in the CCOP/SOPAC region at no cost in late 1981 and the proposal by the Office de la recherche scientifique et technique outre-mer for a joint cruise with shared costs also in 1981; and (g) securing financial and other support from donor Governments, institutions, organizations and others for the priority activities of the committee.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

152. The third session of the Governing Council of RMRDC was held at Seoul in September 1980.

153. The Council noted with deep appreciation the continued support by the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan; the provision of post-graduate training facilities for five persons in mineral exploration methods by the Government of India and that Government's reiteration of its offer to provide the services of three specialists on a TCDC basis; and the provision of a specialist in mining development by the Government of Finland and of an editor/documentation specialist by the Government of the United Kingdom.

It also noted with great appreciation the generous host facilities and local support staff provided by the Government of Indonesia.

154. The senior expert on geochemistry provided by the Government of the Republic of Korea joined RMRDC in October 1980 and the Government of Japan authorized the allocation of \$US 20,748 to the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund for the Centre for the investigation of physical properties of rocks to be conducted in co-operation with national agencies in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand on a TCDC basis.

155. The Council deeply appreciated the decision of UNDP to increase its support to the Centre considerably until the end of 1981. It expressed the desire for continued UNDP support at least at the present level and of the present character, including the provision of the services of a co-ordinator, to ensure the continued momentum of operation of the Centre.

156. It noted that previously the contributions towards the total budget of the Centre had been 67 per cent from donor countries in the form of specialist services, 22 per cent from UNDP, 7 per cent from Indonesia for host facilities and 4 per cent from cash contributions by members of ESCAP.

157. The Council further noted that the cash contributions pledged by the member States, \$US 28,000 for 1978 and \$US 24,000 for 1979, had been fully paid while less than 40 per cent of the \$US 16,000 pledged for 1980 had been paid by the ESCAP member countries. Since those cash contributions constituted the only source from which operating costs were met, the Council expressed deep concern at the inadequacy of such contributions and urged ESCAP members and associate members to increase them or make new token contributions as an expression of support for the operations of the Centre.

158. Recognizing the importance of workshops and seminars as a means of stimulating contact and collaboration between countries, the Council recommended that RMRDC should organize or assist in organizing up to three seminars a year during the period 1982-1986.

159. In December 1980, the Centre organized a workshop on decision variables in mining, which was attended by 25 participants from six countries in the region.

160. A seminar on tungsten mineralization has been planned for Jiangxi province in September 1981 under the sponsorship of the Chinese Ministry of Geology.

161. During the year under review, RMRDC specialists have carried out 32 technical advisory missions to 12 member countries. A total of 37 reports have been prepared and submitted. The first two issues of the *Newsletter* have been prepared and distributed.

Typhoon Committee

162. A planning meeting for the Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX) was held in Japan in June 1980.

163. At its thirteenth session, held at Bangkok in December 1980, the Typhoon Committee reviewed the preparations for TOPEX. All 10 members of the Committee attended the session. A pre-experiment is to be held in 1981 and the first and second experiments in 1982 and 1983.

164. The Committee also noted that five members had selected seven pilot watersheds for the implementation of measures for flood loss prevention and management. ESCAP had conducted a training course on principles of flood loss prevention and management in July 1980.

165. China was host to a Typhoon Committee group study visit on methods of flood control during July-August, organized by ESCAP. Four countries sent eight participants to observe the methods of controlling the floods along the Huanghe River.

166. Recognizing the desire of UNDP to terminate institutional support to the Committee, the members requested ESCAP and WMO to prepare a new project document for submission to UNDP to seek support for activities which the Committee planned to undertake during 1982-1983.

167. A representative of LRCS will undertake a six-month consultancy on disaster preparedness in 1981 for the benefit of the members. This is to be financed jointly by WMO, UNDRO and LRCS.

168. A tripartite review of the technical support to the Committee was held immediately following the thirteenth session. The review team was composed of representatives of members of the Committee, ESCAP, WMO and UNDP.

C. RELATIONS WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES

169. In planning and implementing activities in the food and agriculture sector, the secretariat has received close co-operation and assistance from various United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations, such as UNIDO, UNEP and FAO; *inter alia*, and ESCAP. FAO joint review was held at Bangkok in 1980 to discuss the ESCAP programme of work and priorities in the food, agriculture and rural development sectors in areas of common interest in order to ascertain the availability of FAO and UNEP inputs into the programme and to avoid duplication of work.

170. In the field of industry, housing and technology, further efforts were made during the year under review to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination with other agencies, particularly UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNCHS, ILO and FAO. UNIDO has been involved in the many

activities in the field of industry and technology: it provided funds to ESCAP to recruit an expert as a regional adviser to assist the least developed countries in strengthening their consultancy services and provided support in the implementation of other activities of the Division concerned. ILO, FAO and UNESCO co-operated fully in the organization of the Symposium on Solar Science and Technology. UNCTAD has continued to co-operate in the activities of RCTT. ADB has continued its co-operation in relation to the industrial survey of the South Pacific; it has also contributed papers to meetings organized by the Division and participated in meetings. RNAM has received full support and guidance from both UNIDO and FAO.

171. More systematic methods of co-operation and co-ordination of work with UNCHS have been developed. In addition to the deployment of staff from UNCHS to ESCAP, regular discussions and meetings have been held between the personnel of UNCHS and the Human Settlements Section of ESCAP concerning programmes and projects and ways of implementing them in co-operation with each other.

172. The interagency task forces on science and technology and on human settlements have proved to be very effective tools in bringing about better co-ordination in the implementation of work. Meetings of these task forces have been successfully held as and when required.

173. In carrying out its various activities in the field of international trade, commodities and raw materials, and also those relating to the least developed, landlocked and developing island countries of the region, the secretariat continued to maintain close working relations with various United Nations bodies and international agencies such as the other regional economic commissions, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNCITRAL, ILO, FAO, GATT, ITC, ADB, CMEA, EEC, SPC, SPEC, the ASEAN secretariat, the Commonwealth Secretariat and ICC as well as with the import opportunities offices of developed countries. It also maintained close contact with existing commodity communities, namely, ANRPC, APCC, IPC and the South-East Asia Lumber Producers Association.

174. In the field of energy, close contact was maintained with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. Co-operation continued with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies having common interests, particularly UNDP and the Division of Natural Resources and Energy at United Nations Headquarters on programming, UNEP on environmental matters, UNIDO on technology transfer, UNESCO on solar energy and rural demonstration centres and FAO on biogas and biomass. In addition, close contact was maintained with other organizations with common interests: the World Energy Conference, the International Electrotechnical Commission, the International Energy Agency (IEA) of OECD, the Inter-

national Solar Energy Society, the Commonwealth Regional Consultative Workshop on Energy, the Asian Institute of Technology, ADB, SPC and the East-West Resource Systems Institute of the East-West Center.

175. In the field of mineral resources, several activities were carried out in collaboration with UNESCO and with other international agencies and organizations, including the UNESCO-sponsored International Geological Correlation Programme, the Commission for the Geological Map of the World and the Circum-Pacific Energy and Mineral Resources Council. Furthermore, co-operative activities were carried out with UNEP, the Division of Natural Resources and Energy and the Ocean Economics and Technology Branch at United Nations Headquarters, and the secretariat of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

176. In the field of water, consultations were carried out at the global level with other United Nations units (the Departments of International Economic and Social Affairs and of Technical Co-operation for Development at United Nations Headquarters, UNEP and other regional commissions), UNIDO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNEP, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and IAEA through the ACC Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources concerning the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan and monitoring of progress. At the regional level, close co-operation was maintained with WHO concerning the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade; with UNDRRO, WMO and LRCS on the Typhoon Committee and Panel on Tropical Cyclones; and with FAO on measures to improve irrigation projects. In addition, contact was maintained with UNIDO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNEP, ILO, FAO and WHO on follow-up to the recommendations of the Mar del Plata Action Plan through the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific.

177. In the field of statistics, close collaboration and working relationships were maintained between the secretariat and the specialized agencies and other organizations. Representatives of UNCTAD, UNICEF, UNEP, UNDAT, SIAP, ILO, FAO and IBRD participated in statistical meetings organized by the secretariat. Active collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office continued in all aspects of statistics, including its global programmes such as the National Household Survey Capability Programme, the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics and the International Comparison Project and through attendance at meetings, preparation of and comments on documents and technical papers, and joint country missions. A growing dialogue was fostered with the statistics divisions of other regional commissions, especially on developmental issues and global projects having regional implications. Contacts were established or strengthened with a number of organizations outside the common system, including IEA, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Statistical

Office of the European Communities, the Commonwealth Secretariat, SPC, CMEA and the International Statistical Institute.

178. In the field of transport, communications and tourism, the secretariat maintained close working relations with ITU, through the ESCAP/ITU Unit, and with the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity on telecommunication development; with UPU and the Asian Oceanic Postal Union on postal development; with ILO on labour-intensive road construction methods and tourism manpower development; with ICAO on a study/survey on the economic aspects of air cargo transport; with WTO on tourism development; and with UNEP on environmental aspects of transport and tourism development.

179. The secretariat collaborated with IBRD on various transportation training courses organized within the region. It worked in co-operation with UIC, the Research, Designs and Standards Organisation of the

Indian Railways and the Japan Railway Technical Service on railway research matters, and with the Transport and Road Research Laboratory of the United Kingdom and the Asian Institute of Technology on the promotion of transport research.

180. In the field of facilitation of international traffic, the secretariat worked in co-operation with UNCTAD/FALPRO and the Customs Co-operation Council.

181. The secretariat also maintained close contact with the Southeast Asian Agency for Regional Transport and Communication Development in the identification of programmes and projects in the field of transport and communications development.

182. In the implementation of its activities in the field of the environment, the secretariat has been working in close co-operation with concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including UNEP, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and IMCO.

Chapter III

THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

183. The thirty-seventh session of the Commission was held at the United Nations Building, Bangkok, from 10 to 20 March 1981.

184. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam, Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Niue and Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

185. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Poland, Romania and Turkey 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).

186. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Regional Commissions Liaison Unit, the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, and by representatives of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

187. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Fund for Population Activities, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and World Food Council.

188. 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, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union, World Meteorological Organization and Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization. A representative of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade also attended.

189. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian Clearing Union, Asian Development Bank, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Asian Productivity Organization, Asian Reinsurance Corporation, Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, Commonwealth Secretariat, Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, European Economic Community, Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, International Pepper Community, South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and South Pacific Commission.

190. Observers from the following non-governmental organizations in category I were present: International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Co-operative Alliance, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, International Planned Parenthood Federation, World Confederation of Labour, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations and World Veterans Federation. An observer from the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, a non-governmental organization on the Roster, was also present.

191. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP (XXXVII)/INF.1.

192. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 559th meeting elected His Excellency Mr. Mahe U. Tupouniua, Minister of Finance (Tonga), as Chairman.

193. 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 12 Vice-Chairmen were elected, namely: the Hon. John Moore (Australia), H.E. Mr. M. Saifur Rahman (Bangladesh), H.E. Mr. Zhang Wenjin (China), H.E. Mr. Motoo Ogiso (Japan), Mr. Soulivong Phrasithideth (Lao People's Democratic Republic), H.E. Mr. Jhambalyn Banzar (Mongolia), the Hon. Ratna S.J.B. Rana (Nepal), H.E. Mr. M. Humayun Khan (Pakistan), the Hon. Noel Levi (Papua New Guinea), H.E. Lt. Gen. Rafael M. Iletto (Philippines), the Hon. M.H.M. Naina Marikar (Sri Lanka) and H.E. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila (Thailand).

194. The Commission appointed a Committee of the Whole to consider agenda items 6 and 7. The Committee elected H.E. Mrs. H. Abeysekera (Sri Lanka) as Chairman and Mr. Tomio Uchida (Japan) and Dean Carlos P. Ramos (Philippines) as Vice-Chairmen.

195. The Commission also appointed a Technical and Drafting Committee. That Committee elected H.E. Mr. A.M.A. Muhith (Bangladesh) as Chairman and Mr. Shaukat Umer (Pakistan) and Mrs. Lauralee Peters (United States of America) as Vice-Chairmen.

196. In accordance with the established practice, an informal working group on draft resolutions was also set up. The group elected Mr. G.Th.E.R. Arnold (Netherlands) as Chairman and Mr. R.S. Rathore (India) and Mr. Somkiati Ariyapruchya (Thailand) as Vice-Chairmen.

197. The Chairman announced at the Commission's 562nd 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 the delegations. The Vice-Chairman from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Vice-Chairman from Mongolia had expressed their reservations with regard to the qualifications of one representative. Furthermore, the Vice-Chairmen from China and Mongolia had expressed their reservations with regard to the qualifications of another representative. With those reservations recorded, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, constituting the credentials committee, had found the credentials of all the representatives to be in order.

B. AGENDA

198. At its 559th meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAP/L.56/Rev.1, E/ESCAP/L.57 and Corr.1)

4. Policies and perspectives for the development of the ESCAP region
 - (a) Review and appraisal of current economic and social developments in the ESCAP region (E/ESCAP/L.58 and Corr.1 (English only), E/ESCAP/L.58/Add.1 and Corr.1 (French only))
 - (b) Short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region (E/ESCAP/212 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/213)
5. Expanded functions of the regional commissions: implications for the terms of reference of ESCAP (E/ESCAP/214)
6. Progress, proposals and issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP (E/ESCAP/189-192, E/ESCAP/195, E/ESCAP/199 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/201, E/ESCAP/205, E/ESCAP/206 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/207-210, E/ESCAP/211 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/213, E/ESCAP/215 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/216-219, E/ESCAP/220 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/221-226, E/ESCAP/227 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/228, E/ESCAP/229; ESCAP/192 and Add.1, ESCAP/193)
 - (a) Review of the implementation of the programme of work and priorities since the thirty-sixth session of the Commission
 - (b) Programme changes, 1981, and programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983
 - (c) Medium-term plan, 1984-1989
7. Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions
 - (a) Regional projects (E/ESCAP/193 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/194, E/ESCAP/197, E/ESCAP/200, E/ESCAP/231 and Corr.1)
 - (b) Regional institutions (E/ESCAP/196 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/198, E/ESCAP/203, E/ESCAP/230 and Corr.1-3)
8. Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources (E/ESCAP/202, E/ESCAP/204 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/232 and Corr.1 and 2, E/ESCAP/233 and Corr.1)
9. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/234, E/ESCAP/238)
10. Findings and recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated

nated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/235)

11. General Assembly resolution 35/116 on the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea: consequences for the ESCAP region of a new legal régime (E/ESCAP/236)
12. Other matters (E/ESCAP/237)
13. Adoption of the annual report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.59)

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

199. The session was declared open by His Excellency Mr. Dawa Tsering, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bhutan, the outgoing Chairman. His Excellency Mr. 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

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

201. He stated that, despite some favourable developments such as the adoption of the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities and of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, little progress had been made along the course charted to achieve a new international economic order since the adoption of the relevant resolutions at the sixth special session of the General Assembly. Increasing protectionism against the exports of the developing countries, their deteriorating terms of trade, high rates of inflation, substantial slowdown in economic activities and monetary instability resulting from the unco-ordinated financial and monetary policies of the major industrial countries continued to contribute to the economic crisis of the day. A resurgence of rapid inflation owing to sharp and prospective future rises in energy prices had also posed a serious problem. The developing countries had been disappointed at the unsatisfactory outcome of the recently held eleventh special session of the General Assembly on matters relating to the "global round of negotiations". He stressed the urgent need to redouble the resolve and renew the determination to deal with those problems, which affected rich and poor countries alike. He commended the role of ESCAP in helping its member countries in the region as well as those outside the region to co-operate in economic and social activities of mutual interest. In order to improve the standards of living of the people, effective co-operation was essential in an interdependent world. In that context, many regarded ASEAN as a good example of effective

co-operation. He regretted that some nations continued to resort to force as a means of obtaining political and security objectives, giving rise to tensions which had created hardship and suffering for the peoples directly involved and also imposed a tremendous and unfair burden on other countries. The only way to resolve tensions and dispel distrust was for nations to reason together, respect the legitimate political and security interests of all countries concerned and adhere strictly to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations in their relations with one another.

202. Elimination of tensions and restoration of tranquillity would enable all countries to dedicate themselves to constructive and fruitful endeavours for the prosperity and happiness of their peoples.

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

203. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations said that the current session was being held at a time of continued deterioration in the world economic situation. The crisis was at once structural and conjunctural and was exacting a heavy toll on all groups of countries. It affected not only prices and production, but the very fabric of international economic relations, and underlined the urgent need to put into place a new international economic order.

204. The way out of the crisis lay in a system of global management of development in which all groups of countries would participate, on an equal basis, in adopting and implementing the measures required to bring about the rapid and even development of the world economy. Global negotiations in the areas of raw materials, trade, development, energy and money and finances could constitute the starting point of such an approach, and he took the opportunity to reiterate his hope that it would prove possible to agree soon on the launching of such negotiations.

205. He noted that the issue of energy, which was one of the main topics for negotiations, would be among the major themes of the session and that the deliberations would focus on short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation. International, regional and subregional co-operation on energy, as in other areas, was essential to the well-being of the world economy in general and of the developing countries in particular. He hoped that the deliberations at the session would result in a substantial strengthening of such co-operation in the region.

206. The devolution of greater responsibilities to the regional commissions was based on a recognition of their important role as the main general economic and social centres for their respective regions within the United Nations system. That role required the commissions both to contribute effectively to the global policy-making process of the Organization and to ensure

that the results of those processes were brought to bear on policy making at the regional and subregional levels.

207. A major task that lay ahead for the regional commissions was their participation in the review and appraisal of the new International Development Strategy. That provided an opportunity for the commissions to give the necessary political impetus to the implementation of the Strategy and to propose and carry out adjustments or intensification of policy measures in the light of evolving needs and developments in each region. In that context, it would be particularly important for the commissions to promote actions and policy reorientations aimed at the eradication of poverty, the full participation of all sections of the population in the development process and a fair distribution of the benefits of development.

208. In the light of the expanding potential for mutually beneficial flows of finance, trade, technology and expertise among developing countries, the commissions also faced growing responsibilities for the promotion of co-operation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels. Moreover, they would have to make every effort to ensure that the support given by the international community to such co-operation conformed to development priorities for the 1980s.

209. ESCAP had done much to rationalize its structure and institutional facilities and to adapt its programmes to emerging needs. The support which countries had given to that process through, *inter alia*, the provision of extrabudgetary resources in a situation of financial stringencies for the system as a whole was most encouraging.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

210. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and thanked the Prime Minister of Thailand for his enlightening address, which highlighted many important problems faced by the world at large and the ESCAP region in particular. He also referred to the message of the Secretary-General, which had underlined the urgent need to put into place a new international economic order.

211. The thirty-seventh session was taking place against the background of a crisis situation which had continued to deteriorate. The ESCAP region, being the largest and most diverse, could play a significant role in the restructuring of the existing order.

212. Being the home of the bulk of the world's poor, the region had a pressing need for an environment ensuring steady development. That was why Commission sessions, as forums to articulate the collective view and will of the member countries, were so important.

213. In keeping with its multidisciplinary character, the Commission would, at its current session, deliberate on the entire range of social and economic subjects which had a bearing on development. Hence an integrated approach had been reflected in the regional development strategy adopted at the previous session and projected in the ESCAP programme of work and priorities proposed for consideration at the current session. He referred to some of the issues which would attract special attention at the session.

214. The constraint of energy was one of the greatest challenges confronting the aspirations of the developing countries to achieve rapid growth. The concern was not only to deal with the short-term problems arising from the high prices of petroleum and its uncertain supply but also to ensure the progressively increasing levels of *per capita* utilization needed for development. The results of the studies undertaken by the secretariat on that subject were before the Commission and contained suggestions for regional and subregional approaches to deal with the problem of energy. Issues relating to food production and food security were linked to it and would come up for specific discussion at the session.

215. Another important subject to be discussed at the session related to promotion in the ESCAP region of the rational development and management of marine resources.

216. It was also very important to consider proposals for strengthening the Commission to enable it not only to function as the main general economic and social centre within the United Nations system, but also to contribute more effectively to the global policy-making process. The Commission needed to be equipped for carrying out its role in implementing decisions relevant at the regional level.

217. The added significance of regional co-operation for development was well understood and well recognized. The task before ESCAP in the 1980s was to give substance to the desire for regional co-operation and mobilize the political will of the member countries for undertaking collaborative efforts. That should be the main endeavour of the Commission. Co-operation often involved the sacrifice of transient interests for the achievement of long-term benefits. Only an approach of enlightened self-interest could enable the member countries to convert the general climate for co-operation into concrete forms of collaboration. The Commission would continue to play a central and catalytic role in promoting regional and subregional co-operation. He hoped that the thirty-seventh session would mark the beginning of new initiatives that would contribute to the improvement of the economic and social conditions of the region and help its people to attain a fuller and more meaningful life.

Policies and perspectives for the development of the ESCAP region

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

218. In his policy statement, the Executive Secretary said that the current session of the Commission was taking place at a time of profound political, economic and social instability. The problems which marked the time were exceedingly complex, but the forces of change in the existing international order would ultimately prevail and a reshaping of the current geopolitical and economic relations would eventually result from pressures for political deliberation and economic self-reliance. A successful dialogue among nations could ensure an orderly process of transition.

219. Recent years had seen a growing interdependence among nations and a growing interconnectedness of the problems confronting the world. As a result, national policies for development could not be framed without taking full account of international developments. Even the global sectoral problems of energy, food, trade, technology transfer and finance could not be treated separately but required an integrated approach and negotiated solutions. The United Nations system provided a unique forum for mobilizing political commitment to integrated global negotiations on the basis of clearly set long-term objectives and rules and principles concerning those areas.

220. While the global problems required global solutions, much could be accomplished through co-operation at the regional and subregional levels to seek solutions to common problems and to attain common objectives. The previous annual report of the Commission had noted three salient features of past development in the region: first, a marked variation of growth rates across countries; second, an almost common failure to stop the increase in the already large number of abjectly poor, unemployed or under-employed people; and third, a clear lack of correlation between growth and distributive equity. Against the backdrop of those findings, the Commission had adopted for the region in the 1980s development goals which specified ambitious quantitative targets for growth (6.7 per cent for GDP, 3.5 per cent for agriculture and 8.9 per cent for industry), but at the same time emphasized fuller employment, distributive equity, fulfilment of basic mass needs, wider participation in development and greater self-reliance.

221. Regional co-operation could assist the developing countries in the attainment of those objectives. The following were some of the ways in which that could be done.

222. A substantial increase in the *per capita* consumption of energy in the developing countries was essential if over-all rates of economic growth were to approximate the targets set. Growing scarcity of renewable resources of energy as reflected in their

real prices imposed a growing burden on the balance of payments of developing countries of the region. Consequently, those countries were faced with short- and long-term policy considerations which involved energy development, efficient energy use and energy planning. In that respect, action at the regional level could assist in the following ways. First, institutional arrangements could be developed to ensure adequate flows of capital to finance development of indigenous energy resources. Second, expertise could be made available to countries from a regional or subregional pool to assist in planning, exploration and development of energy. Third, country groups through co-operative action could ensure a secure supply of oil to the oil-importing countries in the face of restricted global supply. Fourth, regional balancing of refinery output and bulk purchase and transport of oil by groups of countries, especially the small island countries, could be fruitful. Fifth, enormous scope existed for co-operative action to develop hydroelectricity.

223. He stressed the need for accelerated agricultural growth, chiefly to ensure adequate food supplies for eradicating hunger and malnutrition. Population control policies should also constitute an integral part of the long-term effort to achieve that objective. More important, however, the adverse impact of the rise in the real price of energy on food supply and food prices owing to increased prices of oil-based agricultural inputs, together with the adverse environmental impact likely to result from increased reliance on fuelwood as a substitute source of energy, needed to be determined through in-depth studies in order that appropriate remedial policies could be adopted. ESCAP had therefore recently established a Special Project on Food Supply, which would, among other things, examine the potential for regional co-operation in the production and distribution of fertilizer, the development of regional food reserves on a cost-sharing basis for emergency use and improved research and training facilities in area-specific problems in food production.

224. The common development of the potential of river basin and marine resources on the basis of subregional co-operation was to be stressed in that context. The lower Mekong basin development project was an example of such development and there were others such as the Ganges and Brahmaputra systems, which offered enormous potential benefits.

225. Urgent and collaborative action by the developing countries of the region was required for the prudent exploitation of the resources of their exclusive economic zones for the maximum benefit of the countries themselves and to pre-empt the possibilities of their exploitation by and for outside interests. The possibilities of establishing formal regional machinery for consultation and for exchange of information, and the development of an indigenous technological capacity to exploit those resources, could be on the agenda for regional co-operation. The island countries of the Pacific should

benefit particularly from the exploitation of their marine resources through co-operation and international assistance.

226. The major focus of the industrial policies of the developing countries of the region must be on raising their capacities for modern manufacturing. The momentum of their growth and their ability to adapt and develop technologies and resources and to respond to opportunities for trade could be stepped up only through such capacities. Industrial development in most of the countries of the region was severely restricted by market size. The developing countries must continue to demand removal of restrictions on trade and freer access of their products to the markets of developed countries in conformity with the free trade ideal which the latter countries had traditionally upheld. At the same time, the developing countries could increasingly share their own markets with one another. Such trade flows would be facilitated by co-operative arrangements like joint-production ventures, sharing of technology and technical skills, reduction of artificial barriers to trade, creation of new infrastructure in transport, communications, insurance and finance and, above all, a more enlightened approach to identifying the areas of dynamic comparative advantage not only between developed and developing countries but also among the developing countries in subregions and regions and between regions. Those were necessary conditions for the speedy achievement of collective self-reliance.

227. The role of transnational corporations in development had seen increased emphasis on areas including production-sharing joint ventures and licensing and management agreements, apart from traditional foreign investment in the developing countries of the region. The gains derived from association with transnational corporations were often not equitably shared. There was a clear case for greater bilateral and multilateral consultations and exchange of information to strengthen the negotiating capacity of host Governments, thereby enhancing the benefits to the host countries.

228. Steps needed to be taken to reverse the disturbing trend in real assistance flows in the face of the greatly increased capital flow requirements foreseen for the developing countries of the region to attain their target rates of growth in the 1980s. New institutional arrangements were also needed for the low-income countries of south Asia as well as some socialist countries of the region to gain access to the market for commercial capital, which those groups of countries urgently required in addition to foreign assistance flows.

229. It was necessary to ensure that economic growth and development were not achieved at undue social cost. Moreover, social development objectives should be viewed as direct objectives of development policy rather than as the secondary outcome of policies for over-all growth. Special attention had to be paid to

the plight and needs of the disadvantaged sections of the population such as children, youth, women, the handicapped and the aged. The ESCAP integrated programme on rural development, which was multidisciplinary in character, stressed both the economic and the social aspects of development by emphasizing rural employment creation, raising of the productivity of low-income rural workers, structural reforms in rural society, adequate access to the means of production and involvement of the rural masses in making and implementing decisions.

230. For ESCAP to play its role in helping member countries to attain their objectives, it needed: first, to expand its capacity to analyse the domestic performances of developing member countries and to provide a better forum for discussing those experiences so as to benefit from each other's endeavours; second, to improve its ability to play a catalytic intellectual role in making economically and politically feasible proposals in the area of subregional, regional or interregional co-operation; and third, to continue to provide the means for making a regional contribution to the formulation of global policies and to assist in carrying out decisions relevant at the regional level. Expansion and improvement of those functions would require a considerable increase in the real financial resources available to ESCAP, better co-ordination within the secretariat and between it and other organizations and a careful selection of problem areas and modalities.

231. Through ACPR and the various legislative committees, the full participation of the member Governments in the decision making and deliberations of ESCAP had been ensured. The work programme reflected the excellent contributions which those various committees had made to ESCAP activities.

232. The increasingly multidisciplinary nature of the work of the secretariat made it more relevant to the economic and social development of member countries. In that connexion, ESCAP had developed fruitful collaboration of a multidisciplinary character with other United Nations organizations and agencies in the field of integrated rural development through an interagency committee and task force. Such collaborative approaches could be adopted in other important areas.

233. During the previous decade, ESCAP had established a number of regional institutions relating to technology, agricultural machinery, natural disasters, trade etc. to work in close collaboration with their counterpart national institutions. APDC, which had been established at Kuala Lumpur and was intended to provide a leading intellectual role in development, was the most recent of those institutions. He stressed that the institutions needed the assistance of funding organizations and of member Governments if they were to discharge their responsibilities effectively.

234. ESCAP had been receiving a generous flow of extrabudgetary resources which had enabled the secretariat to expand considerably its research and technical assistance programmes. However, the usefulness of the extrabudgetary resources could be enhanced if they were provided on a programme rather than a project basis. Annual budgetary appropriations by donor Governments could provide sufficient funding in advance to cover an ESCAP work programme biennium.

235. To ensure that extrabudgetary funds were used to the best effect, an independent evaluation system had been established in the Office of the Executive Secretary the previous year. It had been carrying out in-depth evaluations of a number of ESCAP activities and had developed the methodology needed for the purpose.

236. Owing to the lack of the parallel political institutions to be found in other regions, ESCAP played a unique role by providing a forum in which political leaders could discuss common economic and social problems. At the same time, ESCAP encouraged and assisted subregional groups such as ASEAN, SPC and SPEC. The emergence of more subregional groupings, particularly in south Asia, could be expected in future.

237. The first priority in development should be improvement in the quality of life of the common man. The achievement of that goal required governmental commitments and the formulation of massive and pragmatic programmes geared to the requirements of different societies and different areas. Often the allocation of development resources did not reflect an awareness of the needs and priorities of the weaker sections of society and that had to be changed. Development viewed in that light required increased productivity of the poor, wider participation in the process of development and a fairer distribution of its benefits in the short term. In the longer term, it would be necessary to evolve a new international economic and social order in which collective self-reliance through enhanced co-operation among developing countries would be an essential element.

238. Rapid and constant change was now a fact of life. The ability to change and to learn to live with change presented a great challenge and ESCAP and the United Nations system could reinforce the efforts of their member countries to meet that challenge and become a catalyst for change to build a better and prosperous world.

Review and appraisal of current economic and social developments in the ESCAP region

239. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/L.58 and Corr.1, *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1980: Recent Economic Developments, 1979-1980*.

240. The Commission commended the secretariat on the usefulness of the review of economic developments during 1979-1980 and made several suggestions for improvements in coverage and in analysis for future surveys.

241. It took note of the pervasive influence on the developing economies of the region of the stagflation which now characterized the international market economy and of the fact that the prospects for appreciable recovery in the coming year were not propitious. Rapid rates of inflation had become widespread in both developed and developing market economies. Slow rates of growth in the industrialized countries had reduced the growth of demand for exports from the developing economies and had in many instances brought about falling prices for primary commodities. Concurrently, prices of necessary imports into developing economies had continued to rise; exacerbated by the sharp rise in the prices of petroleum and its products, the increase in import prices meant deteriorating terms of trade and increasing deficits on current account. That situation was worsened by diminishing access to markets in the developed economies resulting from artificial barriers to trade and by the slackening flow of external financial resources.

242. The Commission deplored the impasse in the North-South dialogue and expressed the hope that fruitful discussions might soon be resumed. The recent adoption by the General Assembly of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade was recognized as a necessary first step, but the goals and aspirations embodied therein required positive action and a spirit of international co-operation. The Commission felt that peace and security were essential for the economic and social development of the countries of the region.

243. While the establishment of the Common Fund was applauded by the Commission, it was recognized that substantial progress would depend upon individual commodity agreements. In the current international situation, the need to stabilize the prices of commodity exports from the developing countries was particularly pressing.

244. Many delegations felt that there was an apparent stiffening of attitudes in many developed economies towards the demand of the developing economies for increased access to markets for their exports. The continuation and the multiplication of varieties of barriers to those exports at a time when demand was slackening was felt to be especially onerous. Disappointment was expressed by many delegations in respect of the results of the Tokyo Round of the multilateral trade negotiations. Several delegations, while expressing hope for a satisfactory outcome of the pending negotiations for the renewal of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement, were apprehensive about the possibility of improvement in conditions for the textile and garments trade in view of the

continued recession and increasing unemployment in the developed countries.

245. Particular concern was voiced with regard to the plight of the least developed of the developing countries of the region in the current international economic situation. Among those, the geographically disadvantaged, land-locked and Pacific island economies were subject to special burdens, and consideration was given to possible ameliorative action.

246. Among the broad problems of development which drew special attention during the discussions, issues relating to agricultural development and, in particular, the problems of food production were of primary concern. Particular emphasis was laid on the achievement of food security, which was seen as a task most effectively accomplished only through collective action.

247. It was felt that remedial action to overcome the difficulties facing the majority of the developing economies in the region would require co-operative efforts at all pertinent levels: international, among developing and developed countries; and interregional and intraregional, chiefly among developing countries. In the existing circumstances, it was clear that increased effort was urgently required to develop economic and technical co-operation among the developing countries of the region. It was recognized that in broad outline the International Development Strategy at the international level and the agreed strategies for the ESCAP region for the 1980s provided the appropriate guidelines. Positive action was thus the urgent requirement to implement the broad principles and lines of approach already discussed and accepted.

248. Numerous potential fields for collective action were suggested and examples of co-operative action cited. Among the latter, specific mention was made of the endeavours of the ASEAN group of countries. From outside the region, the experience of the CMEA countries was cited. In general, there was agreement that the principles and practice of TCDC in the region held great potential for self-reliant development. Although not restricted to the situation of the least developed countries, TCDC gave promise of substantial gains for the land-locked and Pacific island countries.

249. The Commission reaffirmed the importance of the continued work of the ESCAP secretariat as the focal point for common developmental efforts within the region. In particular, technical assistance in a broad array of fields was looked upon as a fundamental activity which the secretariat should continue and expand. The secretariat was commended on its work in that area. Several delegations emphasized the importance of the requirement that the projects and other activities of the secretariat should be demonstrably oriented to the expressed needs of the developing member countries. In addition to the secretariat's activities in the areas of integrated rural development and the promotion of industry, shipping and trade, specific mention was made of such areas as the development of marine re-

sources, tourism and various aspects of social development. The training activities carried out by the secretariat were cited as especially useful and their continuation and expansion were recommended. The Commission looked forward to significant accomplishments in the training field by the newly established Asian and Pacific Development Centre.

250. Several delegations took special note of the important task that awaited the Commission in the review and appraisal of the implementation of the new International Development Strategy. It was pointed out that the Commission had at its thirty-sixth session decided to accord that matter high priority at its thirty-seventh session but that the topic of the elaboration of regional and subregional strategies in the light of the finalization of the new Strategy had not yet been brought up for discussion at the thirty-seventh session. Those delegations urged that the secretariat should carry out, as part of its regular activity of preparing economic surveys of the region, periodic reviews of major aspects of development within the over-all framework of the Strategy and consider the feasibility of preparing action programmes to support national efforts seeking to implement the Strategy.

251. The Commission adopted resolution 212 (XXXVII) on review and appraisal of the implementation of the new International Development Strategy.

Short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region

252. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/212 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/213.

253. It commended the secretariat on the high quality of the note by the secretariat entitled "Short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region".

254. The Commission noted that the energy problems of the developing ESCAP countries had to be viewed in the over-all context of global energy situations and international trade and financial relationships.

255. It also noted, with grave concern, the difficulties being faced by the developing ESCAP countries consequent on the increases in the prices of imported energy sources. Such sources formed a significant part of the total commercial energy supplies in those countries and large and sudden price increases had strained their balance of payments and had necessitated considerable adjustments in their economies.

256. The Commission noted that the developing ESCAP countries had come under much greater strain in adjusting to the further import price increases in energy during 1979/80 and the continued increases that were anticipated in the future. In that connexion, it was also noted that payments for imported energy were amounting to extremely large proportions of export earnings, which had been stagnating owing to recession

in the industrial economies and the persistence of protectionist tendencies, which tended to restrict market access for many exports from the developing ESCAP region.

257. Energy and development had become inseparable issues and increasing consumption of energy was essential if the momentum of socio-economic development in the developing ESCAP countries was to be accelerated. Furthermore, for the foreseeable future, developing ESCAP countries would continue to depend on imported petroleum supplies for a significant share of commercial energy needs and such import demands could increase, in many countries, if development were to be accelerated. Particular attention therefore had to be given to measures which could facilitate the financing of the balance-of-payments deficits of oil-importing developing countries through the recycling of surpluses and increased flow of financial resources from developed countries so that structural adjustments could be undertaken without reducing the tempo of the development process.

258. The Commission was of the opinion that energy issues would be the dominant theme of the 1980s. Energy had become a matter of concern to the world community of nations as a whole. It was clear that processes of development based on the rapidly depleting energy source of petroleum would need to be changed and a transition rapidly effected to alternative, renewable energy sources. Such a transition would not be an easy one or even a transition that could be effected in the near future. Furthermore, because of the critical and pervasive effects of commercial energy supplies and demands on both national economies and the international economy, energy issues needed to be considered along with other major issues on a priority basis. The resolution of such important and complex issues would be greatly facilitated by the attainment of peace and stability within the world community of nations, particularly in the main oil-producing regions.

259. The Commission noted that the required transition from petroleum to alternative sources of energy would bear hardest on the developing countries. Their capacity to reduce the consumption of petroleum without deleterious socio-economic effects was severely limited, while their total consumption amounted to only a very minor proportion of total world consumption. Consequently, it was incumbent on the international community as a whole to develop policies which would restrain the profligate use of petroleum and achieve maximum efficiency in its use for productive purposes. In that connexion, it was noted that significant reductions in petroleum use were being achieved in the industrial countries.

260. The Commission recommended that ESCAP countries should accelerate efforts to maximize efficiency in the use of non-renewable sources of energy and to develop alternative indigenous energy sources rapidly.

Concurrently, the international community needed to seek long-term solutions which would balance the supply of and demand for petroleum at predictable and fair prices and provide for more equitable distribution of available supplies.

261. The Commission noted that the energy transition required would necessitate substantial capital investments by developing ESCAP countries in the development of indigenous energy sources and that investments of such magnitude were beyond the capacity of those countries themselves. Capital flows and technical assistance would be required on a much larger scale than in the past if the considerable energy potential of the developing ESCAP region was to be developed.

262. In that connexion, the Commission noted that the assistance programmes of the CMEA countries, the Development Assistance Committee countries, ADB and the World Bank were giving greater priority to energy and energy-related projects.

263. The Commission drew specific attention to the energy needs of the rural people in the region. The bulk of the region's population lived in the rural areas and in energy development programmes careful attention had to be given to ensuring that their energy needs for essential consumption and production were adequately met. In that respect, the important role of new and renewable energy sources and that of mini and micro hydroelectric sources were specifically noted.

264. The Commission expressed its concern over the continuing phenomenon of deforestation and recommended that ESCAP should pay more attention to the matter.

265. The Commission welcomed the opportunity to consider energy issues as the main theme of the current session and recommended that ESCAP should play an active role as the regional focal point for further work in the field of energy in the region.

266. The Commission considered in detail the future role of ESCAP in the field of energy and strongly recommended that ESCAP should avoid duplication of work with other organizations, that the ESCAP programme of work should be carefully tailored to the felt needs and priorities of the developing ESCAP countries and that due priority should be given to the preparatory and follow-up work required in connexion with the forthcoming United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

267. The Commission recommended that ESCAP should play a catalytic role in promoting and co-ordinating new initiatives in the field of energy in the region. High priority should be given to the collection, standardization, assessment and analysis of energy and energy-related data. The importance of systematizing the collection and dissemination of information was also emphasized.

268. The Commission stressed the importance of policy-oriented research in the future work programme of ESCAP in the field of energy. *Inter alia*, priority needed to be given to in-depth research which could assist developing member countries in the domestic pricing of energy products, in assessing various aspects of energy and development, in determining appropriate fiscal policies in the field of energy, in assessing and suggesting means of meeting rural energy needs and in various aspects of energy-use efficiency in major economic sectors. Some countries requested assistance in determining capital investment requirements, unravelling terms of petroleum supply contracts, evaluating the viability of bulk oil supply and assessing the impact of energy prices on balances of payments.

269. The Commission recommended the provision of technical assistance on a selective basis, particularly to the smaller developing countries of the region, in such fields as resource surveys, energy planning and the compilation and analysis of energy data.

270. The Commission stressed the importance of training personnel in those fields and recommended that ESCAP should assist developing member countries in obtaining adequate training facilities.

Expanded functions of the regional commissions: implications for the terms of reference of ESCAP

271. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/214.

272. The Commission was of the opinion that discussions under the current item were appropriate and timely. ESCAP had grown considerably in scope and importance since its inception, and it had become necessary to clarify its role carefully and determine its place and function within the United Nations system.

273. It was recognized that the special place that ESCAP and the other regional commissions must hold within the United Nations system derived from their general multisectoral and multidisciplinary functions, their role in policy making at the regional level, their special capacity to serve as co-ordinatory bodies in the regions and their functions of collecting, analysing and disseminating information.

274. The Commission was generally favourably disposed towards the restructuring process with a view to making its role more effective for the region. It stressed the importance of continuing and expediting the process. Some impatience was expressed at the slow progress in that respect, although it was recognized that certain significant changes in the role and functions of ESCAP had been made in recent years. Those changes included the conferring on ESCAP of executing agency status and its closer relationship with UNDP; the first

steps that had been made in the streamlining of the conference structure; and the limited devolution of resources from United Nations Headquarters to the region. As to the last point, it was emphasized that any increases in resources in the region as part of the process of devolution should be matched by corresponding decreases in resources at Headquarters.

275. The Commission's discussions referred to the five principal subject areas covered by document E/ESCAP/214: the functional role of ESCAP within the United Nations system; co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level; programme planning at the regional level; promotion of economic co-operation among developing countries; and access to information and expertise.

276. With regard to the general functions of ESCAP and the other regional commissions as policy-making and negotiating forums, some delegations warned that the new definition of the role of the regional commissions had to be carefully worked out. It needed to be understood that the regional commissions, in performing those functions, would not take over but rather reinforce the role played by the global assemblies. In respect of policy-making functions, ESCAP had its full part to play. In that general context, the desirability of convening high-level meetings of eminent persons was referred to by several delegations as an appropriate medium for discussing policy issues. A few delegations expressed reservations about the convening of meetings of eminent persons and preferred meetings of governmental experts. Mention was made of the pre-negotiations functions of ESCAP, which had taken on increasing importance. The Commission recognized the need to enhance its role at the post-global-negotiation stage, particularly in the context of the implementation of the International Development Strategy at the regional level, and in the regional disaggregation of plans of action drawn up in global forums.

277. The Commission commented on the broad functions of ESCAP as an interagency co-ordinating body. In that regard, positive reference was made to the arrangements already developed in the field of integrated rural development. The Commission felt that ESCAP should, in consultation with the specialized agencies, seek ways of extending its co-ordinatory functions to other fields. The suggestion was also made that team leadership by ESCAP should be developed beyond the intersecretariat stage to the intergovernmental level. Several delegations expressed support for better interagency co-ordination on the grounds that it would lead to less duplication of activities and an improved use of resources.

278. As to the question of programming, the Commission was in favour of greater harmonization of programming procedures and formats. The strengthening of the authority of the Commission in determining its work programme was also mentioned in that context. Several

delegations raised the question of priorities. The Commission felt strongly that comprehensive reappraisal of the priorities attached to the ESCAP programme was required not merely at the sectoral level but also on an intersectoral basis. The view was also expressed that the programmes of the Commission and the regional institutions under its auspices should be subject to periodic reappraisal in order to ensure their continuing effectiveness. Furthermore, it was stressed that the priorities of the Commission should be taken into account by the funding countries and agencies.

279. With regard to the role of ESCAP in promoting co-operation, it was noted that there were many co-operative arrangements which demonstrated that aspect of the Commission's work. Stress was laid on the need for ESCAP to devote its attention more to interregional co-operation through interaction among the regional commissions.

280. There was general support for ESCAP having greater access to the information and expertise available in different parts of the United Nations system, to enable it to perform its functions more effectively. However, the Commission felt that the information field was one in which the United Nations system was most prone to duplication. More exchange should therefore take place in the context of an increasingly rational distribution of responsibilities for information collection and dissemination within the United Nations system, in such a way as to avoid further proliferation and overlapping.

281. The Commission felt that it was inappropriate at the current stage of the restructuring process to consider a revision of its terms of reference: the existing ones were sufficiently loose and wide-ranging to allow the Commission ample scope to manage and amend its activities. However, the Commission urged that, in pursuance of General Assembly decision 35/440 of 16 December 1980, the opportunity should be taken to make the intentions of the Commission known to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, regarding the further steps which should be taken in restructuring.

282. The Commission adopted resolution 219 (XXXVII) on expanding and strengthening its functions in the context of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system.

Progress, proposals and issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP

- (a) Review of the implementation of the programme of work and priorities since the thirty-sixth session of the Commission**
- (b) Programme changes, 1981, and programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983**

(c) Medium-term plan, 1984-1989

283. The Commission considered the reports of the legislative committees which had met during the year prior to the thirty-seventh session, the report of the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development and sectoral papers as indicated in each sector below. It also considered document E/ESCAP/216 containing proposed programme changes, 1981, document E/ESCAP/217 containing the proposed programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, and document E/ESCAP/219 containing a report on the implementation of the programme of work and priorities, 1978-1979.

284. In his introductory statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the major issues presented in the documents on progress, proposals and issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP. The sectoral papers provided background information, giving a review of progress in 1980 and identifying issues for consideration in the programmes of work and priorities for 1981 and for 1982-1983.

285. The Commission reviewed those issues in the various sectors of the work programme, sector by sector, as reflected in the following paragraphs.

Food and agriculture

286. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/199 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/206 and Add.1.

287. Agricultural production and food security were emphasized as items of major concern for the current decade. The declining food reserves in member countries could lead to another food crisis and the efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in food and improve the living conditions of the rural masses were made increasingly difficult by the international economic situation.

288. The Commission commended the secretariat on its realistic programme on food and agriculture, emphasizing exchange of experience among member countries and practical programmes at the grass-roots level. It was also felt that the annual joint FAO/ESCAP review played a very useful role in harmonizing the activities of both organizations and avoiding duplication.

289. In considering the programme of work on food and agriculture for 1982-1983, the Commission assigned to the Committee on Agricultural Development the further examination of the programme at its fourth session, to be held in 1981. Some delegations indicated that they might have additional proposals to submit on that occasion, for instance, on matters of agrarian reform and rural institutions. Serious concern was also expressed over the accelerated rate of deforestation and the secretariat was requested to give attention to that problem.

Special study on food supply

290. As indicated in document E/ESCAP/206/Add.1, it had been proposed that a special study should be made on food supply as a major topic for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session in 1982. As a preliminary step, an *Ad Hoc* Advisory Group Meeting had been convened at Bangkok in January 1981 to examine a general outline for the study.

291. The Commission endorsed the report of the *Ad Hoc* Advisory Group Meeting. It welcomed that initiative on the part of the secretariat in view of the great concern expressed by several member countries over continuing food shortages and the problems of ensuring adequate nutritional standards, especially for their lower-income population. It was therefore recommended that the study should be undertaken immediately and that extrabudgetary funds should be made available urgently for its implementation.

292. The revised outline for the study, emphasizing the distributive aspects of food supply, was generally found acceptable, although the point was made that a study of distribution policies of national Governments might not be fully relevant to a regional study of the nature envisaged. It was suggested that the section on distributive aspects should not be merely analytical but should also indicate policy options for consideration by the Commission. The representative of FAO offered the co-operation of his organization in the preparation of the study and indicated that a number of existing technical reports could be used for that purpose.

293. The view was expressed that the secretariat should pursue the proposed measures for activating the Asian Rice Trade Fund and called upon the rice-exporting countries of the region to extend full support to the Fund.

Agricultural plans, programmes and information systems

294. The Commission continued to attach high priority to programme activities relating to improvement in agricultural plans, programmes and information systems and strongly urged bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to allocate adequate financial resources to those activities. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Agricultural Development Planning and Policies regarding a regional action programme, with emphasis on training in plan and project formulation, technical assistance in agricultural planning, a forum for the exchange of ideas among agricultural planners and scientists to promote TCDC, and assistance for visits by senior policy makers and planners to various small-scale farmer development projects.

295. While generally endorsing the recommendations of the Seminar on Agricultural Development Planning, which had been hosted by the Government of the USSR at Tashkent, the Commission particularly urged the

secretariat to convene a meeting of agricultural development planners once every two years. That was considered necessary because the structure and composition of the food and agricultural sector were undergoing changes in many developing countries in the ESCAP region. Those changes called for substantive consultations on modifications required in intrasectoral as well as intersectoral relationships which were important considerations in agricultural development planning and policy formulation. The question was raised, however, whether further strengthening of the Committee on Agricultural Development should not be given higher priority.

296. The attention of the Commission was drawn to the two priority projects which had been approved at its thirty-sixth session in 1980: a training workshop in agricultural project preparation and analysis, with emphasis on food production, and a consultation forum on improving development assistance for increased food production. In the interests of augmenting and stabilizing food production in the region, the Commission requested donor agencies to provide the necessary funds for planning and implementing those priority projects during 1981-1982.

297. The Commission expressed satisfaction with programmes supporting the development of agricultural information systems, which had been supported financially and technically by the Government of Japan. It recommended the continuation of the agricultural information development scheme, which had served a very useful purpose in helping member countries to upgrade their agricultural information base and in promoting TCDC. It also indicated its support for the continued publication of the *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* and the expansion of the correspondents' network. It recommended that regular budget funds should be sought to keep the scheme operational. It expressed appreciation of the initiative of ESCAP in organizing training courses for farm broadcasting programme producers as part of the project on regional co-operation on farm broadcasting. The Government of Japan announced continuation of financial support for the project for another year.

ARSAP/agro-pesticides

298. Several countries participating in the ARSAP training programme for agro-pesticide distributors indicated that they had found the project very useful and other countries indicated their intention to participate in the near future. It was noted that participating countries shared in the cost of national training programmes.

299. Since the extrabudgetary funds available for the project were to be terminated by the end of 1981, some suggestions were made to the effect that the Commission should continue the information services on the supply, distribution and use of agro-pesticides; an alter-

native proposal was to integrate those activities with the forthcoming UNIDO/UNDP regional programme in that field. Mention was also made of the useful contributions by the Centre for Overseas Pest Research of the United Kingdom and by FAO.

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

300. Thirteen member countries had so far joined the Network. The project on the improvement of lower-level fertilizer distribution capacity initiated by FADINAP in 1980 was commended as a good example of TCDC and its technical publications had been found very useful. Several delegations thanked the Government of the Netherlands for its generous contribution to the programme in the past and urged ESCAP to provide increasing regular budget resources to ensure the continuation of the project, with the co-operation of additional donor countries. The Commission was informed that the recruitment of a team leader for FADINAP was being actively pursued by FAO, which was associated with the project.

CGPRT crops

301. The Commission reiterated the importance of the development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops in the context of the potential contribution that those crops could make to meeting the increasing demand for food, animal feed and raw materials for industrial uses, including agro-energy materials. Work in that field would bring increased income to the rural households, employment and foreign exchange earnings and/or savings to the country. Some of those crops were also a cheap source of protein and an excellent source of soil enrichment.

302. Unanimous support was given to the early operation of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of CGPRT Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, which was designed to be multidisciplinary in nature, combining both the agro-technical and socio-economic aspects of those crops, and aimed at the development of production, utilization and trade of CGPRT crops in the region through a network of national research and development activities.

303. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the host facilities agreement was now at the final stage. It appreciated the information provided by the representative of Indonesia that funds amounting to \$US 758,000 required for the construction of a modern building for the Centre had already been appropriated by his Government and that the construction could be started at any time after the signing of the agreement.

304. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the Director-designate of the Centre had been recruited with the assistance of the Government of Japan and was expected to arrive in April 1981. The Commission

expressed its appreciation of the generous contributions of \$US 116,400, \$41,200 and \$30,000 from the Governments of Japan, Australia and the Republic of Korea respectively for the project. It also noted with appreciation the statement made by the representative of France that his Government would provide an expert to the Centre in 1981. The representative of Malaysia reiterated the willingness of his Government to contribute to the activities of the Centre. The Commission noted with appreciation that a seminar on CGPRT crops would be held in the USSR in 1981.

305. The Commission appealed to donor countries and international organizations, particularly UNDP, to provide financial support to the Centre. It urged close co-operation with international research and development institutes and specialized agencies, particularly FAO, with a view to achieving the maximum benefit for the countries of the region. In that connexion, the Commission noted with satisfaction that a preliminary discussion had been held at New Delhi on 26 February 1981 among the representatives of the Government of Indonesia, UNDP, ESCAP and FAO to work out the modalities of co-operation in the implementation of the project. The representative of FAO assured the Commission of that organization's co-operation with ESCAP in the establishment and operation of the Centre and recalled the earlier agreement reached among UNDP, FAO and ESCAP to merge FAO's project proposal on establishing a network of CGPRT research and development activities with the ESCAP project at Bogor, Indonesia. The modalities of that merger would be further discussed between the parties concerned.

Rural development

306. It was recognized that agriculture and rural development were closely related and that special emphasis had to be given to the effective participation of the rural poor in local development. Some delegations, however, preferred to discuss rural development activities under a separate item and stressed the need for an integrated approach to rural development within ESCAP and with the other agencies concerned.

307. The secretariat was commended on the series of national workshops that had been held in seven member countries for the purpose of encouraging the formulation of more systematic guidelines on local-level planning for rural development. That initiative helped in stimulating progress in the planning methodology and in strengthening the planning machinery at the local level. It was suggested that ESCAP could also help in testing those guidelines experimentally in selected areas as a basis for achieving more significant results.

308. The Commission took note of the work being implemented on small farmer development programmes, including small farmer group marketing, by the secretariat in co-ordination with FAO. The guidelines for

formulating small farmer development projects were endorsed by the Commission and it was requested that they be widely distributed. Follow-up activities on small farmer development programmes were also endorsed, especially as related to facilitating the exchange of experience and TCDC activities between countries of the region. In that regard, several delegations urged the secretariat to establish a programme for the visit by policy makers and planners to small farmer development projects in the region.

309. Several delegations stressed the need to focus on the role of women in rural development. Special mention was made of the joint ESCAP/FAO project aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of women in fisheries, which was expected to make a significant contribution in that field.

310. The Commission also took note of the progress made in the project on the changing role of women in agriculture and recommended continuation of that project. The representative of Malaysia confirmed the offer of his Government to host a workshop on women's participation in paddy production and processing towards the end of 1981 during the paddy transplanting season. The Commission was informed of the offers of the Governments of Pakistan and Sri Lanka to host similar activities on the established pattern of the Anand workshop relating to the specific agricultural activities most relevant to their respective countries. The Commission urged the donor agencies to continue their financial support to those activities.

Co-operative movement

311. The Commission commended the secretariat on the implementation of resolution 196 (XXXV) on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific. It noted the important role played by co-operatives in economic and social development in the developing member countries of the ESCAP region. It also noted the role of the co-operatives in agricultural reform, and the part they played in the life of rural communities in the member countries.

312. Some delegations requested the Executive Secretary to continue the study of the co-operative movement especially in areas which were thought under-explored, as reported in the document on the implementation of resolution 196 (XXXV). Those areas included the analysis of the trend towards production co-operatives, the role of co-operatives in agrarian reform and the analysis of the social composition of co-operatives. The secretariat was requested to initiate with FAO and ILO the co-ordination of an evaluation of United Nations-sponsored projects for co-operative development, in order to obtain information which would facilitate further improvement of co-operatives within the region for general dissemination.

313. Attention should be given to exchanging experience on the co-operative movement between countries of the region. In that regard, the USSR delegation indicated that country's willingness to contribute by assisting in research, training of personnel, and holding seminars on the development of co-operatives.

314. The Commission adopted resolution 216 (XXXVII) on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific.

Development planning, projections and policies

315. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/213 and E/ESCAP/225.

316. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Development Planning on its third session. The activities undertaken by the secretariat in the field of development planning, projections and policies were commended, and there was general agreement that the secretariat's activities in that field should be intensified.

317. Several delegations referred to General Assembly resolution 35/56 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and pointed out that ESCAP had an important role to play inasmuch as the Strategy entrusted to it the responsibility of review and appraisal at the regional level. They referred to the decision of the Commission at its thirty-sixth session that it would consider the question of the elaboration of regional and sub-regional strategies in the light of finalization of the new Strategy as a matter of priority at its thirty-seventh session. Yet that item had not found a place on the agenda of the thirty-seventh session.

318. The secretariat noted that it had already initiated in-depth studies of the situation in the region with respect to specific issues raised in the Strategy. It pointed out that the study on short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region, contained in a major document before the Commission, constituted one such exercise. As the Strategy had been adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 1980, too brief a time had elapsed prior to the thirty-seventh Commission session to permit a meaningful review and appraisal of the region's performance under the new Strategy.

319. Many delegations emphasized that the Executive Secretary should present to the Commission for consideration at its thirty-eighth session a report: (a) elaborating regional and subregional strategies in the light of the Strategy as a matter of priority, and (b) proposing regional action programmes towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Strategy.

320. The Executive Secretary should also prepare, as part of the regular activity of the Commission, reviews

of major aspects of development in different sectors, identifying the progress and appraising the factors which accounted for shortfalls. The first of such reviews should be presented at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

321. It was suggested, in that connexion, that the proposed terms of reference of the Committee on Development Planning as amended by the Committee at its previous session should be further amended by revising the Committee's first function to read as follows: "1. To review and appraise the progress of development in the region and to make recommendations on developmental strategies and policies of importance to the region in the light of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade."

322. The secretariat's initiative towards the establishment and operation of a regional information system on development planning was commended by the Commission. It was expected that the exchange of development information to be accomplished through that system would serve as an essential means of bringing about the adoption or adaptation by various countries of the development planning methods, practices and procedures which had been found successful means of improving the development planning capabilities of other countries. It was pointed out with satisfaction that that system would foster further co-operation among the member countries of the region in the field of development planning.

323. The Commission noted with approval the secretariat's activities in the area of economic and social development policies and strategies. The suggestion was offered by one delegation that future activities in that area might focus on four major topics, namely, the means of generating an acceleration in economic growth, the means of satisfying the community needs of the people, the appropriate international structural and institutional changes for promoting growth in the countries of the region, and such issues as the role of public enterprises in development and the means of combining growth with equity. Another delegation suggested that the secretariat's study of the domestic policy implications of the external trade instability of the South Pacific countries might usefully be reframed to consider appropriate domestic policies under conditions of severe resource constraints, such as were faced by small island countries, as that was the fundamental issue confronting those economies. It was further recommended that seminars and studies addressing the problem of how to improve the performance of public enterprises should play an important role in the secretariat's work, particularly because of the often inefficient performance of public enterprises.

324. The Commission welcomed the work undertaken by the secretariat in the field of development planning. It noted with appreciation the secretariat's proposals for further work in that area, which would assist develop-

ment planners in the region in their task of shaping and guiding the process of national economic and social development. The activities undertaken by the secretariat with respect to the analysis of methods of annual planning and regional (subnational) planning over the previous two years were underlined. Appreciation was also voiced of the seminars and training courses for middle-level development planning personnel administered by the secretariat in recent years.

325. A number of countries suggested additional topics within the field of development planning for the Commission's consideration. One delegation felt that, while future work on planning methods should continue to focus on all the major aspects of planning, namely, plan formulation, implementation, monitoring and appraisal, special attention might well be devoted to improving monitoring and implementation techniques at the national level in the light of the work currently being carried out by the United Nations with respect to the International Development Strategy. Several other delegations suggested that work should be expanded with respect to the relationship between development planning and fiscal planning and between the physical and fiscal aspects of planning. Other areas noted as deserving of special attention were the issue of modalities of popular participation in the development process and the processes and techniques of planning "from the bottom up". It was also suggested that the secretariat might usefully examine methods whereby developing countries of the region might plan the absorption of development assistance so as best to pursue their growth and equity objectives. As a complement to planning work at the national level, it was proposed that work to improve implementation planning, including budgetary planning, at the sectoral level would serve a valuable purpose in reducing the degree of abstraction too frequently encountered in development plans and their application to actual planning situations. Several delegations emphasized that activities should be expanded in the field of energy planning within the context of over-all development planning, with the added suggestion that such studies should be incorporated into work on integrated planning. It was noted that that array of activities would substantially increase the scope of the secretariat's activities in the area of development planning methods and it was therefore recommended that the staff of the Development Planning Division, the secretariat unit responsible for that component of the work programme, should be reinforced.

326. The Commission adopted resolution 213 (XXXVII) on a unified approach to economic and social development and planning.

327. One delegation recommended that the Conference of Asian and Pacific Development Planners should be reinstated on a recurrent basis beginning in 1982. It was considered that examination of the results of various studies recently undertaken, such as those on the relationship between development planning and fiscal

planning and harmonization of the objectives of economic growth with equity, deserved greater attention. A recurrent planners conference for the discussion of such important issues would provide a suitable venue for the exchange of views and experience on such important planning issues. It was suggested by another delegation that the proposal for such a series of meetings was a very attractive one but that those meetings might more appropriately be convened on an *ad hoc* basis or might be carried out in combination with the recurrent sessions of the Committee on Development Planning.

328. The Commission commended the secretariat's efforts in the field of macro-economic modelling and projections and recommended that activities in that field should continue to be pursued with vigour. The project to develop an interlinked country model system for forecasting and planning economic relations among ESCAP member countries and between the region and the rest of the world was strongly endorsed. The secretariat's proposal to convene a conference on input-output modelling was favourably received. The work on long-term projections for the ESCAP countries initiated in 1977 was considered useful in formulating development policies for the region as a whole. More important, however, was the need to assist the developing countries of the region in designing disaggregated macro models suited to their individual conditions and including all major economic sectors, in order to permit policy simulations and the application of control theory for use in the preparation of medium- and long-term national development plans. The growing access of those countries to computer facilities was making such a project increasingly viable.

329. It was recommended that the effects of international economic changes on the domestic economies of the region could be explored through foreign sector variables of such disaggregated macro models. The examination of macro models currently existing in a few countries suggested that there was a deficiency in research on the linkages through which domestic and international economies were interrelated. The effects of changes in commercial policies, such as those in the petroleum industry, on domestic activity and in international linkages were seen to be highly sensitive to the empirical estimates of those elasticities. Very few estimates of such elasticities were currently available for developing countries, and it was hoped that the secretariat's activities in that field might provide a very useful breakthrough.

330. In the area of ECDC, the work programme was also favourably received. Several delegations mentioned that activities to promote co-operation among developing countries of the region were already under way, for instance, in the area of energy resource transfers, supply priorities, joint exploration and downstream development activities. There was a need for the secretariat to avoid duplication of such work, particularly with respect to issues related to the impact of energy

on the balance of payments and assessment of capital requirements already taking place in various multilateral and bilateral forums. The secretariat's assistance to ASEAN economic integration was welcomed by several delegations, and the proposed project to promote the subregion's industrial harmonization was endorsed, especially as that work might have a beneficial influence on economic co-operation in other subregions. One delegation, however, expressed the hope that the proposed project to promote the subregion's industrial harmonization would not impede economic co-operation in other subregions.

331. Several delegations voiced concern that insufficient time had intervened between the third session of the Committee on Development Planning and the thirty-seventh session of the Commission to permit proper consideration of the report of the Committee. In accordance with the Commission's conference structure, the Committee on Development Planning was scheduled to hold its fourth and fifth sessions in 1982 and 1984. It was proposed that the 1984 session should be convened well in advance of the Commission session so that the Committee's recommendations might be properly reflected in the documentation for the annual session of the Commission. That procedure would facilitate consideration of the secretariat's work with respect to review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategy at the 1984 Commission session and thus provide the fullest input into the deliberations on that subject scheduled to take place in the General Assembly that year.

Industry, human settlements and technology

332. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/190, E/ESCAP/210, E/ESCAP/221 and E/ESCAP/222.

333. It fully endorsed the report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its fourth session and commended the pragmatic approach adopted by the Committee in dealing with the subjects within its purview.

Industry

334. The Commission, in particular, commended the approach on industrial development, which had been the main theme for discussion at the fourth session. The approach defined by the Committee was balanced and comprehensive. As had been urged by the ESCAP ministers of industry at their respective meetings, the approach elaborated by the Committee had focused on the building up of the national manufacturing capacities. It had also sought to expand the base of industrialization through intersectoral linkages and wider spatial dispersal. Wider participation of people was sought through larger industrial employment and appropriate choice of the product mix so as to cater for the needs of the masses. The approach attached due weight to the development

of basic industries and their linkages with medium- and small-scale industries. It also pointed out the imperative need for socio-economic reforms which could prepare the developing societies for modern growth. The Commission was of the opinion that the stream of work relating to industrial policies and strategies undertaken through the successive meetings of the ESCAP ministers of industry and the fourth session of the Committee constituted a distinct contribution to the subject. That work ought to be continued with full vigour. The Commission expressed the hope that the meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry scheduled for July 1981 would be a further landmark in that regard.

335. The Commission pointed out the several adverse elements in the current global environment for industrial growth in the developing countries. Reference was made in particular to the instability in the monetary system, growing protectionism in some of the industrialized countries against the import of manufactured products from the developing countries, problems relating to the supply and price of energy, and the balance-of-trade and balance-of-payments problems of the developing countries. It was felt that the documentation to be submitted to the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry at its forthcoming meeting should take full account of those problems and bring out their implications for national policies.

336. The Commission, however, emphasized that the current difficulties in the global environment must not deter the developing countries from proceeding with their efforts to achieve rapid rates of industrial development. In fact, that was the very time when the policy makers had to concentrate upon the development of the manufacturing and processing capacity of their countries. There could be no justification for dilution of their growth targets.

337. The Commission recalled the decision of the Third General Conference of UNIDO on the disaggregation of the Lima target into regional, sectoral and time targets so that specific strategies could be evolved for their realization. It noted that the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO had so far not accorded priority to that item of work and that funds had not been allocated for that purpose. It also noted, however, that the studies being undertaken by the UNIDO modelling group for the development of alternative scenarios for the achievement of the Lima target were being expanded and that the relevant branch of UNIDO would hold consultations in that regard with the ESCAP secretariat.

338. The Commission reiterated the continued validity of the directions of reorientation of industrial policies indicated by the ESCAP ministers of industry. Of the utmost importance was the extent and quality of linkages between agriculture and industry. The Commission commended the various studies that had been undertaken by the ESCAP secretariat on the subject

and, in particular, recalled with appreciation the study on agro-industrial terms of trade in the sugar sector. It urged that similar studies be undertaken for the other agro-industrial sectors of interest to the ESCAP member countries, such as cotton, oil seeds and rubber.

339. The Commission took note of the institutional arrangements which had been made in some of the member countries to study matters relating to intersectoral linkages. A national panel had been constituted for that purpose in Thailand and a production council had been established in Indonesia to serve as a forum for consultation between the ministers of industry, agriculture, mines and energy, labour etc. The Commission urged that suitable arrangements should also be envisaged in the other countries to ensure the consideration of the issues relating to intersectoral linkages on a continuing and co-ordinated basis.

340. The Commission recalled the observation of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry that certain new and non-traditional agro-industries could provide excellent scope for fostering intersectoral linkages through sound institutional and exchange arrangements. As pointed out by the Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro-industries, with Emphasis on Production of Energy and New Resources, held at Tokyo in October 1980, energy crops and their processing into alcohol constituted one such promising sector. The Commission strongly endorsed the recommendation of the Meeting that a regional study should be carried out to assess the feasibility of raising energy crops in the countries of the region and of their processing into energy liquids. It noted with appreciation the deputation of an expert by the Government of Japan as a non-reimbursable contribution to ESCAP to assist in such a study. It also noted that, if requested by the secretariat, the Government of Japan would be prepared to extend financial and technical assistance for a regional programme of information on biomass and biogas energy, the need for which had been expressed by most of the member countries.

341. The Commission took note of the various activities of the secretariat in the field of agro-industries. Referring to a further recommendation made by the Intergovernmental Meeting, it saw the utility of a regional development council for leather and leather products. It recommended, however, that before undertaking the establishment of such a council, the financial implications should be clearly worked out, and that the proposed regional pesticides development programme should take into account the programme already being undertaken by the ASEAN countries with financial assistance from UNDP.

342. The Commission emphasized the need for mutually reinforcing linkages between the basic and large-scale industries and the medium- and small-scale industries so that manufacturing capacity could be generated on an extensive scale. In that regard, the secretariat had

undertaken some studies to bring out the role that the manufacturing undertakings in the public sector could play in stimulating ancillary growth of small-scale units and in providing them with management, technological and financial support. The recommendations made in the studies deserved to be considered for implementation by the member Governments and there was a need for appropriate arrangements at the national level to consider measures for the promotion of intra-industrial linkages. The Commission took note of the recent initiative taken in Indonesia aimed at assigning a "foster father" role to large-scale industry, promoting subcontracting and reserving certain lines of production for the small-scale sector. The outcome of that initiative would be of considerable interest to the member countries.

343. With regard to the spatial dispersal of industry within the countries, the Commission reiterated its appreciation of the project on industrialization in non-metropolitan areas which had been undertaken with financial support from Japan and India. Some good pilot projects had been evolved, the implementation of which could stimulate industrial growth in the areas concerned. It was noted that the implementation of those pilot projects would be approached through bilateral arrangements between the developing countries concerned and the potential donor countries. It was urged, however, that the ESCAP secretariat continue to make efforts with a view to securing the early implementation of the pilot projects, either through bilateral arrangements or by attracting the interest of the multi-lateral financing agencies, such as ADB.

344. The Commission agreed with the emphasis placed by the Committee on the development of infrastructure to facilitate industrial growth. It agreed that to ensure due allocation of resources for that purpose, it was desirable to evolve differentiated viability criteria for infrastructure projects which would go beyond mere considerations of commercial viability and would also reflect the development spin-off of the infrastructure projects. The Commission called upon the secretariat to undertake work in that sphere by involving experts from the member countries as well as from the financing agencies.

345. It was agreed that indigenous capabilities to generate and implement industrial projects were a prerequisite for the developing countries in accelerating the pace of their industrial growth. The Commission noted with appreciation the appointment of an adviser in the ESCAP secretariat for a period of six months, with financial support provided by UNIDO, to render advice to the member countries for the development of local engineering, design and consultancy professions. Keeping in view the requirements of the member countries, his services needed to be extended over a longer period. The Commission was confident that the seminar on engineering, design and consultancy services, to be held later in 1981, for which host facilities had been

offered by the Government of Indonesia, would prove to be extremely useful.

346. The Commission pointed out the importance of national planning and of the role of the Government in evolving and implementing the strategic approach to industrial development, as defined by the Committee at its fourth session. The public sector, in particular, had a vital role to play in the building-up of the national manufacturing capacity and as an instrument for policy reorientation. That had been amply brought out by the studies undertaken by the ESCAP secretariat in recent months with the assistance of Soviet experts. It was felt that those studies should be published and disseminated widely. The Commission was pleased that, with financial support provided by UNDP, an adviser had been appointed in the secretariat to interact with the member Governments with regard to the policies and measures for enhancing the role of the public sector industries. The Commission also noted the usefulness of the seminar which had been held in November 1980 at RCTT, in collaboration with the International Centre for Public Enterprises, to consider the problems of technology transfer in public enterprises. It also noted with interest the proposed inter-country project on the study of the role of public enterprises in the economic development of the developing countries of the ESCAP region and expressed the hope that the study would be carried out as early as possible.

347. While the Commission expressed satisfaction with the aforesaid activities relating to manufacturing undertakings in the public sector, it called upon the secretariat to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of resolution 197 (XXXV) relating generally to the role of the public sector.

348. The Commission also drew attention to the important role of private enterprises and the need to encourage entrepreneurship on the widest possible scale.

349. For the maximization of industrial investments, the Commission recognized the need for increased domestic savings and the significant supplementary role of direct foreign investments. The Commission endorsed the activities of the secretariat aimed at improving the availability of information on investment opportunities and the relevant regulations and assisting in the improvement of the general climate for foreign investments. It observed, however, that in the conduct of those activities the interests of the host countries must receive the highest consideration, and regulation of the foreign investors should be given due attention, so as to conform to the interests of the host countries. The Commission noted the value of the successive meetings and seminars on foreign investment and tax administration, the most recent being that held at RCTT in October 1980. It was also hoped that the regional bureau of fiscal documentation, which was being set up at Colombo, would prove useful to the member coun-

tries as well as to the potential foreign investors. The Commission noted the offer by the Government of Japan to provide expert services to assist the member countries in rationalizing their regulatory arrangements in respect of foreign investments.

350. With regard to investment promotion and tax administration, the Commission felt that the activities in that area should follow a holistic approach, reflecting the concern not only to promote investments but also to regulate the foreign investments, so as to conform to the national interests of the host countries. In order to ensure such an approach, it was suggested that if any rearrangement of work within the secretariat relating to foreign investments was required, so as to avoid duplication, it could be considered by the Executive Secretary.

351. The Commission endorsed the emphasis in the activities of the secretariat on promoting regional and subregional co-operation in the field of industrialization. It commended the proposal that specific subregional projects should be evolved, with the involvement of development banks and the national authorities concerned. It noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of India to provide the services of an expert, as a non-reimbursable contribution, to undertake desk studies on the subject. It also noted the suggestion that studies should be conducted on basic engineering and capital goods industries with the objective of strengthening co-operation between the countries of the region in those industrial sectors.

352. The proposed South Pacific industrial survey would be extremely useful in identifying the potential in the subregion and in disclosing concrete opportunities for subregional industrial projects. The Commission expressed regret that, owing to the lack of a decision on the choice of the team leader for the survey, it could not yet be commenced. It noted the statement of the representative of Australia that a team leader had now been nominated and that his services would be offered with Australian financial support. It was hoped that his appointment would be finalized quickly in consultation with ADB and that the survey would commence without further delay.

353. The Commission reiterated the value of the ESCAP "club" as a mechanism to promote inter-country co-operation for industrial development, particularly for the benefit of the least developed countries. The solidarity meetings organized by UNIDO at Kabul in May 1979 and at Dacca in December 1980, in collaboration with the "club", had been extremely useful in securing commitments of assistance from the participating countries in respect of specific industrial projects. It was of the utmost importance to pursue the implementation of those commitments. The Commission noted the steps which UNIDO proposed to take in that regard, in co-operation with the ESCAP secretariat, to implement the decisions taken at the Dacca meeting. It called for similar steps to be taken to implement the pledges of assistance made at the Kabul meeting.

354. The Commission noted that the next solidarity meeting in the region would be held at Kathmandu in the first quarter of 1982 and that the ESCAP secretariat would be extending assistance to UNIDO through its various stages, including the preparation of the assistance projects.

355. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Committee that the scope of the "club" as a mechanism for co-operation should be expanded. It noted with appreciation the offer by the Government of Australia to provide the services of an expert to assist the secretariat in that area.

356. Mention was made of the positive achievements of the New Zealand scheme to encourage joint ventures between New Zealand and the neighbouring island countries through a package of incentives. UNIDO proposed to study the scheme to ascertain whether it could be adopted as a model for industrial co-operation between other countries.

357. It was observed that the activities of the secretariat in the promotion of industrial development in the least developed countries needed a sharper focus. The secretariat should undertake regular studies of the prospects and problems of industrial development in those countries and provide assistance in the formulation of their development plans. It should, in particular, assist in the development of small-scale industry and industrial co-operatives and in the generation of technical skills.

358. The success of the prime-mover industry project was highly appreciated. It was noted that work on the industrial estate in west Nepal, which had been designed under that project, would be carried out with bilateral assistance from the Netherlands. The prime-mover project would now concentrate on activities in Bangladesh. The representative of Afghanistan urged that the project which had been initiated earlier in his country should now be resumed.

359. The Commission appreciated the excellent collaboration between UNIDO and the ESCAP secretariat and expressed the hope that in the coming years it would be further deepened and diversified.

Technology

360. The Commission noted that since the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held in August 1979, the role of ESCAP in the field of technology had been considerably expanded. It was functioning as the regional nodal point for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. Through regional meetings and other mechanisms, it had sought to provide interaction between the policy makers in the member countries and to assist them in evolving institutional and policy initiatives for building up their technological capabilities. The Commission commended, in particular, the value of the two meetings held at Beijing in August and December 1980.

361. The Commission observed that the objective of the ESCAP activities in the field of technology should continue to be to assist the member countries in building up their national capabilities. The activities should therefore continue to focus on the institutional and policy frameworks, exchange of information and experiences, generation of technological manpower and skills and strengthening of research and development, particularly through inter-country and inter-institutional co-operation.

362. The Commission noted that the draft operational plan for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, which had been prepared at the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development and copies of which had been provided to the participants in the Preparatory Meeting, was under examination in the member countries. The reactions of the member countries would be made available at the forthcoming session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. The representatives of two countries stated that, on the basis of a preliminary examination, the draft plan had been found to be worthy of endorsement. It was observed that, to facilitate systematic implementation, the various programmes included in the plan ought to be ranked in order of weightage.

363. The Commission urged that, in keeping with the global plan and the requirements of the member countries, a regional operational plan should be evolved by the ESCAP secretariat. Thereafter, discussions could be arranged at the regional level in respect of each of the programme areas so that specific measures could be determined. The Commission noted that a congress for exchange of technological experience as well as a technology fair would be held in Sri Lanka in April 1981 as a follow-up of the Vienna Programme of Action.

364. The Commission noted that the United Nations Scientific and Technological Advisory Committee had now been appointed at the global level and that a decision on the establishment of similar regional bodies would be taken by the Intergovernmental Committee.

365. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment that a biennial survey of science and technology should be undertaken in the region. The content of that survey had to be carefully devised so as to ensure that it would prove to be of significant operational interest to the policy makers in the member countries.

366. With regard to the forthcoming ESCAP Meeting of Ministers of Science and Technology, the Commission emphasized the importance of adequate preparations so that it could produce concrete results. It recommended in particular that, in consultation with UNESCO, an appropriate mechanism should be devised so as to avoid undue duplication with CASTASIA II, scheduled for March 1982. The Commission noted the statement of

the representative of UNESCO that it would be possible to establish arrangements whereby the two meetings would be complementary.

367. The Commission welcomed the revival of ESCAP activities with regard to standardization. The Intergovernmental Meeting of Heads of Standards Institutions in the Region, held in November 1980, had correctly identified the focus of regional activities to be on generating consciousness of standards and on promoting the adoption of international standards. The Commission expressed the hope that UNDP, UNIDO and the International Organization for Standardization would extend the assistance required for the implementation of the activities recommended by that Meeting.

368. The Commission noted with satisfaction the impressive progress achieved by RCTT, which, though functioning on a tight budget, had undertaken a wide array of activities. By following the network approach it had sought to assist in building up the capabilities of the national institutions. It had received excellent support from the United Nations bodies concerned with different aspects of technology. The contribution already made by RCTT in improving institutional and policy frameworks in the field of science and technology, in generating network activities in relation to specific technological sectors, in providing interaction between policy makers and experts in different countries, in arranging for technological training etc. had been appreciated by the member countries. The Commission was pleased to note that the merit of that unique institution had been recognized by the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, which had sanctioned a regional project involving an outlay of \$US 1,242,000. It was also pleased to note that UNDP proposed to provide an amount of \$US 2,000,000 for programme support to RCTT during the 1982-1986 programming cycle. With the recent appointment of the Director of the Centre and of some other staff, it was expected that the implementation of the RCTT work programme would receive a fresh stimulus.

369. The Commission noted, however, the growing imbalance in the institutional strength of RCTT and the spread of its activities. It was realized that, in due course, the institutional expenditure of the Centre would have to be borne largely by the member countries. However, until the Centre became a self-supporting institution, it was essential that UNDP provide a reasonable amount of institutional support; otherwise, the capacity of the Centre to implement the tasks entrusted to it would remain limited. It was proposed, therefore, that in the allocation of its support during the 1982-1986 programming cycle, UNDP should exercise flexibility and permit a portion of its support to be used for institutional purposes.

370. At the same time, the Commission appealed to the member countries to increase their contributions to RCTT and repeat them on a yearly basis. It noted with appreciation the pledges of financial support made for

the year 1981 by the representatives of Australia, the Netherlands, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea. It was hoped that similar pledges would soon be made by other countries. The Commission acknowledged the assistance rendered to RCTT by experts deputed by the USSR. It welcomed the offer made by the representative of France to depute two short-term experts on the production of alcohol from agro-products and on mini hydro plants.

371. The Commission observed that one of the most important functions of RCTT was the collection, evaluation and dissemination of technological information. It was noted that work for the establishment of a regional technological information service had already been initiated and that the Interim Fund project provided for the acquisition of the requisite hardware material. The Commission expressed the hope that the establishment of the service would be expedited and that it would be fully linked, on the one hand, with the proposed global information system and, on the other, with the national institutions concerned. An important regional service should be to provide clearing-house facilities on industrial property and licensing arrangements and on technology transfer agreements.

372. Another important function of RCTT was to promote research and development, through inter-institutional linkages. The Expert Group Meeting held on the subject at Beijing in December 1980 had provided excellent guidelines in that regard, which should be actively followed up. A major effort should be devoted to the establishment of institutions of excellence which would also play a regional role. In that connexion, the Commission appreciated the proposal to establish an industrial tribology centre in China and supported the assignment of a regional role to such a centre. It noted that the preparatory work had already been initiated. The ESCAP secretariat was assisting in the formulation of the design of the centre and in the elaboration of its regional functions. The Commission expressed the hope that the Interim Fund and UNDP would extend their support for the building-up of the centre.

373. The Commission also commended the proposal to organize a visit of selected managers of research and development establishments to some developed and developing countries to enable them to acquire higher management skills and to promote the relationship of the research and development institutions with the production sectors.

374. The Commission noted the value of the discussions that the special adviser to RCTT had had with policy makers in some of the member countries. It was hoped that in the future RCTT would assist some of the countries in the establishment of their national centres for technology transfer. The Commission urged, in particular, that the project for the establishment of the national centre in Afghanistan, to be funded from the UNDP country indicative planning figure, should be implemented without further delay.

375. The Commission took note of the programme of RCTT with regard to new and renewable sources of energy, which would be implemented with financial support provided by the Interim Fund. The recent Symposium on Solar Science and Technology had been successful in bringing together leading experts and generating further interest in that subject in the region.

376. The representative of Fiji expressed the gratitude of his Government to RCTT for having organized a training workshop at Suva on matters relating to technology transfer. It was stated that a similar workshop would soon be organized for the benefit of the other island countries in the South Pacific. It was suggested that some funds should be earmarked from the Interim Fund for assessment of technology policies in the Pacific island countries.

377. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the UNDP review mission had reaffirmed the importance and usefulness of RNAM. The Network had successfully organized subnetworks around pre-identified agricultural machinery and implements and carried out surveys and studies on farm mechanization in several of the participating countries. It had supplied prototypes for testing and evaluation and promoted their evaluation and adoption. It had also provided training fellowships, arranged study tours and rendered support services to strengthen the capabilities of the national institutions. It had functioned as a clearing-house for information through the regular publication of newsletters, technical bulletins and digests.

378. The Commission further noted that the Governing Body of RNAM, at its third session in November 1980, had recommended the extension of the current phase of the project until the end of 1981 and the implementation of the second phase from the beginning of 1982. That recommendation had received the endorsement of UNDP and the participating agencies as well as the donor countries. The Commission noted in particular the statements made by the representatives of Australia and Japan that the contributions of those countries to RNAM would be continued through the proposed second phase.

379. The Commission endorsed the extension of the current phase of RNAM until the end of 1981 and the implementation of its second phase beginning in January 1982 and called upon UNDP to provide adequate financial support for that purpose. It further recommended that, while implementing the second phase, the membership of the network should be expanded, keeping in view the interest expressed by several member countries. In view of the experience during the first phase, the work programme of the network should also be strengthened and improved.

Human settlements

380. The Commission expressed great concern over the continuing deterioration in the living conditions

in human settlements and stressed the importance of the programmes in that sector. That deterioration had occurred despite the development efforts made to improve the situation, which, if not remedied, could have severe economic and social consequences. It emphasized that the issues of human settlements should be dealt with through comprehensive policy adjustments in almost every sector of socio-economic development and should be given high priority in the formulation of national development policies.

381. The Commission noted that some of the countries in the region had, in keeping with their own situation, perceptions and needs, developed and undertaken a wide range of activities relating to the improvement of human settlements. It recognized the resource constraints and inadequacy of mechanisms among developing countries in the region, which were further accentuated by mass poverty, excessive population growth and uneven distribution of population.

382. The Commission reiterated the importance of reviewing human settlements policies and the need to adopt a human settlements policy in each country as an integral part of the over-all development policy. In that respect, it endorsed the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting convened by the secretariat with the assistance of UNCHS, which had emphasized the need for evolving effective policies, programmes and strategies based on the concept of integration of physical planning with economic and social planning.

383. The Commission endorsed the secretariat submission that the major issues in the field of human settlements were: (a) integration of physical and economic planning in the field of human settlements; (b) urbanization and balanced distribution of population; (c) strengthening of local governments and authorities to enable them to perform their role and functions more effectively in human settlement activities; (d) land issues, including land control measures and land tenure systems; and (e) human settlements technology and construction and building materials industries. The Commission referred to the importance of the formulation and implementation of projects and programmes in the field of human settlements based on common issues and problems at the regional level, taking into full account the urgency, priorities and needs of the developing countries in the region. Attention should be given to tangible and area-specific programmes which would yield concrete results and should be responsive to the priority requirements of the countries concerned.

384. In view of the diversity and magnitude of the problems in human settlements, the Commission stressed the need to undertake studies, research activities and training programmes in the areas of building and construction technology, land use, settlement planning and policies, restraining the use of agricultural land for

urbanization, sites and services, low-cost housing, upgrading of slums and squatter settlements, standards for and the provision of shelter and infrastructure, energy issues, rural settlements, migration and urbanization at the country, subregional and regional levels.

385. In order to promote action-oriented projects and programmes, the Commission emphasized the relevance of providing suitable means for exchange of experience and information in the field of human settlements. It noted that some countries had established national information centres to be linked with a regional information system. More countries would need to take similar action to give the system a truly regional scope.

386. With regard to the study and review of the human settlements situation in the region, the Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the project. In that connexion, it stressed the need to involve the countries in the region and the various United Nations specialized agencies concerned with human settlements. It expressed its gratitude to the Government of Japan for providing long-term expert services and other assistance in connexion with the study and review.

387. The Commission recognized the importance of technology for the provision of shelter, infrastructure and services and noted with interest that the development of the construction industry was being given proper attention in the programme of work. It urged donor countries and funding agencies to give those activities favourable consideration in their allocation of assistance. In that connexion, it appreciated the progress made on the UNIDO-supported regional TCDC project for the development of building materials and construction industries and reiterated the importance of such TCDC initiatives.

388. It welcomed the offer by the USSR to provide programme support through UNDP for convening a seminar in the USSR on low-cost housing in 1983 or later and to make available an English-language version of a publication on standards for public housing for distribution through ESCAP to interested countries.

389. The Commission observed that the secretariat's guidelines on human settlement standards had been well received in the member countries and noted with satisfaction that the Regional Housing Centre at New Delhi was following them up by organizing local roving seminars.

390. The Commission supported ESCAP activities on strengthening the institutional and managerial capabilities of the organizations concerned in the field of human settlements and was of the opinion that local authorities could play an important role in such aspects of human settlements as regional and city planning, improvement of infrastructure and services and people's participation.

391. The Commission noted with appreciation that a regional congress of local authorities for development of human settlements in Asia and the Pacific would be convened at Yokohama, Japan, in June 1982, organized by the City of Yokohama in co-operation with ESCAP and UNCHS. The Commission also noted with interest the proposal by the USSR that a study tour/seminar/workshop on the activities of local housing authorities should be conducted in 1983 or later.

392. The Commission recognized the usefulness of early implementation of the proposed roving seminar on human settlements management when financial assistance became available.

393. The Commission was pleased to learn of the continuing expansion of ESCAP activities and the useful work undertaken during the year in the field of human settlements with the financial assistance and co-operation of UNCHS. It noted the arrangements that had been worked out between the Centre and ESCAP on the regionalization of programmes and recruitment of the two Professional staff members who had been made responsible for executing the work programme elements of the Centre under the administration of the ESCAP secretariat. It noted with appreciation the completion of activities, with the assistance of UNCHS, involving studies on various aspects of human settlements, including energy issues in human settlements development.

394. The Commission emphasized the need for continued co-operation with global and regional organizations and various specialized agencies of the United Nations system in activities relating to human settlements. It appreciated the efforts made by the secretariat in that direction and the role of the Inter-agency Task Force on Human Settlements which had been constituted by ESCAP to effect joint action and harmonization of programmes on human settlements.

395. The Commission recognized the value of the two United Nations regional housing centres at Bandung and New Delhi and felt that they could play a more effective regional role in the field of human settlements. It urged that the necessary financial and technical assistance should be provided by donor countries and UNCHS.

396. The Commission appreciated the useful publication on policies towards urban slums which had been prepared with the assistance of Bouwcentrum International Education, Netherlands. In view of the inherent problems existing in the urban slums, the Commission considered it necessary to conduct further studies and research in that field.

397. It noted with concern that the energy crisis had adversely affected the socio-economic growth of both developed and developing countries throughout the world and considered it necessary for the Governments in the region to make serious efforts to cope with the energy supply problems in human settlements and to

conserve energy through pragmatic measures. It stressed the need for development, exploitation and further studies of renewable energy resources for human settlements.

398. The Commission appreciated the continuing financial assistance of the Government of the Netherlands in the activities of the secretariat relating to human settlements. It noted that a roving seminar on rural centre planning would be held in July-August 1981 to assist member countries in identifying approaches and techniques as well as evaluating experiences on the planning of rural centres and rural settlements in the region. It expressed general satisfaction with the progress made by the secretariat in its preparatory work for the seminar. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Governments of China and the Republic of Korea to provide host facilities for the roving seminar on rural centre planning.

399. The Commission noted that, in keeping with the mandate at its thirty-sixth session, the main theme for the fifth session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment would be human settlements. The theme recommended by the Interagency Task Force on Human Settlements was "The role and functions of local authorities in human settlements programmes and development, with special emphasis on policy issues, co-ordination and public participation".

International trade, raw materials and commodities and special measures for the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries

400. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/191, E/ESCAP/195 and E/ESCAP/207.

401. In reviewing the current economic situation, the Commission noted that the growth of international trade had been slow and uneven. The world economy continued to suffer from spreading recession. Most delegations expressed the view that protectionism, high rates of inflation, unemployment and balance-of-payments difficulties remained serious problems, particularly for non-oil-producing developing countries. Many developing countries had to bear severe strains on their fragile economies brought about by the high cost of energy and accelerating prices of capital goods. The deteriorating terms of trade and the problem of restricted access to markets in the developed countries continued to prevent them from gaining an equitable share in the world trade.

402. The Commission noted that structural problems continued to hinder the achievement of effective international division of labour based on dynamic comparative advantage. It appreciated the efforts of some developed countries to restructure their uneconomic industries. It also noted the affirmation of some developed countries of their intention to refrain from having recourse to trade restrictive measures.

403. Most delegations were of the opinion that intensified protectionist measures were being directed at competitive products such as garments, textiles, leather and footwear, which were important foreign exchange earners for developing countries. The negotiation for the future of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement beyond 1981 had begun and the developing countries exporters of textiles had already expressed their views at their meeting at Bogota, Colombia. It was important that the new Arrangement should appropriately reflect the concerns of the developing countries. The ESCAP secretariat was requested to play an important role in assisting developing countries in formulating their position for the negotiations.

404. The Commission noted that the outcome of the multilateral trade negotiations (MTN) still left some important problems of trade liberalization unresolved. However, some delegations stressed the positive results obtained. In that connexion, mention was made of the lack of agreement on two important aspects of the negotiations relating to quantitative restrictions and safeguards. While note was taken of the achievements in the negotiations on the reduction of tariffs, developing countries pointed out that the use of non-tariff barriers as trade policy instruments was increasing. Some developed countries highlighted the tariff cuts obtained. It was also pointed out that in certain sectors, such as agriculture and tropical products, there was a need for continued efforts in the post-MTN era to secure liberalization. With regard to the Codes, it was urged that countries that had not done so should accede to the Codes so as to maximize the benefits of the achievements of MTN.

405. The Commission recognized that GSP had contributed positively to the promotion of trade. While appreciating the decision of one developed country of the region to extend its scheme for another 10 years, developing countries felt that further improvement, by making all the GSP schemes permanent and non-discriminatory in character, would help the developing countries to plan their exports effectively. In that connexion, representatives of some developed countries stated that their GSP schemes would be extended and administrative procedures simplified. Special benefits for the least developed countries had been incorporated into the schemes.

406. The Commission noted the progress made by the Trade Co-operation Group (TCG) and its Subgroups in implementing the programme of trade co-operation and expansion approved at the Ministerial Conference on Co-operation in Trade for Asia and the Pacific. While expressing its continuing support for the programme, the Commission requested that outstanding studies should be completed early and that the Subgroups which had not held their third sessions should be convened as soon as possible. It was recognized that the success of the programme depended on the follow-up action taken by the member

countries in implementing the decisions of the Subgroups. The Commission noted with appreciation the financial assistance provided by UNDP and hoped that it would continue its assistance in the 1982-1986 programming cycle.

407. The suggestion was made that studies on industries requiring structural readjustments owing to changing comparative advantage should be made for consideration by TCG. It was further suggested that continuous action should be taken to arrest and then reverse the growth of trade restrictive measures and that the Commission should review at every annual session the patterns of production and trade within the region in the light of the dynamics of comparative advantage and should highlight problems inhibiting the attainment of optimum over-all growth. That could include a review of the protectionist measures of developed countries in the region affecting imports from developing countries in the light of the provisions of part IV of GATT. The view was expressed that such a study should include an assessment of the dynamics of comparative advantage. The Commission noted that, in accordance with the International Development Strategy, exports and imports of goods and services in developing countries should expand at an annual rate of not less than 7.5 and 8 per cent respectively. There was a need to intensify and strengthen the activities of TCG in order to make it function as an effective instrument for expansion of trade among the countries of the region for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the Strategy. It was further suggested that studies and reports of seminars of the various Subgroups should be distributed to all members of TCG. The view was expressed that the existing list of commodities under study with regard to long-term contracts should be expanded. The Commission noted the decision of the Government of Indonesia to join the Subgroup for Trade-creating Joint Ventures. It appreciated the offer of that Government to host the fourth session of the Subgroup for Commodities.

408. The Commission recognized the importance of economic co-operation among the developing countries as a key element in the establishment of the new international economic order. In that connexion, it welcomed the second round of negotiations among the members of the Bangkok Agreement scheduled to be held in 1981. The members of the Agreement urged other developing countries of the region to participate in the negotiations.

409. Developing countries reiterated their support for priority areas in the Action Plan for Global Priorities on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries adopted by the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Seventy-seven, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. They urged the developed countries and United Nations agencies to assist them in promoting economic co-operation among themselves. In that connexion, the Commission was informed that

the Government of Indonesia was prepared to host a meeting on State trading organizations among the Group of Seventy-seven in September/October 1981. Some developing countries were of the opinion that TNG could play an important role in promoting trade among developing countries. They also suggested that linkages should be established between groupings such as ASEAN, Regional Cooperation for Development, the Bangkok Agreement and SPEC. The Commission noted that subregional and regional groupings of the region should be strengthened.

410. The Commission noted that the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) had been making good progress and that its underwriting business had increased significantly. Recognizing the importance of self-reliance in the field of insurance and reinsurance, it urged other developing countries of the region to join the Corporation in order to obtain the maximum benefit for all participants. The Commission took note of the developmental activities of ARC and requested UNDP to provide the financial assistance needed for their implementation.

411. The Commission was informed of the comprehensive training programme on insurance education for developing countries of the region and of the four seminars which had been held jointly by ESCAP and UNCTAD with the financial assistance of UNDP. In view of the importance of professional training in the development of national insurance markets, the Commission urged the secretariat to implement the programme proposed by the UNCTAD/ESCAP Roundtable Meeting on Insurance Education in Asia and the Pacific held in 1979 and requested UNDP to provide financial assistance for that purpose.

412. The Commission noted the progress made by the Asian Clearing Union. The developing countries were urged to join the Union so that monetary co-operation could be strengthened and trade expansion facilitated.

413. The Commission was informed that a preliminary draft agreement on the establishment of a multinational export credit insurance scheme had been prepared by the secretariat. It took note of the progress made and urged the secretariat to finalize the draft agreement expeditiously. In that regard, the suggestion was made that the secretariat should consult member Governments before finalizing the agreement. The Commission urged UNDP to provide the financial assistance required for completion of the work.

414. The Commission noted the useful assistance provided by the Trade Promotion Centre (TPC) during the previous year to the developing countries of the region in their trade promotion and development efforts, as reflected in the activities carried out under the Centre's four categorized services, namely, trade information, professional development, market and product development and trade promotion advisory services. In carrying

out its activities, TPC had paid special attention to the needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region. It was noted that over 25 developing countries of the region and a number of organizations in those countries had availed themselves of the services provided by TPC. The Commission urged the Centre further to intensify its assistance to the developing countries.

415. The Commission was pleased to note the services provided by the UNDP-financed project on regional advisory services in trade information to developing countries of the region in matters related to the establishment, strengthening or improvement of national trade information services/trade libraries and the necessary systems and techniques for the acquisition and dissemination of trade data. Several developing countries of the region reiterated the need for TPC assistance in the trade information process to enable them to participate effectively in the regional trade information network. They urged UNDP to continue to provide financial support for that activity.

416. The suggestion was made that the secretariat should undertake the identification of products of export interest to the developing countries, particularly manufactured products, in consultation with the ministries of trade of the countries concerned.

417. The Commission expressed its thanks to the Government of Japan for providing financial support to ESCAP for the UNCTAD/ESCAP Regional Seminar on GSP held at Bangkok in January 1981 and to the Government of Finland for assistance in connexion with the Regional Seminar on Import Management held at Pattaya, Thailand, in February 1981. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the Asian trade fair at Jakarta. The Commission also welcomed the offer of Japan to provide an expert to TPC if a request was made for such services.

418. The Commission noted that preparations were under way for a seminar for trainers of the ASEAN countries on export/import techniques, to be held in co-operation with the Canadian International Development Agency and the Foundation for International Training for Third World Countries at Bangkok in March/April 1981, to be financed by the Government of Canada. The Commission appreciated the offers made by China to host a seminar-cum-study tour on trade promotion techniques/institutions in China in April/May 1981, and by the USSR to host a seminar on foreign trade in that country in 1981. It further noted that the secretariat was pursuing its efforts to secure financial assistance from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand to organize a mobile seminar on trade promotion for certain South Pacific countries.

419. The Commission was pleased to learn of the new agreement concluded between ITC and ESCAP on 17

November 1980 to foster and strengthen the co-operation between the two organizations in the field of trade promotion and export development. The close co-operation between TPC and ITC was commended and ITC was urged to intensify its support to TPC.

420. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of Australia, Canada, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and Sweden, as well as to UNDP, ITC and UNCTAD, for their assistance to TPC. It urged that such assistance be continued and expanded so that TPC could meet the growing demand for its services.

421. The Commission welcomed the successful conclusion of the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a Common Fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities. It urged countries that had not yet done so to ratify the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities as early as possible. The Commission noted the offer of the Philippine Government to provide host facilities for the headquarters of the Common Fund when it came into operation. It welcomed the adoption of the International Natural Rubber Agreement and hoped that agreements for other commodities would be concluded soon. In that regard, some countries expressed the view that ESCAP had a role to play in providing regional inputs into the global negotiations, particularly on those commodities of socio-economic importance to countries in the region.

422. The Commission emphasized that assistance should be continued to the regional commodities/communities and associations, namely, ANRPC, APCC and IPC. It welcomed the initiative taken by the secretariat in organizing consultative missions on jute, shrimps and tapioca. It was suggested that in implementing those activities due attention should be given to the diversification of export markets for those commodities.

423. The representative of ANRPC informed the Commission of the assistance being provided to the Association by the secretariat.

424. The Commission urged that the secretariat be strengthened to enable it to implement activities related to raw materials and commodities. It appreciated the continuing financial assistance of the Government of the Netherlands and UNDP and welcomed the offer by the Government of Japan to provide assistance for the promotion of supply and marketing of commodities in the ESCAP region. The Commission urged other donor countries to provide similar assistance to facilitate the implementation of those activities.

425. The Commission noted the assistance rendered by the secretariat and developed and developing countries to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in their efforts towards over-all economic advancement.

426. The Commission noted with concern the deteriorating economic and social situation of the least developed countries during the previous two decades. It urged developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so and multilateral financial institutions to provide adequate assistance to enable the least developed countries to accelerate their social and economic development.

427. The Commission noted the activities of the UNCTAD and ESCAP secretariats in connexion with the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris from 1 to 14 September 1981. Preparatory to the Conference, review meetings between the least developed countries of the Asian and Pacific grouping and their aid partners were scheduled to be held at Vienna from 30 March to 10 April 1981. The Commission urged all the members and associate members of ESCAP to take the measures necessary for the success of the Conference. In that connexion, the secretariat was requested to take follow-up action on the decisions of the Conference relating to the region.

428. The Commission adopted resolution 214 (XXXVII) on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

429. The Commission noted with appreciation the technical assistance programme of the Philippines in favour of the least developed countries, which had become fully operational in January 1980. It also noted with appreciation the substantial contribution of Thailand to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries. It was hoped that similar facilities would be extended by other developing countries which were in a position to do so, to promote the professional skills of the personnel in the least developed countries.

430. The representatives of the land-locked countries expressed disappointment at the poor response to the Special Fund. They urged the international community to increase its support to enable the Fund to meet its desired objectives.

431. The Commission noted with appreciation the services rendered under the UNDP-funded project on assistance to the least developed land-locked countries of the region, which was being executed by the secretariat in co-operation with UNCTAD. It urged UNDP to continue its financial assistance to the project in its next programming cycle.

432. The inclusion in the programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983 of the programme element aimed at the expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe was commended and the USSR delegation expressed readiness to assist the secretariat in implementing that activity. It was noted that the USSR was prepared to send its experts on a short-term basis

to render assistance to the secretariat in the implementation of the programme of work.

433. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-third session.

Natural resources

434. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/189 and E/ESCAP/220 and Corr.1.

435. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its seventh session, which contained a number of recommendations that could be used as substantial bases for specific activities at both the regional and the national levels. Among the proposed changes in the 1981 programme of work in that sector, only the following activities were endorsed: support to CCOP; and a meeting of experts from interested countries to consider the feasibility of a committee for co-ordination of joint prospecting for mineral resources in Indian Ocean offshore areas (CCOP/IO).

436. The Commission noted with appreciation the co-operation and assistance extended by a number of countries in organizing and hosting seminars, working groups and study groups on various aspects of natural resources during 1980 and their readiness to extend such co-operation in 1981 and beyond.

437. There was a suggestion that the Committee on Natural Resources should take up the development of tropical forests. It was pointed out, however, that unless the terms of reference of the Committee were amended to include the subject of forestry resources management and the necessary financial and staff resources were provided, it did not appear feasible for the secretariat to include that subject in its programme of work and priorities.

Energy

438. The Commission commended the activities undertaken by the secretariat in the energy field since the thirty-sixth session of the Commission and noted with appreciation the following assistance given to the secretariat: the financial support of the Government of Japan in the holding of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy; the financial and technical support of the Government of New Zealand in holding the Seminar on Geothermal Energy; and the financial support of UNDP in the holding of the Working Group Meeting on Energy in the South Pacific. The Commission also appreciated the fact that China was prepared to host a seminar and study tour on planning, management and economy of energy in rural areas. The Commission stressed that the activities in the energy field should be expanded and the secretariat's staff and financial resources strengthened.

439. The Commission endorsed, in general, the Pacific regional energy programme recommended by the Work-

ing Group Meeting on Energy in the South Pacific, which had indicated the essential needs of the countries. It noted that the final project document was being prepared by the secretariat. In that respect, caution should be exercised in order to avoid duplicating activities being carried out by SPEC, and projects selected should be practical, taking into account the fact that conventional energy sources would continue to meet the major part of the world's requirements for a considerable time. The Commission noted that SPEC was undertaking a study of the institutional requirements necessary to implement the programme and suggested that the results should be taken into account. Some of the important areas indicated were as follows: energy planning, the use of alternative energy such as coconut waste, investigation into ocean energy and the substitution of diesel oil by other fuels. The project should include training and advisory services. It was hoped that the programme would be finalized and approved at an early date so that it could be included in the programme of work, 1982-1983, and that the required resources would be made available by UNDP and donor countries so that the programme could be implemented as soon as possible.

440. The Commission noted that ESCAP had maintained close contact with the secretariat of, and had already made a substantial contribution to, the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, which was scheduled to be held at Nairobi in August 1981. The Commission appreciated the efforts of the secretariat in helping the countries in the preparation of country papers and hoped that it would provide further support to the Conference.

441. The Commission noted that the report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy was comprehensive. It endorsed, in general, the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting. It felt, however, that the extent of interregional co-operation in the development of certain sources of energy, such as geothermal and ocean energy, should take into account the site-specific nature of resources; that sub-regional co-operation should be promoted by strengthening the existing institutes rather than establishing new ones; and that the establishment of a centralized energy planning agency should be considered with due regard for the structure of the Government concerned. Furthermore, the Commission felt that after the Conference the secretariat would be able to elaborate, in co-operation with member countries, the issues identifying new areas for regional and subregional co-operation. In that case, the Government of the Netherlands would be willing to participate, within the context of an extra-budgetary allocation for 1981, in projects aiming at promoting co-operative arrangements in the field of renewable energy sources.

442. The Commission was also informed of the status of the energy and developments plans of Bangladesh,

Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines, as well as the current and future activities of UNESCO in the energy field.

443. The Commission considered the work programme, 1982-1983, in the energy field proposed by the secretariat and noted that the programme was tentative and might be amended with due consideration of the outcome of the deliberations at the current session of the Commission, the final decisions of UNDP concerning the regional energy development programme and the Pacific regional energy programme, and the outcome of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. The Commission suggested that the amendment of the work programme, 1982-1983, should be considered by the ESCAP Committee on Natural Resources at its eighth session, to be held late in 1981.

444. The Commission appreciated the inclusion in the work programme of a study on rice husk and a newsletter on rural energy. It suggested, however, that the feasibility of the inclusion of the following topics in the programme for 1982-1983 and the subsequent period should be considered, taking into account the availability of staff and financial resources: (a) the improvement of efficiency in the use of energy such as in transport and industry; (b) the development of oil shale and some other energy sources; (c) research on energy planning; (d) national energy balance; (e) the use of compressed natural gas; (f) technical assistance in energy planning and programming; (g) a survey of non-conventional energy; (h) the conservation of energy in industry, agriculture, the domestic sector and energy production; and (i) the development of small-scale hydroelectricity.

445. The Commission supported the recommendation of the Committee on Natural Resources at its seventh session that the publication *Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific* should be expanded to include information on other sources of energy. It hoped that the Committee on Natural Resources would strengthen its role in the flow of information. It also suggested that the programme of work should be considered carefully with a view to avoiding duplication of the work carried out by other organizations.

446. The Commission appreciated the fact that several countries had offered to provide assistance to the secretariat in undertaking its work programme, such as the USSR in a seminar or study on oil-bearing shale, peat and oil.

Mineral resources

447. The Commission commended the valuable work undertaken by the secretariat in the field of mineral resources development and in particular the studies on geology, mineral distribution, stratigraphic correlation of the sedimentary basins in the region, and the compilation and publication of regional geological and thematic maps and atlases.

448. It reiterated the need to give priority to the studies on the environmental management of mineral exploration and development activities, the promotion and application of modern technologies and know-how for the exploration and development of minerals, including coal and petroleum, the promotion of training and higher education within the region and in developed countries, and the collection and dissemination of information on mineral resources development in the region.

449. The representative of France agreed with the importance of the programmes for the mineral sector and noted that resource allocations made for implementing the programmes were low. The Commission noted with appreciation that France would consider providing assistance for some of the mineral programmes.

450. The Commission expressed its support for the holding of an expert group meeting on the preparation of the third edition of the *Oil and Natural Gas Map of Asia* in 1981 and for the continuation of the work on the stratigraphic correlation of the sedimentary basins of the region.

451. It noted with appreciation the financial support given by UNDP and the co-operation and host facilities extended by the Government of the USSR for the Seminar on Modern Methods of Mineral Prospecting and endorsed its recommendations. It expressed appreciation to the Governments of India, Iran, Japan and New Zealand for their assistance in the preparation of regional maps. It also expressed appreciation of the assistance provided by the Government of Australia to the project on stratigraphic correlation and urged it to continue such assistance. The Commission was informed by China that under the auspices of ESCAP, the Ministry of Geology, in co-operation with UNDP and RMRDC, would be holding a seminar on the geology of tungsten deposits in Jiangxi Province, China, late in 1981. The representative of the USSR informed the Commission that his Government would be prepared to host and support a seminar on drilling, sampling and borehole logging during 1981. UNDP was urged to provide support for the seminar. The Commission noted with appreciation that China would support the establishment of a regional centre for Quaternary geology in China.

452. As to the proposal for the establishment of a committee for co-ordination of joint prospecting for mineral resources in Indian Ocean areas, along the lines of the highly successful CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC, one delegation expressed its support while another expressed the view that a careful examination should be made of the full implications before reaching a decision to set up such a committee. The Commission noted that a meeting of experts from interested countries might be held to consider the feasibility of a CCOP/IO.

453. The Commission was pleased to note the activities of UNESCO in the natural resources sector and its collaboration with the secretariat on projects of mutual interest, such as the stratigraphic correlation project, which was led by the Natural Resources Division of the secretariat.

Remote sensing, surveying and mapping

454. The Commission was pleased to note that, with the assistance of UNDP, in mid-1980 a preparatory mission on remote sensing had consulted nine member countries and formulated a three-year multidisciplinary programme for regional co-operation in the field of remote sensing; the report and recommendations of that mission had been distributed to all ESCAP countries.

455. In that connexion, one delegation expressed the view that, in addition to the recommendations of the mission, the regional remote sensing programme should include the provision of education and training facilities and expert advisory services to the countries.

456. The Commission noted with appreciation the Philippines' reiteration of its offer of three-week training courses on digital processing of Landsat data. The Government would bear the costs of training fees and materials.

457. The USSR delegation informed the Commission of the urgent need for the wider application of remote sensing methods in the exploration and assessment of natural resources and indicated that, as expertise was available in the Soviet Union, his Government would consider giving support to the organization and holding of a seminar on that subject in the USSR.

458. The Commission noted with appreciation the assistance extended by Japan to a number of countries in the region by sponsoring training courses in the application of remote sensing methods for resources assessment and organizing jointly with the United Nations a seminar on remote sensing at Tokyo late in 1980.

459. The delegation of France informed the Commission that the promotion of the application of remote sensing methods for mapping and inventories of natural resources should include satellite and airborne remote sensing techniques. The economies of ESCAP developing countries were primarily based on the development of their natural resources.

460. Although remote sensing methods alone would not lead directly to the discovery of new mineral deposits, remote sensing was particularly important to developing countries. The Commission noted with satisfaction that a regional meeting on remote sensing in south-east Asia, organized by India, Japan and Thailand, would be held at Bangkok on 23 and 24 March 1981. It noted with appreciation that France would be providing assistance to ESCAP in the form

of services of consultants in that field, including two experts for the meeting.

461. The Commission commended the efforts made by the secretariat in the field of remote sensing. It noted with appreciation that funding would be provided by UNDP to meet part of the proposed three-year regional co-operation programme recommended by the preparatory mission. However, the countries of the region would need further substantial assistance, particularly for expert services, modern remote sensing equipment and advanced training. It urged potential donor countries to inform the secretariat of the nature and scope of their assistance.

Water resources

462. The importance of water resources to the economic and social development of developing countries was recognized, and therefore the need for the accelerated development and proper management of water resources was emphasized.

463. The Commission noted that the main thrust during the previous year had concerned improvement in the efficiency of irrigation projects and in the rational utilization of water resources. Much attention was also paid to follow-up of the United Nations Water Conference and to preparations for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, which had been launched by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 November 1980.

464. In that connexion, among the activities carried out for the benefit of the member countries were an Expert Group Meeting on Water Pricing, a Training Course on Flood Loss Prevention and Management, a Study Tour on Methods of Flood Control and a Seminar on the Improvement of Irrigation Performance at the Project Level. In addition, two sessions of the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific had been convened.

465. The recommendations of the Committee on Natural Resources at its seventh session concerning water resources which were specifically endorsed were: (a) those concerning the development of the upland deltaic portions of river basins; (b) the organization of a symposium on the mechanisms and effects of salt-water intrusion in surface and ground water and on measures to control such intrusion; (c) the recommendations of the Seminar on the Improvement of Irrigation Performance at the Project Level; (d) the criteria for setting water prices as recommended by the Expert Group Meeting on Water Pricing; (e) the organization of groups of experts from the region to visit countries and discuss their problems in water resources development; (f) the need to adopt a strategy to provide adequate coverage of water supply and sanitation for the rural population of the region by 1990; and (g) that referring to assistance in water resources development

in the South Pacific. One delegation stated that it was its understanding that the preparation of master plans for upland and deltaic river basins related to national master plans to be prepared by each country and not to an integrated over-all master plan for all the countries concerned.

466. In the context of urgent problems of food and energy and the enormous potential offered by the common development of river basins through co-operative endeavours, one delegation stated that equitable and fair sharing of waters of international rivers such as the Ganges and the Brahmaputra among the riparian States was essential. It also pointed out that master plans for international rivers, while taking into consideration national plans, must also safeguard the rights and interests of the lower riparians.

467. The Commission noted that the problems confronting the countries in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan were ineffective co-ordination of water resources activities fragmented among several agencies; lack of an integrated water code; insufficient framework, river basin plans and project proposals; inadequate data; limited processing and storage systems; inadequate staffing and compensation; and marked deficiencies in manpower development, appropriate technology, applied research, training and public information.

468. In the context of its activities concerning the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the Commission called upon the secretariat to co-operate fully with the WHO International Reference Centre for Community Water Supply through the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific.

469. A few members expressed support for the establishment of a regional water resources development centre for research, training and advisory services, but the view was also expressed by some members that, while any activity to improve and accelerate water resources development was welcomed, there was no need to establish a new institution and, if such an institution was established, it should not require additional resources. One delegation suggested that the availability of facilities within the region should be examined with a view to upgrading them to the desired level of excellence to enable them to function as regional centres.

470. The Commission noted the information furnished concerning the activities of the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones and expressed its appreciation to the Government of India for having provided host facilities for the Technical Support Unit and to the Government of Sri Lanka for offering host facilities for the Unit starting in August 1981.

471. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Government of New Zealand was prepared to consider a request from the secretariat for assistance in organizing

a seminar on catchment management for the optimum use of land and water resources, contingent upon the interest of the countries in participating in such a seminar and upon the identification of specific topics.

472. With respect to the programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983 on the evaluation, development, use and management of water resources, some delegations stressed the importance of subprogramme 16.02 on policy, planning and management and, in particular, programme elements 16.02.01, 16.02.02, 16.02.03 and 16.02.04.

473. In that connexion, the Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR Government to host a seminar on water resources development planning in 1982 and a study tour on the capital investment aspects of water resources development in 1983.

Population

474. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/228.

475. It commended the activities of the secretariat in the field of population during the previous year. It noted with satisfaction that those activities were becoming increasingly complementary to those in the countries and of greater relevance and direct benefit to country programmes.

476. The Commission observed that, although there had been some reduction in the rate of population growth in several member and associate member countries, demographic factors continued to influence national development processes and were of considerable concern to policy makers and planners. A growing number of countries recognized that population policies and programmes formed an integral part of the development process and, in view of the magnitude of the population problem, current and prospective, the secretariat should expand and enlarge its programme so as to strengthen its leadership role in population activities.

477. In expressing its support for the various components of the secretariat's work programme for 1982-1983, and the programme included in the medium-term plan, 1984-1989, the Commission stressed the need for the secretariat to initiate studies relating to the methodology and techniques for the collection, analysis and evaluation of population and related data. It emphasized the importance of multisectoral approaches to and studies on population, resources, environment and development in general and on the interrelationships between socio-economic factors and fertility and mortality in particular. Such activities would assist national planners and policy makers in formulating integrated population and development policies and strategies. The Commission stressed the need to continue the ongoing project on country monographs on the population situation and to launch the

second phase of the comparative study on migration, urbanization and development in the ESCAP region. It further emphasized the importance of advisory services and technical assistance and support to countries in evaluating and analysing data as well as deriving national and subnational estimates and projections of demographic indices.

478. The Commission noted that, although fertility had been declining in several countries in recent years, the level generally was still high and could jeopardize development efforts. It further noted that the high priority accorded by Governments to strengthening population policies and programmes in the area of family planning had contributed significantly to a reduction in fertility. While recognizing that a number of countries were actively implementing innovative population and family planning programmes, the Commission stressed the need for the secretariat to augment its efforts in the exchange of such experiences among the countries of the region.

479. The Commission emphasized the need for studies on the impact of integrated family planning programmes and their operational efficiency as well as on strategies for integrating family planning with other development programmes at different administrative levels in the countries. It also stressed the need for more analytical studies of fertility levels and trends based on data collected through censuses and surveys, including the national components of the World Fertility Survey. The Commission expressed the opinion that studies on the consequences of population change, especially in respect of its qualitative and distributive aspects, would also be useful for planning and policy making.

480. The Commission recognized the usefulness of exchange of experience and information on population and related development matters and proposed that high priority should be accorded to organizing activities further to enhance such exchange. It urged the secretariat to utilize to the full the information available in the countries of the region, which would be of immense help in finding solutions to population problems at the global level.

481. It commended the secretariat's efforts in providing technical support for establishing national population information centres and clearing-houses as well as organizing correspondents workshops, which had led to more effective national, subregional and regional networks. It felt that the secretariat should continue to assist member Governments in the collection, processing, retrieval, dissemination and utilization of population information, including that provided by the countries themselves.

482. The Commission noted that in some countries of the region there was an acute shortage of adequately trained personnel in the field of population, and therefore stressed the need for and importance of a man-

power development programme. It further noted that in some countries facilities were not available for training in population matters, and even where they did exist it was not always possible to provide comprehensive training.

483. While expressing its appreciation of the assistance provided by the secretariat through the United Nations fellowship programme for training at the International Institute for Population Studies at Bombay, the Commission observed that training in institutions abroad would greatly facilitate the establishment or strengthening of training within countries. It recommended that that fellowship programme should not only be continued for training in demography but should also be enlarged to provide training in integrated population and development planning.

484. The Commission recognized the importance of study tours in strengthening training activities within countries and recommended that opportunities for such tours should be expanded.

485. It felt that training opportunities provided by the secretariat through seminars, scientific meetings, technical workshops and training courses had been invaluable in helping to strengthen population manpower in several member countries through organized exchange of experience and knowledge among the countries as well as by direct training exercises. Nevertheless, the secretariat should intensify and expand its population training programmes on a continuing basis so that countries most needing such assistance could profit therefrom. Particular mention was made of the need for training opportunities in the analysis of population data, with due emphasis on efforts to strengthen vital registration systems.

486. In endorsing the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, the Commission noted that the main theme proposed for the Conference, "An integrated approach to population and related development issues", was appropriate and relevant to the countries of the region, and that the provisional agenda recommended was comprehensive. The Commission also endorsed the proposal to organize pre-Conference seminars to allow for detailed consideration of some of the more important agenda topics by groups of selected experts from countries of the region. In view of the importance of the issues to be discussed and the length of the agenda, the Commission was of the opinion that the duration of the Conference should be at least 12 calendar days.

487. Recalling its resolution 210 (XXXVI), the Commission noted that the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference would have to be convened in lieu of a session of the Committee on Population. In that connexion, it considered the proposal of the secretariat to convene the Conference in Sri Lanka in 1982 in lieu of the session of the Committee on Population scheduled

for 1983. However, in view of the fact that data from the 1980s round of censuses would become available for consideration by 1983 in most countries of the region, the Commission decided that the 1981 session of the Committee on Population should be cancelled and that its next session should be convened in 1983.

488. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the extrabudgetary support provided to the secretariat's work programme in the field of population, particularly that provided by UNFPA and by the Governments of Australia, France, India, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. It took note of the intended contribution of the Government of Japan to UNFPA in fiscal year 1981 and strongly endorsed the hope of that Government that UNFPA would further expand its financial allocations and programme support to the population activities of the secretariat and member countries. It also welcomed the Government of India's pledge of a further contribution of \$US 10,000 to the secretariat's population activities. The Commission acknowledged the continuing assistance by member Governments to the secretariat in providing information and materials essential for its activities.

489. In view of the fact that an increasing number of Governments were according high priority to population questions, the Commission urged the Executive Secretary to take early action to ensure that that priority was adequately reflected in the secretariat's programme of work and priorities.

490. Recalling its resolution 185 (XXXIV), in which it had stressed the need to strengthen the capacity of the secretariat to contribute more effectively to the solution of the population problems of the region and to respond to country requests for assistance in the formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes, the Commission urged donor Governments and agencies to increase their contributions to the secretariat's programmes and activities in the field of population.

491. The Commission was informed by the representative of the International Planned Parenthood Federation that the Federation would be participating in the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference and in the pre-Conference activities at the highest possible level and that it would assist the secretariat by preparing relevant background papers and case studies.

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

492. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/215 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/226.

493. It noted with interest the region's progress in shipping development and that in 1980 the freight market had made a marginal recovery. The over-all situation in the near future was still uncertain. It further noted that the continuing escalation of fuel prices had

resulted in rising sea transport costs with adverse effects on trade. There were also other factors which had caused freight rates to increase and those should be analysed. The Commission further noted that the shipping lines were frequently raising the freight rates, which adversely affected the developing countries. It urged the secretariat to liaise with other organizations involved in research on low energy consumption for sea transport and alternative sea transport systems.

494. The Commission observed that, although the region's share of the world shipping tonnage was small and had improved marginally, the region's share of the world's container vessels under construction was greater than its share of existing container tonnage. The problems of bunker costs and supply and the move of maritime transport technology towards unitization, particularly containerization, would necessitate larger investments and organizational adaptations.

495. Several delegations outlined the developments of the maritime industry in their respective countries during the period. The Commission was also informed that as a result of the high, often discriminatory freight rates and frequent increases in those rates accompanied by inadequate shipping services, the balance-of-payments position of many developing countries had been adversely affected. In that connexion, many delegations urged the secretariat to undertake a comprehensive study on the level and structure of freight rates and surcharges imposed by liner conferences, including the bunker and currency surcharges.

496. Recalling its decision at its thirty-sixth session on a mechanism for co-ordinating efforts to assist member countries on a subregional or inter-country basis, the Commission was pleased to note that a group of countries had requested the establishment of an inter-country programme in shipping in the secretariat with the support of UNDP inter-country programme funds. It was hoped that such a programme would be established soon.

497. Several delegations from developing maritime countries stated that the secretariat's work programme should continue to emphasize containerization and multimodal transportation.

498. In commending the secretariat on its initiative, resourcefulness and dedication in the implementation of the programme of work during the period under review, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications: Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing, on its fourth session. It urged the secretariat to mobilize resources aimed at intensifying the activities in the field of shipping, ports and inland waterways. In expressing gratitude to the Governments of France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the USSR and the United Kingdom and to international organizations such as UNDP for their very generous financial support and

expert assistance, the Commission urged the Governments to continue to increase their support to the secretariat for the early implementation of the recommendations and ongoing projects of importance to the developing member countries. The Commission specifically urged UNDP to increase its assistance to the secretariat for the projects in the field of shipping, ports and inland waterways.

Manpower development

499. The Commission welcomed the continued emphasis on the manpower development programme in the field of shipping, ports and inland waterways. It considered that programme as essential for self-reliant development and effective utilization of all forms of financial and technical assistance. It noted that there was still a pressing need for training of maritime personnel in the region, especially in view of the wish of a number of developing countries to improve and develop their national merchant marines, ports and maritime institutions. In commending the secretariat on the realistic nature and broad range of its training activities, which also covered improvement in training methods and quality of training materials and training of trainers, it placed great importance on the continuation of that programme on a high priority basis.

500. The programme should include the management of container services and of multimodal transport and analysis of the economic aspects of ocean transportation, as the new shipping technology was acquiring increased importance in the carriage of the international trade of the region.

501. The Commission noted that the secretariat, jointly with IMCO, had organized a Regional Meeting of Experts in Maritime Training and Certification and endorsed the recommendations made by that Meeting. One delegation expressed the view that global standards, especially those contained in the 1978 Standards of Training and Certification for Watchkeepers Convention, should provide the basis for regional standards. The Commission also noted the activities of UNCTAD, ILO and IMCO in manpower development in that field. It stressed the need for continuing co-operation and co-ordination between those bodies and the ESCAP secretariat.

502. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of Norway for its generous financial support to the secretariat's training programme on shippers' co-operation, and to the Governments of Bangladesh, China, France, Hong Kong, India, Japan, the Philippines and the United States for hosting various study tours, seminars and workshops.

503. The Commission welcomed the offers made by the Governments of China, France, Thailand and the USSR to host seminars and workshops on subjects related to shipping, ports and inland waterways. The Government of the USSR had also offered to provide

assistance in the organizational and methodological aspects of training of maritime personnel and the management of State-owned shipping enterprises. It noted that China would be able to strengthen its co-operation with ESCAP and join in more of its training activities. It appreciated the offer of the Government of China to make its experience available to the region with respect to inland water transport, dredging and ferro-cement shipbuilding and to provide expertise in the field of inland water transport and ports.

504. The representative of Bangladesh commended the secretariat on its feasibility study on an inland water transport centre in his country and reported that his Government had already established the basic infrastructure for the proposed centre. The Commission appreciated the offer of facilities at the marine academy of Bangladesh for fellows from regional countries in the context of Bangladesh's policy of expanding TCDC.

Development of maritime policy and institutions

505. In view of the urgent need to strengthen maritime policy and institutions, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue assisting developing member countries in establishing and strengthening their national freight study units to function as effective research and advisory bodies to the Governments in policy matters relating to shipping. While endorsing the recommendations and observations made in that regard in document E/ESCAP/215 and Corr.1, the Commission urged the secretariat to organize further workshops and seminars on freight study units and UNDP to render the necessary assistance.

506. The Commission stressed that the availability of adequate, regular and reliable shipping data was a prerequisite for (a) the formulation of sound shipping policies; (b) rational planning of shipping and port capacities; and (c) serving as a basic tool in the effective implementation of the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences when it came into operation. It recognized that the project undertaken by the secretariat had proved to be of great benefit to the developing countries in the region. In that connexion, the Commission fully endorsed the work performed by the secretariat in assisting the developing countries in implementing the project on the economic statistics of shipping (known as the L.2 scheme) as it formed a very useful basis for long-term development of a comprehensive system of ship, port and commodity cargo statistics in the ESCAP region. The Commission expressed its gratitude to UNDP for continuing to provide financial support to that important project on a long-term basis.

Merchant marine and shipping services

507. The Commission commended the secretariat on its efforts in merchant shipping activities, including the implementation of the long-term programme on merchant shipping development. It considered that in view

of the rapid technological changes affecting the shipping industry, the secretariat should accelerate efforts to assist those countries which required assistance. A number of developing member countries were experiencing problems relating to the application of containerization and multimodal transportation suitable to their needs and conditions owing to the lack of adequate infrastructure and trained personnel.

508. The Commission recognized the need for positive efforts in implementing recent international maritime conventions, namely, the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, the United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods and the Hamburg Rules. Expressing their difficulties in undertaking measures for the ratification and effective implementation of those conventions, several delegations requested the secretariat, jointly with the organizations that were responsible for introducing the conventions, to organize seminars or workshops to facilitate better understanding of their implications and application. The Netherlands delegation informed the Commission that its Government had provided funds for an ongoing project of the secretariat on maritime legislation, which would also cover problems relating to the implementation of international conventions.

509. The Commission supported the secretariat's work in organizing activities to promote co-operation among shipowners at the subregional and regional levels. It noted that such co-operation had extended to shipowners' relations with shippers and port operators. Those activities were conducive to future joint efforts among those three maritime sectors on technical and economic matters.

510. The Commission noted with appreciation the advisory services rendered by the secretariat to a number of developing countries in the field of merchant shipping. It welcomed the offers for the continuation of financial support and services of experts for the preparation of specific shipping studies, seminars and workshops from the Governments of Japan, the Netherlands and the USSR. Specifically, the Japanese delegation said that its Government would provide financial support for a seminar on coastal shipping management to be conducted in 1981; the Netherlands delegation announced the willingness of its Government to finance the first phase of a survey to compile an inventory of maritime capacities and activities of the ASEAN subregion; and the USSR delegation said that its Government was willing to provide assistance in the areas of optimum vessel types for the carriage of commodities and the compilation of a freight rate index which would relate shipowners' production costs to freight rates and to train maritime personnel and managers of State enterprises.

511. The Commission noted that in the South Pacific subregion, sea transportation was vital to the economies of several island countries because geographically they

were far apart from each other and from the world markets for their products. The existence of a small volume of cargo and the inadequacy of sea transport infrastructure complicated the problem of establishing viable and reliable shipping services. The New Zealand delegation stated that its Government had provided financial and technical assistance to the regional shipping services, including the Pacific Forum Line.

Ports and port management

512. The Commission recognized that the development of ports and port management was of special interest to the developing countries of the region and that the effects of containerization continued to be the single most important factor influencing port development. Fast turn-round of cargoes and vessels through ports was becoming crucial as the cost of transportation continued to escalate. Ports were now recognized as an important part of an integrated transport system for the carriage of trade and could no longer be viewed in isolation. Although, in the early stages of containerization, innovation and adaptation of existing port facilities could result in impressive increases in cargo-handling performance, the Commission noted that improvement in port infrastructure was of fundamental importance in the longer term. The Commission endorsed the high priority that was being given to the problems of ports in adapting to containerization and multimodal transport in the region.

513. It was suggested that a comprehensive study should be undertaken by the secretariat to evaluate and compare the different types of machinery and equipment that might be used for container handling.

514. Documentation in many ports of the region was overly complex, to the degree where it impeded cargo flow. That was particularly true where containerization and multimodal transportation had been adopted. The Commission was pleased to learn of the ongoing work of the secretariat in that field, which would lead to an improvement in port effectiveness without excessive capital investment.

515. The Commission, noting that efficient management was of special concern to developing countries, commended the secretariat on its efforts to upgrade port management skills through seminars, workshops, scholarships and study tours. It noted that the secretariat was implementing a project on port management information systems with the technical and financial assistance of the Government of the United Kingdom and UNDP. In that connexion, it welcomed the offer of the Government of France to organize a seminar on port development and economics.

516. The Commission noted with appreciation that instruction packages on port management training based on video tapes prepared by the secretariat would be made available to member countries, which could then

usefully carry out their own training programmes without relying on outside assistance. It was noted that the programme, which currently concentrated on containerization, would be expanded to cover other fields of special interest to ports in the region.

517. The delegation of Sri Lanka expressed its gratitude to the port authorities of the Philippines and Singapore, and to ILO, in connexion with the establishment of a port training centre in Sri Lanka with the assistance of the ESCAP secretariat.

518. The Commission noted the practical work recently undertaken by the Government of New Zealand in upgrading the channel approaches to some Pacific island countries. The usefulness of that work might increase demand beyond New Zealand's financing ability and ESCAP assistance might be requested.

519. The Commission expressed appreciation to donor Governments, in particular those of France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom, as well as to UNDP and ILO, for their technical and financial assistance.

Inland water transport

520. The Commission recognized that the development of inland water transport with a view to maximizing the benefits of that energy-efficient mode of transport had assumed great importance in the context of the continuing energy crisis. It noted that the work in that field was not only instrumental in solving the problems of river navigation but also affected rural development. The concept of a basin and multipurpose approach in planning the development of inland waterways was advocated and the desirability of compiling an inventory of rivers of the countries of the region was also stressed. The Commission recognized that greater attention needed to be given in the 1980s to developing innovative and economically sound systems of inland water transport. It further stressed the practical problems of operation and administrative requirements as well as the need to establish a training centre for the region in that sector.

521. The Commission took note of the proposal made in the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications: Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing at its fourth session, concerning the establishment of a regional centre in Bangladesh for the development of appropriate technology for inland water transport in the developing countries. It also noted that Bangladesh possessed the necessary infrastructure for such a centre and was willing to place it at the disposal of the member countries of the region. It therefore urged the secretariat to take follow-up action as a matter of priority.

522. The Commission noted that the great potential of the Mekong could still not be put to full use for the development of inland water transport for the benefit

of the riparian countries and peoples owing to the instability prevailing in the area. It was suggested that technical and economic studies would have to be undertaken. Before undertaking any work of improvement of the Mekong, it was stressed that the consent of the Governments of countries situated at the lower reach of the river must be obtained in order to avoid any adverse effects on such countries.

523. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of China to hold a first regional seminar-cum-study tour on inland water transport in 1981 and of the Government of the USSR to hold a seminar-cum-study tour on the utilization of inland waterways.

524. The Commission appreciated the offer of the Government of France to continue to provide the services of an expert on inland waterways. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of China to share its experience and expertise with other countries and of the Government of USSR to share the experience of its specialists with the countries of the region.

Shippers' organization and co-operation

525. The Commission commended the secretariat on its effective performance in the implementation of the ship users' co-operation project (SUCOP). It underscored the importance of that project for the development of the foreign trade of ESCAP member countries and for the general development of international trade and shipping. It recognized that the project would result in building up well-established and self-reliant shippers and shippers co-operation institutions in the region. In that connexion, it expressed its deep gratitude to the Government of Norway for continuing its support for that project with another generous grant for the period 1981-1984.

526. The Commission expressed continuing concern over the fact that shippers in the ESCAP region had constantly faced a number of problems, including escalating freight rates and surcharges, especially bunker and currency surcharges, which adversely affected the marketability of their products and their balance-of-payments position. Moreover, the Commission noted that many shippers still lacked adequate knowledge and skills relating to maritime matters. The Commission was therefore pleased to note that the secretariat, through study tours, country- and regional-level seminars and workshops, and advisory services under SUCOP, had intensified its activities to enhance the knowledge and skills of shippers. It agreed that while the secretariat's sphere of activity was to assist in the establishment and strengthening of shippers' institutions and to facilitate communication and better understanding between shippers and shipowners, any participation in actual negotiation or consultation between commercial parties or intervention in commercial dealings was definitely outside the purview of the secretariat.

527. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made by the project in enhancing co-operation among national shippers' organizations and between them and shipowners' associations and port authorities in the region as well as with their counterparts in other regions. It stressed that the programme should continue to be implemented with greater vigour in order that understanding and co-operation, rather than confrontation, could be effected for the mutual benefit of all parties concerned in a new international order on shipping.

528. In that connexion, the Committee noted that in subregional co-operation ASEAN had developed increasingly close relations in shipping among other fields. That was manifested by the establishment of, and co-operation among, the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils, the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations and the ASEAN Port Authorities' Association. The Commission was informed that those ASEAN organizations looked forward to co-operative linkages with other subregional groupings in Asia and the Pacific, such as the Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, which had been established in July 1980, as well as with those outside the region.

529. One delegation expressed the view that commercial dealings such as negotiations of freight rates should be free from government intervention and be left to the decisions of the commercial parties directly involved. It believed that consultations among shippers, shipowners and port authorities on matters of common interest were essential to facilitate an orderly expansion of world shipping and sea-borne trade. However, it felt that it was not the role of a Government to intervene in commercial dealings or to participate in the preparation and conduct of consultations or negotiations at the other side of the table.

530. Another delegation expressed the view that the basic role of Governments was to generate and maintain a climate favourable to the establishment and maintenance of fair competition and trade practices among shipping lines and co-operation between shippers and liner conferences. The Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences and other relevant international instruments provided for the role of Governments in the relationship between the trade and shipping sector. That principle was also reflected in certain laws and agreements in a number of countries such as Australia and the United States, and in Europe. That delegation pointed out that while it would be ideal for commercial relationships in the shipping industry to be left to the interplay of market forces, imperfect competition often prevailed in the market, requiring Governments, even of the highly developed countries, to "intervene" in the market in order to ensure observance of fair competition and trade practices. It further pointed out that some developed countries had been assisting their shipyards and shipowners, directly or indirectly, through construction and

operating subsidies, marine insurance requirements and preferential treatment provided in tied-up loans, grants and suppliers' or production contracts. It therefore believed that to exclude the Governments of developing countries entirely from their national shipping picture would be to abandon their emerging shipping and shippers' interests entirely to the mercy of powerful commercial forces which exercised significant control of the industry.

531. It also pointed out that Governments of developed countries had been co-operating in the maritime field through long and well-established mechanisms. Among those were EEC; the Consultative Shipping Group (CSG), an informal intergovernmental organization of 12 European countries and Japan; and OECD, an intergovernmental organization composed of CSG countries and eight other countries in Europe, America and Australasia. Those formal and informal intergovernmental organizations considered common positions on the Liner Code and other global shipping issues. They also took up with the Governments concerned problems affecting their commercial shipping interests.

532. The Commission noted that the legitimate aspirations of developing countries for their vessels to carry a fair share of cargoes and for their shippers to obtain adequate shipping services at reasonable freight rates from the conferences were recognized in the Liner Code. At the same time, the Code provided a mechanism by which meaningful consultation/negotiation and co-operation could be achieved among shipping lines in conferences and between conferences and shippers' interests. In that connexion, the Commission urged the secretariat to accelerate measures to help to bring about the effective implementation of the Code.

533. The representative of ANRPC expressed gratitude to the ESCAP secretariat for the assistance and co-operation given to the member countries of the Association in several areas of common interest, including the studies on alternative modes of ocean transportation of bulk latex to European destinations, shipping statistics and cargo consolidation schemes.

534. The representative of ILO informed the Commission that his Organisation, in co-operation with the ESCAP secretariat, had completed a survey of the port facilities and requirements for the training of port personnel in Sri Lanka, and that it hoped to obtain more resources to extend such co-operation to other activities.

535. The representative of IMCO informed the Commission of the activities of his Organization, whose two main objectives were the enhancement of maritime safety and the prevention of marine pollution from ships.

536. The Commission noted that greater co-operation was being effected between the secretariat and other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies such as ILO, IMCO and the United Nations Statistical Office. It recognized the importance of maintaining co-ordination between the two wings of the Committee in respect of multimodal transport systems.

Social development

537. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/192 and E/ESCAP/208.

538. It commended and endorsed the steadily increasing and action-oriented activities of the secretariat in the areas of people's participation, integration of women and youth in development, social welfare and social work education, and TCDC in social development. It noted the secretariat's efforts to promote exchange of information and clearing-house activities in social development among member countries and urged that the resources available for such work be strengthened. In that connexion, attention was drawn to the need to exchange information on the experience of socialist countries in the region in their solution of social problems. It was recommended that papers and other documents produced for seminars, workshops etc. and country case studies on various aspects of social development should be regularly published and disseminated to the member countries. The publication of the *Social Development Newsletter* was commended and its wide circulation within the region should be continued.

539. The Commission felt that, generally, social development was still lagging behind in the development scene of the majority of the developing countries in the region. Mass poverty, inequity of income and wealth, unemployment, underemployment and high population growth were still considered major problems needing special priority attention during the 1980s. It was reiterated that social, cultural and human values should be safeguarded from being adversely affected by the rapid socio-economic changes taking place as a result of the process of development and modernization.

540. Human resource development in the broad sense was considered fundamental as a primary strategy for social development and the improvement of the quality of life of the common people. Moreover, unjust distribution of welfare and the fruits of development could cause not only social disharmony but also national instability. The Commission therefore welcomed the timely convening of the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development and unanimously endorsed its main conclusions and recommendations, including those relating to the suggested measures dealing with integrated social development to promote total human development and other specific recommendations relating to perspectives, priorities and strategies in social welfare and social development during the 1980s,

people's participation in development, manpower training, TCDC and the reassessment of policies relating to ongoing social welfare programmes. It was urged that the Conference's recommendations be adequately reflected in the Commission's programme of work and priorities in the social development field and that they be effectively monitored. While there was adequate justification in principle for convening the Ministerial Conference at four-year intervals, some representatives suggested a more flexible approach to timing, so as to take into consideration the expressed needs and priorities of member Governments.

541. The Commission commended the secretariat's activities during the previous 18 months to assist member countries in promoting the role of women in development and in raising their status. The specific projects undertaken with the assistance of, *inter alia*, the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women were considered as directly benefiting women at the village level. The Pacific Subregional Meeting was considered valuable as a follow-up of the World Conference held at Copenhagen. The Commission, while endorsing the Meeting's conclusions and recommendations, drew the secretariat's attention to the Programme of Action adopted at the Copenhagen Conference and the specific proposals for implementing the strategies it contained at the international, regional and national levels. The need for systematic reporting on the implementation of the world Programme of Action in the region was emphasized. Particular concern was expressed regarding the fact that institutional arrangements had not yet been made in the Commission for handling women's issues. Since regular institutional arrangements played a fundamental role in bringing about progress in the integration of women in development, it was urged that at least one permanent women's affairs position at a senior level should be established within the secretariat through transferring to ESCAP by 1982 a post of a senior officer from within the regular budget of the United Nations to be responsible for the programmes of the Commission on the integration of women in the development process. That would enable the secretariat to provide effective technical support to national mechanisms in their activities for the integration of women in development, including the formulation of action programmes and the establishment of national clearing-houses for the collection and dissemination of information. It was also urged that, pending General Assembly approval, a senior-level post within the secretariat should be deployed immediately for that purpose, to enable, *inter alia*, the maximum use of the resources of the Voluntary Fund available for programmes and projects. It was stressed that greater attention should be given to projects designed to increase the support of science and technology to women's work at home and outside, including support for studying health hazards to women, especially in the unorganized sector.

542. The Commission was informed that, in their

national development plans and policies, many countries were placing special emphasis on the increased participation of women in economic and social development. Assistance from external sources, especially the Voluntary Fund, continued to be needed for effective implementation in that regard.

543. The need for close interagency co-operation in the area of women's development was reiterated and it was agreed that appropriate mechanisms for permanent and continued collaboration among United Nations agencies working for women's development should be established.

544. The Commission adopted resolution 211 (XXXVII) on strengthening the Commission in the promotion of the integration of women in the development process.

545. The Commission generally commended the secretariat's activities for the mobilization of youth for national development, particularly the special emphasis given to rural youth. It endorsed the recommendations of the various regional conferences, seminars and training courses, including the ESCAP/OISCA Regional Forum on Active Youth Participation in National Development hosted by the Office of the Minister for Youth Affairs of Indonesia and the Expert Group Meeting concerning the development of relevant indicators for youth development hosted by the Philippine Government to guide the development of policy and programme directions for youth. In particular, the Commission expressed support for the establishment of national co-ordinating committees on youth to accelerate the active participation of youth in national development in the light of the objectives of International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace. Several delegations expressed appreciation of and endorsed the national leadership training workshops held for their front-line youth leaders and workers and urged that they be followed up and continued.

546. The Commission called for the continued intensification of activities to maximize youth's role in policy and decision making and to maximize their contribution to constructive social change and development. In particular, the Commission urged that special emphasis be given to enhancing the role of young women and rural youth in nation building, in both the organized and the unorganized sectors.

547. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's efforts at interagency co-ordination and collaboration as reflected, *inter alia*, in the convening of the *Ad Hoc* Meeting with Interagency and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the Region and urged that the recommendations of that Meeting be followed up so as to maximize efforts in the field of youth development.

548. The Commission expressed appreciation to donor countries, non-governmental organizations and inter-

national funding agencies for giving generous financial support for the implementation of the Commission's youth development programme and urged that such assistance be continued and augmented and the resources of the secretariat strengthened to enable it to plan and implement the programme effectively, keeping in view the priority needs and requirements of the member countries in the field of youth development.

549. The Commission endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Technical Meeting and Regional Seminar on the Objectives and Plan of Action of the International Year of Disabled Persons. The emphasis on preventive approaches in addition to rehabilitative programmes was commended. The Commission reiterated the urgent need for regional co-operation in the field of rehabilitation in the areas identified in the Seminar's report and urged that the secretariat's capacity for promoting such co-operation be strengthened through the establishment of a small organizational unit in the Social Development Division. One delegation informed the Commission that it was willing to negotiate with the secretariat concerning the possibility of providing staffing assistance of one person to the programme if such a unit was established, and the need for specialized short-term staffing support was clearly identified. Some reservations were expressed about the establishment of a regional training and research institute for disabled persons as the functions to be assumed by such an institute had not been agreed upon by the Seminar. It was suggested, however, that the secretariat's activities could concentrate on the collection and dissemination of information and on programme stimulation activities in connexion with the Year. The Commission urged greater interagency co-ordination in dealing with those matters.

550. The Commission was informed of the various programme activities planned and under implementation in several member countries in the region in connexion with the Year. The exchange of information on the results of such activities among member countries could be of mutual benefit.

551. The Commission welcomed the recent convening of the Technical Meeting on Aging for the Asian and Pacific region, preparatory to the World Assembly on Aging to be convened in 1982. The Technical Meeting was to be followed by a preparatory intergovernmental regional meeting in 1981. The Commission was informed in that connexion that the Government of the Philippines, through its Ministry of Social Services and Development, had offered host facilities for the regional meeting. The secretariat was requested to provide the member Governments with details on its scope and objectives as early as possible to enable them to prepare for their participation. It was recommended that, in view of the proneness of elderly women to becoming more dependent and vulnerable to poverty situations, they deserved special consideration at both the regional meeting and the World Assembly.

552. The Commission commended the initial achievements of the secretariat's TCDC activities in social development and urged that the priority programmes and operational modes approved by the Consultative Meeting in February 1980 and endorsed by the Ministerial Conference be followed up and implemented. It urged that the TCDC components of all the secretariat's social development and other activities should be systematically identified and strengthened.

553. The Commission, in considering the programme of work and priorities in social development for the biennium 1982-1983 as contained in document E/ESCAP/217 (pages 227-249), suggested that: (a) workshops for developing countries should be held periodically to consider current issues in social development and to update the knowledge and experience of policy makers and top administrators involved in social welfare and social development; (b) continuous evaluation of existing social policies and programmes of different countries of the region should be undertaken and the results disseminated to member countries to guide them in reorganizing their policies and programmes in the field of social welfare and social development; (c) a mechanism should be evolved to permit greater mobility of the surplus manpower of developing countries to countries in need of such manpower; (d) exchange visits of personnel and experts in social development, at both the policy and the operational levels, should be encouraged and organized by the secretariat among the countries of the region at regular intervals in the context of TCDC, so as to enrich the experience of the personnel involved with a view to the eventual application of their knowledge to resolving the social problems of their respective countries; and (e) the United Nations and other international agencies should increase their assistance to social development in the region to help to alleviate the funding constraints of the least developed countries of the region in their development efforts.

Statistics

554. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/209.

555. It endorsed and commended the work of the secretariat in the field of statistics and warmly welcomed the continuation and strengthening of such activities in the proposed programme of work for 1982-1983. In that connexion, however, one delegation noted that there was room for further improvement in the presentation of the work programme; indications should be given of priorities and of resources actually allocated to specific programme elements. The Commission noted that the work programme would be reviewed by the Committee on Statistics at its fourth session in June 1981.

556. The Commission emphasized the central role of reliable statistics in the effective planning, monitoring

and evaluation of national development policies and programmes. In particular, it was recognized that the successful implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade would depend on the adequate and timely availability of information for review and appraisal purposes. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the continuing plans of the secretariat to assist countries of the region in strengthening their statistical capabilities to provide the requisite data. It also felt that future aid programming missions should take greater cognizance of, and allocate appropriate resources to, statistical activities, which were important for all phases of a development project or programme.

557. The importance of closer co-operation and greater understanding between producers and users of statistics, at both the national and the global levels, was strongly stressed by the Commission. It accordingly recommended that official statistical co-ordinating mechanisms at the national level should be revitalized where necessary; it was suggested that such bodies should be empowered to decide on statistical priorities as well as on the standardization of concepts, definitions and classifications and on the co-ordination of data collection. The Commission strongly endorsed the suggestion of the secretariat that a high-level meeting should be organized to act as a forum in which national users and producers of statistics could discuss issues such as the identification of data requirements, the role of statistical agencies in relation to national development strategies and the capacity of such agencies to discharge their responsibilities effectively.

558. Recalling that energy was the major theme for discussion at the current session, the Commission warmly welcomed the emphasis in the secretariat's activities and programme of work on the development of reliable, comprehensive and internationally comparable statistics on energy. Further work on methodologies for collecting data on traditional and newer non-conventional sources of energy, on which information was very scarce, was thought to be particularly important, as was the provision of training facilities in energy statistics. The Commission felt that the suggestions emanating from the ESCAP/IEA/EEC Workshop on Energy Statistics, held at Karachi in October 1980, formed a useful basis for further work in the region in the development of energy statistics. The Commission encouraged countries to participate fully in the planned activities and urged donor countries and organizations to contribute the necessary resources to the secretariat's work programme in that vitally important field of statistical development. It also welcomed the secretariat's plan to convene a further workshop on energy statistics concentrating on non-conventional energy sources, specifically for Pacific countries, in October 1981, and felt that that workshop should provide a valuable input into the Pacific energy programme, 1982-1986.

559. The Commission strongly reiterated its support for the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) in the region and noted with satisfaction the progress made to date. Two major aims of the Programme were to strengthen the indigenous survey-taking capabilities of national statistical offices and to provide a wide range of social and economic data. Those were seen as consistent with the need to provide regular and reliable statistics for monitoring and appraising national development plans. While some countries were already planning to participate in NHSCP, others also recognized the need for regular household surveys and were considering the possibility of participation in the future.

560. The Commission urged that emphasis should be given to the training aspects of NHSCP, particularly in the development of appropriate data collection methodologies and analytic techniques. In that regard, it reiterated its appreciation of the offer of the Government of India to provide training facilities for the Programme. It noted that SIAP could also play an important training role.

561. The Commission noted that significant changes in the environment owing to technological development and population growth were affecting the quality of life. The need to measure environmental conditions and to monitor changes in them was thus emphasized as important. In that regard, the Commission welcomed the draft guidelines and the framework developed by the United Nations Statistical Office, which had been extensively discussed by the Pacific and Asian subregional workshops organized by the secretariat. In endorsing the recommendations of those workshops, the Commission suggested that the guidelines and the framework should initially be used, with suitable regional adaptations, to develop statistics relating to areas of particularly serious environmental concern.

562. The Commission emphasized that for rural development planning, adequate disaggregated, micro-level data were essential. It therefore supported the secretariat's plans to develop guidelines for the preparation of data files on statistics for rural development. It also noted with satisfaction that a number of countries had already begun work on rural development statistics and, in that connexion, one representative requested expert guidance for case studies being undertaken in his country. The Commission stressed the need for the services of an expert who could both provide such guidance to countries and assist in the development of the guidelines. Donor countries and agencies were urged to provide the necessary resources for that work.

563. The Commission took note of the secretariat's preparatory activities in connexion with the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics, which was felt to be an important means of obtaining internationally comparable information on the structure and activity of the industrial sector. The "minimum programme" envisaged for countries in the earlier stages of

developing their industrial statistics would, it was hoped, encourage wider participation in the 1983 Programme.

564. The Commission also noted the activities of the secretariat in other fields of economic statistics: national accounts, income distribution, international trade, transport, shipping and prices. With regard to price statistics, many countries in the region were compiling indices relating to wholesale, retail and producer prices. The Commission noted that a number of countries were also participating in the International Comparison Project (ICP). However, one delegation expressed the view that, in a situation of limited resources, ICP should be accorded a lower priority.

565. The Commission noted with satisfaction the assistance given to countries on various aspects of population statistics, such as demographic projections, census planning and data processing and in the development of viable vital statistics and civil registration systems. It highlighted additional areas which might be covered, for example, greater emphasis on detailed disaggregation of data for population subgroups and small geographic regions; on the development of methodological and analytic skills; and on assistance in the control and measurement of survey errors.

566. The Commission also appreciated the efforts of the secretariat to expand its activities in the field of social statistics. In view of needs for technical help in that area, the secretariat was urged to finalize the recruitment of a social statistics expert as soon as possible.

567. The importance of statistical training was reiterated by the Commission. In view of the vital roles that energy and rural development would play in the development strategy for the 1980s, the Commission stressed that special emphasis should be given to training programmes in those fields.

568. The Commission considered that SIAP had an important contribution to make to the training needs of the region. It strongly commended the Institute on its work over the previous 10 years, during which it had trained more than 1,200 statistical personnel. The Commission heard with appreciation of the contributions of the Governments of Japan, the Netherlands and the Republic of Korea to SIAP for its third phase and urged Governments and donor agencies to provide the necessary support for the Institute's programmes. The bilateral assistance provided to SIAP was also appreciated.

569. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the principle of TCDC continued to be practised in the field of statistics. In that connexion, it was noted that Malaysia had provided on-the-spot study facilities to trainees from four developing countries; it had also provided a lecturer for a country course organized by SIAP and had indicated willingness to continue such assistance. The Commission further noted that TCDC

supplementary funding facilities would enable two officials from a national statistical office to study data compilation and dissemination in three developing countries and at ESCAP.

570. The Commission welcomed the emphasis on technical meetings and workshops. Such meetings were becoming increasingly necessary in order to exchange up-to-date knowledge in various fields of statistics and to promote a dialogue between users and producers of statistics. The Commission noted the programme of technical meetings of the secretariat and endorsed their organization on a subregional basis where appropriate. It also expressed satisfaction that the Government of the USSR would be hosting a seminar on labour productivity statistics in August 1981.

571. The Commission noted with appreciation the services provided to countries in various fields of statistics by the regional advisers attached to the secretariat. It considered the continuation of those services essential and welcomed the secretariat's plans to extend that type of assistance to other subject-matter areas.

572. The assistance provided by the secretariat in the field of data processing for statistical applications was noted with appreciation. The Commission welcomed the continuation of the services of the regional adviser on data preparation and processing of censuses and surveys, who had assisted several countries with installation and instruction in the use of computer edit and tabulation packages. It noted the secretariat's plans for further technical workshops on various aspects of data processing.

573. The Commission expressed satisfaction with ESCAP efforts to reduce the burden on countries regarding the reporting of data. It pointed out, however, that the situation could be further alleviated by closer co-ordination with the data collection activities of other international agencies and by a rationalization of, and a reduction in, the number of international statistical publications. The Commission also noted the need for greater co-ordination in data collection and dissemination procedures among the various divisions of ESCAP. It nevertheless recognized the important uses of the data supplied to the secretariat and urged countries of the region to continue to provide such data on a timely basis and according to standardized United Nations formats.

574. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Governments of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States and to ILO, UNEP and UNFPA for their contributions and support to the secretariat's statistical activities. It hoped that such assistance would continue.

Transport, communications and tourism

575. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/227 and Add.1.

576. The Commission stressed the importance of the transport and communication sectors as being essential for an orderly growth of trade, industry and agriculture, and even for the proper functioning of social services. It noted that the 1980s called for effective transport and communications programmes which would be responsive to the changing needs and problems of the developing member countries. The transport and communication infrastructures would need to be expanded at rates that fully supported those of the expansion of the economy as a whole, particularly to match the expansion in agriculture, industrial production and trade flows. The Commission noted, however, that future transport development had to be viewed in the context of the energy situation. As the transport sector was one of the major consumers of energy, consuming between 30 and 60 per cent of the total energy supplies of petroleum in most of the ESCAP developing member countries, there was a need to reorient thinking towards the development and utilization of more energy-efficient modes of transport and measures for energy conservation.

577. The Commission noted that some member countries had been adversely affected by the energy crises, which had made their transport industry less effective in its contribution to the economic and social development process. In view of that, it recommended that the secretariat should intensify its activities in the field of energy conservation measures for all aspects of road and rail transport, including the adoption of appropriate technology.

Railways and railway transport

578. The Commission emphasized the increasing importance of railways and railway transport: that mode was expected to play a dominant role in the future integrated transport system from the point of view of energy conservation and environmental preservation, because of its intrinsic economy for intercity traffic, rapid mass transit and movement of bulk loads over long distances and because of its low emission of pollutants.

579. The Commission stressed the importance of railway electrification, especially in the current global energy crisis. In that connexion, it felt that as the electric traction mode could make use of diversified energy sources such as hydraulic, natural gas, coal, geothermal and atomic energy in addition to petroleum, the countries in which those various energy sources were available should, as far as practicable and economical, make use of them for railway electrification in order to decrease dependency on petroleum-based fuels and increase operational efficiency. In that context, the

Commission commended the secretariat on its constructive efforts, particularly the assistance extended to Burma for a feasibility study on the electrification of its railways at Kyangin. It also noted with appreciation that the secretariat had initiated the preparatory work for a feasibility study on the electrification of the Bangkok-Chiang Mai main line of the State Railway of Thailand. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had organized training programmes in that new technology, such as the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Electrification in Belgium and fellowship training of railway electrical engineers of Burma. It strongly urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in that important field.

580. In endorsing the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting, the Commission strongly appealed to the donor countries to provide the much-needed resources to accelerate the pace of implementation of the Trans-Asian Railway network project with its reoriented scope. It noted, however, that the formulation of the Asian Railway master plan should be carried out in close correlation with the Trans-Asian Railway network project. It noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of the USSR to provide host facilities for a meeting of a working group of railway experts.

581. While reviewing the progress of steps taken in pursuance of the decision of the Commission at its thirty-sixth session in respect of the proposal to establish an Asian railway union, one delegation expressed the hope that the needs and aspirations of the railways in the member countries would soon find expression in such an institution of regional co-operation under the auspices of ESCAP. It urged that all the preparatory work be completed before the thirty-eighth session of the Commission so that a decision could be taken then. Some delegations, however, expressed the view that any decision on the establishment of a railway union should be made only after the need for and the benefits of such a body had been clearly identified and that ESCAP's 30 years of experience in undertaking various activities relating to the modernization of railways of the region should be utilized. Unnecessary duplication should not be created by forming a separate entity. Before any decision was taken, there should be careful examination to ensure that a new organization would not duplicate the existing functions of UIC, which had been doing useful work to the satisfaction of its member railways of the region. The Commission noted in that connexion that a meeting of an expanded group of experts was tentatively scheduled to be held at Bangkok in April 1981.

582. The Commission, recognizing the major role that railways could play in intermodal surface transport systems through the introduction of freight unitization, including containerization, which would overcome the trans-shipment problems on different railway gauges,

urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in that field with regard to regional and intraregional inland traffic, including transit requirements for land-locked countries. The Commission stressed the need for close co-operation between the Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Division and the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division in the field of multimodal transport.

583. The Commission stressed the need to intensify the development programme for the rehabilitation, modernization and improvement of the railways of the region to increase their operational and managerial efficiency. In that context, it noted with appreciation that the secretariat had made a survey/study on modernization of the Sri Lanka Government Railways and had assisted the Bangladesh Railways in (a) setting up a rolling stock standards institute and (b) trans-shipment of goods between broad gauge and metre gauge at Santahar. It also noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had completed the preparatory work for the study on excessive rail wear and derailment in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand and had organized a Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Evolution and Trends in Design and Modernization of Rolling Stock and Equipment in France. The Commission emphasized the importance of developing railway statistics and information systems to serve as a tool for the development and improvement of railways.

584. In endorsing the request of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Commission noted that the secretariat had undertaken a pre-feasibility study for the construction of a railway line from Savannakhet via Viet Nam to Da Nang. It urged the secretariat to undertake a feasibility study at an early date. It also urged UNDP to provide ESCAP with the necessary funds to undertake that study.

585. The Commission noted the usefulness of the activities of the joint roving teams of railway experts and of seminars-cum-study tours and strongly recommended their continuation. It also recognized the importance of the continuation of the training programme for railway staff. In that context, the Commission noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of Japan to continue its support to those activities, and those of the Governments of France and the USSR to host seminars on railway electrification and railway track maintenance respectively in 1982. It also noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of China to host a seminar-cum-study tour on new railway construction, including tunnelling, bridging and operations, in May 1981 and the offer of the Government of India to host a seminar-cum-study tour on operational innovations and technological research leading to increased productivity with less capital investment in the development of the railway system in 1982-1983.

586. The Commission noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of India to share that country's managerial and technical expertise in the field of railways with the member countries of the region, and that of the USSR to provide assistance in undertaking studies on the modernization of freight transport and on automation in the technical aspects of railway transport.

Highways and highway transport

587. The Commission emphasized the need to adopt all possible energy conservation measures to make road transport more energy-efficient. The secretariat was urged to collect and disseminate information on the development and use of alternative sources of energy, and alternative types of fuel, particularly the use of natural gas and biomass, and regarding the development of improved non-mechanized means of transport.

588. It was suggested that the secretariat should formulate general policy guidelines for the development of roads and road transport in the region on the basis of an integrated and co-ordinated approach to major/important problems, including planning of road transport, in correlation with the development of other transport modes, the development of the Asian Highway network and local roads, the creation of a road transport network in land-locked countries and its integration with the transport systems of other countries in the region.

589. The Commission emphasized the importance of road maintenance to achieve substantial savings in vehicle operating costs. The secretariat should undertake a series of case studies to establish conclusively the economic importance of road maintenance, the findings of which could be used to organize a seminar-cum-workshop.

590. The Commission noted with satisfaction the useful purpose served by the Asian Highway guidemaps and commended the secretariat's initiative in publishing the new map of the Asian Highway with interregional links to the road networks of the Middle East and Europe.

591. It urged early completion of studies on the development of technical standards for dimensions, weights and safety devices of vehicles plying the Asian Highway, which could lead to the possible emergence of a regional convention.

592. The Commission recognized the urgent need to improve traffic safety in the region and suggested increasing public awareness and introducing traffic accident recording and analysis systems. It urged the member countries gradually to implement the 1968 Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals. It also appreciated the secretariat's efforts in introducing environmental impact analysis

into road construction projects and road transport and limiting air and noise pollution.

593. While commending the secretariat's efforts to improve rural road planning, design, construction and maintenance and in endorsing the valuable study on that subject undertaken by the secretariat in six countries of the region, and in view of the continued emphasis of member countries on the improvement of rural transport, the Commission urged the secretariat to organize similar studies in other countries of the region and the first training course for trainers at the local level on the basis of the manual under preparation. It noted with appreciation the recent initiative of the secretariat in undertaking jointly with ILO a study to improve construction tools and equipment for labour-intensive rural road construction.

594. It endorsed the proposal to publish a review report indicating trends in the development of roads and road transport in the region every two years, and emphasized the need for techno-economic studies on the implications of the overloading of trucks for road networks.

595. It urged the secretariat to continue its efforts to organize seminars/workshops on crucial aspects of road and road transport development, including new techniques and low-cost road construction methods.

596. It emphasized the need to organize regular training courses in the transport sector and appreciated the collaboration that had developed between ESCAP, the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank and other institutions in that respect.

597. It noted the request of Bangladesh for assistance under TCDC, in improving the efficiency of bullock carts; of Afghanistan, in completion of its Asian Highway network; and of the South Pacific island countries, in a study on strengthening local coral materials for road construction.

598. It noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to provide host facilities for the proposed seminar on road maintenance in 1982 and joint studies relating to roads; of Bangladesh to provide host facilities for the regional transport course; of France to provide publications and reading materials on road construction and energy conservation measures; and of the United States to provide copies of road inventory procedures suitable for computer storage and processing. It also noted that the Seventeenth World Road Congress would be held at Sydney, Australia, in 1983 and hoped that ESCAP member countries would participate.

Air transport

599. The Commission noted that many developing countries of the region continued to face a variety of problems and handicaps in the development of their rapidly growing air cargo transport and consequently

of their international airborne trade. It felt that the secretariat should play a more active role in the economic development of air cargo transport. It recommended that urgent attention should be given to the need to expand and improve air freight, as appropriate, for the development of interregional and intraregional trade in the ESCAP region. The Commission was of the opinion that since air transport was by nature global, ESCAP activities should be conducted in close co-operation with those of ICAO and other international organizations.

600. It noted that the international development strategy for the transport sector provided that developing countries would be enabled, through various measures, to make major advances in air transport, particularly in air cargo transport. It recalled that the Commission had supported a package of activities proposed at its thirty-sixth session in the field of air cargo transport. It noted that that package had included studies of trade flows of the ESCAP region to identify commodities capable of being air-freighted advantageously and to establish areas of air traffic complementarities; workshops to increase awareness among the interested governmental and private parties to take advantage of the economic aspects of air cargo transport; other studies on the possible establishment of air cargo complexes, cargo consolidation, improved packaging for goods and the air freight rate structure; and the launching of a programme for institutionalizing shippers' co-operation with regard to air cargo transport. With regard to the proposed seminar on the economic aspects of air cargo transport, the Commission noted with gratitude the renewed and extensive offer of the Government of India to provide the necessary funds and host facilities for holding the seminar in 1981 or early in 1982. It also noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of the USSR to prepare studies on the elaboration of analytical methods applicable to the marketing of air cargo and passenger transportation in the region. It further noted that the study entitled "International air passenger and freight transport, Asia and the Pacific" had been issued by ICAO at the end of 1980 and would be used as one of the major inputs for the seminar.

601. The Commission noted with satisfaction the continued co-operation between ESCAP and ICAO, the exchange of all information, particularly on facilitation measures, and the implementation of the combined ICAO/UNCTAD/ESCAP/FAO study on air freight development in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal.

602. The Commission took note of the need to develop further the air cargo transport of the land-locked, least developed and island countries. It also noted the need of some countries to link remote mountainous and other parts of their territories by air in order to promote tourism and foreign trade. It recognized that the main problem of land-locked and island countries was

the transportation of their products to the world markets and felt that activities in that field should be strengthened as early as possible. It noted that in developing archipelagic countries, consisting of many thousands of islands, air transport was of great importance as an efficient and alternative means for the carriage of cargoes.

603. The Commission noted that the ESCAP region in general and the South Pacific island countries in particular constituted a potential high-growth area for air cargo transport. It urged the secretariat to undertake in 1982-1983, in close co-operation with ICAO, a cost-benefit-oriented study of sea and air cargo, as a first step towards implementing a regional transport survey in the South Pacific.

General transport planning, research and urban transport

604. The Commission recognized the need to provide for a long-term strategy for the integrated development of inland transport. It noted that the trend which had been outlined in recent years and duly reflected in the secretariat's documents towards an integrated approach to transport problems should be further strengthened. It commended the secretariat on having sent a roving mission of transport experts to Bangladesh recently to assist in the development of an integrated rural/feeder transport system. It supported the secretariat's role as a clearing-house in disseminating continuous and regular information in all fields of transport, communications and tourism through its bulletin. It noted with gratitude the offers made by several delegations to provide information for publication.

605. The Commission strongly supported the research programmes of the secretariat and, in particular, the ongoing programme on improvement of access to isolated communities in the context of integrated rural development. Several countries expressed interest in participating in those programmes. The Commission took note of the request of Nepal for assistance from the secretariat in introducing container transport by rail and road for its international trade and requested the secretariat to cover that activity in its studies on containerization.

606. The Commission expressed its serious concern over the fact that rapid and uncontrolled urbanization had complicated urban transport problems. It regretted that the secretariat had not been able, for lack of resources, to undertake an in-depth comparative study of existing transport conditions and problems in a number of large cities in the region in order to identify specific and common problems, with a view to drawing up a set of relevant guidelines to assist planners in the region in planning their urban transport systems. It urged prospective donor countries to support that crucial and important activity in the 1982-1983 biennium work programme.

607. The Commission noted with satisfaction, however, that, within the context of energy conservation, the secretariat had given due attention to the improvement of public transport systems. Urban traffic congestion caused by the ever-increasing use of private passenger cars might be resolved only by gradually switching individual passenger traffic to public transportation systems or by improving integrated urban development with the aim of minimizing the need for motorized trip-making and/or optimizing the use of public transportation facilities. The Commission recommended the reappraisal of rail public transport as the most suitable mode of mass rapid transit, particularly in those larger cities of the region where substantial railway facilities already existed within the urban area, and with respect to intercity transport. It noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of the USSR to make available its considerable experience in the development of public transport and its readiness to share that experience with developing countries through the convening of a seminar in the USSR.

Facilitation of international traffic

608. The Commission felt that the secretariat should intensify its efforts to provide the necessary guidance to the member countries on developing facilitation measures for the international movement of their goods and traffic. In that context, emphasis was laid on standardization of technical specifications of transport equipment, vehicles and infrastructure, and harmonization of transport legislation, customs regulations and other border-crossing formalities.

609. The Commission noted with appreciation that the study to be undertaken by the secretariat on frontier formalities and procedures would be very useful to the countries in terms of formulating measures to remove transport and trade bottle-necks. It felt that the seminar on the subject to be held towards the end of 1981 would provide a useful forum in which particularly the officers involved in the application of frontier formalities could discuss the factors currently inhibiting them and formulate recommendations that could be implemented easily.

610. The Commission stressed the benefits accruing from the acceptance and application of international instruments relative to the promotion of international traffic and urged the secretariat to continue to take the necessary promotional steps in that regard. It also felt that the secretariat should provide the necessary assistance to the countries in the implementation of the United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods after its entry into force. To that effect, the Commission considered that a seminar on the international multimodal transport of goods would be of great advantage to the countries of the region.

611. It noted with satisfaction the steps being undertaken by the countries in the establishment and func-

tioning of national facilitation committees. It felt that such bodies at the national level would go a long way towards devising and developing facilitation measures to overcome the bottle-necks and attaining a smooth flow of international trade and traffic. To that effect, it considered that a model constitution being prepared by the secretariat for national facilitation committees would provide the needed guidelines for enhancing the effectiveness of those committees.

612. It noted with appreciation the close working relationship between ESCAP and UNCTAD on trade facilitation and felt that the achievements of other international organizations in the field of facilitation of international traffic should be duly taken into account by the secretariat in carrying out its activities in that area.

Telecommunication

613. The Commission, in emphasizing the role of telecommunication as a vital economic sector, urged developing member countries to adopt appropriate technology in that important field. It also recognized that an efficient system of telecommunication contributed to energy conservation and the development of trade and commerce and provided the essential infrastructure for health and education.

614. It noted that ITU, in close co-operation with ESCAP and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), had provided assistance to countries of the region in the planning, maintenance and introduction of new technologies in the telecommunication sector, and in manpower development. It further noted that the new area of assistance, namely, broadcasting and television planning and training, had been intensified through the placing of a planning expert in the ESCAP/ITU Unit, and a training expert at the Asian Institute of Broadcasting Development at Kuala Lumpur. Several delegations expressed the hope that ESCAP would take steps to facilitate the accession to APT of non-member countries and that ESCAP would carry out its activities in close co-ordination with APT.

615. The Commission emphasized the importance of rural telecommunication and telecommunication maintenance to the least developed, land-locked and island countries of the region. It noted with satisfaction that the activities of the ESCAP/ITU Unit would be intensified in that vital area.

Postal services

616. The Commission noted with regret that ESCAP's activities in the postal field had remained suspended for quite some time. It urged the secretariat to increase its efforts to reactivate postal activities. It urged UNDP and donor countries to provide financial support, technical assistance and postal experts so that ESCAP could revive its activities in postal services to meet the

urgent requirements of developing member countries. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat's close co-operation with UPU, the Asian Oceanic Postal Union (AOPU) and the Asian Oceanic Postal Training School had been intensified and would continue to be broadened in the future. It took note of and supported the UPU projects for the development of postal services, such as the extension of the ongoing project for the development of postal services in east Asia and the Pacific, the new project with the same objectives for the least developed countries of western and south Asia, the training of experts in the region within the framework of TCDC and the establishment of a study and research centre which would assist the countries of the region in postal planning. It also took note of the request by AOPU that ESCAP should assist in the provision of funds for fellowships.

617. The Commission noted the increasing importance of postal services in the region along with the growing rates of literacy and of migration from rural to urban areas. It also noted that the secretariat had not been able to hold the ESCAP/UPU/AOPU symposium on postal strategies for the 1980s as directed by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session owing to the budgetary constraints of UNDP. It urged that the symposium be held in 1981 or early 1982 and requested UNDP or donor countries to provide the necessary resources for that important activity. It appreciated the offer of the Government of India to share its managerial and technical expertise with member countries of the region and noted with gratitude the offer of the Government of the USSR to host a seminar on postal technology.

Tourism

618. The Commission, while recognizing that tourism was a new economic activity for most developing member countries of the region, emphasized the need for ESCAP to give increased assistance to the member countries in that field. It noted that, to meet the urgent requirements of those countries, the secretariat should compile relevant data and information and initiate policy-oriented research covering all the relevant parameters in the social, economic and environmental aspects. It further recognized that the problems of tourism research were not only multidisciplinary and complex in character but deserved to be looked at and studied from regional and subregional perspectives.

619. The Commission recognized that in the context of Pacific island countries, while assessing the economic impacts of tourism on other sectors of the economy, due account should be taken of their peculiar development environment. It also noted that for the landlocked countries, the integration of transport and other elements of infrastructures and facilitation measures was a prerequisite for the effective promotion of international tourism.

620. The Commission appreciated the assistance provided by the secretariat for the Lumbini project.

621. The Commission noted with satisfaction the successful completion of the ESCAP/WTO Seminar-cum-Workshop on Investment and Financing of Tourism Development Projects and Related Infrastructures in February 1980 and hoped that its recommendations would be implemented. It also noted with appreciation the assistance provided by the secretariat to Pakistan, for identification of the basic problems in tourism development and studies on development methodology of mountain resorts in northern Pakistan, and to Sri Lanka, on the problems of tourism development. It further noted that the secretariat had undertaken a study relating to the introduction of the TCDC mechanism in tourism.

622. The Commission supported the efforts of the secretariat to develop a core-group capacity through intrasecretariat co-ordination to combine expertise in relevant disciplines and through co-operation with international agencies such as UNEP, ILO and WTO.

623. One delegation expressed its reservations as to the expansion of the tourism activities at a time when programme costs were rising and budgetary expansion was of concern to Governments and stressed the need to co-operate fully with existing tourism organizations in the region, especially WTO, to prevent duplication of effort. To that end and to attain a sharper focus on tourism activities, the Commission urged the secretariat to work closely with and avail itself of the resources of WTO, which, by virtue of a WTO-UNDP agreement, had become the executing agency for the implementation of all UNDP financial and technical assistance projects and programmes in tourism.

624. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat planned to organize a seminar-cum-workshop on tourism manpower development in 1981, jointly with ILO and WTO.

625. It noted with gratitude the financial support of the Government of Japan, which would strengthen ESCAP tourism activities, and the offer of the Government of India to accept trainees from other member countries on a preferential basis in its hotel training courses in both the public and the private sectors.

626. In reviewing the proposed programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, in the fields of transport, communications and tourism, the Commission noted that there were some important projects which required financial assistance. It noted with appreciation the offer made by the USSR to assist the secretariat in the implementation of its activities, particularly in the modernization of freight transport and a study on automation in technical aspects of railway transport. It was felt that the secretariat should also hold consultations with interested donor member Governments to ensure

that a correct assessment was made of the relative priorities of its activities.

627. The Commission, in stressing the crucial importance of air cargo transport to developing countries of the region as stipulated in the new International Development Strategy, noted that activities in those fields were not adequately reflected in the proposed programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, or in the draft medium-term plan, 1984-1989. It recommended that more action-oriented activities, as already endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session, should be included in the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983.

628. The Commission expressed its gratitude for the generous assistance provided to the secretariat by member Governments and various organizations for the implementation of its programmes in the fields of transport, communications and tourism. In particular, it acknowledged the assistance rendered by the Governments of Bangladesh, Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the USSR and the United Kingdom. It hoped that such assistance would continue to be provided for future activities in those vital sectors.

Environment

629. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/190 and E/ESCAP/205.

630. It noted with satisfaction the progress made so far in implementing resolution 202 (XXXVI) and suggested that the secretariat should continue its efforts by ensuring that environmental considerations were taken into account in the activities of the Commission and implementing its programme of work on the environment in the priority areas as identified by the Commission. The Commission reiterated its support for the establishment of the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit in the Office of the Executive Secretary and expressed its appreciation to UNEP and other bilateral donors for providing extrabudgetary assistance to fulfil the environmental objectives of the Commission.

631. With respect to legislative arrangements, the Commission noted that the theme of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its fifth session, to be held in September 1981, would be human settlements and the environment. The Commission endorsed the idea of convening an *ad hoc* working group of experts on the environment every alternate year and suggested that the first session of that group should be convened in 1982.

632. The Commission emphasized the importance and usefulness of the secretariat's programme in enhancing environmental awareness in the region through dissemination and exchange of information and publication of bulletins and feature articles on the environment. In

that regard, the essential elements of the secretariat's programme on environmental awareness as outlined in document E/ESCAP/205 were generally endorsed.

633. The Commission noted the progress made at the national level for the development and strengthening of institutional and legislative frameworks for environmental protection and management. However, in view of the scope and extent of the work involved, it was suggested that efforts should be continued, particularly in the field of development and enforcement of environmental protection legislation in specific areas of concern to the region. In that connexion, the need to develop environmental quality standards and environmental impact assessment guidelines was emphasized.

634. Environmental management of terrestrial ecosystems, particularly of arid and semi-arid lands, was considered to be an important area of concern which needed further attention at the national as well as the regional level. In that regard, the secretariat's effort in organizing a regional technical workshop on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, scheduled to be held late in September 1981 with extrabudgetary assistance provided by the Government of Australia, was commended. The Commission also expressed its appreciation to the Government of the USSR for its offer to assist the secretariat in the collection and dissemination of information on the management of terrestrial ecosystems.

635. The Commission expressed its concern regarding the problem of deforestation in the region, which was proceeding at an alarming rate, and suggested that the secretariat should undertake a special study on the problem with a view to assisting the countries of the region in minimizing the environmental hazards associated with deforestation in an integrated context of watershed management. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's proposal to undertake a study on mountain ecosystems of the region, for which the necessary technical and extrabudgetary assistance was under consideration by the Government of New Zealand.

636. With regard to the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, the Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Sweden for the assistance being provided to the secretariat for the development and implementation of a regional project. The Commission noted the essential components of that regional project: (a) development of master plans; (b) education and training programmes in the field of marine environmental protection; (c) provision of consultancy services on technological and legislative aspects; and (d) development of a programme of public information. In view of the severe deterioration of the marine environment and related ecosystems in the region, the Commission felt that such a project, which was designed to provide specific assistance to the countries, would be very useful. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the progress made in the

development of the South Pacific regional environmental programme being implemented by SPC, SPEC, UNEP and ESCAP.

637. Several delegations expressed concern over environmental hazards due to the increased use of agrochemicals, pesticides and mineral exploration and exploitation. With regard to the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the need to provide assistance in environmental impact assessment of such activities. The Commission further noted the concern expressed by a number of delegations over the possible environmental hazards of nuclear waste disposal on the marine environment in the Pacific subregion.

638. The Commission supported the idea of undertaking a study and convening an expert group meeting on the methods and cost of industrial pollution control in 1981, for which the Government of Japan had decided to provide extrabudgetary funds.

639. With regard to environmental monitoring and assessment, the Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of France to provide two short-term experts and one long-term regional expert on the application of remote sensing technology to environmental monitoring, particularly in the fields of desertification and the marine environment. The Commission also suggested that the secretariat should maintain close co-operation and co-ordination with the United Nations Statistical Office, which was currently engaged in developing a framework on environmental statistics.

640. The Commission supported the idea of undertaking a study on eco-development methodology and suggested that the secretariat should take the lead in establishing a group of experts on eco-development.

641. The Commission noted with satisfaction the training courses on environmental management and development in the USSR conducted jointly by APDI and the Higher Economic Courses of the USSR State Planning Committee in collaboration with UNEP. The Commission also noted the offer of the USSR to developing countries to take part in a number of USSR/UNEP projects as well as its intention to provide the Commission with relevant project documents to facilitate co-operation between ESCAP and the USSR in the field of the environment.

642. The Commission, in considering the programme of work for 1982-1983 and the medium-term plan for 1984-1989, as presented in documents E/ESCAP/217 and E/ESCAP/218 respectively, was of the opinion that readjustment of the programme of work and the medium-term plan might be necessary, depending upon the availability of resources or in the light of changed conditions calling for a revision of priorities.

643. As to the question of co-operation with other agencies, the Commission noted the relevant part of

resolution 202 (XXXVI), in which it had called upon the Executive Secretary to promote and support regional co-operation in the area of the environment. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the subregional co-operation on the environment constituted by the establishment of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) at the high-level meeting held at Colombo in February 1981, the formal acceptance of the articles of association of the Programme and the adoption of a common declaration on the subject. The Commission was pleased to note that the secretariat's programme of work in the field of the environment had so far been implemented in close co-operation with other agencies and in particular with UNEP. In that regard, the joint programming exercise between ESCAP and UNEP and the joint annual review between ESCAP and FAO were particularly noted and the continuation of such practices was recommended. The representative of UNEP emphasized the role and functions of his organization at the regional level, which were primarily carried out through four subprogrammes: (a) SACEP; (b) the South Pacific regional environment programme; (c) the ASEAN environment programme; and (d) the environment programme of the Mekong Committee. He also referred to the statement made by the representative of UNEP concerning the financial assistance extended to ESCAP since 1976, totalling more than \$US 1.4 million, of which \$US 286,000 had been provided in 1980-1981. The representative of FAO stressed the need for further collaboration between ESCAP and FAO in the field of the environmental aspects of food and agriculture, particularly since the four priority areas decided on by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session had relevance to the FAO programme of work at the regional level.

Information systems and documentation services

644. The Commission, which had before it document E/ESCAP/229, recognized the need for Governments to make the best use of existing information, through well-organized information systems, as a means of promoting social and economic development. It therefore welcomed the steps taken by the secretariat to strengthen its role as a clearing-house for information in the region and to promote the management of information within member Governments through its regional programme.

645. The Commission recognized that the main obstacle hindering the wider use of existing information in government lay in the lack of centralized high-level co-ordination of information. Although at both its first and second sessions the Study Group on the Co-ordination of Government Information Systems had urged the establishment of the necessary co-ordinating mechanisms, it was noted that little progress had so far been made in that respect. The Commission urged that a high-level decision be taken by member Governments to set up the necessary central mechanism,

in accordance with the recommendations of the Study Group.

646. In that context, the offer of the Government of Japan to host later in 1981 an intergovernmental meeting on information systems in the ESCAP region was particularly appreciated. Such a meeting would make it possible to discuss major issues such as policies for future direction and fundamental technical problems relating to government information systems.

647. The Commission noted with appreciation the continuation of the substantial support from the Government of France for the regional programme in government information systems through the funding of two sessions of the Study Group on the subject in 1979 and 1981 and the provision of a regional adviser on administrative information systems and data processing, whose services had been widely requested by member States.

648. The Commission also welcomed the co-operation received from the Data for Development International Association and the Spatial-Oriented Referencing System Association, which had provided valuable guidance and consulting services in the design of the regional programme in government information systems and geocoding.

649. The contribution of a computer systems analyst through funding in the context of the project on integrated rural development by the Government of the Netherlands for strengthening the information aspects of the secretariat's rural development programme was noted with appreciation. That expert would help to improve the accessibility of externally held information on rural development to member countries through development of a regional mechanism for the exchange of information. Additionally, he would assist in improving the co-ordination of information on rural development within member States and also promote the establishment of a data system at the district level for decision making and planning as a pilot project in a selected member State. Those activities would be closely co-ordinated with the programme on government information systems.

650. The Commission commended the establishment of an Advisory Board on Information Systems within the secretariat, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Executive Secretary, to set general guidelines for the development, co-ordination and operation of the various information systems within the secretariat. It felt that the wider involvement of high-level decision makers at the central level in the over-all management of information would lead to much better information management practices and that that principle was applicable not only to the secretariat but also to member States.

651. The Commission expressed its warmest appreciation of the generosity of the Government of Japan in presenting a computer system to the secretariat to

strengthen its traditional role as a focal point for the exchange of information pertinent to the economic and social development of the region.

652. The Commission stressed the need for the wider dissemination of ESCAP-generated information to member countries. For that purpose, the ESCAP Library should establish closer contact with the national libraries and libraries dealing with socio-economic subjects, to make sure that the maximum use was made of its documentation services, and also to avoid unnecessary duplication of work in developing future systems and services.

653. The contribution made by the Federal Republic of Germany through the provision of the services of a computer systems analyst for the development of bibliographic indexing methods was noted with appreciation. His design of a "single-search" system for the retrieval of information covering all classes of internally held documents would greatly improve documents management.

654. It was observed that the installation of computers in the secretariat and in some of the main libraries of the region would permit the exchange of bibliographic data in machine-readable form and that on-line linkages should be considered at a later stage.

655. The Commission took note of the growing exchange of trade information between member States, in which national centres would form links to sources of external trade data and serve as the core of trade information for export promotion and market research types of activities. It welcomed the facilitation of the transfer of those data through the mechanism of the secretariat.

Integrated rural development

656. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/224.

657. The Commission was informed of the latest position with regard to the implementation of the ESCAP integrated programme on rural development (06) for the biennium 1980-1981 as well as the regional interagency programme on integrated rural development. It was reported that of the 45 activities included in the ESCAP programme in that field, 3 had been completed, 28 were at various stages of execution and another 13 awaited funding. One project relating to the mobile training scheme had already been proposed for deletion. It was further reported that in addition to the guidelines given by the legislative committees concerning various sectoral activities related to rural development, the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (July 1979) and of the regional *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on Integrated Rural Development (December 1979) had provided the broad framework within which individual activities were being planned and implemented. With

regard to the interagency programme, the Commission was informed that the report on the Pangasinan IRD project in the Philippines had been finalized and submitted to the Government; that a mission from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome had recently visited Bangkok and held discussions with the Interagency Task Force on IRD regarding the financing of the integrated atoll development project in Maldives which had been formulated with interagency assistance; and that further consultations with the Government and with IFAD were envisaged.

658. In the discussions that followed, several delegations referred to the priority attached to rural development in their national development and the application of the concept of integrated development of rural areas through concrete action programmes and appropriate institutional frameworks. In that context, emphasis was given to certain specific elements, including decentralization of planning to local levels, the effective involvement of the intended beneficiaries in the entire process of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, a multisectoral approach with balanced attention to economic as well as social development, and progressive self-reliance. The Commission noted that several countries were already pursuing policies and implementing programmes incorporating those elements. It felt that while basic responsibility for designing and executing rural development policies and programmes rested with the countries themselves, there was considerable scope for developed countries to assist and support the efforts of the developing countries in that regard and for the developing countries themselves to learn from and support each other, technically and economically, in that process.

659. The Commission emphasized that the usefulness of the activities pursued under the IRD programme by ESCAP and by the Interagency Committee would be related primarily to the extent to which they supported national action and strengthened national capabilities. In that context, several countries participating in the ongoing projects under the ESCAP integrated programme related to case studies of socio-economic disabilities of low-income groups and interaction and accountability of public agencies involved in rural development vis-à-vis such groups welcomed that initiative and expressed the hope that the outcome of the studies and the comparative analysis of their findings would contribute to an improvement of national programmes in that area. Similarly appreciation was expressed of the ongoing activities in the field of local-level planning for rural development as well as organization of small-farmer groups for income-generating activities. The Commission emphasized the need for close and effective interdivisional co-ordination within the secretariat so as to ensure effective use of the limited resources available and to enhance the over-all impact of the programme. The view was expressed that activities

under the project on developing a regional information network for rural development might overlap the functions of the regional intergovernmental body, namely, the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) at Comilla, Bangladesh. Accordingly, the Commission stressed the need for adequate consultations with CIRDAP with a view to avoiding duplication and encouraging complementarity. The view was also expressed that greater attention should be given in future activities to the role of agrarian reform and co-operatives in integrated rural development and the need to analyse concrete country experience in that regard and make it available for the benefit of developing countries.

660. The Commission expressed appreciation of the arrangements that had been developed for interagency collaboration and co-ordination among the United Nations agencies at the regional level in the field of rural development. It also welcomed the activities sponsored during the year on an interagency basis through the institutionalized mechanism of the Interagency Committee and its Task Force. Those included an integrated atoll development planning project in Maldives and an integrated provincial planning project in the Philippines. The Commission noted with interest that preparations were in progress for undertaking two other similar projects, one in Sri Lanka and the other in Thailand. The Commission noted with appreciation the increasing field orientation given to the programmes through such country-specific projects. It also expressed support for the proposed work on promoting inter-country exchange of information and experience in the field of monitoring and evaluation of rural development programmes and projects with reference to their involvement of and impact on low-income and socially disadvantaged groups. The need to continue and strengthen institutional arrangements that had already been developed for interagency collaboration in rural development among the concerned United Nations agencies was underlined.

661. As to the question of resources, one representative emphasized the need for ESCAP to review the allocation of resources to priority programmes, including the integrated programme on rural development, vis-à-vis the non-priority programmes, in the context of the freezing of the level of regular budget allocations from Headquarters for the next biennium. Several delegations, while expressing appreciation of the support which donors had so far extended to the IRD activities of ESCAP and of the Interagency Committee, emphasized the need for increased financial support by way of extrabudgetary contributions for such activities in coming years. In that connexion, the Commission welcomed efforts to establish collaboration with funding institutions in the Maldives project and appealed to international development financing agencies to assist through the provision of resources to activities of ESCAP and of the Interagency Committee in integrated rural development in the region.

662. The Commission was informed of the steps that had been initiated by FAO to follow up the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. In the ESCAP region, they included intensification of programmes for small-farmer development, development of socio-economic indicators for monitoring rural development and a high-level mission to Sri Lanka. The Commission was also informed of FAO's participation in and contribution to the work of the Interagency Committee and its Task Force. It was further informed of the objectives and scope of work of CIRDAP, the activities it had undertaken so far and its future plans.

663. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to hold a seminar in 1982 through UNDP on the effects of agricultural development on irrigation projects.

Progress report on the implementation of resolution 205 (XXXVI) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries

664. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/211 and Corr.1.

665. It generally endorsed the secretariat's proposal to intensify its training activities, particularly within the framework of TCDC, with a view to implementing the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Administrator of UNDP and adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/80. It also endorsed the suggestion that in view of resource constraints the intensification of training activities should be in such priority areas within the ESCAP work programme as energy planning, trade promotion and development, science and technology, integrated rural development, maritime development and co-operation, public administration and economic development and planning in general. In that connexion, the Commission emphasized the important role which APDC could play in increasing the pool of trained personnel particularly from the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in the ESCAP region, both through the provision of training and through an upgrading of national training institutions.

666. The Commission urged the secretariat to utilize effectively all available resources to finance the intensification of training activities in specified priority areas.

667. It supported the secretariat's suggestion that the developing countries should consider the possibility of financing the training of their own nationals in a spirit of self-help.

668. It welcomed the secretariat's efforts to utilize the expertise of developing countries in the implementation of regional projects as it was felt that such an approach would ensure further enhancement of qualified personnel from developing countries.

669. The Commission recommended that appropriate attention should be given to increasing national capacities and facilities of the developing countries for the training of qualified national personnel.

670. The Commission adopted resolution 217 (XXXVII) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries.

The Commission's activities in the Pacific

671. The Commission considered the information contained in document E/ESCAP/201 and was pleased with the tangible progress achieved in the implementation of resolutions 173 (XXXIII), 188 (XXXIV) and 208 (XXXVI).

672. The Commission noted with satisfaction the establishment of the ESCAP Liaison Office for the Pacific in Nauru and welcomed the pending appointment of an incumbent from the Pacific to the position of permanent Liaison Officer. The Commission stressed that sound and practicable working arrangements were essential if the responsibilities of the Office were to be carried out effectively, and the Executive Secretary was to ensure that the Pacific Liaison Officer received full support in that respect.

673. The Commission reiterated the importance of co-operation and co-ordination between ESCAP and the subregional organizations, such as SPC and SPEC, so as to avoid duplication of activities and further intensify the participation of the Governments of Pacific island countries in the expanding activities of ESCAP. The Commission noted that SPC had a mandate from the Pacific island countries to implement an atoll self-sufficiency programme.

674. The Commission expressed deep appreciation of the numerous consultancy services carried out by the United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT) for the South Pacific and commended its Team Leader on those activities as well as on discharging the functions of Pacific Liaison Officer *ad interim*.

675. The Commission noted with appreciation the facilities offered for orientation visits to the ESCAP secretariat for officials of the developing Pacific island countries. In addition to the earlier attachment of an officer from Fiji, one officer from Tonga had made such a visit early in 1981. The Commission noted that provision had been made for four attachments during 1981 and expressed the hope that those would be filled. Several delegations from the Pacific countries indicated that they hoped to avail themselves of those opportunities in 1981. The Commission suggested that consideration should be given by Pacific countries to the possibility of co-ordinating such attachments and to making their tenure flexible in order to facilitate their release by their Governments.

676. The Commission noted that difficulties had been encountered in seeking ways and means of mitigating the financial and geographical constraints which restricted the ability of representatives of Governments of developing Pacific island countries to attend the Commission session. The Commission regarded it as important, however, that the matter should not be lost from sight and requested the secretariat to keep it under continuing review.

677. The Commission welcomed the various technical and advisory services, including workshops and seminars, organized by the secretariat in the Pacific in the fields of agriculture, development planning, industry, housing and technology, international trade, natural resources, population, shipping, ports and inland waterways, statistics, transport, communications and tourism, integrated rural development, transnational corporations and women in development.

678. The Commission noted that the negotiations on the law of the sea convention were of vital importance to the developing island countries of the Pacific region and urged the early adoption of the convention. The need for advice and assistance in that connexion was noted.

679. The Commission stressed the importance of the proposed regional energy programme to be funded by UNDP, and special emphasis was placed on the need to ensure that it was properly co-ordinated with other energy programmes. In that context, reference was made to a study under way by SPEC on an appropriate co-ordinating mechanism. The Commission agreed that a decision on measures of implementation should await the results of the SPEC study.

680. The Commission also welcomed the fact that the Netherlands Government, within its annual grant for the implementation of the ESCAP programme of work, had allocated a special amount for TCDC activities under which it could well be possible to support the participation of Pacific experts in seminars and workshops organized by ESCAP. Furthermore, the Netherlands Government expressed its willingness to consider proposals for funding of ECDC projects of a pragmatical nature in the Pacific.

681. The Commission felt that there was scope for increased participation of the Pacific island countries in its activities and that more of its meetings should be held in the Pacific subregion. It noted the extremely low number of Pacific island nationals in the secretariat, there being only one among the secretariat's permanent staff, and reiterated the desirability of giving further consideration to recruiting more Pacific islanders.

682. The Commission approved the application of the United States Government for Guam to become an associate member of ESCAP.

Transnational corporations

683. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/213 and E/ESCAP/223. It endorsed the conclusions and recommendations pertaining to TNCs in the report of the Committee on Development Planning on its third session, including its recommendation that high-level intergovernmental consultative meetings on TNCs should be held in order to promote sharing of experience and regional awareness of TNC issues.

684. The Commission observed that the involvement of TNCs in the Asian and Pacific region had increased both in absolute terms and relative to other developing regions of the world. In addition, that recent increase in TNC involvement in the region had been accompanied by a proliferation of new and more complex forms of interface between TNCs and host developing countries. Joint-venture agreements as well as numerous forms of non-equity arrangements such as licensing agreements, management and marketing contracts, production sharing agreements and project financing involving several transnational banks had rendered the needs of developing countries for greater understanding, technical support and information even more pressing if they were to strengthen their negotiating capacities with TNCs.

685. Against that background, the Commission commended the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit for its work in the areas of research, technical co-operation and information and strongly endorsed its principal objective of increasing the negotiating capacities of host developing countries with TNCs. The Commission also emphasized that the Joint Unit's work should promote regional and subregional co-operation among developing countries so as to strengthen their bargaining position with TNCs. The Commission felt that TNC activities should be in conformity with the development requirements and interests of developing countries. The Commission also stressed that there should be no unnecessary duplication between the work of the Joint Unit and other divisions of ESCAP or with any other United Nations or non-United Nations agencies.

686. The Commission acknowledged that the work of the Joint Unit in the areas of research, technical co-operation and information had been carried out on the basis of an extremely modest regular budget, permitting only three Professional staff members. The Commission therefore expressed its appreciation of the extrabudgetary assistance provided by the Governments of Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands as well as UNDP. The contribution of many developing countries in the region in providing host facilities for technical workshops was also noted. The Commission expressed the hope that such funding and co-operation would continue, along with an increase in the allocation of regular budgetary funding to the Joint Unit, by reallocation either within ESCAP or from other United Nations regular budgetary sources, on the condition that the over-all regular budget

of the United Nations should not increase. In that regard, the Commission was pleased to acknowledge the announcement by the Netherlands Government that discussions were currently under way for granting extrabudgetary funds to the Joint Unit for work in the fields of information, negotiating issues and research.

687. In the field of research, the Commission noted with approval the practicality of the Joint Unit's work, especially in the area of primary export commodities. Several delegations noted the success of the recent Expert Group Meeting on Transnational Corporations in Primary Commodity Export Industries sponsored by the Joint Unit and recommended that the report of that Meeting should be used as a basis for further research on the topic. The Commission also suggested that the Joint Unit's research on TNCs and primary commodity export industries should focus more on the transfer pricing practices of TNCs.

688. In its deliberations on the Joint Unit's work programme, the Commission strongly endorsed the shift in emphasis from primary commodities to the role of TNCs in transferring technology to manufacturing industries and to their involvement in service sectors. The Commission recommended that particular attention should be given to the role of State enterprises in international banking and transport and strongly supported the Joint Unit's planned research in the following areas: the cost of technology transferred from TNCs; the restrictive business and transfer pricing practices of TNCs; the costs and benefits of TNC involvement in export processing zones; the host country linkage effects of TNCs; and research on general trading companies. The Commission noted that the ASEAN component of the Joint Unit's research on the cost of technology transferred from TNCs had recently received support in an ASEAN Boards of Investment forum and recognized that such work would contribute significantly to subregional co-operation among developing countries.

689. The Commission further recommended that the Joint Unit should undertake the following research: studies on TNCs based within developing countries of the region; analysis of the newer forms of non-equity relationships between TNCs and host country entities; and the comparison of net capital inflows to developing countries from TNCs with outflows from such countries due to TNC operations.

690. The Commission commended the Joint Unit on the usefulness of its role, in close collaboration with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (CTC), in providing direct advisory services and technical workshops on TNCs. It acknowledged that many developing countries in the region had an insufficient core of trained professional manpower to permit adequate understanding of the complex operations of TNCs. The specialized knowledge and negotiating skills provided by such advisory and technical services were

much appreciated and the Commission recommended that more regional and country workshops should be held on negotiating with TNCs, particularly in the area of technology transfer. The Commission also suggested that such technical co-operation activities should make use of existing national and regional institutions in the field of technology. In that area of the Joint Unit's work, the Commission recalled that it was the policy of the Commission on Transnational Corporations that United Nations Secretariat staff and experts should not enter into the direct negotiating process between Governments and TNCs.

691. The Commission acknowledged that the Joint Unit's efforts in collecting, cataloguing and disseminating information on TNCs and on national legislation and policies were of direct importance to the negotiating capacities of host developing countries. It also recognized that the Joint Unit's research on the cost of technology transferred from TNCs would provide valuable information on TNC technology. The Commission therefore recommended that serious consideration should be given to the establishment of a regional or subregional clearing-house for licensing and technology agreements. The Commission further emphasized that such information activities of the Joint Unit should avoid unnecessary duplication of existing United Nations and non-United Nations systems.

692. The view was expressed that the information activities of the Joint Unit should place priority on national legislation and policies pertaining to TNCs and on information on sources of information. Proprietary business information should be handled so as to protect confidentiality. Furthermore, information which was not comparable should be so identified and permission should be sought from all parties concerned before releasing information on contracts and agreements with TNCs. The Commission noted that CTC had agreed to provide the name of a United States Government official whom United States TNCs should contact for guidance when approached for information by the United Nations. The view was expressed that ESCAP should follow a similar procedure.

693. The Commission noted that negotiations at the global level for a code of conduct on TNCs were making rapid progress. However, it suggested that the Joint Unit should prepare a paper explaining the salient issues of the global negotiations for a code of conduct. That paper should serve as a basis for stimulating a regional dialogue aimed at contributing to the elimination of the remaining bottle-necks in those negotiations.

Programme changes, 1981

694. The Commission endorsed the following programme changes for 1981 to the programme of work and priorities, 1980-1981:

<i>Additions</i>		15.02.10	Meeting of experts from interested countries to consider the feasibility of a CCOP/Indian Ocean
04.01.05	Regional advisory group on science and technology	16.02.06	Meeting on water resources development in the South Pacific
05.05.17	Evaluation of free trade zones: performance and prospects	18.01.05	Preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 1981: organization of review meetings
05.05.18	Comparative studies leading to regional and subregional co-operation on specific issues regarding the activities of TNCs: transfer pricing, technology transfer and restrictive business practices	19.02.07	International symposium of experts on technical co-operation among developing countries and technical assistance for disabled persons
05.05.19	Preparation of a paper explaining the salient issues of the global negotiations for a code of conduct on TNCs aimed at stimulating a regional dialogue contributing to the solution of the remaining bottle-necks in those negotiations	19.02.08	Regional preparatory meeting for the World Assembly on Aging (1982)
05.08.05	Assistance to the regional bureau of fiscal documentation	19.03.03	Substantive backstopping of APDC relating to its training and research programmes in social development
05.08.06	Country studies on development progress and problems of foreign investment	20.01.04	Preparatory activities for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference
07.03.05	Studies in development planning methods	20.02.13	Regional seminar on approaches to integrated population and development activities in planning in ESCAP countries
07.04.05	Regional meeting on input-output analysis	20.02.14	Improvement of vital registration systems
08.01.09	Information network on development of energy and new resources from agro-products	20.02.15	Demographic, social and economic consequences of fertility decline at the national level
08.01.10	Special measures for the least developed countries in the development of energy and new resources from agro-products	20.03.12	Study on a mechanism for the evaluation of integrated programmes of food, nutrition and health services and population programmes
08.01.11	Expert group meeting on the development of energy and new resources from agro-products	20.04.08	Specific information and clearing-house activities for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference
08.01.12	Regional study on production of alcohol from agro-products		
09.03.14	Meeting of directors of building and human settlements research institutes	<i>Modifications</i>	
09.06.08	Review and study on the human settlements situation	04.01.02	Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action
10.02.05	<i>Ad hoc</i> working group meeting of experts on the environment	05.08.03	Meeting of a panel of eminent persons on foreign investment
11.02.09	Assistance to member countries in the establishment and operation of freight forwarders' organizations	07.01.04	Preparation of the <i>Economic and Social Survey, 1980</i>
11.05.08	Meeting of chief executives of inland waterway authorities	07.02.03	Other activities in connexion with the regional input into the development strategy for the 1980s
11.06.10	Assistance to member countries in the establishment of computer-based services for rationalization of shipping space utilization	07.03.02	Training programme on planning techniques with special reference to the Soviet experience
12.03.02(v)	Regional seminar on urban transportation systems with emphasis on railway transportation	08.01.06	Development of small-scale industries in the long-term perspective
15.02.09	Support to CCOP	09.02.03	Study on rural settlement planning
		09.03.09	Study on indigenous construction industries in urban and rural areas

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| 09.06.05 | Regional congress of local authorities for development of human settlements in Asia and the Pacific | 09.03.12 | Financing shelter, infrastructure and services for the informal sector in urban and rural areas |
| 10.01.01 | Study and expert group meeting on methods and costs of industrial pollution control | 09.03.13 | Development of a regional information system |
| 10.01.03 | Management of terrestrial ecosystems | 09.04.02 | Recapture of plus land values |
| 10.02.03 | Expert group meeting on creation and enhancement of environmental awareness in the region | 09.06.06 | Guidelines for establishing and strengthening institutions for upgrading low-income settlements in urban and rural settings |
| 10.02.04 | Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific, phase II | 09.06.07 | Strengthening the institutions and management component in the information systems of regional commissions |
| 12.03.28 | In-depth study of the cost-benefit aspects of containerization in relation to surface transport, including intermodal aspects | 12.03.15 | Studies and investigations to obtain suitable substitutes for pitching stones to meet the requirements of the Bangladesh Railways where there is an absolute lack of such materials for railway bridge and embankment protection works |
| 19.01.06 | Workshop on social problems of low-income urban groups: some legal approaches | 19.01.02 | Mobile training scheme for the training of trainers, supervisors and field-level development personnel in the developing countries, including the least developed, land-locked and sea-locked countries (corresponds to 06.02.08) |
| 19.02.03 | Strengthening the socio-economic aspects of family planning and population policies: self-employment and family-life education programme for young women in rural areas | | |

Deletions

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| 06.02.08 | Mobile training scheme for the training of trainers, supervisors and field-level development personnel in the developing countries, including the least developed, land-locked and sea-locked countries (corresponds to 19.01.02) |
| 07.01.07 | Eighth session of the Expert Group on Development Policy and Planning |
| 07.04.02 | Regional seminars on long-term projections |
| 07.04.04 | Regional seminars on medium-term projections |
| 08.01.04 | Workshop on export promotion, with special reference to export processing zones |
| 08.02.06 | Establishment of facilities for training in welding on a subregional basis |
| 09.03.05 | Support to Governments for the adoption and implementation of housing policies and programmes |
| 09.03.07 | Demonstration projects on upgrading slums and squatter and rural settlements |
| 09.03.08 | Development of building materials and construction industries |
| 09.03.10 | Pilot projects on appropriate technologies and standards for infrastructure and services |

Programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983

695. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/217, presenting the proposed programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, in a revised format containing annotations for each programme element. It noted that the work programme had been formulated in consultation with ACPR and incorporated the recommendations of the legislative committees which had met since the thirty-sixth session. It further noted that the programmes for which the legislative committees had not met since that session would be reviewed in detail by those committees in the course of 1981.

696. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the improvement in the presentation of the work programme but felt that there was still room for improvement. It also felt that there should be some indication of the relative priorities accorded to different programme elements. It was suggested that the legislative committees were the most appropriate bodies to set priorities within their sectors of the work programme. The Commission observed that the scarce resources were spread increasingly thin over many diverse activities and therefore stressed the need for further streamlining of the work programme to make it more realistic and practical so that it could be implemented effectively.

697. The Commission recommended the following changes to the proposed programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983.

698. In the field of transfer of technology (04), the Commission recommended that the following specific

programme element should be added under the appropriate subprogramme: "Assistance in the establishment of an industrial tribology centre in China".

699. The Commission requested the secretariat to incorporate in the programme on international trade (05, part A) an additional specific activity to assist developing countries in formulating their positions with regard to negotiations for the future of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement beyond 1981. The modalities should be in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

700. The Commission recommended inclusion of the following studies: research on non-equity agreements between TNCs and host developing countries; research to compare the net capital inflows to developing countries from TNCs with outflows from such countries due to TNC operations; research on the pricing policies of TNCs (including transfer pricing); research on TNC territorial market allocation arrangements; and research on merger and take-over activities of TNCs, emphasizing analysis of the negative effects with a view to their elimination by host Governments.

701. In the field of development planning (07), the Commission, recognizing the importance of energy planning, recommended that studies on development planning methods (07.03.03) should also include planning for the energy sector.

702. In the field of human settlements (09), the Commission recommended that the following specific programme elements should be added under the appropriate subprogrammes: (a) seminar/workshop in the USSR on low-cost housing; and (b) study tour/seminar/workshop in the USSR on the activities of local housing authorities, both in 1983 or later. The Commission also recommended that the title of programme element 09.02.02 should be changed to "Regional congress of local authorities for development of human settlements in Asia and the Pacific".

703. In the field of the environment (10), the Commission recommended that a study of mountain ecosystems in the ESCAP region should be added under subprogramme 10.03 and that the title of programme element 10.04.03 should be changed to "Study and expert group meeting on methods and costs of industrial pollution control". The Commission noted the offer of extrabudgetary assistance to be provided by the Swedish International Development Authority for programme element 10.04.01.

704. In the field of transport (12), the Commission recommended the inclusion of: (a) a feasibility study for the construction of a railway line from Savannakhet, Lao People's Democratic Republic, via Viet Nam to Da Nang; (b) the formulation and organization of a model teacher training programme for local-level officials/leaders on rural road construction and maintenance; (c) a study on the techno-economic implica-

tions of overloaded two-axle trucks on different types of highways; and (d) a regional workshop on the environmental aspects of the design and construction of roads and road transport operations. It also noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to host a seminar on public transport in 1982 and of France to host a seminar-cum-study tour on railway electrification in 1982. The Commission, while stressing the urgent need to expand and improve air cargo transport in the ESCAP region, also recommended the inclusion of: (a) a study on air cargo consolidation and packaging for goods moving by air, in order to promote airborne trade; (b) a study on air freight rate structures with regard to carriers, ground handling within airports, collection and distribution by shippers and forwarders and administrative charges (the first phase in south Asia and the second in the Pacific); (c) a regional transport survey for the South Pacific with a view to identifying key areas for the promotion of air cargo services in the region and undertaking, in co-operation with other related agencies, such as ICAO, regional comparative transport studies covering, *inter alia*, the cost-benefit aspects of air/sea cargo development; and (d) a seminar on the promotion of international air freight transport at international airports in developing countries, with special emphasis on the management and operation of air freight, air cargo infrastructure and handling facilities.

705. In the field of communications (13), the Commission expressed its concern at the size of the proposed increase in programmes. It was suggested that further consultations between ESCAP, ITU and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity should be held to co-ordinate activities and to assist in determining priorities.

706. In the field of tourism (14), the Commission recommended the addition of subregional research and studies for the promotion of tourism in south Asia and the Pacific, in view of the increasing need for tourism research and studies in the developing member countries to serve as analytical tools for the formulation of tourism policies.

707. In the field of ECDC and TCDC activities (23), while recognizing that ECDC and TCDC should be initiated and formulated by participating developing countries, the Commission emphasized the need to strengthen the capability of national focal points of respective Governments in the area of training in TCDC project formulation exercises. ESCAP was thus urged to attempt to organize in-service training in TCDC project formulation exercises for national officials in the developing ESCAP countries.

708. The Commission endorsed the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, incorporating the above changes. A summary of the programme is given in annex I to the present report. The Commission requested the secretariat to review the deliberations during its current session to see if any further changes

were necessary and to propose such changes, through the legislative committees and in consultation with ACPR, to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session.

Medium-term plan, 1984-1989

709. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/218.

710. It noted that the draft medium-term plan, if approved by the General Assembly, would become a policy directive of that body and would provide the framework for the biennial programme budgets of the Commission falling within the period covered by the plan.

711. With regard to major programme 11, "Energy", the Commission felt that energy conservation and demand management and development of alternative sources of energy were of vital importance. It noted the current energy problem of the ESCAP region and felt that urgent action was called for to mitigate the problems of the developing countries through increased capital inflows for the maximum exploitation of the conventional sources of energy. Since conventional energy would be the principal energy source in the 1980s, the solution of the current problem was considered vital during the transition to the stage of using alternative sources of energy. The importance of energy statistics was stressed.

712. With reference to major programme 10, "Development issues and policies", the view was expressed that the elaboration of regional and subregional strategies in the light of the finalization of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade had yet to be completed and presented to the Commission. Action programmes for achieving the goals and objectives of the Strategy were also still to be formulated. The need to modify the plan in keeping with the action programmes to be developed had therefore to be borne in mind. The view was also expressed that particular importance should be attached to the review and appraisal at the regional level of the implementation of the Strategy and to reviews of major aspects of development in different sectors identifying and appraising factors accounting for shortfalls. Preparations needed to be made for the first major review in 1984. Action to be undertaken prior to 1984 should accordingly be included in section (d) (i) of subprogramme 1.

713. With regard to major programme 15, "Industrial development", the view was expressed that ESCAP had to elaborate development strategies aimed at the achievement of the Lima target of 25 per cent of production by developing countries by the year 2000. Such strategies, and activities to be taken up in support of them, should be reflected in the plan.

714. As to major programme 17, "Natural resources", the Commission felt that in the area of mineral re-

sources there was a need to integrate higher technology and sophisticated know-how with conventional methods. It urged the inclusion of programmes for disseminating more advanced know-how through practical training of the experts/specialists/geoscientists and engineers of developing countries at recognized advanced centres in the developed countries or at such centres within the region. Such activities should include training of technical specialists of developing countries in management concepts and methodologies of evolving systems suitable for their respective environments and conditions. The Commission decided to delete paragraph (b) (iii) e on page 143, relating to the establishment of a regional water resources development centre, and the corresponding reference to such a centre in lines 9 and 10 on page 146. The Commission also decided to replace the last two lines of the first paragraph on page 141 by "CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC as well as CCOP/IO, should the meeting of experts consider it feasible" and to replace the second sentence of the second paragraph on page 140 by "It is expected that the feasibility of a Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Indian Ocean Offshore Areas (CCOP/IO) will have been considered".

715. Under major programme 24, comments were made on the various modes of transport. The view was expressed that activities relating to regional co-operation among the railways of the member countries, including the convening of a meeting of the Asian ministers to formulate policy guidelines regarding railways, should be adequately reflected in the plan. The Commission felt that it might be appropriate to include a long-term strategy for the integrated development of inland transport in the region. It noted that only a general reference was made in the plan to air cargo transport, without indicating activities of a specific nature. Air transport had merely been touched upon along with general transport planning and facilitation of international traffic, although that area of activity was sufficiently important to merit treatment as a separate subprogramme. In the field of shipping and ports, it was felt that: (a) greater importance should be given to manpower development activities in the management of container services and multimodal transport operations; (b) the plan should provide for assistance to member countries in the establishment of multimodal transport operations; (c) the data information system should include measures for provision of information relating to container traffic; and (d) the plan should include strategies for the promotion and establishment of freight study units. The plan should also make provision for training and technical assistance with regard to containerization and multimodal transport in relation to the development and modernization of ports.

716. The Commission, while approving the draft plan in the light of the views expressed in the foregoing paragraphs, felt that for the purposes of allocation of priorities among subprogrammes within a programme, it would have been most appropriate if the plan had

been considered by the sectoral legislative committees of the Commission. It was regretted that the timetable for the preparation of the draft plan for ESCAP had not permitted that.

717. Several delegations considered that particular importance should be attached to the provisions in the draft plan which related to assistance to developing countries in comprehensive planning, programming and implementation, both State and sectoral, in various fields; the role of the public sector; exchange of experience in the field of co-operatives; and the development of the scientific and technological base of the developing countries. Accordingly, in their view, the following deserved priority: subprogrammes 1 and 2 in major programme 10, subprogramme 2 in major programme 11, subprogramme 2 in major programme 12, subprogrammes 2 and 3 in major programme 13, subprogramme 6 in major programme 15, subprogramme 1 in major programme 20 and subprogrammes 1 and 2 in major programme 21. The USSR delegation also referred to long-term arrangements between its Government and the secretariat under which seminars were being held in the USSR during 1978-1983 for nationals of developing countries and felt that such arrangements should be reflected in the draft plan.

Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions

Special regional projects

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

718. The Commission considered the annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/ESCAP/231 and Corr.1) and took note of the achievements during 1980, including the expansion of the hydrologic and meteorologic network over a large part of the lower Mekong basin, four irrigation reservoirs in the Vientiane Plain, resettlement at Pak Cheng, the Tha Ngone fish farm in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the preparation of crop suitability maps for the entire basin, the study and assessment of environmental problems and numerous other projects involving flood protection and pump irrigation, agricultural experimental stations, pilot farms, pioneer agricultural projects, agricultural production and fisheries projects, and river navigation. The Commission also noted that much of that work had been carried out in preparation for developments on the mainstream, in particular the proposed Pa Mong scheme between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand, which would have an initial installed capacity of 4,800 MW.

719. In that connexion, the Commission welcomed the continuing support being given by various co-operating countries and organizations to projects sponsored by the Interim Mekong Committee, amounting to some

\$US 12.4 million in additional resources during 1980. The Commission was informed that the Interim Mekong Committee now had a portfolio of project data sheets and plans of operation covering a total immediate foreign exchange input requirement of almost \$US 400 million.

720. The Commission welcomed the declarations of support voiced by representatives of various countries and organizations in the course of the session, including, in particular: Japan, which had praised the role of the Committee in developing the lower Mekong basin area and which had promised to continue the support which it had been providing since the Committee's inception — the Japanese delegation pledged \$US 30,000 for 1981, subject to the approval of the Diet, as well as the services of two technical assistance experts on a non-reimbursable basis; the Netherlands, which since 1971 had contributed over \$US 26.6 million and which pledged support of \$US 4.5 million in 1981; and New Zealand, which pledged support of \$US 45,000 for the 1979, 1980 and 1981 editions of the Committee's *Hydrologic Yearbook*.

721. The delegation of Democratic Kampuchea stated that it welcomed any work of the Interim Mekong Committee which was really for the service of the peoples and of peace and stability in the region. It regretted, however, that its country's application to join the Interim Mekong Committee had not been approved and reiterated the desire of Democratic Kampuchea to be a member of the Interim Mekong Committee.

722. It further informed the Commission that it had delivered a formal protest to the Chairman of the thirty-seventh session of the Commission against the omission of the name of Democratic Kampuchea on four maps of the area which formed part of the Committee's annual report for 1980. The Commission registered the protest of Democratic Kampuchea and took note of the delegation's representations.

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

723. The Commission considered the report of CCOP on its seventeenth session (E/ESCAP/193 and Corr.1).

724. The Commission was informed that, in 1980, the third year in which UNDP had supported phase II of the project with expanded funds, CCOP had continued to make significant achievements, including the implementation of important recommendations made during the sixteenth session of the Committee.

725. The Commission considered the CCOP member countries' activities in the field of hydrocarbon resources and was pleased to note that significant discoveries continued to be made in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand. As to the project's activities in the field of hydrocarbon resources,

the Commission was also pleased to note that a Standing Working Group on Petroleum Data had been established and that two workshops had been convened, one at Manila, on standardization of terminology and formats for energy data, and the other at Bangkok, on resource-data handling. A seminar on hydrocarbon assessment methodology, which had been successfully held at Kuala Lumpur in March 1980 and attended by 108 participants from CCOP member and other countries, with strong participation by representatives of industry, had concentrated on assessment methodology, area reports and case histories. A hydrocarbon assessment programme for south-east Asia had been started in the area of the shelves adjacent to the South China Sea, which in the future would be expanded to include the areas of the Andaman Sea, the Strait of Malacca, the Sulu Sea and the Makassar Strait. A workshop on the geology and hydrocarbon potential of the South China Sea, held at Honolulu in August 1980, had been organized by the East-West Center and sponsored jointly with the CCOP Project Office. A long-range programme on heat-flow and geothermal gradient studies had been approved, consisting of the collection of information from mineral water and oil boreholes from the land as well as from the off-shore areas, and a marine programme which would involve collection of heat-flow data from the off-shore areas by means of conventional and newly devised probe techniques. In the pre-Tertiary hydrocarbon assessment programme, it was recommended that the available information should be compiled on the Mesozoic sediments of the Indo-Chinese peninsula and adjacent off-shore areas.

726. The Commission was informed that a Joint ASCOPE (ASEAN Council on Petroleum)/CCOP Intersecretariat Steering Committee had been formed to co-ordinate joint projects of CCOP and ASCOPE. A fact-finding mission on the establishment of an east Asian off-shore training centre had visited the area during February 1980 and its recommendations were to be referred to the Steering Committee for further advice. Appreciation was expressed to the Government of Norway for its interest in the matter and for having financed the work of the fact-finding mission.

727. The Commission was impressed by the continuing high level of activity in the member countries in investigations of off-shore and coastal detrital tin and heavy minerals and near-shore surveys, and by the amount and level of support given to those activities by the Project Office, particularly through the provision of its equipment for surveys and on-the-job training and the services of its experts to advise and assist in such work and give relevant lecture/workshop courses, especially in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. The Commission considered that that programme was particularly important and effective in training technical personnel from the member countries and in the transfer of technology, as well as regional co-operation and TCDC. Major off-shore surveys for tin and other detrital

heavy minerals had been completed in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. Investigations of off-shore and coastal detrital heavy minerals, silica sands and construction materials had been made in China, Japan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Singapore. The survey in Malaysia had been made under a bilateral technical aid programme between the Federal Republic of Germany and Malaysia, with support from the Project Office, and gratitude was expressed to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for its continuing assistance.

728. An off-shore survey for detrital heavy minerals in Surigao Strait and Leyte Gulf in the Philippines would be made by the Bureau of Mines and Geosciences and the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey, with the Project Office providing its marine geophysical and navigation equipment and the services of its experts. Requests for Project Office assistance in future off-shore investigations for detrital heavy minerals and in other off-shore surveys had been made by China, Indonesia and Malaysia.

729. The Commission was pleased to note that, owing to the contribution of the Netherlands Government, the project's Quaternary geology programme had been expanded. It was also informed that the Project Office had organized a fact-finding mission which had visited nine member countries of CCOP, and Bangladesh, to ascertain the feasibility of establishing a regional centre for Quaternary geology. There was unanimous agreement on the establishment of such a centre, for which the assistance of the Netherlands and other developed countries was expected. The offer of China to house the centre was accepted with appreciation. A mission would be organized by the Project Office, in co-operation with ESCAP, to visit China to discuss, *inter alia*, details for the establishment of the centre and to ascertain the extent of outside assistance required. Appreciation was expressed to the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom for having financed the work of the fact-finding mission.

730. The Commission was also informed about CCOP activities in remote sensing, manganese nodules, Project MAGNET and isotopic dating. In the field of remote sensing, it was recommended that a workshop on remote sensing mainly related to CCOP activities in connexion with SEATAR (Programme for Studies of East Asia Tectonics and Resources) activities and on off-shore applications should be held at Manila from 21 to 25 November 1981. A new project on the compilation of gravity and magnetic anomalies in relation to regional tectonics and distribution of mineral resources was recommended and a CCOP working group associated with the project should be set up under the leadership of the senior geophysicist provided by the Government of Japan. Thanks were expressed to the Government of Japan for its promise of continuing support for the new project.

731. Several member countries had undertaken geological mapping of the ocean floor and related off-shore studies under their national programmes, as a result of which several types of significant sea-floor geological maps had already been completed. CCOP efforts to compile a generalized ocean-floor and continental margin geological map of eastern Asia on the scale 1:50 million, in co-operation with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World, would strengthen and accelerate related programmes of member countries.

732. UNEP and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) had provided support and assistance to CCOP on its marine environmental programme. The following project had been endorsed on future joint CCOP/UNEP undertakings: (a) assessment of the impact of off-shore sea-bed exploration and exploitation on the non-living marine environment, (b) utilization of marine environmental data on east Asian waters and (c) environmental protection, safety regulation and pollution control.

733. The Commission was informed that from 1 January 1981, the CCOP-IOC Working Group on IDOE (International Decade of Ocean Exploration) Programme for Studies of East Asia Tectonics and Resources was to be known as the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies on Asian Tectonics and Resources. The Commission was pleased to note that the results of the second SEATAR workshop in 1978 had been published as ESCAP/CCOP Technical Publication 7, entitled *Studies in East Asian Tectonics and Resources*. The Project Office was encouraged to issue a second printing of the SEATAR report, in corrected form and in greater numbers, to be suitably advertised and sold. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the CCOP-IOC Working Group that continuing research within the SEATAR programme should be reviewed in future SEATAR reports.

734. The Commission was pleased to note the efforts of the Committee to keep its members informed on the progress of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, particularly with regard to the subjects of deep-sea mining, the continental shelf, scientific research, protection and preservation of the marine environment and the interest generated in the possible future participation of CCOP and the member countries in the forthcoming convention on the law of the sea.

735. The Commission was also pleased to note that during the previous year TCDC activities had increased, and included (a) exchange of technical personnel, (b) participation in off-shore surveys, (c) exchange of equipment, (d) hosting of workshops and seminars, (e) exchange of information, (f) joint research and (g) co-operation with ASCOPE. Since mid-1976 there had been close co-operation between Indonesia and the Philippines on studies of reservoir stimulation in the Nido field and the training of Philippine technical

personnel in off-shore drilling techniques with Pertamina. An Indonesian specialist had been provided to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to advise on oil and gas licensing. Technical personnel from Thailand had participated in the recently concluded off-shore tin survey and sent a geologist to Indonesia and Malaysia for training in tin exploration and development.

736. The Commission expressed its appreciation to UNDP for its continuing support of the CCOP project, to UNEP for its support of the Committee's marine environment programme and to IOC/UNESCO for its support of and co-operation in the IDOE/SEATAR programme. The Commission also noted with appreciation that close contact had been maintained between the Project Office and ASCOPE, the International Union of Geological Sciences, the East-West Center, the Circum-Pacific Council on Energy and Mineral Resources, UNEP, UNESCO and ESCAP, particularly its three regional resources projects, namely, RMRDC, SEATRADC and CCOP/SOPAC. The Commission also expressed its appreciation to co-operating countries for the extensive assistance given to the member countries within the CCOP work programme.

737. Effective CCOP contributions to the discoveries of hydrocarbon and mineral potential were cited by the delegation of Indonesia, which recommended continued UNDP support to the project. In their statements, the delegations of the Republic of Korea and Thailand separately expressed their endorsement of the continued support of UNDP to CCOP projects under the original organizational structure. The representative of Japan noted the Committee's achievement in raising technical standards in the field of exploration activities of oil and gas and pledged continued co-operation in its activities and the provision of experts, training and other support activities.

738. The USSR was pleased to note the initiatives undertaken by CCOP in its fields of activity and recommended endorsement of its work in geology/geophysics, studies of oil and gas, detrital minerals, the SEATAR project and its other activities.

739. The Commission was pleased to note that the USSR would organize an integrated geological and geophysical cruise in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal in 1982. The cruise could carry out work on geological transects under the SEATAR programme and could also take on board experts and trainees from member countries of CCOP. Scientists from member countries would take part in the subsequent processing of the data collected in the scientific centres of the USSR.

740. The United States commended the ambitious but realistic and well-organized CCOP programme of activities on behalf of member countries and the outstanding achievements reflected in its technical publications and training and consultancy programmes, and reiterated

its continued interest in and support of those and other vital activities.

741. The representative of UNESCO reported on the joint activities with CCOP, particularly on the Joint Working Group in the IDOE/SEATAR programme and the IOC/UNESCO Working Group on the Western Pacific.

742. The Commission was aware of the draft project document for UNDP support to phase III of the project, covering the period 1982-1986, to coincide with the next UNDP programming cycle, which had been prepared by the Project Office in consultation with member countries of CCOP. The Commission was informed that at that stage UNDP would consider the period from 1982 to 1984, and a review would be made in 1984 to determine future needs. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP had recommended to UNDP that its support for 1982-1984 should be \$2,778,000 including provisions for project personnel, travel, subcontracting, training, equipment and miscellaneous expenses. A revised project document to incorporate the proposal made by the Executive Secretary for the three-year period would be prepared and submitted to UNDP through ESCAP.

743. The Commission was informed that the eighteenth session of CCOP and its associated meetings of SEATAR, the Technical Advisory Group and the Circum-Pacific Map Project would be held at Seoul from 21 September to 2 October 1981.

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

744. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/194.

745. It welcomed the admission of Vanuatu as a new member of the Committee and looked forward to its continued participation in the programme.

746. The Commission noted with interest the importance of the activities described in the Committee's report on its ninth session and the related activities reported by the secretariat. Of particular interest were the facts that the project was now fully staffed and that the training of nationals from the countries of the region in mineral exploration methods and techniques had been intensified.

747. It also noted with interest the increase in advisory consultancy services to member Governments on matters related to mineral exploration and exploitation and in the publications generated on the geology and mineral resources potential of the South Pacific.

748. The Commission noted with appreciation the continuing financial support of UNDP to the project and its stated intention of providing \$US 2.5 million

for the three-year period 1982-1984, thus making the CCOP/SOPAC programme of activities viable for that period.

749. It expressed appreciation to Australia, France, Japan, New Zealand, the United States and IOC/UNESCO for the assistance provided to the project during the previous year.

750. The Commission noted the generous offer by the USSR to organize a two-month co-operative cruise under CCOP/SOPAC auspices in the south-west Pacific late in 1981, which would represent an in-kind contribution to CCOP/SOPAC of approximately \$US 1.5 million on the part of the USSR.

751. The Commission was informed that the two countries in whose waters the proposed cruise would take place had expressed reservations as to the proposal and it was doubtful that the cruise would proceed. The Commission noted that, as usual in relation to offers of technical assistance, the implementation of activities was subject to the official concurrence of the Governments concerned.

752. The Commission noted with appreciation the support of New Zealand for the earth science training programmes conducted by CCOP/SOPAC at the University of the South Pacific and endorsed the Committee's recommendation that New Zealand should continue its support to that activity.

753. It urged the countries and supporting bodies to maintain, and where appropriate enhance, their participation in scientific research and training activities under the auspices of CCOP/SOPAC.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

754. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/200 and was pleased to note the continued expansion of the activities of the Centre and the services it had rendered to the developing countries of the region.

755. It endorsed the report of the Governing Council of RMRDC, together with the recommendations and the programme of work adopted for 1981-1982.

756. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the excellent host facilities provided to the Centre by the Government of Indonesia.

757. It noted with appreciation the generous assistance provided by the Governments of Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom in the form of specialists and training facilities.

758. It also expressed appreciation of the support provided by UNDP, particularly with respect to the substantially increased allocations for seminars and workshops. It urged UNDP to continue to support the Centre for the next five-year cycle.

759. The Commission was pleased to learn of the offers of assistance on a funds-in-trust and non-reimbursable loan basis to the Centre by the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, for the services of a senior hydrogeologist and an economic geologist, India, for the services of three experts, and the USSR, for a short-term consultant and for the offer of 10 fellowships annually in geology, geophysics and mining.

760. It expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea for hosting the third session of the Governing Council at Seoul in September 1980 and to the Government of Bangladesh for offering to host the fourth session at Dacca in November 1981.

761. The Commission noted the programme of work for 1981-1982 adopted by the Governing Council at its third session and expressed the hope that developed countries would provide additional support for the continued expansion of activities.

762. The Commission was pleased to learn that the Centre had carried out 51 technical advisory missions to 16 developing member countries during the period 1980-1981, that one workshop in mining planning had been organized in 1980 and that two additional workshops were planned for 1981.

763. It noted that the Centre had intensified its activities in regional co-operation, including a study on rock magnetism sponsored by the Government of Japan.

764. It also noted that the cash contributions hitherto made by the developing countries were insufficient to meet the local operational expenditure and therefore urged those developing countries that were not already doing so to participate by making financial contributions, including token contributions, and those already contributing to increase their current financial contributions substantially.

Typhoon Committee

765. The Commission commended the Typhoon Committee on its work during the previous year and endorsed its report on its thirteenth session (E/ESCAP/197), which reflected not only the progress in the Committee's work programme but also the activities of ESCAP in support of the Committee. Those included the organization of a training seminar on the principles of flood loss prevention and management and a group study visit to China on methods of flood control. ESCAP had also collaborated with UNESCO and WMO in the organization of a training seminar on urban hydrology.

766. It noted and endorsed the decisions adopted by the Committee at its thirteenth session, in which ESCAP had been requested to: organize a study group visit to China under the hydrological component in 1981; approach, together with WMO, Governments of Committee members to urge their full participation in the

Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX); continue efforts to obtain the services of a flood control expert for the Typhoon Committee secretariat (TCS); prepare, in co-operation with WMO, a new project document for UNDP support for 1982-1984; and organize training seminars on various subjects in accordance with the long-term programme of work of the Committee.

767. The Commission commended the Committee on the assistance it had extended to its various members, and in particular to Malaysia, in the training of personnel in the calibration of radar equipment and the calibration and maintenance of telemetric equipment and in flood forecasting.

768. It was gratified to note that TOPEX would soon be launched by the Committee and noted with satisfaction the developments in that regard. It welcomed the affirmation by China, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand of their participation in TOPEX, the establishment of a Management Board for TOPEX and the principal and pivotal role that Japan was playing in TOPEX.

769. The Commission was informed that it was essential to formulate an appropriate implementation programme for TOPEX. It was proposed that further discussions should be held and the necessary amendments made to the relevant parts of the implementation programme, particularly those concerning the number of typhoons to be included in the experiment and improvement in the collection of observed data.

770. The representative of WMO explained the objectives of TOPEX in terms of the economic and social benefits that might be expected to result from its successful execution. He called for support for TOPEX within the programmes being carried out by the Commission in order that those benefits might become available to the population of the typhoon-threatened areas of Asia and the Pacific. In that connexion, the Commission urged ESCAP and WMO to seek financial support for TOPEX from international organizations such as UNDP and UNEP.

771. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to provide, within the framework of the temporary voluntary fund for TOPEX, modern meteorological equipment, as well as experts on a non-reimbursable basis, to assist in the planning and implementation of the TOPEX scientific programme.

772. It urged the Committee to continue to distribute information on its activities and findings regularly to countries in the region which were not members of the Committee.

773. The Commission noted with appreciation the intention expressed by the Philippine Government to continue providing a Co-ordinator for TCS. It also noted that Government's request that Committee

members take turns in providing the services of a Co-ordinator.

774. It called upon UNDP and other concerned agencies to provide the necessary financial support to enable the Committee to implement its work programme. In that connexion, it was suggested that more training programmes and seminars should be organized on various aspects of the Committee's activities. It also recommended that UNDP should provide modern meteorological equipment as well as short-term fellowships for technicians in the operation and maintenance of such equipment.

775. It noted with appreciation that at the thirteenth session of the Committee, the USSR had offered to assist in implementing its scientific programme.

776. The Commission welcomed with appreciation the offer of the Philippine Government to provide host facilities at Manila for the fourteenth session of the Committee, to be held from 10 to 16 November 1981.

777. It expressed appreciation of the support for the work of the Committee provided by UNDP, UNDRO, WMO and LRCS and by China, Japan and the Philippines.

Regional institutions

778. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/196 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/198, E/ESCAP/203 and E/ESCAP/230 and Corr.1-3 and heard the reports of the Directors of SIAP and APDC as well as of the Director of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD).

779. It took note of the progress achieved by SIAP during 1980 and also recognized that SIAP faced continuing financial problems in meeting its recurrent expenditure. It expressed its great appreciation of the significant steps taken by the host Government of Japan in increasing its cash contributions to SIAP several times to enable it to meet its mounting expenditure. Nevertheless, the Commission recognized that there was still a gap between the resources made available by the host Government and other participating Governments and the recurrent funding requirements of the Institute, most immediately for 1981.

780. The Commission therefore urged all its members and associate members to re-examine their commitments of contributions for the financial support of SIAP and to take urgent and effective steps to ensure that the gap, which was affecting the quality of SIAP and its work, was bridged. The Commission recognized that the uncertainty of the future of the staff and the prospect of having to lay off Professional staff were detrimental to the smooth progress of SIAP and the effective implementation of the expanded programme of work which was expected of it in the third phase (October 1980-September 1985). Thus, the Commission

stressed once again that an immediate solution should be found by the members and associate members of the Commission to the financial problems faced by SIAP. The Commission also reaffirmed the importance of SIAP receiving support from all members and associate members so that its international character as an instrument of TCDC was maintained.

781. It noted with appreciation the continuing support received by SIAP from donor sources, including the Governments of Australia, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, as well as UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA and ADB, and the contribution which such extrabudgetary funds had made to the work of the Institute.

782. It expressed its deep satisfaction at the work done by SIAP during its first 10 years of existence. Many delegations expressed the hope that SIAP would expand its programme of work during the third phase and welcomed its entry into such fields of activity as training in automatic data processing.

783. The Commission acknowledged with deep appreciation and gratitude the continuing generosity shown by the Government of Malaysia in the provision of host facilities and other operational support to APDC, which had facilitated its establishment. It also expressed its appreciation of the work done by the secretariat with regard to the establishment of the Centre. It took note of the report of the Management Board and the transitional as well as the long-term work programme being developed for the Centre. The Commission was in general agreement with the areas selected for the transitional research programme, namely, strategies for rural employment, access planning for target groups, and environmental aspects of development, with special reference to problems relating to the deterioration of the environment resulting from acute poverty. The Commission welcomed the emphasis placed by the Management Board on training within the transitional programme. One delegation suggested that the Management Board might consider the inclusion of agrarian reform and the co-operative organization of small-scale agriculture as an additional programme area.

784. The Commission also generally endorsed the four areas selected by the Board for inclusion in the long-term programme, namely, energy planning and management, food security, human resources mobilization and integration of women in development.

785. The Commission noted the action taken by the Director in response to the decisions of the Management Board with regard to both the implementation of the transitional programme and the development of the long-term programme.

786. The Commission reiterated its earlier instructions with regard to the maintenance of a judicious balance between training and research. While recognizing that debate and discussion on the relative weightage to be

assigned to training and research would naturally continue within an institution such as APDC, it stressed that training remained a critical need of a large number of ESCAP countries, particularly the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries. It drew the attention of APDC to the specific training needs of those countries and the need to mount special programmes to satisfy those needs and noted with appreciation the assurance of the Director of the Centre that due attention would be given to the matter.

787. The Commission reiterated the importance of ensuring that in the formulation and implementation of its work programme, APDC avoided duplication with the ESCAP secretariat, international research institutions in the United Nations system and national institutions. The taking of early action to institutionalize substantive linkages between APDC and such development research and training institutions was considered important and it was stressed that steps in that direction should be taken early. It was also stressed that in its work programme APDC should look for practical results and avoid an over-academic bias in its approach.

788. The Commission took note of the progress so far made with regard to the finalization of the draft Charter of APDC as an intergovernmental institution. It expressed its deep satisfaction at the measure of agreement so far reached with regard to the provisions of the draft Charter and indicated its appreciation of the willingness of its members and associate members to reach the required compromise and of the assistance rendered by the secretariat in reaching such a compromise.

789. The Commission noted that reservations still continued in respect of two key issues related to the Charter, namely, the chairmanship of the Management Board and the adoption of a formula for the determination of the contributions to be made by the members of the Centre. On the first issue, it noted the view of the delegation of Malaysia that if the Charter provided for the appointment of the representative of the host country, who was the sole government representative, as Chairman of the Management Board, he could then become the intermediary not only between the Centre and the host Government, but also between the Centre and other member Governments. Furthermore, as the Management Board would meet every six months, or at least once every year, frequent changes in the chairmanship could mar its effectiveness and continuity as the Management Board was the body that formulated policies and recommended programmes to the General Council. On the second issue, the Commission noted the view of the delegation of Malaysia that the current practice of annual pledging of contributions might cause planning, management and administrative difficulties to the Centre as it did not have a constant assured flow of financial resources. A number of delegations proposed that APDC should follow the United Nations formula for determining the amount of contributions by members of the Centre. The Commission directed

the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of negotiations and consultations with interested Governments, UNDP and the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, and to convene an intergovernmental meeting, if deemed appropriate, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues so that the final version of the Charter could be presented to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session for consideration and adoption. The Commission adopted resolution 215 (XXXVII) on the Charter of APDC.

790. Addressing itself to the financial requirements of APDC, the Commission reaffirmed that the acceptance of the responsibility of providing the financial requirements of the Centre for its institutional costs by the members and associate members of the Commission was a prerequisite for the success of the Centre. The Commission recognized that, on the basis of the cost computations so far available, the members and associate members had the responsibility of providing an amount of \$US 5.6 million towards the institutional costs over the first five-year period, July 1980-June 1985. The Commission took note of possible criteria and computation formulae which might be taken into consideration by the members and associate members in determining the quantum of their contributions to APDC. The Commission observed that the contributions so far announced for 1980 and 1981 generally tended to follow the pattern of contributions by Governments to the predecessor institutions and that those amounts would be inadequate to provide the sum of \$US 5.6 million required by the Centre for the first five-year period. The Commission therefore strongly hoped that the Governments of its members and associate members would make a comprehensive review of their individual contributions to APDC so that the required adjustments would be made in time.

791. The Commission took note of the continuing collaborative activities between UNCRD and the ESCAP regional institutions. It welcomed the emphasis placed by UNCRD on the Asian and Pacific region as its main area of focus and felt that that would provide a sound basis for future collaboration between APDC, SIAP and UNCRD.

792. The Commission noted with appreciation the contribution made to the countries of the region by the ESCAP programme on health and society, comprising projects on basic services and social development, on training in planning, development and health and on the pharmaceutical industry in ASEAN countries. The Commission welcomed the continuing support received by that programme from the Government of the Netherlands and UNIDO, UNICEF, UNDP and WHO and the indications available of continuing support from those sources for the future. The Commission was of the opinion that in view both of the assistance provided by that programme to its members and associate members and of its interdisciplinary and multi-

faceted nature, the programme should continue to be implemented by the secretariat.

Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources

793. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/202, E/ESCAP/204 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/232 and Corr.1 and 2 and E/ESCAP/233 and Corr.1.

794. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the current session would be the fourth at which its members and associate members and other donors announced their intended contributions to the work programmes of ESCAP and the regional training and research institutions.

795. The Commission was informed that the announcements of intended contributions were for the year 1981. The documentation provided to the donors had been prepared in accordance with a format developed in consultation with ACPR. The lists of projects submitted for the consideration of donors were based upon the priorities of the Commission and represented only a portion of the over-all work programme to be undertaken in 1981.

796. The Commission noted with satisfaction that ESCAP had just concluded an agreement with a donor country which for the first time provided for a three-year programme cycle of assistance to ESCAP. Such multi-year programmes would help the secretariat to plan its technical co-operation activities on a more rational basis.

797. Most of the delegations announced their intended contributions to the work programmes of ESCAP, APDC and SIAP amounting to \$US 18.1 million, out of which \$US 5.7 million was meant for the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. The Commission noted the importance of extrabudgetary resources for financing the programmes and projects of ESCAP so that it could continue to assist the countries of the region in their development efforts. One delegation referred to resolution 195 (XXXV) on mobilization of resources for the implementation of the programme of work of ESCAP and requested the secretariat to negotiate with United Nations Headquarters in order to obtain more regular budget resources for the implementation of the ESCAP work programme.

798. The Commission recognized the urgency of providing adequate funds for APDC and SIAP if those regional institutions were to carry out the roles assigned to them by the countries of the region.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

799. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/234 and E/ESCAP/238.

800. In introducing the discussion on the item, the Executive Secretary noted the expansion in the level and range of TCDC activities supported by the United Nations development system and outlined further opportunities that existed for identification of concrete instances of relevant and appropriate technology and interchange thereof. He referred to the ECDC/TCDC approaches which had permeated the inter-country programming exercise with regard to the third UNDP programming cycle and looked forward to their continuance in the detailed formulation and implementation of co-operative projects. There was a continuing need for systematic identification of TCDC needs and capacities, through modalities recommended by the Commission and the first High-level Meeting on the Review of TCDC. He outlined the strengthening of the secretariat's capability for centralizing its various information systems and providing links with national and global systems and stressed the orientation of its information system for ECDC and TCDC towards specific emerging development issues. He submitted a possible format and list of desirable contents for periodic reports on United Nations-supported as well as nationally initiated and implemented TCDC activities. He outlined the continuing efforts to expand the role of the regional commissions in ECDC and TCDC. Referring to the financial limitations on the expansion of activities to promote and support ECDC and TCDC, he suggested an examination of the desirability of a separate fund for promotion and support of TCDC, as distinct from the concept of a specific allocation for TCDC activities as such. A TCDC supplementary funding facility established in the secretariat was in operation and had been reported on, and in that regard he recalled paragraph 3 of Commission resolution 209 (XXXVI) on a scheme for TCDC arrangements in respect of disadvantaged ESCAP countries.

801. The Commission emphasized that, in the wake of the numerous vicissitudes of the North-South dialogue, the concept of self-help and collective self-reliance of developing countries had assumed increased importance. It stressed the primary importance of ECDC and TCDC in achieving the objectives of collective self-reliance and generally endorsed the analysis and conclusions contained in the secretariat documentation.

802. The Commission noted the enhanced level and widening range of TCDC activities supported by the United Nations development system. It was informed of the TCDC activities initiated and implemented by the member Governments at the national level and of their modalities. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Philippine Government had already implemented its pledge of \$US 500,000 to UNCTAD for a programme of TCDC-related activities for the least developed countries; under that programme, which had commenced on 1 January 1980, the Philippines had provided technical assistance in the form of training in rural banking, tax research and agricultural manage-

ment. The Commission took note of the vitality of co-operative arrangements at the subregional level and the recent initiatives in that regard in south Asia and in the Pacific basin. Areas for intensification of co-operation among developing countries were identified in various sectors, including the scope for interchange of knowledge and experience in comparatively successful instances of development planning and progress and with respect to renewable sources of energy. Recording its appreciation of the extrabudgetary support extended, the Commission called for continued "triangular arrangements" for contributions by the developed countries and for increased initiatives by the secretariat in identification of potential areas for co-operation and viable project formulation for funding.

803. In general, the Commission felt that co-operation among developing countries had to be increasingly in the form of interchange of relevant, appropriate technology as embodied in designs, prototypes, technical blueprints and agricultural planting materials, thus fostering joint participation in learning by doing. The process was already under way and had to be accelerated. The view was expressed that the numerous TCDC projects might not fall within the priority areas on which the secretariat had to concentrate and the suggestion was made that a meeting should be convened to elicit the views of the member countries on integrating project proposals to match them against availability of funds.

804. The Commission noted with appreciation the year-long consultative process in formulating the UNDP inter-country programme for 1982-1986 for Asia and the Pacific, in which ESCAP had been a partner with UNDP and which had culminated in the Intergovernmental Meeting of Development Assistance Coordinators in Asia and the Pacific, held at New Delhi from 23 to 28 February 1981, at which the draft UNDP inter-country programme for Asia and the Pacific for 1982-1986 had been approved. The Commission further noted that the consultative process was in accordance with its resolution 194 (XXXV) concerning, *inter alia*, the involvement of developing countries in determining collectively the priorities for the utilization of the regional indicative planning figure. The Intergovernmental Meeting's support for special attention to the least developed and land-locked countries, provision of projects for subregions and endorsement of the use of ECDC/TCDC approaches under the inter-country programme were in keeping with the Commission's approach and the Commission looked forward to their continuance in the detailed formulation and implementation of the co-operative projects identified.

805. Recalling its recommendation at its thirty-fifth session and the decision at the first High-level Meeting on the Review of TCDC, the Commission noted the continuing need for systematic identification of their TCDC needs and capabilities by the developing countries. In cases where national seminars covering all

sectors were not considered feasible, there could be *ad hoc* workshops on areas specifically identified; the United Nations development system could assist through missions specifically geared to the identification of opportunities for TCDC.

806. The Commission took note of the array of information services, covering various economic and social sectors, which were functioning within the secretariat. It welcomed the proposal to strengthen and appropriately centralize them through the information processing equipment currently installed with extrabudgetary assistance and the secretariat's capability, subject to financial restrictions, to provide linkages with information systems outside the secretariat. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the orientation of the ESCAP TCDC publications towards specific emerging development issues and welcomed the latest publications, including the volumes on inter-country institutional arrangements for ECDC and TCDC in Asia and the Pacific and the first volume, covering solar energy, in a projected series on renewable sources of energy. It underlined the role of the Commission as the regional focal point in the UNDP-proposed global project on a development information network and called upon the secretariat to draw the attention of the forthcoming second High-level Meeting on the Review of TCDC to the role of the Commission.

807. The Commission welcomed the improvements proposed by the secretariat in the coverage and contents of its annual reports on promotion and support of ECDC and TCDC, so as to include TCDC activities carried out at the national level. While ECDC and TCDC were to be initiated, formulated, implemented and evaluated by participating developing countries themselves, the Commission viewed the secretariat's submission of reports on such activities as a useful and wide dissemination of national experience, particularly on innovative and fruitful approaches, and not as an exercise in evaluation of TCDC activities at the national level. It called upon the concerned Governments to co-operate in the establishment and operation of appropriate reporting arrangements by the secretariat.

808. With the experience gained in reviewing the advances in TCDC, the Commission called for the presentation of indicators of such progress expressed, to start with, in terms of financial outlay by the United Nations development system and the number of experts employed from developing countries; there could be additional components such as the engineering, design and consultancy firms utilized and the equipment purchased, both having their source in developing countries. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should standardize the format and contents of the progress reports in co-operation with United Nations Headquarters, UNDP and other regional commissions. The suggestion was made that the reporting could cover some critical areas such as the cost-effectiveness of the regional institutions and other

activities which were already operational and the problems which United Nations agencies had in agreeing on project execution.

809. The Commission called for further acceleration of efforts towards promotion of and support for ECDC and in that context welcomed additions to its information services. It also called for intensification of work on interregional co-operation. It noted the follow-up of the consultations between the Government of India and Latin American Governments held at New Delhi in June 1979 and pointed out that the many provisions in the activities and tasks suggested in the report on the consultations could be of interest to developing member countries. It called for early implementation of the project proposal for industrial co-operation between developing countries of the ESCAP region and of the ECWA region.

810. The Commission felt that ECDC was lagging somewhat and that its potential needed to be projected more forcefully and its activities undertaken more vigorously. The functional committees of the Commission now appeared to have been consciously pursuing the TCDC dimension of their activities. It was therefore recommended that more and more of the TCDC activities should be gradually delegated to the functional committees and that the existing secretariat unit responsible should concentrate more on the promotion and development of ECDC.

811. It was suggested that in order to optimize utilization of the resources of the secretariat, the targets, plans and activities in the area of ECDC among countries in the region should be pragmatic, realistic, flexible and feasible.

812. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the establishment in the secretariat of a TCDC supplementary funding facility and of the extrabudgetary assistance extended to it by the Netherlands Government. It noted with appreciation the multicountry and bilateral TCDC activities for which the facility had provided supplementary funding, with due emphasis on the needs of disadvantaged countries in accordance with its resolution 209 (XXXVI). It further noted that the facility was on a modest scale to start with and recalled paragraph 3 of resolution 209 (XXXVI), in which it had called upon Governments of its developed member countries and multilateral financing agencies to make all efforts to support the scheme through the timely provision of funds for supplementary finance as well as other support.

813. It noted that financial constraints imposed restrictions on the expansion of promotional and supportive activities for ECDC and TCDC. Some delegations felt that it would be worthwhile to pursue in appropriate forums the feasibility and desirability of a specific fund for activities to promote and support TCDC, as conceptually distinct from a special fund

for TCDC activities as such. It reiterated its support to the Executive Secretary in his continuing efforts, in co-operation with other regional commissions, to make the regional commissions full partners in the joint UNDP/UNCTAD programme for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

Findings and recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

814. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/235, which was introduced by the Liaison Officer of Pakistan to ESCAP, who had been designated by the Advisory Committee for that purpose.

815. In introducing the report, he stated that the major issues undertaken by the Advisory Committee included the question of the revised guidelines for the conduct of meetings, particularly paragraphs 10 and 14, which had not been resolved at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission, the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, and the draft medium-term plan, 1984-1989. With reference to the draft medium-term plan, 1984-1989, it was pointed out that the Advisory Committee had been unable to set priorities among subprogrammes within programmes as there were divergent views within it as to whether it was in a position to do so. Some members felt that it was outside the scope of ACPR, while some others were of the opinion that it could make recommendations to the Commission. ACPR had deliberated on the format and the contents of the work programme and felt that the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, presented in document E/ESCAP/217, had achieved the objective of providing one combined document for the entire work programme which included annotations and important information on such matters as authority, description, problem addressed, output and potential users, resources and the time frame for each activity. ACPR had also been able to consider the programme of work and priorities with the object of avoiding duplication.

816. Other important issues taken up by the Advisory Committee during the year under review were consideration of APDC and streamlining of the conference structure of the Commission. ACPR had taken a keen interest in the establishment of APDC and had discussed its financial aspects in detail in order to indicate to member Governments their financial responsibility to keep the Centre operating effectively to enable it to meet the requirements of the countries. As to the question of streamlining of the conference structure, ACPR had considered the terms of reference of those legislative committees which had met prior to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, and had decided to consider the terms of reference of the remaining ones

in 1982 with a view to presenting the entire set of the terms of reference of the legislative committees in one document to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session. The Executive Secretary had also sought the advice of ACPR on a number of important issues, such as the Special Project on Energy, the operations evaluation system, the special study on food supply and the announcement of intended contributions.

817. The Liaison Officer expressed his deep appreciation to the secretariat, and particularly the Executive Secretary, for their co-operation, which had made it possible for ACPR to discharge the tasks described in its report to the Commission.

818. The Commission commended ACPR on the very useful work undertaken during the previous year, which had assisted the Commission in its deliberations at the current session. It recognized the importance of the role of ACPR in advising the secretariat and in maintaining closer liaison between the secretariat and member Governments and expressed the hope that the Advisory Committee would continue its useful activities in a more intensive manner. It was suggested that the question of strengthening or reorienting ACPR might be considered within the context of the over-all response of ESCAP to restructuring as mandated by the General Assembly. The Commission observed that ACPR had acted as a most efficient medium for conveying government views to the secretariat and for advising Governments on ESCAP thinking and action at any one time. It also observed that ACPR, as an advisory body, should be free to make recommendations on any matter of interest to member Governments. The Commission urged all member Governments to make full use of the Advisory Committee.

819. The Commission noted that there had been many informal meetings during the previous year which had been attended by a limited number of permanent representatives. One delegation suggested that the number of such informal meetings should be kept to the minimum and that the results of such meetings should be reported to ACPR at its formal meetings.

820. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work performed by the Advisory Committee in scrutinizing and examining the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, and the draft medium-term plan, 1984-1989. It appreciated the format of the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, as it provided useful information on each activity of the programmes in one document. With reference to the documentation for the draft medium-term plan, 1984-1989, the Commission felt that its volume and the late circulation did not allow appropriate consideration and the suggestion was made that the secretariat should consider attaching a summary to such bulky documents in the future.

821. With reference to the revised guidelines for the conduct of meetings, the Commission generally endorsed

the proposed revised paragraph 10 recommended by ACPR and approved the revised guidelines annexed to document E/ESCAP/235. The Commission pointed out that those guidelines should be seen as recommendations for the efficient conduct of Commission sessions and meetings of legislative bodies. It was felt that there should not be a strict time limitation for country statements in the plenary as rule 30 of the rules of procedure of the Commission already contained a provision in that regard.

822. The Commission commended the Executive Secretary on establishing an independent operations evaluation system in the secretariat and was pleased to note that it had already started functioning. It stressed the importance and essential aspects of the evaluation and monitoring of ESCAP activities. The Commission recommended that the evaluation system should be strengthened to enable ESCAP programmes and projects to become more effective for countries of the region. The Commission also felt that to make them really useful the evaluation activities should be in adequate proportion to the work undertaken by the secretariat. The Commission noted with appreciation the significant financial contribution made by the Government of Australia.

**General Assembly resolution 35/116 on the
Third United Nations Conference on the
Law of the Sea: consequences for the
ESCAP region of a new legal régime**

823. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/236.

824. It commended the Executive Secretary on having taken prompt action in bringing to the attention of the Commission information on the latest developments concerning the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and in particular General Assembly resolution 35/116, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the tenth session of the Conference a study identifying (a) the future functions of the Secretary-General under the draft convention; and (b) the needs of countries, especially developing countries, for information, advice and assistance under the new legal régime.

825. The Commission, recognizing and expressing appreciation of the invaluable contribution made by the late Mr. Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe of Sri Lanka, former President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, expressed a deep sense of loss over his demise. It welcomed the election of Mr. Tommy T.B. Koh of Singapore as the new President of the Conference.

826. Although some delegations expressed the view that it was premature for the Commission to consider the implications of the law of the sea convention pending its finalization and adoption, many delegations considered it timely and appropriate to take up the subject.

827. The suggestion was made that the secretariat should identify areas of action and initiate proposals for inclusion in the work programme. Among the activities in which ESCAP could play a useful role, the following were mentioned: dissemination of information relating to the convention and its implications through seminars and workshops on a regional or subregional basis involving both governmental and non-governmental agencies, provision of a useful forum for exchange of views on and promotion of interregional co-operation in the management and exploitation of marine resources; training; preparation of model drafts of legislation on subjects relevant to the convention; provision of technical assistance related to the protection and preservation of the marine environment; promotion of joint prospecting for sea-bed resources; fishery research and conservation of fishery resources; development of marine scientific capabilities, and prevention and control of marine pollution.

828. The Commission suggested that countries should avail themselves of the services of existing regional and international organizations to develop their financial, technological and institutional capabilities for the rational exploitation and proper management of their marine resources. It was further suggested that the Committees on Natural Resources and on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment could commence collaboration on an interagency basis with existing United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and intergovernmental bodies, particularly IOC/UNESCO, in initiating programmes for the utilization of marine resources and the preservation of the marine environment.

829. The Commission noted the difficulties encountered by small States in obtaining appropriate advice on complex issues with international legal implications, such as the establishment of exclusive economic zones, which involved questions of licensing, surveillance, enforcement and fisheries management as well as future exploitation of sea-bed resources. The importance of the convention to land-locked countries was also recognized.

830. In view of the importance of the draft convention and its wide-reaching implications for the regulation of virtually every aspect of the equitable utilization, exploration, exploitation and preservation of the sea and its resources, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to continue to monitor the latest developments of the Conference with a view to informing and advising the members of the Commission on any action which needed to be taken at the national level as well as any necessary co-operative action at the regional, subregional and global levels.

831. It also exhorted members to take immediate action to give careful study to the provisions of the law of the sea for the purpose of determining their obligations and rights under the new convention as well

as their needs for information, advice and assistance in so far as they might affect the work of the Commission.

832. The Commission noted with concern recent developments which threatened to undermine the optimism generated concerning the early finalization of the convention. It therefore appealed to all countries participating in the Conference to exert all efforts to ensure that the convention was finalized during the tenth session of the Conference.

Other matters

Amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission: admission of Guam as an associate member

833. The Commission observed that the Government of the United States of America had informed the Executive Secretary, in accordance with article 5 of the terms of reference of the Commission, of the request of Guam for admission as an associate member of the Commission and inclusion within its geographical scope. The request of the Government concerned was contained in document E/ESCAP/237, which included a statement of the financial implications of the proposal. The Commission unanimously recommended the admission of Guam as an associate member of the Commission and its inclusion within the geographical scope of the Commission. It further recommended that the Economic and Social Council should approve the consequential amendments to paragraphs 2 and 4 of the Commission's terms of reference and adopted a draft resolution to that effect for action by the Council. (For the text, see chapter I.)

Date and place of the meeting of the next session

834. The Commission decided that its thirty-eighth session would be held at ESCAP headquarters at Bangkok some time in March 1982. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with ACPR, would determine the exact dates of the session and would inform the members of the Commission accordingly.

Farewell address by Mr. J.B.P. Maramis, outgoing Executive Secretary

835. In his parting address, Mr. Maramis said that the previous eight years had seen, first and foremost, a much deeper and more systematic awareness of the social dimension of development in the work of ESCAP. That had meant looking beyond simplified economic parameters and phenomena of development such as GNP and balance of payments to the process of transformation of societies, of how individuals, families, communities and other social institutions contributed to development and were in turn affected by it through a symbiotic and dynamic relationship. The human being had been firmly identified as the reason for accelerating development and as the beneficiary of development. For, without an improvement in the quality of life of

the common man, the efforts at development would have no purpose.

836. The reality up to now had been disturbingly different. Mass poverty, and poverty in its most degrading forms, were still rampant and increasing in the ESCAP region. Rhetoric alone would not suffice. Clearly, there had to be a massive and concerted effort at the national level which was adequately supported by international action. If that process of improving the lot of the poor and disadvantaged in society lost momentum, the lesson of history was that the very foundations of any society that continued to tolerate "private affluence in the midst of public squalor" would be threatened.

837. That was particularly true of the rural poor. Hundreds of millions of people in the region continued to live in conditions of want and deprivation, denied access even to the basic amenities for a decent living and to any opportunity to be productive members of society.

838. In his view, the work of the secretariat in the future would need to reflect that concern more and more; that important change in orientation had been recognized in the change in name from "Economic Commission" to "Economic and Social Commission" and now pervaded the entire work programme of the secretariat. In the process, the secretariat not only had to respond positively to the felt needs and changing priorities of its member Governments but also had to provide intellectual leadership innovatively and constructively on a regional basis.

839. He drew attention to the rapid expansion in the scope of the secretariat's work programmes during the period, which had begun increasingly to strain the capacity of the secretariat to concentrate on providing the intellectual drive to activities at the regional level that was required of it.

840. Hence also the reason for entrusting a single organization, the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, with the task of becoming a "centre of excellence" in the region which could promote, nurture and provide the intellectual content and backing that the problems of the region called for. There was a need for development strategies to deal more effectively with the continuing problems of mass poverty, unemployment and equity. To do so, it would not be sufficient to deal with development only in its policy and planning aspects, not even including its implementation and managerial aspects. Above all, it would be necessary to increase the understanding of development as a social and political process, and as an expression of the dynamization of a society, including the integration of the marginalized sectors of its population. That would be a daunting challenge - but a challenge that would have to be met. He urged members and associate members of ESCAP to extend patronage and support

to APDC to enable it to assist them to the extent anticipated by them.

841. Given the expanding functions required by the member countries, ESCAP itself continued to be under considerable financial constraints. In that respect, he was gratified to note the continued increase in extra-budgetary resources provided to ESCAP during his stewardship. In view of the extremely tight regular budget situation, those extrabudgetary resources had played a crucial role in enabling the secretariat to respond to the felt needs and priorities of its developing member Governments and to move increasingly towards more operational programmes. He expressed his deep gratitude to all the member Governments and organizations that had provided extrabudgetary assistance. With the increasing stringency in the regular budget of the United Nations, he hoped that their generosity would be even greater in the future so that the tasks entrusted to the secretariat could be accomplished.

842. With the member countries requesting that the activities of the secretariat move into more varied and operational fields, it had also become increasingly important that duplication of work with other organizations be minimized and that the maximum amount of co-ordination be achieved. If the United Nations agencies were to respond effectively to the requirements of the developing countries, they would need to work in close co-ordination with each other. General Assembly resolution 32/197 on restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system called upon the regional commissions to provide the necessary team leadership. It had already been demonstrated that that was feasible, notably in the field of rural development. Similar initiatives were called for in other fields. Interagency co-operation and co-ordination would become the normal practice rather than a special arrangement for particular programmes only to the extent that national agencies became co-ordinated among themselves and demanded co-ordinated rather than fragmented assistance. He hoped that the working relationships and the mutual trust that had already been developed would sustain and further assist the co-ordination that would be increasingly called for in the future.

843. It had been ESCAP's constant endeavour to secure the fullest involvement of all parts of the vast Asian and Pacific region in the programmes of the Commission. Looking back at his years in office, he observed that the participation of all areas, particularly the island countries of the Pacific, had been greatly consolidated. There had been a marked advance in the evolution of the Asian and Pacific identity.

844. Referring to international co-operation, he said: "We have witnessed the traumas, the heartbreaks and the disappointments in the negotiations aimed at establishing a new international economic order. But we should not lose heart or lose faith in the promise

of co-operative endeavour. It is the responsibility of statesmen and the task of diplomats like yourselves to see that the promise of international co-operation is not sacrificed at the altar of short-term national expediency. We must make every effort to see that countries are brought together in a spirit of voluntary co-operation and genuine partnership." He recalled with pleasure that ESCAP had facilitated such co-operation between developed and developing countries within the region and through concrete projects, and welcomed such co-operation as a positive factor in promoting global peace, and stability and prosperity.

845. He referred to the role of subregional groupings, such as ASEAN, the South Pacific island countries and south Asia. Subregional co-operation should not detract from the common identity of Asia and the Pacific, which was based not only on the shared history of struggle against colonialism but also on the commonality of the tasks of economic construction. The unity underlying the apparent diversity of Asia and the Pacific was too strong a historical reality to be lost sight of. The role of an umbrella regional body such as ESCAP in promoting international co-operation was to facilitate the formation of and co-operation within appropriate subregional groups and to encourage understanding and

co-operative action between subregional groups as well as between the ESCAP region and other regions.

846. ESCAP meetings tended to become the forums where the political aspects of international relationships - in their positive as well as their negative manifestations - were mirrored and given expression. The challenge was to ascertain to what extent co-operation for the common good could be achieved by the countries without sacrifice of basic national interests. The path was never easy, and co-operation, even when achieved after prolonged negotiation, was not guaranteed to be permanent. He cautioned not to undo through misunderstanding what had been achieved through patient effort. In concluding, he said that the members of ESCAP should strengthen their resolve to proceed on a path of co-operation rather than confrontation, of consensus rather than controversy.

847. In that connexion, the Commission adopted resolution 218 (XXXVII) by acclamation.

Adoption of the annual report of the Commission

848. At its 571st meeting on 20 March 1981, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report prepared by the Technical and Drafting Committee.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

211 (XXXVII). Strengthening the Commission in the promotion of the integration of women in the development process¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and the relevant paragraphs of General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980 on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Also recalling its resolution 203 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980 on the integration of women in the development process and resolutions 21 and 22 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Noting recommendation 9 of the Subregional Follow-up Meeting for Pacific Women on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women that the United Nations should ensure that a permanent post is provided in the regular budget of the Commission for a senior programme officer for women,

Recalling that the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women at its fifth session reaffirmed that the two posts for senior women's programme officers in the regional commissions supported by the Voluntary Fund should be maintained under the regular budget, and that at its eighth session it recommended that the financing of those two senior women's programme officer posts should be discontinued on the expiration of existing commitments unless at least one of them was provided for under the regular budget,

Emphasizing that accelerated development requires the real and effective participation of men and women in all areas of activity and the creation of the necessary conditions for equality of rights, opportunities and responsibilities for men and women,

Recognizing the intersectoral character of efforts to promote the integration of women in the development process,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To request the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to transfer by 1982 from within the regular budget of the United Nations a post of a senior officer to ESCAP, to be responsible for the programmes of the Commission on the integration of women in the development process;

(b) Pending General Assembly approval, to deploy immediately a senior-level post within the secretariat for that purpose, to enable, *inter alia*, the maximum use of the resources of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women available for programmes and projects;

(c) To seek resources, such as extrabudgetary funding, in addition to the funds provided by the Voluntary Fund in order to undertake programmes and projects in the Asian and Pacific region for the integration of women in the development process;

(d) To set up within the secretariat appropriate arrangements for interdivisional co-ordination and consultation to ensure that the concept of the integration of women in the development process is reflected in all programme activities of the Commission;

(e) To establish under the auspices of the Commission, in consultation with other United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, a standing mechanism for interagency co-ordination and collaboration in planning, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of strategies and programmes at the regional level for the integration of women in development and in particular the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women;

2. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report in full, through the Commission at its thirty-eighth session, to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1982 on the specific aspects of the situation of women in all the sectors of its development programme and to report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution and of resolution 203 (XXXVI).

¹ See paras. 541-544 above.

212 (XXXVII). Review and appraisal of the implementation of the new International Development Strategy²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

1. *Urges* all Governments, in accordance with their national priorities and plans, to reflect appropriately the goals, objectives and policy measures of the International Development Strategy in their policy formulation;

2. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to present a report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session:

(a) Elaborating regional and subregional strategies in the light of the Strategy as a matter of priority for consideration by the Commission;

(b) Proposing action programmes towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Strategy;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare as part of the regular activity of the Commission reviews of major aspects of development in different sectors identifying and appraising the progress towards, and factors which account for shortfalls in, the implementation of the Strategy, and to present the first of such reviews to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

213 (XXXVII). Unified approach to economic and social development and planning³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3409 (XXX) of 28 November 1975, in which, *inter alia*, the General Assembly endorsed the application of a unified approach to development analysis and planning in the regional commissions,

Bearing in mind General Assembly decisions 32/418 of 8 December 1977 and 34/419 of 29 November 1979 on a unified approach to development analysis and planning,

Recalling also the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade annexed to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, particularly the provisions related to a unified approach to economic and social development,

² See paras. 250-251 above.

³ See para. 326 above.

Bearing in mind that the Committee on Development Planning, at its third session, saw an increased role for the secretariat in activities related to development planning as a desirable outcome of the restructuring of activities and responsibilities within the worldwide United Nations system,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to pay appropriate attention to the need for adequate application of a unified approach to economic and social development and planning in the work of all divisions of the secretariat, especially in the priority areas of the programme of work of the Commission, in order to assist the developing countries of the region effectively in formulating and implementing their national development plans and programmes;

2. *Urges* the Governments of the Commission's members and associate members to co-operate actively with the Commission in facilitating an exchange of national experience in the field of economic and social planning, with particular emphasis on the problems of interest to the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific;

3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary, within the resources available to him, to take the appropriate measures to strengthen the activities of the Development Planning Division so as to enable effective implementation of its functions;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

214 (XXXVII). United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Deeply concerned at the gravity of the deteriorating economic and social situation of the least developed countries, their continued critical lack of basic infrastructure and their dismal development during the past two decades, as well as their bleak development prospects in the 1980s,

Recalling resolution 122 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, by which it endorsed a Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in two phases, comprising an Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981) of greatly expanded assistance to provide an immediate boost to their economies and immediate support for projects for the provision of the most pressing needs and paving the way for much larger

⁴ See paras. 427-428 above.

longer-term development efforts and a Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the least developed countries with the objective, *inter alia*, of transforming their economies towards self-sustained development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 34/210 of 19 December 1979, by which the Assembly endorsed the Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, and 35/205 of 16 December 1980 on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Reaffirming Commission resolution 204 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980 on special measures in favour of the least developed countries,

Deeply concerned that, since the adoption of the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981), very limited progress has been made towards its implementation,

Recognizing that primary responsibility for their development rests with the least developed countries themselves,

Reaffirming that there is an immediate need for a greatly expanded increase in the transfer of resources to meet the critical needs of the least developed countries and to help to promote their rapid and self-sustained socio-economic development,

Emphasizing the particular importance of the contribution that economic co-operation among developing countries can make, *inter alia*, to the development of the least developed countries among them,

1. *Calls upon* the international community and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take all necessary measures to contribute to the success of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which will, *inter alia*, finalize, adopt and support the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s called for in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Requests* the international community to take all necessary steps and measures and to accord due priority, in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, to the provisions relating to accelerated development of the least developed countries;

3. *Urges* all developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to take urgent steps to implement without any further delay, and

in any case before the end of 1981, the commitments undertaken in the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981) contained in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

4. *Urges* donor countries and multilateral development institutions to allocate increased financial resources and technical assistance in support of activities aimed at major structural transformations in the least developed countries, taking into account the relative over-all performance of the donor countries;

5. *Also urges* donor countries to make equitable and all possible efforts with a view to doubling, at the earliest possible time within the first half of the 1980s, the flow of official development assistance to the least developed countries, in accordance with the commitments undertaken in paragraph 13 of resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and to give serious consideration to this end to the proposal that such a doubling should be in real terms, taking into account the relative performance of donor countries;

6. *Urges* all developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to extend substantial technical and/or financial assistance to the least developed countries for the survey, exploration and development of their energy resources;

7. *Urges* that special efforts be made to ensure and/or promote adequate markets for the exports of the least developed countries, in accordance with resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, taking into account the interests of other developing countries;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

9. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to focus his annual report to the Commission relating to the least developed countries of the ESCAP region in particular on progress in the implementation of the decisions of the Conference.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

215 (XXXVII). Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 191 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, in which, *inter alia*, it decided that the Asian and

⁵ See para. 789 above.

Pacific Development Institute, the Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre, the Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific and the Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development should be integrated, further decided that the integrated institution should be named the Asian and Pacific Development Centre and resolved that the Centre should be an intergovernmental institution with its own charter,

Recalling also its request in the same resolution that the Executive Secretary proceed to formulate a charter for the Asian and Pacific Development Centre and submit the charter to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session for consideration,

Further recalling its resolution 206 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980, in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Executive Secretary to convene an intergovernmental meeting of members and associate members of the Commission for the purpose of reviewing the provisions of the draft Charter and proposing a final draft for the consideration and approval of the Commission at its thirty-seventh session,

Having received and considered the report of the intergovernmental meeting held at Bangkok from 13 to 15 October 1980, which agreed, by consensus, to recommend the revised draft Charter contained in the annex to the report for endorsement by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, subject to two unresolved issues as follows:

(a) The reservation of one delegation with regard to article VIII, paragraph 2 (a), that in that paragraph the words in brackets, namely, "who shall be the Chairman of the Management Board" should be added,

(b) The reservation of one delegation with regard to article X, paragraph 1 (a), that the words "which shall be in accordance with an agreed subscription formula" should be added at the end of that paragraph, and the word "voluntary" should be deleted,

Noting that the two reservations to approval of the draft Charter by the Commission, as identified in the report of the intergovernmental meeting, as well as a further consequential amendment to article III, paragraph 2, that the word "voluntary" should be deleted, remain unresolved,

1. *Approves* the provisions of the draft Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, with the exception of article III, paragraph 2, article VIII, paragraph 2 (a), and article X, paragraph 1 (a);

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of negotiations and consultations with interested Governments, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and to convene an intergovern-

mental meeting of members and associate members of the Commission, if deemed appropriate, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues set forth above for the consideration and approval of the Commission at its thirty-eighth session.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

Annex

DRAFT CHARTER OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The Parties to this Charter, being members and associate members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission" or "ESCAP"),

Recalling Commission resolution 191 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979 on, *inter alia*, the integration of the following regional training and research institutions: the Asian and Pacific Development Institute, the Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre, the Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific and the Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development,

Recalling also Commission resolution 206 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980, by which the Commission established the Asian and Pacific Development Centre on an interim basis by Statute and *concurring* in the Commission's recommendations that the Centre be permanently established as a separate intergovernmental institution by July 1983 and that the institution should maintain a co-operative and working relationship with ESCAP,

Desiring to establish such a single integrated regional training and research institution, named the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, in the ESCAP region,

Agree as follows:

Article I

Establishment of the Centre

The Asian and Pacific Development Centre (hereinafter referred to as the "Centre") is hereby established as an intergovernmental institution for policy research and training relating to development to serve the Asian and Pacific region.

Article II

Purpose and functions

1. The purpose of the Centre shall be to assist Governments of countries members of the Centre and, on such terms as the Centre may deem appropriate, Governments of countries of the ESCAP region not

members of the Centre, and collaborate with governmental and non-governmental research and training institutions and other institutions of public education in the Asian and Pacific region, in the study, formulation, implementation, management and evaluation of development strategies and policies.

2. For this purpose, the Centre shall have the following functions:

(a) To conduct research on its own in areas where research is deemed necessary and where a regional research effort is most appropriate;

(b) To encourage, among institutions in the region, research on current development issues and problems;

(c) To conduct programmes for exchange of experience in development in the countries of the region through meetings of senior researchers, officials and other persons at the policy-making level related to development;

(d) To facilitate and arrange training at the working level in countries of the region and, for this purpose, utilize networks of national, subregional and regional research and training institutions and also conduct training at the Centre as appropriate;

(e) To serve, through its publications and high-level meetings, as a clearing-house for information on development;

(f) To provide consultancy services, in cooperation with national institutions, where appropriate, to countries of the region.

3. In carrying out these functions, the Centre shall maintain a judicious balance between research and training activities.

4. Special organizational identity shall be given to the programme area related to issues concerning women, youth, children and the handicapped, and sufficient emphasis shall be given to activities in the field of social welfare and development.

Article III

Membership

1. All countries that are members or associate members of the Commission shall be eligible for membership in the Centre. Any such country shall become a member of the Centre on becoming a party to this Charter.

2. Each such country, on becoming a member of the Centre, recognizes that the financial viability of the Centre is the responsibility of its member countries. Members shall ensure that voluntary contributions to the Centre are made in a timely and adequate manner.

Article IV

Status, structure and headquarters

1. The Centre shall have juridical personality and shall have the capacity, in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the members of the Centre:

(a) To contract;

(b) To acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property;

(c) To institute legal proceedings.

2. The Centre shall have a General Council, a Management Board and a Director and staff.

3. The headquarters of the Centre shall be at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Article V

General Council: composition

1. The General Council shall be composed of all the members of the Centre.

2. The Director of the Centre shall serve as Secretary of the General Council.

Article VI

General Council: functions

The General Council shall:

(a) Establish policies and principles which will govern the activities of the Centre and approve the broad framework of its programmes. The General Council shall approve the budget estimates and accounts of the Centre for each biennium.

(b) Establish the Management Board of the Centre in accordance with the provisions of article VIII;

(c) Establish such other subsidiary bodies as it may deem appropriate;

(d) Appoint the Director of the Centre in accordance with the provisions of article IX, paragraph 1;

(e) Receive and consider the reports of the Management Board and the Director on the functions delegated to them;

(f) Exercise such other functions as it may be authorized to perform or as may be necessary under this Charter.

Article VII

General Council: meetings and procedure

1. The General Council shall meet in regular session once every two years.

2. The first, and inaugural, regular session of the General Council shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Charter.

3. The General Council shall meet in special session whenever a majority of the members of the Centre request the Chairman of the General Council to convene a special session.

4. A quorum for meetings of the General Council shall be a majority of the members of the Centre.

5. Each member of the Centre shall have one vote in the General Council.

6. The General Council shall endeavour to reach its decisions by consensus. Where consensus is not possible, decisions of the General Council shall, unless otherwise provided in this Charter, be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

7. The General Council shall at each regular session elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. They shall hold office until the next regular session of the General Council. The Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside at meetings of the General Council.

8. Representatives of Governments not members of the Centre, representatives of ESCAP and other appropriate United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, representatives of such other organizations as the General Council may deem appropriate and experts in fields of interest to the General Council may be invited to participate in meetings of the General Council in the capacity of observers without the right to vote.

9. The General Council shall, subject to the provisions of this Charter, adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article VIII

Management Board

1. The General Council shall at its first, and inaugural, session establish the Management Board of the Centre.

2. The Management Board shall be composed of the following members: (a) a representative of the host country of the Centre [who shall be the Chairman of the Management Board]; (b) up to 14 persons from within the Asian and Pacific region elected by the General Council to serve in their individual capacities; (c) up to three persons from within or outside the region who may be co-opted by the Management Board and who will also serve in their individual capacities; and (d) the Director of the Centre.

3. The General Council shall, in establishing the Management Board, define its terms of reference and delegate to the Board the authority necessary to enable it to serve as an effective management authority, without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Director,

as provided in article IX. It shall be the responsibility of the Management Board to ensure the proper implementation of the work programme and ensure that expenditure is incurred in a properly accountable manner.

4. The Board, which shall be responsible to the General Council in the performance of its functions, shall ensure that the activities of the Centre are conducted in accordance with the Charter of the Centre and the resolutions and decisions of the General Council.

5. The Management Board shall meet at least once every year.

Article IX

Director and staff

1. The Director of the Centre shall be appointed by the General Council for a term of three years on the recommendation of the Management Board. The Director shall be eligible for reappointment for an additional term of two years only, provided, however, that the first Director may serve for no longer than a cumulative period of five years, including service as Director of the Centre, prior to the entry into force of this Charter.

2. If the post of the Director falls vacant, the Management Board shall appoint a suitable person as Acting Director during the interim period until such time as a new Director is appointed by the General Council.

3. The Director shall be responsible to the General Council and to the Management Board in the performance of his functions.

4. The Director shall:

(a) Administer the Centre and its programmes with a view to ensuring that the Centre becomes an institution of high academic standing;

(b) Prepare and submit to the General Council through the Management Board, for review and approval, the areas identified for research and proposals for their development as well as the areas for training, seminars and workshops, the budget estimates and the accounts of the Centre;

(c) Report on the Centre and its programmes to the Management Board and the General Council;

(d) Appoint the other staff of the Centre;

(e) Arrange all matters relating to the publication of materials produced by the Centre, having in view the objectives of the Centre and its academic character;

(f) Perform such other duties as may be required of him under this Charter or pursuant to decisions of the General Council or of the Management Board.

Article X

Resources

1. The financial resources of the Centre shall be composed of:

(a) The voluntary contributions of the members of the Centre [which shall be in accordance with an agreed subscription formula];

(b) Funds received from Governments not members of the Centre;

(c) Funds received from international and national institutions;

(d) Moneys received for services furnished by the Centre;

(e) Other funds or moneys received by the Centre.

2. The Centre may also receive contributions of a non-financial nature.

3. The General Council shall at each session review the state of the resources of the Centre, as presented by the Management Board, and make such recommendations to the members of the Centre as it may deem appropriate, to ensure that timely and adequate resources are always available to the Centre and its programmes, and that a balance between these resources and programmes is maintained.

4. The Centre shall be administered on a sound economic and financial basis.

5. Regulations for receipt, custody and expenditure of the financial and non-financial resources of the Centre shall be established.

Article XI

Relations with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. The Centre shall establish and maintain a close consultative, co-operative and working relationship with ESCAP.

2. The Centre may enter into an agreement with ESCAP on the modalities of that relationship.

3. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP or his representative shall be invited to attend meetings of the General Council and of the Management Board and may make such statements and present such papers as he may deem appropriate.

4. The General Council or the Management Board, as appropriate, shall each year submit to ESCAP at its annual session a report on the Centre and its programmes.

Article XII

Relations with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other international institutions

The Centre may establish and maintain such relations as it may deem appropriate with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other international institutions.

Article XIII

Facilities, privileges and immunities

The Centre shall conclude with Malaysia, as the country in which the headquarters of the Centre shall be located, a headquarters agreement relating to the facilities, privileges and immunities which the Centre, representatives of its members, its officials and its consultants will receive while in Malaysia for the purpose of exercising official duties.

Article XIV

Withdrawal from the Centre

1. Any member of the Centre may withdraw from the Centre and this Charter by giving written notification of withdrawal to the Chairman of the General Council and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as depositary of this Charter.

2. The Chairman of the General Council shall inform all other members of the Centre and the Secretary-General of the United Nations as depositary of this Charter of his receipt of such a notification.

3. A notification of withdrawal shall take effect six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4. A member withdrawing from the Centre shall continue to be responsible for obligations incurred within the period of its membership.

Article XV

Dissolution of the Centre

1. The General Council may, by a two-thirds majority of the total membership of the Centre, resolve that the Centre be dissolved.

2. On approval of such a resolution by two thirds of the members of the Centre, in notifications addressed to the Chairman of the General Council, the necessary steps shall be taken by the General Council for the dissolution of the Centre. These steps shall include establishment by the General Council of a committee to advise the General Council on the manner in which the assets and obligations of the Centre should be liquidated prior to the dissolution of the Centre.

3. The General Council shall, at the appropriate stage, adopt a final declaration stating that on a specified date the Centre shall be deemed dissolved. The declaration shall be communicated by the Chairman of the General Council to the members of the Centre and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as depositary of this Charter.

Article XVI

Signature, ratification and accession

1. Countries eligible, under article III, to become members of the Centre may become parties to this Charter by:

(a) Signing the Charter without reservations as to ratification, acceptance or approval;

(b) Signing the Charter subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, and, thereafter, depositing instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval;

(c) Acceding to the Charter.

2. This Charter shall be open for signature at the headquarters of ESCAP in Bangkok from to and thereafter at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

3. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article XVII

Associate members of ESCAP

If an associate member of ESCAP is not fully responsible for the conduct of its international relations, it shall when signing, ratifying, approving, accepting or acceding to this Charter present a document issued by the Government of the State responsible for the conduct of the international relations of the associate member confirming that the associate member has authority to be a party to, and to assume rights and obligations under, this Charter.

Article XVIII

Entry into force

1. This Charter shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after five countries eligible under article III to become members of the Centre, including Malaysia, the country in which the headquarters of the Centre shall be, have become parties to this Charter in accordance with article XVI, paragraph 1. It is understood, however, that the Charter shall not enter into force prior to 1 July 1983.

2. For countries signing this Charter under article XVI, paragraph 1 (a), or depositing instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after

the date of the five signatures, ratifications, acceptances, approvals or accessions required under paragraph 1 of this article for the entry into force of this Charter, this Charter shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after such signature or deposit, provided, however, that such entry into force shall not occur prior to 1 July 1983.

Article XIX

Amendment

1. Any party to this Charter may propose an amendment to this Charter.

2. The proposed amendment shall be considered by the General Council and if approved by a two-thirds majority in the General Council shall enter into force for all parties to this Charter on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of instruments of acceptance of the proposed amendment by two thirds of the parties to this Charter.

Article XX

Depositary

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the depositary of this Charter.

2. The original text of this Charter shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so by their respective Governments, have signed this Charter, opened for signature at the headquarters of ESCAP in Bangkok on 19

For (Signature) (Date)
(Name and title)

For

For

For

216 (XXXVII). Role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific⁶

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2459 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 on the role of the co-operative movement in economic and social develop-

⁶ See paras. 311-314 above.

ment and 31/37 of 30 November 1976 and 33/47 of 14 December 1978 on national experience in promoting the co-operative movement and Economic and Social Council resolution 1668 (LII) of 1 June 1972 on promotion of the co-operative movement during the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling its resolution 196 (XXXV) of 16 March 1979 on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific,

Desiring to promote the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling the report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development,

Reaffirming that co-operatives play an important role in socio-economic development,

Convinced that exchange of information and experience relating to the co-operative movement among countries plays a vital role in strengthening the co-operatives for the benefit of their members and in overcoming difficulties in the establishment and development of various co-operatives,

Recognizing that in some developing countries agricultural co-operatives are the main tool for realization of an effective integrated programme of rural development at the national level,

1. *Takes note* of the report on the implementation of resolution 196 (XXXV) on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific and requests the secretariat to submit it as a regional contribution to the report being prepared by the Secretary-General for the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in response to the requests of members and associate members of the Commission, and in consultation with the United Nations specialized agencies and other institutions involved in the development of co-operatives, to continue work on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific with a view to facilitating the exchange of experience in this field, paying special attention, *inter alia*, to the following aspects:

(a) Role of co-operatives in over-all social and economic development, particularly of rural areas;

(b) Participation of landless peasants, women and youth in co-operatives;

(c) Role of agricultural co-operatives in introducing modern agro-technical practices (use of agricul-

tural requisites, mechanization, irrigation, agronomic selection etc.);

(d) Potential of co-operatives to increase the material welfare of their members;

(e) Interrelationship between agrarian reform and the co-operative movement;

(f) Development of production co-operatives;

(g) Difficulties faced by countries in the establishment and development of co-operatives and their experience in overcoming them;

3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary, when developing the Commission's programme of work, to take fully into account the need effectively to assist the developing countries of the region which seek such assistance in their efforts to promote co-operatives, especially in rural areas, for the benefit of all strata of the population, where co-operatives present the most appropriate form for helping to achieve the objectives set for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

4. *Invites* the members and associate members of the Commission to give financial and other assistance to the Executive Secretary for his continued work in this field, especially as it relates to the exchange of experience;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

*570th meeting
19 March 1981*

217 (XXXVII). Role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries⁷

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 33/135 of 19 December 1978 and 35/80 of 5 December 1980 on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries,

Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolutions 1979/52 of 2 August 1979 and 1980/63 of 25 July 1980,

Recalling its resolution 205 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980 on the same subject,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

⁷ See paras. 655-670 above.

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on the implementation of resolution 205 (XXXVI) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries and generally endorses the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, while intensifying the activities of the Commission in the field of training qualified national personnel through, *inter alia*, effective utilization, and subject to the availability of all forms of assistance provided by members and associate members of the Commission and the United Nations development system, to pay special attention to the priority areas of the activities of the Commission and the needs of the developing countries in the light of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and General Assembly resolution 35/80;

3. *Recommends* that the Asian and Pacific Development Centre should provide in its programmes for the intensified training of personnel from developing countries, particularly from the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries;

4. *Recommends* that appropriate attention should be given to increasing the national capacities and facilities of the developing countries for the training of qualified national personnel;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

218 (XXXVII). Impending retirement of J.B.P. Maramis, Executive Secretary of the Commission⁸

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Aware that the thirty-seventh session will be the final session attended by Mr. J.B.P. Maramis in his capacity as Executive Secretary,

Recognizing the untiring and distinguished service which he has rendered in his role as head of the Commission secretariat,

Noting that, during his years of leadership, the Commission has grown substantially in terms of both membership and resources,

Noting with appreciation the innovative changes which he has brought to the work of the Commission, in particular its secretariat and work programme, in an era of rapid social and technological change,

⁸ See para. 847 above.

Noting also with appreciation the inspiration and guidance which he has lent to the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre,

Acknowledging the support which he has given to the further strengthening of harmonious relations among Asian States,

Acknowledging in particular his personal commitment to fostering a greater role for the Commission in the Pacific subregion and encouraging a greater sense of involvement of the Pacific island countries in the activities of the Commission,

Acknowledging further his contribution to promoting the interests of the least developed, landlocked and developing island countries,

1. *Wishes* to extend a profound tribute to him for his contribution to subregional and regional understanding and co-operation during his years as Executive Secretary;

2. *Expresses* its lasting gratitude for the inestimable assistance which his leadership has given to the economic and social development of the Asia and Pacific region;

3. *Conveys* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations its appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Maramis in a manner fulfilling all the ideals of the international civil service;

4. *Extends* its sincere wishes for his health and happiness in the years ahead.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

219 (XXXVII). Expanding and strengthening the functions of the Commission in the context of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system⁹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, in which the General Assembly initiated the process of restructuring of the United Nations system,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 and Commission resolution 193 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979 on the implementation of resolution 32/197,

Noting with appreciation the progress that has been made in establishing the Interagency Committee

⁹ See paras. 272-282 above.

on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, in conferring on the Commission the status of executing agency and in streamlining the conference structure of the Commission,

Recognizing the need for more vigorous action to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolutions referred to in the preceding paragraph in order to enable the regional commissions fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council as the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system for their respective regions,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the responsiveness of the United Nations in all appropriate sectors to the needs of the developing countries,

Emphasizing also that the necessary authority should be delegated to the regional commissions to discharge effectively their enhanced responsibilities and that adequate budgetary and financial provision should be made available to them for their activities,

Noting General Assembly decision 35/440 of 16 December 1980, in which the General Assembly decided, *inter alia*, to "invite the regional commissions to consider further at their plenary sessions in 1981 the implications for their role and functions of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202, in the light, *inter alia*, of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General, particularly paragraphs 76 to 79 thereof, and to report thereon, for action by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, in the context of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General called for under General Assembly resolution 34/206 of 19 December 1979",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system entitled "Implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 for the regional commissions", and of the Executive Secretary's note on the implications for the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Takes note also* of the observations contained in paragraphs 13 to 20 and 76 to 79 of the Secretary-General's report;

3. *Requests* the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, with due regard to the observations contained in the Secretary-General's report and taking into account the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, to provide for effective participation of the regional commissions within their respective regions in the context of their inputs into the global policy-making processes of the competent global organs of

the United Nations, and without prejudice to the respective functions of these organs:

(a) In the formulation of objectives of global programmes in the execution of which the regional commissions are expected to participate;

(b) In the preparations for negotiations at the global and the regional levels, with due regard to the pressing needs of the developing members and associate members of the regional commissions and in accordance with established United Nations practices in the matter;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in order to enhance co-ordination of activities and to avoid duplication of efforts in the field of socio-economic development undertaken by the United Nations system at the regional level, to consult with the heads of the organizations of the United Nations system maintaining regional programmes, and other subregional bodies within the region, with a view to identifying areas in which there may be a need to strengthen co-ordination and harmonization of programmes in various fields of interest to member Governments and, should such areas be identified, investigating the possibilities of setting up appropriate interagency arrangements, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/197;

5. *Urges* donor countries, agencies and institutions to reflect the priorities established by the Commission, in responding to proposals and in extending assistance for inter-country activities of the Commission to be funded by them;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to:

(a) Continuing to associate the Commission at the intergovernmental level with the setting of priorities and preparation of proposals for the inter-country programmes of the United Nations Development Programme in the region;

(b) The Programme giving appropriate support to the Commission as executing agency in operational activities of the types defined in paragraph 23 of section IV of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197, having due regard to the priorities of the Commission and to the need to ensure full collaboration and co-ordination with the organizations of the United Nations system maintaining regional programmes and with subregional bodies within the region;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult United Nations Headquarters on the delegation of the necessary authority to be provided to the Commission in respect of programme planning and co-ordination;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult United Nations Headquarters in order to take measures in all appropriate sectors designed to contribute to:

(a) The synchronization of programme cycles and harmonization of programme formats between the regional commissions and the global United Nations bodies;

(b) The immediate analysis of the scope for improved distribution of tasks and responsibilities between the regional commissions and the global United Nations bodies, as called for by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twentieth session;

9. Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the regional commissions in the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in the region, *requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist developing countries, at the request of the Governments concerned, in order to strengthen and enlarge economic and technical co-operation among the developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 32/197 and taking into account the relevant provisions of resolution 127 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

(b) To consult the executive secretaries of the other regional commissions with a view to strengthening and expanding the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries on an interregional basis;

(c) To consult further the executive secretaries in order to promote co-operative activities among the regional commissions;

(d) To maintain close liaison with the United Nations resident co-ordinators on interest expressed by individual developing countries in economic and technical co-operation activities;

10. *Urges* the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, in considering the budgetary needs of the regional commissions, to ensure that:

(a) Adequate budgetary and financial provision is made to enable the regional commissions effectively to discharge the responsibilities indicated in General Assembly resolution 32/197;

(b) Greater discretion is provided to the regional commissions with regard to decisions on the use of such funds so that they may be enabled to respond more quickly and more flexibly to the needs of their member Governments, with due respect for the authority of the General Assembly regarding the budgetary accountability of the Commission;

(c) Additional resources for the new functions delegated to the regional commissions are made available through corresponding adjustments in resources at United Nations Headquarters and/or in the global programmes;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take measures further to rationalize and streamline the subsidiary machinery of the Commission, in consultation with the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the measures outlined in the present resolution, in the light of further pertinent decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

*571st meeting
20 March 1981*

Annex I

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1982-1983

This annex contains a summary of programmes and activities without detailed annotations for each programme element. It includes a complete list of programmes, subprogrammes and programme elements. It also contains information on resources in man-months required for the total programmes and subprogrammes. As to integrated rural development, the summary covers only the resources required by the Integrated Rural Development Unit. The integrated programme on rural development (06), however, is composed of multidisciplinary activities to be implemented by the various divisions of the secretariat. The resources for the programme are shown separately.

The programmes contained in the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, are as follows:

<i>Programme code</i>	<i>Programme</i>
01	Development of food and agriculture
02	Evaluation, development, use and management of energy sources
03	Raw materials and commodities
04	Development and transfer of appropriate technology
05	International trade, transnational corporations and external financial resource transfers
	Part A. International trade
	Part B. Transnational corporations
	Part C. External financial resource transfers
06	Integrated programme on rural development
07	Development planning, projections and policies
08	Industrial development
09	Human settlements
10	Environment
11	Development of shipping, ports and inland waterways
12	Development of transport
13	Development of communication facilities
14	Development of tourism
15	Evaluation, development, use and management of mineral resources
16	Evaluation, development, use and management of water resources
17	Remote sensing, surveying and mapping
18	Special measures for the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries
19	Policies and programmes for social development and welfare
20	Population policies and programmes
21	Statistical development and services
22	Information systems and documentation services
23	Promotion of and support for ECDC and TCDC

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (01)

Subprogramme 01.01: Improvement in agricultural plans, programmes and information systems

To assist in improving the formulation and implementation of agricultural plans, programmes and projects by analysing the impact of major policies and strategies, keeping in view the over-all development strategy for the 1980s, and to facilitate the efforts of the member countries in their agricultural development planning by providing consultation and training facilities as well as by collecting, processing and disseminating information on research and development in the food and agriculture sector of the national economies.

Programme elements:

- 01.01.01 Analysis of food and agricultural policies and strategies with emphasis on their impact on socio-economic conditions
- 01.01.02 Formulation, implementation and evaluation of agricultural plans and projects
- 01.01.03 Promotion of exchange of experience and visits to successful agricultural projects by agricultural planners/administrators
- 01.01.04 Preparation and publication of a bulletin on the food and agricultural situation and outlook in the region
- 01.01.05 Regional co-operation on farm broadcasting

Subprogramme 01.02: Diversification of agricultural production and augmentation of food resources

To help member countries by increasing food supply in the countries of the ESCAP region through (a) the diversification of agricultural production with special emphasis on coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops and (b) stabilization of food supply and prices of agricultural products by implementing programmes such as a food security system and the Asian Rice Trade Fund.

Programme elements:

- 01.02.01 Regional studies and/or surveys on the socio-economic aspects of CGPRT crops
- 01.02.02 Expert group meeting and seminar on CGPRT crops
- 01.02.03 Assistance to the regional co-ordinating centre for research and development of CGPRT crops
- 01.02.04 Study on food security systems at the regional and subregional levels
- 01.02.05 Assistance to the Asian Rice Trade Fund

Subprogramme 01.03: Increased supplies of agricultural requisites with emphasis on agro-chemicals

To facilitate, increase and widen the domestic use of more productive agricultural inputs in smallholder food and cash crop production in the developing countries of the ESCAP region.

Programme elements:

- 01.03.01 ARSAP/agro-pesticides
- 01.03.02 Operation of the ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 01.04: Rural development, with emphasis on policies, strategies and institutions

To follow up the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (July 1979) and the intergovernmental meeting on IRD (December 1979), the programme elements under this subprogramme are designed to assist member countries in evolving policies, testing strategies and developing institutions that promote rural development. The activities are directed at enhancing local-level planning and mobilization of resources and promoting the participation of the rural poor, especially small farmers, tenants and the landless, rural women, small fishermen and other disadvantaged groups in the development process. Forestry for community development as well as agricultural and agro-industrial residue utilization have also been included.

Programme elements:

- 01.04.01 Local-level planning for rural development
- 01.04.02 Local-level mobilization and utilization of resources
- 01.04.03 Research, case studies and field workshops on rural institutions serving agriculture
- 01.04.04 Field workshops on organization, decision making, incentives and information dissemination on socialized farming systems
- 01.04.05 Improvement of the socio-economic condition of fisherfolk communities
- 01.04.06 Modernization and the changing role of women in agriculture and rural development
- 01.04.07 ESCAP/FAO case studies on afforestation for community development
- 01.04.08 Utilization of agricultural and agro-industrial residues

PROGRAMME: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES (02)

Subprogramme 02.01: Appraisal of availability and use of energy resources

To collect and disseminate information on the availability and use of energy resources.

Programme elements:

- 02.01.01 Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on electricity supply and supply and demand of various forms of energy

Subprogramme 02.02: Integrated development, use and management of energy resources

To assist member countries in formulating and carrying out integrated programmes for the development, use and management of their energy resources, including consideration of legal and institutional matters and financial requirements, and in identifying and carrying out priority projects within such programmes.

Programme elements:

- 02.02.01 Meeting on national energy policies and energy planning
- 02.02.02 Expert group meeting on legislative measures and institutional arrangements for energy efficiency improvement and energy conservation
- 02.02.03 Advisory services on efficient production of heat and motive power for industries
- 02.02.04 Collection and dissemination of information on: (i) modifications to motor vehicles required for the use of alternative sources of energy (LPG, NPG, power alcohol); (ii) use of alternatives to diesel engines in water pumping for agricultural purposes; and (iii) education programmes on energy conservation
- 02.02.05 In-service training and technical *ad hoc* advisory services
- 02.02.06 Study on the use of fuels in the transport sector
- 02.02.07 Study on the use of natural, refinery and producer gas

Subprogramme 02.03: Supply and use of energy in rural areas

To foster the production and use of appropriate forms of energy and an appropriate energy mix in rural areas, utilizing, as much as possible, energy resources, materials and suitable labour available in such areas.

Programme elements:

- 02.03.01 Co-operative research on and development of energy supply and use in rural areas
- 02.03.02 Collection and dissemination of information on: (i) design of high-efficiency kerosene stoves and firewood stoves; (ii) research and development of bullock carts and other animal-drawn vehicles; and (iii) research and development of mini and micro hydroelectricity

02.03.03 Study on an appropriate mix of conventional and non-conventional energy supplies for rural areas

PROGRAMME: RAW MATERIALS AND COMMODITIES (03)

Subprogramme 03.01: Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities

To assist member countries of ESCAP, including members of the Subgroup for Commodities of the Trade Co-operation Group, in formulating and adjusting commodity development policies, planning and implementation, and establishing new inter-country co-operative arrangements among producing/exporting countries in the region.

Programme elements:

- 03.01.01 Promotion of inter-country co-operation in tropical hardwoods
- 03.01.02 Development of standard contracts and general conditions for selected commodities of interest to ESCAP member countries
- 03.01.03 Assistance in the improvement and development of physical functions incidental to marketing of selected raw materials and commodities, namely: (a) coconut; (b) cassava; (c) essential oils; (d) hides and skins; (e) natural rubber; (f) oils and fats; (g) pepper and other spices; (h) silk; (i) tropical timber; (j) edible nuts and dried fruits; and (k) shrimps/marine products
- 03.01.04 Studies on competition of synthetics and substitutes in selected raw materials of interest to countries of the region

Subprogramme 03.02: Assistance on raw materials and commodities to member countries and to established commodity communities and promotion of new communities for commodities of socio-economic interest to the region

To provide advisory services and technical assistance to member countries, ANRPC, APCC and IPC in order to make their work and activities more effective and useful and to initiate the establishment of new communities/associations for commodities of socio-economic interest to countries in the region, particularly those of interest to the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries.

Programme elements:

- 03.02.01 Advisory services and assistance to member countries in the formulation of plans and policies for raw materials and commodities
- 03.02.02 Advisory services and assistance to the secretariats of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC), the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) and the International Pepper Community (IPC)
- 03.02.03 Promotion of co-operative arrangements on commodities of socio-economic interest to ESCAP member countries

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY (04)

Subprogramme 04.01: Science and technology policies and institutions

To strengthen national capabilities in the formulation and implementation of effective science and technology policies; to survey and evaluate the national policies and identify regional priorities for the determination of regional programmes for science and technology.

Programme elements:

- 04.01.01 Science and technology survey for Asia and the Pacific
- 04.01.02 Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action
- 04.01.03 Application of new science and technology to development
- 04.01.04 Strengthening linkages between science and technology institutions

04.01.05 Regional advisory group on science and technology

Subprogramme 04.02: Development of indigenous capabilities to generate, select and adapt appropriate technology

To strengthen national technological capabilities in the development and evolution of technologies required in critical areas such as food and agriculture, promote regional exchange of information on existing technologies with a view to evolution of appropriate technologies suitable to the region, assist regional co-operation in technology information flows, train skills in technology management, and develop and modernize rural productive sectors through introduction and development of appropriate technology.

Programme elements:

04.02.01 Assistance in the establishment of pilot plants on rice-bran stabilization

04.02.02 Assistance to interested member countries in the fabrication of post-harvest equipment and utilization of integrated post-harvest technologies

04.02.03 Assistance in the setting up and strengthening of engineering, design and consultancy services

Subprogramme 04.03: Support to regional technological institutions

To provide backstopping to the regional technological institutions in strengthening the technological capabilities of the member countries.

Programme elements:

04.03.01 Regional Centre for Technology Transfer

04.03.02 Assistance in the establishment of an industrial tribology centre in China

04.03.03 Assistance to the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

04.03.04 Seminar on design, production, maintenance and repair of agricultural machinery in the USSR

Subprogramme 04.04: Standardization, quality control and technical information systems

To promote development and adoption of appropriate industrial standards and quality control; improve and/or set up national institutes for development of these facilities and encourage the adoption of suitable legal and administrative procedures for introduction and maintenance of standards/quality centres and stimulate flow of technical information relating to standards quality criteria, designs etc.

Programme elements:

04.04.01 Collection and dissemination of information on the status and activities of national standards bodies and industrial research institutions of the region and consideration of suitable regional arrangements

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE, TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND EXTERNAL FINANCIAL RESOURCE TRANSFERS

Part A. International trade

Subprogramme 05.01: Co-operation for trade expansion

To review the trade régimes and policies of member countries of ESCAP and to identify possible areas of co-operation in the field of trade expansion. The subprogramme will also include follow-up activities on UNCTAD resolutions and decisions, assistance to developing countries on the Multi-Fibre Arrangement as well as to the Bangkok Agreement countries and to the Trade Co-operation Group and its subgroups.

Programme elements:

05.01.01 Analysis of trade flows and tariff and non-tariff barriers

05.01.02 Harmonization of trade statistics and customs tariff nomenclatures

05.01.03 Technical and secretariat services to the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement

- 05.01.04 Promotion of trade-creating joint ventures
- 05.01.05 Follow-up activities on UNCTAD resolutions and decisions
- 05.01.06 Encouragement and promotion of long-term contracts
- 05.01.07 Expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR
- 05.01.08 Assistance to developing countries in formulating their positions with regard to negotiations for the future of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement

Subprogramme 05.02: Trade promotion and development, including consumer protection

To assist the efforts of member countries in their trade promotion and development activities in both the public and the private sectors through various services offered by the ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre (TPC). In pursuance of a decision of the Ministerial Conference on Co-operation in Trade for Asia and the Pacific, held at New Delhi, India, in August 1978, a Subgroup for a Network of Trade Promotion Centres has been constituted. TPC will also be engaged in implementing the decisions of the Subgroup.

Programme elements:

- 05.02.01 Trade information services: collection, storage, retrieval, analysis and dissemination of trade information on commodities/products, marketing etc.
- 05.02.02 Assistance to member countries in establishing and/or strengthening national trade information service units, including the establishment of a regional trade information network
- 05.02.03 Training services: assistance to member countries in developing professional staff and human resources in trade promotion and development activities through the organization of training programmes such as training courses, seminars, workshops and fellowships
- 05.02.04 Market/product development services: assistance to member countries in market/product development and marketing services; and undertaking studies for the Subgroup for a Network of Trade Promotion Centres to identify existing and potential complementarities in trade within the region
- 05.02.05 Advisory services: assistance to member countries in establishing a network of national trade promotion centres linked to TPC
- 05.02.06 Advisory and consultancy services to member countries in trade promotion activities in specialized fields, including consumer protection
- 05.02.07 Meeting of heads of national trade development and promotion agencies and follow-up activities
- 05.02.08 Assistance in trade information, marketing, market research and development of products and commodities of export interest for rural development

Subprogramme 05.03: Monetary co-operation

To strengthen monetary and credit co-operation between the countries of the region, including the strengthening of existing institutional arrangements, in order to facilitate trade expansion.

Programme elements:

- 05.03.01 Technical assistance to the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) and other financial and payment arrangements, including assisting in facilities for refinancing exports

Subprogramme 05.04: Trade facilitation, insurance and reinsurance

To assist member countries in coping with various technical problems involved in the practices and procedures of international trade, such as matters related to customs, documentation and international trade law, and to evolve and implement suitable measures to secure a smooth flow of trade. Co-operation in insurance and reinsurance will also be promoted.

Programme elements:

- 05.04.01 Assistance in the harmonization of customs procedures and practices at subregional and regional levels and in the simplification and standardization of trade procedures and documentation
- 05.04.02 Establishment of a regional export credit insurance scheme
- 05.04.03 Assistance to member countries in the field of insurance and reinsurance, including support services to the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC)

Part B. Transnational corporations

Subprogramme 05.05: Research studies on the operations of transnational corporations

The research work is aimed at further understanding the nature and the political, legal, economic and social effects of the activities of transnational corporations. The studies aim at further clarifying the issues involved in their operations, thereby assisting Governments in improving their bargaining position vis-à-vis TNCs.

Programme elements:

- 05.05.01 Support to research programmes in priority areas identified by the Commission on Transnational Corporations
- 05.05.02 Interregional project on transnational corporations in primary export commodities
- 05.05.03 Transnational corporation activities in the Pacific island countries
- 05.05.04 Impact of TNCs on the country, subregional and regional development process, including studies on non-equity agreements, net capital flows, transfer pricing, market sharing, and mergers and take-overs
- 05.05.05 Evaluation of free trade zones: performance and prospects
- 05.05.06 Comparative studies on specific issues regarding the activities of transnational corporations: transfer pricing, technology transfer and restrictive business practices
- 05.05.07 Expert group meetings and intergovernmental consultations
- 05.05.08 National, subregional and regional follow-up activities on the implementation of the code of conduct on transnational corporations

Subprogramme 05.06: Technical co-operation activities on matters related to TNCs

Together with CTC, the Joint Unit will undertake technical co-operation activities yielding a direct impact on strengthening the negotiating capacity of host Governments. Such activities will include the organization of workshops and seminars at the country, subregional and regional levels on specific issues such as transfer pricing, restrictive business practices, export processing zones, joint ventures and financial provisions or specific sectors such as petrochemicals, fisheries and tropical hardwoods.

Programme elements:

- 05.06.01 Specialized round tables, seminars and workshops at the national, subregional and regional levels on specific technical issues, e.g., ownership and control, financial structure, including tax and import tariff provisions, and terms for the supply of technology
- 05.06.02 Specialized round tables, seminars and workshops at the country, subregional and regional levels on specific industries, e.g., petrochemicals, tropical hardwoods, agro-industries, fisheries, minerals and export processing zones
- 05.06.03 Assistance to CTC in the preparation of a regional roster of experts for the technical advisory services provided to host Governments
- 05.06.04 Seminars-cum-study tours in member countries on their experience with transnational corporations

Subprogramme 05.07: Development of a comprehensive information system on transnational corporations

The system developed will be a regional input into the efforts of CTC in collecting, analysing and disseminating information on transnational corporations. The aim of this subprogramme is to provide comprehensive, reliable

and relevant information to host Governments in order to assist them in negotiations and in formulation of policies towards transnational corporations.

Programme elements:

- 05.07.01 Information on laws, regulations, policies, contracts and agreements relating to TNCs
- 05.07.02 Corporate profiles of transnational corporations
- 05.07.03 Information on data and information services
- 05.07.04 In-depth industry studies on TNCs

Part C. External financial resource transfers

Subprogramme 05.08: Investment promotion and tax administration

To build up and/or strengthen national institutions and support the introduction of effective policies to optimize private capital investment. To train personnel in investment promotion and taxation and support harmonization of investment incentives and fiscal policies within the region.

Programme elements:

- 05.08.01 Assistance to regional developing countries in the improvement of institutional facilities for investment promotion and taxation
- 05.08.02 Meeting of a panel of eminent persons on foreign investment
- 05.08.03 Assistance to the Regional Bureau of Fiscal Documentation
- 05.08.04 Country studies on progress of development and problems of foreign investment

PROGRAMME: INTEGRATED PROGRAMME ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (06)

Subprogramme 06.01: Policies and planning

To assist member countries in reviewing current approaches to the policy and planning of rural development programmes and taking measures to strengthen governmental capability in the planning and implementation of coordinated programmes, with emphasis on institutional arrangements for improving participation of and delivery of services to low-income groups, and for effective monitoring and evaluation.

Programme elements:

- 06.01.01 Expert group meeting on the role of village-level development workers
- 06.01.02 Case studies of initiatives by NGOs in collecting and disseminating information on the mobilization of low-income and socially disadvantaged groups
- 06.01.03 Effective monitoring and evaluation of rural development programmes and projects with reference to the involvement of and the impact on the poor
- 06.01.04 Local-level planning for rural development (corresponds to 01.04.01, Agriculture Division)
- 06.01.05 Local-level mobilization and utilization of resources (corresponds to 01.04.02, Agriculture Division)
- 06.01.06 Expert consultations on public service delivery systems at the local level (corresponds to 07.05.04, Development Planning Division)
- 06.01.07 Study on rural settlement planning (corresponds to 09.02.01, Division of Industry, Housing and Technology)
- 06.01.08 Expert group meeting on the design of rural participatory policies in rural development tailored to specific socio-cultural environments (corresponds to 19.02.03, Social Development Division)
- 06.01.09 Assistance to member countries in formulating, implementing and monitoring national projects on women (corresponds to 19.04.02, Social Development Division)

- 06.01.10 Development of methodologies for and promotion of the collection, organization and management of statistics needed for regional programmes for rural development (corresponds to 21.01.15, Statistics Division)
- 06.01.11 Improvement of information systems in the traditional sector, including data needed for rural development (corresponds to 22.01.04, Division of Administration)
- 06.01.12 Information services for rural development (corresponds to 22.03.04, Division of Administration)

Subprogramme 06.02: Agriculture

To provide support to the Governments in diversifying agricultural production with increasing involvement of small producers and disadvantaged groups and improving input and output delivery systems for their benefit.

Programme elements:

- 06.02.01 Expert group meeting and seminar on CGPRT crops (corresponds to 01.02.02, Agriculture Division)
- 06.02.02 Improvement of the socio-economic condition of fisherfolk communities (corresponds to 01.04.05, Agriculture Division)
- 06.02.03 Assistance in trade information, marketing, market research and development of products and commodities of export interest for rural development (corresponds to 05.02.08, International Trade Division)

Subprogramme 06.03: Industrialization in rural areas

To assist member countries in promoting industrial development as an integral part of rural development, particularly with respect to improving linkages between agriculture and industry and development of small industries in rural areas.

Programme elements:

- 06.03.01 Collection and dissemination of information on progress relating to (a) strengthening of linkages between industry and agriculture, (b) dispersal and relocation of industry away from metropolitan areas, (c) development of small industries at the rural level and (d) linkages between small and medium industries and large-scale and modern industries (corresponds to 08.01.02, Division of Industry, Housing and Technology)
- 06.03.02 Assistance in the implementation of industrial pilot projects in non-metropolitan areas (corresponds to 08.01.05, Division of Industry, Housing and Technology)
- 06.03.03 Development of integrated agro- and rural industries in the ESCAP region through country studies (corresponds to 08.01.06, Division of Industry, Housing and Technology)

Subprogramme 06.04: Physical infrastructure, natural resources and the environment

To assist member countries in their efforts to improve the supply of energy through the development of conventional and non-conventional sources of energy and physical infrastructure in rural areas, through the development of water and other natural resources and of rural transport systems, consistent with sound environmental management.

Programme elements:

- 06.04.01 Co-operative research on and development of energy supply and use in rural areas (corresponds to 02.03.01, Natural Resources Division)
- 06.04.02 Study on an appropriate mix of conventional and non-conventional energy supplies for rural areas (corresponds to 02.03.03, Natural Resources Division)
- 06.04.03 Studies and seminars on improvement in rural transport vehicles and equipment, and in the techniques of rural road planning, construction and implementation tools/equipment, in the context of integrated rural development (corresponds to 12.02.07, Transport, Communications and Tourism Division)
- 06.04.04 Assistance in developing plans and strategies for expanding rural postal infrastructure (corresponds to 13.02.01, Transport, Communications and Tourism Division)
- 06.04.05 Workshop on improved access to postal services in isolated rural and mountainous areas (corresponds to 13.02.02, Transport, Communications and Tourism Division)

Subprogramme 06.05: Application of science and technology to rural development

To assist Governments in formulating policies and building institutions for development, adaptation, selection and application of environmentally sound and labour-intensive technology for rural development, with emphasis on TCDC.

Programme elements:

- 06.05.01 Utilization of agricultural and agro-industrial residues (corresponds to 01.04.08, Agriculture Division)
- 06.05.02 Organization of industrial expositions for TCDC on a regional/subregional basis with focus on rural areas (corresponds to 08.02.09, Division of Industry, Housing and Technology)

Subprogramme 06.06: Health and social services

To assist Governments in strengthening institutions, service delivery systems and resource bases for the provision of basic health and social services to under-served populations in rural areas, and to improve environmental conditions.

Programme elements:

- 06.06.01 Study on low-cost water and waste-water treatment processes and equipment (corresponds to 16.01.03, Natural Resources Division)
- 06.06.02 Intergovernmental co-operation on the Mar del Plata Action Plan, including the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (corresponds to 16.02.02, Natural Resources Division)

Subprogramme 06.07: Human resources development and institutions

To assist member countries in enhancing and facilitating widespread popular involvement in the rural development effort through education, training and other supporting services, in strengthening the institutional infrastructure for this purpose and in promoting more active participation of relatively disadvantaged groups, such as women and youth, in rural development.

Programme elements:

- 06.07.01 Research, case studies and field workshops on rural institutions serving agriculture (corresponds to 01.04.03, Agriculture Division)
- 06.07.02 Field workshops on organization, decision making, incentives and information dissemination on socialized farming systems (corresponds to 01.04.04, Agriculture Division)
- 06.07.03 Modernization and the changing role of women in agriculture and rural development (corresponds to 01.04.06, Agriculture Division)
- 06.07.04 Assistance to member countries in promoting people's participation and institution building in local development (corresponds to 19.02.01, Social Development Division)
- 06.07.05 Regional, subregional and national seminars, expert group meetings and training workshops on different aspects of youth policy and development, with emphasis on rural youth development and pressing issues affecting youth in the urban areas (corresponds to 19.05.02, Social Development Division)

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, PROJECTIONS AND POLICIES (07)

Subprogramme 07.01: Information services on economic and social development

To monitor and survey recent experience in the region in the field of economic and social development and to provide member countries with up-to-date information and assessments concerning the current development situation within the region.

Programme elements:

- 07.01.01 Establishment and maintenance of an information system on development planning
- 07.01.02 Preparation of an annual economic review of the region

07.01.03 Preparation of the *Economic Bulletin* and *Development Papers*

Subprogramme 07.02: **Economic and social development strategies and policies**

To provide member countries with analyses of priority issues as adumbrated in the report on a "Regional input into the formulation of an international development strategy for the 1980s" adopted by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session in the fields of development strategy and policy and to provide them with a venue for exchanging views and information on the basis of this documentation.

Programme elements:

- 07.02.01 Preparation of in-depth studies of issues of current economic and social concern for inclusion in the *Economic and Social Survey*
- 07.02.02 Preparation of reports on development policy issues not covered by other subprogrammes
- 07.02.03 Expert Group on Development Policy and Planning

Subprogramme 07.03: **Development planning methods**

To assist member countries in improving their development planning methods by providing them with analytic studies dealing with specific planning issues and to provide opportunities for periodic consideration of this documentation and an exchange of information and views on matters of common concern.

Programme elements:

- 07.03.01 Seminars-cum-study tours hosted by member Governments on particular aspects of economic and social development planning
- 07.03.02 Training programme on planning techniques with special reference to Soviet experience
- 07.03.03 Studies on development planning methods

Subprogramme 07.04: **Macro-economic modelling and projections**

To provide periodic macro-economic projections on the basis of national economic models linked to a global projection system and to improve the specifications of national economic models.

Programme elements:

- 07.04.01 Periodic national macro-economic projections through a global LINK projection system
- 07.04.02 Improving the specifications of selected national economic models

Subprogramme 07.05: **Administrative systems for development**

To assist member countries in the improvement of institutional arrangements and processes and administrative skills for effective policy making, development planning and management of the public sector.

Programme elements:

- 07.05.01 Advisory services to improve administrative capability for national development
- 07.05.02 Survey and analysis of trends and changes in development administration
- 07.05.03 Workshops on performance improvement in public services
- 07.05.04 Expert consultations on public service delivery systems at the local level
- 07.05.05 Studies on governmental budgeting and financial management

Subprogramme 07.06: **Economic co-operation among developing countries**

To examine and analyse operationally feasible ways in which by economic co-operation among themselves the developing countries of the region can become more self-sufficient with respect to objectives concerning trade, capital flows, energy, food supply, technology etc.

Programme elements:

- 07.06.01 ASEAN and a Pacific basin community
- 07.06.02 Subregional approaches to industrialization
- 07.06.03 Labour migration from ESCAP developing countries

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (08)

Subprogramme 08.01: Industrial development and planning

To review and appraise industrial progress at the national and regional levels and identify specific problems; implement decisions taken at the global and regional levels with regard to reorientation of industrial policies and strategies; strengthen national capabilities in project identification and implementation; support national and regional efforts to expand and diversify industrial exports and strengthen fuller development of national manufacturing capacities; and establish harmonized programmes of development between metropolitan and rural sectors.

Programme elements:

- 08.01.01 Regional review and appraisal of industrial progress at the regional level, with special reference to the Third United Nations Development Decade and the strategies for development during the 1980s; implementation of the decisions of the ESCAP Meeting of Ministers of Industry; implementation of growth targets envisaged in the Lima Declaration and the Third General Conference of UNIDO
- 08.01.02 Collection and dissemination of information on progress relating to (a) strengthening of linkages between industry and agriculture, (b) dispersal and relocation of industry away from metropolitan areas, (c) development of small industries at the rural level and (d) linkages between small and medium industries and large-scale and modern industries
- 08.01.03 Studies on specific aspects of selected public sector industries with reference to linkages between industry and agriculture, development of small-scale industries, development and diffusion of technology and know-how, financing and management
- 08.01.04 Study tour for selected key officials of public sector enterprises to study public sector manufacturing developments in selected ESCAP countries
- 08.01.05 Assistance in the implementation of industrial pilot projects in non-metropolitan areas
- 08.01.06 Development of integrated agro- and rural industries in the ESCAP region through country studies
- 08.01.07 Development of small-scale industries in a long-term perspective
- 08.01.08 Development of chemical industries: (a) fertilizers; (b) pesticides; (c) pharmaceuticals; (d) alcohol production from agro-products; (f) petrochemicals
- 08.01.09 Establishment of prime-mover industries in the least developed countries of the ESCAP region
- 08.01.10 Information network on development of energy and new resources from agro-products
- 08.01.11 Special measures for least developed countries in the development of energy and new resources from agro-products
- 08.01.12 Visits to institutes of excellence engaged in the production of energy and new resources from agro-products

Subprogramme 08.02: Regional co-operation in industrial development

To strengthen regional capacities and capabilities in the development of intraregional industrial co-operation, support the development of joint industry enterprises, provide information data and other technical inputs on selected key industries, assist in the exchange of technical data and information on technology and know-how and strengthen capacities in manufacturing and technology.

Programme elements:

- 08.02.01 Co-operation among planners for industrial development: expert group meeting on appraisal of industrial protectionism

- 08.02.02 Intergovernmental consultative meeting among national planning bureaux with the participation of development banks on the establishment of regional industries
- 08.02.03 Assistance in the implementation of the industrial survey of the South Pacific countries
- 08.02.04 Organization of meetings of the "club" for consideration of technical co-operation among the developing countries, with special reference to least developed, land-locked and island economies
- 08.02.05 Follow-up of the third intergovernmental meeting on agro- and allied industries in 1980 and preparations for the fourth intergovernmental meeting in 1982
- 08.02.06 Assistance in the improvement of industrial processing and development of selected raw materials and commodities
- 08.02.07 Regional preparatory meeting on agricultural machinery for the UNIDO consultation meeting
- 08.02.08 Regional pesticides development programme for Asia and the Pacific
- 08.02.09 Organization of industrial expositions for TCDC on a regional/subregional basis with focus on rural areas
- 08.02.10 Publication of the *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* and *Industrial Development News: Asia and the Pacific*

PROGRAMME: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (09)

Subprogramme 09.01: Settlement policies and strategies

To strengthen national capabilities; to evolve and implement effective policies, programmes and strategies on human settlements and identify regional priorities for determination of regional programmes.

Programme elements:

- 09.01.01 Formulation of national policies, programmes and strategies on human settlements development
- 09.01.02 Identification of regional policy issues
- 09.01.03 Review and study of the human settlements situation
- 09.01.04 Development of regional guidelines on formulation of settlement policies

Subprogramme 09.02: Settlement planning

To promote comprehensive and integrated plans for development of urban and rural settlements in terms of locating economic activities, physical and social infrastructures and population.

Programme elements:

- 09.02.01 Study on rural settlement planning
- 09.02.02 Regional congress of local authorities for development of human settlements in Asia and the Pacific
- 09.02.03 Integration of physical planning with economic and social planning
- 09.02.04 Study on strategies for improving the capacity of civic services in secondary cities

Subprogramme 09.03: Shelter, infrastructure and services

To promote innovative and appropriate human settlements technologies aimed at accelerating the improvement, extent and range of shelter, infrastructure and services

Programme elements:

- 09.03.01 Meeting of directors of building and human settlements research institutes
- 09.03.02 Integrated programme on improvement of slums and squatter settlements
- 09.03.03 Studies on methods, costs and techniques of low-cost housing

- 09.03.04 Assistance to developing countries in the introduction and use of standardization and modular co-ordination
- 09.03.05 Development and improvement of the construction industry
- 09.03.06 Study on indigenous construction industries in urban and rural areas
- 09.03.07 Study on alternative methods of garbage collection and waste disposal
- 09.03.08 Innovative approach to assist slum, new squatter and rural households in improving their dwellings
- 09.03.09 Seminar/workshop in the USSR on low-cost housing

Subprogramme 09.04: Land

To formulate and implement land policies and supporting legislation for facilitating ownership and possession, development and use of land, and land taxation.

Programme elements:

- 09.04.01 Study on land policies and land control measures, including land-use zoning systems
- 09.04.02 Site and services and land consolidation systems
- 09.04.03 Monitoring and information exchange on land

Subprogramme 09.05: Public participation

To mobilize and respond to citizen and community interest and their participation in strategy formulation, planning, programme implementation, management of human settlements, provision of shelter, infrastructure and services through community action, mutual aid, self-help and other forms of direct collaboration.

Programme elements:

- 09.05.01 Regional seminar on public participation in national programmes

Subprogramme 09.06: Institutions and management

To establish appropriate financial institutions and mechanisms for the benefit of low-income groups, introduce the necessary administrative procedures and legal support for the preparation and implementation of programmes and train the human resources required for the various tasks involved in these processes in the ESCAP developing countries.

Programme elements:

- 09.06.01 Expanding the regional activities of the United Nations Regional Housing Centre at New Delhi, India
- 09.06.02 Expanding the regional activities of the Regional Centre for Research on Human Settlements at Bandung, Indonesia
- 09.06.03 Establishment of an information system network in the field of human settlements
- 09.06.04 Finance and management and human settlements
- 09.06.05 Study tour/seminar/workshop in the USSR on the activities of local housing authorities

PROGRAMME: ENVIRONMENT (10)

Subprogramme 10.01: Environmental awareness

To strengthen the environmental dimension of the sectoral activities of the Commission and to enhance environmental awareness at the national level by way of dissemination and exchange of information on issues of environmental significance and organization of seminars for journalists and media representatives.

Programme elements:

- 10.01.01 Strengthening the environmental dimensions of the activities of the Commission in various sectoral fields
- 10.01.02 Creation of environmental awareness through mass media campaigns

Subprogramme 10.02: Institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management

To provide assistance to countries of the region, upon request, in the development of environmental protection legislation and in the strengthening of institutional capabilities for environmental protection and management.

Programme elements:

- 10.02.01 Assistance to countries in strengthening the institutional and legal framework for environmental protection and management
- 10.02.02 Study on techniques of environmental impact assessment of development projects
- 10.02.03 *Ad hoc* working group meeting of experts on the environment

Subprogramme 10.03: Management of terrestrial ecosystems

To strengthen regional, subregional and national capabilities to work out policies and programmes and to develop methodologies and standards for effective environmental management of land ecosystems.

Programme elements:

- 10.03.01 Study on the environmental impacts of tropical deforestation
- 10.03.02 Management of arid and semi-arid lands
- 10.03.03 Application of remote sensing to the environment and development activities in the ESCAP region
- 10.03.04 Expert group meeting on environmental aspects of rural development
- 10.03.05 Study on mountain ecosystems in the ESCAP region

Subprogramme 10.04: Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems

To strengthen national capabilities to work out policies and programmes designed to protect the marine and coastal environments from shore-based and off-shore sources of pollution.

Programme elements:

- 10.04.01 Regional project on protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific (phase II)
- 10.04.02 South Pacific regional environment programme
- 10.04.03 Study and expert group meeting on methods and costs of industrial pollution control
- 10.04.04 Assessment of the water pollution control situation in the ESCAP region

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT OF SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS (11)

Subprogramme 11.01: Manpower development

To enable the developing countries: (a) to establish and upgrade maritime training institutions whenever necessary; and (b) to meet the growing demand for adequately trained managerial and operational personnel in shipping, ports and inland waterways.

Programme elements:

- 11.01.01 Establishment of national and regional or subregional training centres for maritime, port and inland water transport personnel
- 11.01.02 Assistance to member countries with a view to the formation of a regional association of maritime training institutes
- 11.01.03 Survey and evaluation of the existing management training institutions in the field of shipping with a view to upgrading their programmes and teaching methods
- 11.01.04 Assistance in organizing refresher courses for the seafaring personnel of the region in view of the application of sophisticated equipment on board the vessels

- 11.01.05 Review of manpower development in the region and current and future demand
- 11.01.06 Organization of meetings on manpower development

Subprogramme 11.02: Development of maritime policy and institutions

To assist in the establishment and strengthening of national and regional maritime organizations concerned with maritime policies and with specialized maritime activities.

Programmes elements:

- 11.02.01 Assistance to member countries in the establishment and functioning of freight study units as policy-making bodies
- 11.02.02 Assistance in the implementation of economic statistics of shipping
- 11.02.03 Assistance to member countries in establishing or strengthening institutions on shipping, ports and inland waterways for administration and management purposes
- 11.02.04 Assistance in the development and formulation of national maritime legislation and in the implementation of national or international legislation
- 11.02.05 Assistance to member countries in the establishment and operation of freight forwarders' organizations
- 11.02.06 Assistance to member countries in the establishment and operation of chartering organizations
- 11.02.07 Review of developments in maritime policy and institutions
- 11.02.08 Organization of meetings on the above subjects

Subprogramme 11.03: Merchant shipping development

To facilitate the flow of goods and passengers and the development of international trade; to obtain an improvement in national balance-of-payments positions through the promotion of efficient, effective and economical shipping and associated services; and to develop national merchant marine and regional or subregional shipping co-operation.

Programme elements:

- 11.03.01 Development of merchant marine and shipping services
- 11.03.02 Assistance in optimizing fleet capacity utilization
- 11.03.03 Advice on methods and sources of ship financing
- 11.03.04 Assistance in the development and management of joint shipping projects and services through the media of TCDC/ECDC and subregional groupings
- 11.03.05 Review of developments in merchant shipping
- 11.03.06 Assistance in the promotion of subregional shipping co-operation
- 11.03.07 Development of manpower training programmes to upgrade shipping management techniques
- 11.03.08 Assistance to member countries in the development, operation and maintenance of navigational aids and implementation of maritime conventions
- 11.03.09 Organization of meetings on the above subjects

Subprogramme 11.04: Port development

To improve the efficiency of ports through effective use of personnel and facilities, and to promote regional co-operation among port authorities and their users (the long-term programme on port development (E/ESCAP/STC.1/8) was endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session, 1978).

Programme elements:

- 11.04.01 Development of techniques and methods for better management decision making in ports
- 11.04.02 Training workshops on techniques and methods for better management decision making
- 11.04.03 Training exchange programme for port personnel
- 11.04.04 Provision of fellowships for overseas study for port personnel
- 11.04.05 Study tours for port management personnel
- 11.04.06 Assistance to ports in the establishment of port training centres
- 11.04.07 Preparation and implementation of a port management information system for regional ports
- 11.04.08 Workshop series for the implementation of a port management information system
- 11.04.09 Studies of substantive issues related to the development of containerization and multimodal systems
- 11.04.10 Establishment of an assistance programme in the field of dredging
- 11.04.11 Establishment of an in-house data and information centre
- 11.04.12 Publication series related to issues in port development and technical aspects of port development
- 11.04.13 Review of port development in the region
- 11.04.14 Advisory services for port development
- 11.04.15 Regular meetings of chief executives of national port authorities
- 11.04.16 Special projects in the field of port development

Subprogramme 11.05: Development of inland water transport

To assist member countries in achieving more effective utilization of their national inland waterways systems (the long-term programme on inland water transport (E/ESCAP/STC.1/9) was endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session, 1978).

Programme elements:

- 11.05.01 Programme for the development and maintenance of inland waterways
- 11.05.02 Fleet improvement through improved design, standardization, development of local construction and manufacturing and adequate financing
- 11.05.03 Development of terminals and landing facilities
- 11.05.04 Programme to assist in the development of improved public policy and user charges related to inland waterways
- 11.05.05 Development of improved planning techniques and project evaluation
- 11.05.06 Development of an improved administrative and legal machinery in the inland water transport sector
- 11.05.07 Programme of development of dredging operations and techniques for inland waterways
- 11.05.08 Improvement of information and statistics related to inland waterways planning, operation and maintenance
- 11.05.09 Training programmes related to the development of management and operational skills for inland water transport personnel
- 11.05.10 Assistance in the establishment of national training programmes, research centres etc.
- 11.05.11 Provision of advisory services for the development of inland water transport
- 11.05.12 Study tours for management personnel

- 11.05.13 Meetings of chief executives of inland waterway authorities
- 11.05.14 Review of inland water transport in the ESCAP region
- 11.05.15 In-depth studies on inland water transport
- 11.05.16 Development of an inland water transport information system

Subprogramme 11.06: Shippers' organizations and co-operation

To help to strengthen national shippers' organizations and regional and interregional co-operation among them.

Programme elements:

- 11.06.01 Assistance in the establishment and management of shippers' councils or similar organizations in the member countries of the region
- 11.06.02 Assistance to member Governments and shippers' organizations in cargo consolidation, freight booking and chartering activities
- 11.06.03 Assistance in the training and upgrading of freight forwarders' organizations
- 11.06.04 Assistance to member Governments and shippers' organizations in assessing needs for suitable shipping services (including containerization and multimodal transport systems)
- 11.06.05 Assistance in promoting close co-operation between shippers and shipowners of the region
- 11.06.06 Promotion of the establishment and operation of a regional or subregional shippers' organization or organizations
- 11.06.07 Study of freight rates, various surcharges and other conditions of ocean transport of major exports and imports
- 11.06.08 Assistance in the collection and dissemination of shipping information to the shippers' organizations
- 11.06.09 Organization of workshops, seminars, study tours and meetings on shippers' co-operation
- 11.06.10 Assistance to member countries in the establishment of computer-based services for rationalization of shipping space utilization
- 11.06.11 Review of developments in shippers' co-operation

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT (12)

Subprogramme 12.01: General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic

To assist member countries in developing an efficient transportation system, including measures to facilitate international traffic at national, subregional and regional levels.

Programme elements:

- 12.01.01 Collection, analysis and dissemination of technical information on transport and communications
- 12.01.02 Promotion of transport research activities and application of appropriate technology
- 12.01.03 Promotion of training in transport planning and programming, including administrative and operational management
- 12.01.04 Promotion of integrated surface and air transport systems at national and subregional levels, including containerization and multimodal transport aspects
- 12.01.05 Assistance in planning an urban transport system in large and medium-sized cities of the ESCAP region
- 12.01.06 Study on economic aspects of air cargo transport in countries of the ESCAP region
- 12.01.07 Study on air cargo consolidation and packaging for goods moving by air, in order to promote airborne trade

- 12.01.08 Study on air freight rate structures with regard to carriers, ground handling within airports, collection and distribution by shippers and forwarders and administrative charges (first phase, south Asia; second phase, Pacific)
- 12.01.09 Regional transport survey for the South Pacific with a view to identifying key areas for the promotion of air cargo services in the region and undertaking, in co-operation with other related agencies, such as ICAO, regional comparative transport studies covering, *inter alia*, the cost-benefit aspects of air/sea cargo development
- 12.01.10 Seminar on the promotion of international air freight transport at international airports in developing countries, with special emphasis on the management and operation of air freight, air cargo infrastructure and handling facilities
- 12.01.11 Identification of areas of science and technology to stimulate co-operation between countries within and outside the region on major topics of technology transfer and the application of appropriate technology in the field of transport
- 12.01.12 Development of comprehensive transport and communication statistics
- 12.01.13 Identification of priority areas for technical co-operation among developing countries in transport development
- 12.01.14 Review of international instruments and assistance in the formulation of bilateral and multilateral agreements for the movement of trade and traffic across national frontiers
- 12.01.15 Simplification, standardization and harmonization of procedures and facilities for international movement of goods and traffic
- 12.01.16 Assistance in the exchange of know-how and techniques among the countries on facilitation measures devised, developed and implemented for international movement of goods and traffic

Subprogramme 12.02: Highways and highway transport

To assist member countries in the development of an efficient system of roads and road transport, covering both economic and technical aspects, at national and international levels. Special emphasis will be given to rural road transport in the context of the integrated rural development programme of ESCAP.

Programme elements:

- 12.02.01 Compilation of data on the condition of roads and road transport, and preparation of review reports
- 12.02.02 Preparation and publication of maps and guide-books for the facilitation and promotion of international road traffic
- 12.02.03 Studies for the promotion of energy-saving measures and for reduction of the negative environmental impacts of road transport
- 12.02.04 Surveys and studies on a subregional basis in south and south-east Asia for extending the scope and coverage of the Asian Highway network
- 12.02.05 Advisory assistance to countries, particularly least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, on techno-economic matters relating to roads and road transport
- 12.02.06 Studies towards uniformity in standards on vehicle weights, dimensions and safety requirements and for obtaining drivers' licences
- 12.02.07 Studies and seminars on improvement in rural transport vehicles and equipment, and in the techniques of rural road planning, construction and implementation tools/equipment, in the context of integrated rural development
- 12.02.08 Development of simple criteria for fixing the priority of rural road and bridge construction projects
- 12.02.09 Interchange, improvements and innovations in transport technology
- 12.02.10 Preparation of a maintenance manual for roads and drainage structure

- 12.02.11 Assistance to member countries in the development of suitable road construction industries and organization of seminars
- 12.02.12 Low-cost road construction through arid and marshy and wet areas of the ESCAP region
- 12.02.13 Formulation and organization of a model teacher training programme for local-level officials/leaders on rural road construction and maintenance
- 12.02.14 Study on the techno-economic implications of overloaded two-axle trucks on different types of highways
- 12.02.15 Regional workshop on the environmental aspects of the design and construction of roads and road transport operations

Subprogramme 12.03: Railways and railway transport

To assist member countries in evolving and implementing effective policies, programmes and strategies on railways and railway transport at various levels.

Programme elements:

- 12.03.01 Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting and Railway Research Co-ordination Group session
- 12.03.02 Assistance to member countries and roving missions of experts on request to advise on railway problems
- 12.03.03 Regional seminar and study tour on economic and technical aspects of railways and railway transport
- 12.03.04 Workshop on the economic and technical aspects of railway transport
- 12.03.05 Assistance in organizing managerial and technical training programmes and technical co-operation among developing countries in the field of railways
- 12.03.06 Development of an integrated railway statistics and information system
- 12.03.07 Studies on improving the commercial aspects of railway operations
- 12.03.08 Trans-Asian Railway (phase II) and its reoriented scope to include the intermodal aspect
- 12.03.09 Preparation of an integrated Asian Railway master plan and measures to be taken for its implementation
- 12.03.10 A review of all the existing railway systems for developmental requirements and increase in operational efficiency, particularly in the light of the present energy crisis
- 12.03.11 Innovation, reconstruction and extension of existing railway systems in growing urban areas of developing countries with the aim of improving urban and suburban commuter transportation
- 12.03.12 Feasibility study on a standard design for metre-gauge coaching vehicles
- 12.03.13 Study and research on development and introduction of modern painting technology for railway rolling stock
- 12.03.14 Studies/surveys on modernization of train operation and protection systems of the railways in the region
- 12.03.15 Modernization of freight transport
- 12.03.16 Study on automation in technical aspects of railway transport
- 12.03.17 Improvement in signalling and telecommunication in the railway systems of the region where electric power supply and adequate transmission lines are not available
- 12.03.18 Study leading to the engineering design and procurement of facilities on the RSR northern line electrification project from Bangkok to Chiang Mai, Thailand
- 12.03.19 Study to explore the possibility/feasibility of establishment of a regional training centre
- 12.03.20 Feasibility study on exploring the possibility of upgrading the Regional Training Centre in Pakistan
- 12.03.21 Studies on the role and capability of the individual railways of the ESCAP member countries on the intermodal scenario and on evolution of acceptable parameters for financial and economic comparison between competing modes and projects

- 12.03.22 Studies on railway tariff structure and needs of subsidies with reference to the present high cost of energy and need and extent of fiscal measures to help achieve or modulate the allocated traffic
- 12.03.23 An integrated study focusing on the energy efficiency of the regional railways
- 12.03.24 Feasibility study for the construction of a railway line from Savannakhet, Lao People's Democratic Republic, via Viet Nam to Da Nang

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES (13)

Subprogramme 13.01: Development of telecommunication facilities and services

To help accelerate development of telecommunication services of all types and improvement in their efficiency and management, and ensure increased support to social and economic development.

Programme elements:

- 13.01.01 Development, operation and maintenance of telecommunications in Asia
- 13.01.02 Telecommunication training
- 13.01.03 Radio frequency management and monitoring

Subprogramme 13.02: Development of postal services

To assist member countries, in close co-operation with the global and regional specialized organizations (UPU and AOPU (Asian Oceanic Postal Union)), in the development of postal services on a national, subregional and regional basis. The promotion of postal services includes co-ordination with other transport means and improvement commensurate with transport and telecommunication development and socio-economic growth rates. Special emphasis will be given to the rural and urban poor, training and TCDC.

Programme elements:

- 13.02.01 Assistance in developing plans and strategies for expanding rural postal infrastructure
- 13.02.02 Workshop on improved access to postal services in isolated rural and mountainous areas
- 13.02.03 Seminar-cum-study tour on new approaches for encouraging greater use of postal services
- 13.02.04 Joint ESCAP/UPU/AOPU preparation of intergovernmental meetings on postal affairs

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM (14)

Subprogramme 14.01: Fostering of tourism growth in the ESCAP region

To assist developing member countries in securing the maximum economic and social benefits obtainable from the orderly development of tourism through improved tourism promotional policies and measures of Governments.

Programme elements:

- 14.01.01 Organization of seminars-cum-workshops and/or training courses on tourism manpower development
- 14.01.02 Studies/surveys of general tourism problems for preparation of national tourism development plans and for improvement of tourism development policy
- 14.01.03 Review of fiscal and financial incentives and other measures of the Governments for promotion of international tourism
- 14.01.04 Study on indigenous features to be effectively utilized in tourism promotion
- 14.01.05 Promotion of exchange of tourism development expertise in the context of TCDC
- 14.01.06 Improvement of tourism marketing methodologies at national and subregional levels
- 14.01.07 Study on the tourism implications of transport development projects in land-locked and developing island countries

Subprogramme 14.02: Co-ordinated development of tourism

To ensure that tourism develops in a concerted manner with other economic sectors and with the natural and human environment, efforts will be made to establish the proper role of tourism in the over-all socio-economic development of member countries. An integrated approach will be taken with a view to eliminating the ill effects of tourism on local societies.

Programme elements:

- 14.02.01 Assistance, as required, in the implementation of the Lumbini development project
- 14.02.02 Study and forum on the impacts of tourism development on the social and physical environment
- 14.02.03 Study on proper approaches to integrated tourism development
- 14.02.04 Studies and forum on a comparative analysis of the economic impacts of tourism and other economic sectors
- 14.02.05 Study on the price elasticity of tourism demand and on the need for government efforts to curtail the price increase of tourist products
- 14.02.06 Subregional research and studies for the promotion of tourism in south Asia and the Pacific

PROGRAMME: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES (15)

Subprogramme 15.01: Appraisal of geology, and of occurrence and development of mineral resources

To collate and analyse relevant data and information from member countries of the region in order to provide them with a firm foundation for the planning of mineral resources operations and development, including projections.

Programme elements:

- 15.01.01 Review and analysis of mineral exploration and development in the region
- 15.01.02 Regional geological and thematic mapping
- 15.01.03 Review and compilation of the geology of the region
- 15.01.04 Studies on the mineral potential of the region

Subprogramme 15.02: Promotion of investigation and development of mineral resources

To assist member countries in formulating, carrying out and co-ordinating efficient programmes for the investigation and development of mineral resources and in strengthening their institutions, including support for inter-country regional projects.

Programme elements:

- 15.02.01 Support to the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre
- 15.02.02 Support to the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
- 15.02.03 Support to CCOP/SOPAC
- 15.02.04 Improvement of legal/institutional arrangements for mineral exploration and development
- 15.02.05 Promotion of sound environmental management in conjunction with mineral exploration and development
- 15.02.06 Promotion of technologies for exploration and development of minerals
- 15.02.07 Promotion of technologies for exploration and development of coal
- 15.02.08 Promotion of technologies for exploration and development of petroleum
- 15.02.09 Support to CCOP
- 15.02.10 Support to CCOP/Indian Ocean

PROGRAMME: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (16)

Subprogramme 16.01: Water use and efficiency

To assist member countries in achieving greater efficiency in the use of their available water resources; drawing up accurate water demand projections; using low-cost equipment, processes and facilities; and improving systems for data on water use.

Programme elements:

- 16.01.01 Assistance in drawing up water demand projections
- 16.01.02 Measures to reduce the cost of urban and rural water supply and waste disposal facilities
- 16.01.03 Study on low-cost water and waste-water treatment processes and equipment
- 16.01.04 Improvement of systems for data on water use

Subprogramme 16.02: Policy, planning and management

To assist the countries of the region in formulating and establishing appropriate national policies as well as institutional and legal arrangements as a framework for implementing and ensuring an integrated approach to the planning and proper management of water development and use for various purposes; developing a core of skilled staff with the capacity to apply water resources planning techniques; promoting intergovernmental co-operation as a follow-up to the Mar del Plata Action Plan; and determining the most efficient combination of energy production requirements with minimum water use.

Programme elements:

- 16.02.01 Support for the development of national expertise in the application of planning techniques by all appropriate means
- 16.02.02 Intergovernmental co-operation on the Mar del Plata Action Plan, including the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade
- 16.02.03 Water as a factor in energy resources development
- 16.02.04 Water quality management

Subprogramme 16.03: Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts

To assist countries in assessing damage from cyclones, floods and droughts, and in planning and carrying out measures to mitigate this damage.

Programme elements:

- 16.03.01 Support for the Typhoon Committee
- 16.03.02 Support for the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones

Subprogramme 16.04: Public information, education and training

To help countries to maintain an awareness of developments of interest in water resources matters, and thus to profit from the experience of others and to provide advisory services on request.

Programme elements:

- 16.04.01 Regular publications: (a) the Water Resources Series and (b) the quarterly *Water Resources Journal*
- 16.04.02 Promotion of an information exchange system
- 16.04.03 Technical advisory services

PROGRAMME: REMOTE SENSING, SURVEYING AND MAPPING (17)

Subprogramme 17.01: Technical assistance in the use of remote sensing techniques

To promote the co-operative search for solutions to the common problems in the ESCAP countries in the field of natural resources development and management, including monitoring of the environment, by strengthening country capabilities in the use of remote sensing technology.

PROGRAMME: SPECIAL MEASURES FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES (18)

Subprogramme 18.01: Assistance to the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries of the ESCAP region

To provide assistance in building up the capacities for the promotion and management of international trade.

Programme elements:

- 18.01.01 Professional development programmes for personnel engaged in the promotion and management of the foreign trade sector
- 18.01.02 Identification of exportable products of the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries and location of their markets
- 18.01.03 Studies on the import requirements of the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries and ascertaining the most suitable supply sources

Subprogramme 18.02: Assistance in the development/improvement of transport and transit facilities for developing land-locked countries

To provide assistance to the land-locked countries of the region in building up and improving their transport and transit infrastructure for trade development.

Programme elements:

- 18.02.01 Survey of the external trade of land-locked countries and existing/potential transit facilities; assistance in the development of suitable intermodal or other transport systems; and improvement of transit and customs procedure and formalities
- 18.02.02 Organization and servicing of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries and follow-up action on its recommendations

Subprogramme 18.03: Assistance to the developing island countries

To provide assistance in the promotion and expansion of inter-island trade and also trade between island countries and other countries.

Programme elements:

- 18.03.01 Promotion of co-operation among the developing island countries in the South Pacific with regard to specific commodities of interest to them
- 18.03.02 Studies on non-tariff barriers to agricultural commodities with a view to promoting expansion of inter-island trade in such commodities

PROGRAMME: POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE (19)

Subprogramme 19.01: Social development policy, survey and analysis

To update material on the social situation in the ESCAP region and to analyse ongoing social processes and their relationship to other processes, in comparison with processes in other regions in the context of over-all development strategies.

Programme elements:

- 19.01.01 Expert group meeting on new perspectives on social development problems at the local level
- 19.01.02 Feasibility study on articulating quantitative and qualitative indicators of social development
- 19.01.03 Seminar to compare types of resistance to social development policies in several socio-cultural systems
- 19.01.04 Case studies on social impacts of the migration of skilled labour from the developing countries
- 19.01.05 Study on the social consequences of inflation and rising prices of essential commodities and services on the life of the rural and urban poor

Subprogramme 19.02: People's participation and institution building

To assist member countries in applying practical methods of planning from below and developing appropriate institutional support and a sound resource base, including trained personnel at the grass-roots level, to enable people, particularly the poor, to participate effectively in development. Particular attention will be given to rural areas. All levels of participation will be of concern, i.e., planning, implementation and evaluation.

Programme elements:

- 19.02.01 Assistance to member countries in promoting people's participation and institution building in local development
- 19.02.02 Assistance in conducting national workshops on legal aspects of participatory approaches to the problems of the urban poor
- 19.02.03 Expert group meeting on the design of rural participatory policies in rural development tailored to specific socio-cultural environments
- 19.02.04 Workshop on the development and use of indicators of relevance to qualitative aspects of participatory development processes

Subprogramme 19.03: Development orientation of policies and programmes for vulnerable and marginal population groups

To assist member countries in reorienting social welfare policies and programmes, including training, to developmental goals, with a view to making effective contributions to improving the levels of living of the more vulnerable and marginal population groups, including the rural and urban poor.

Programme elements:

- 19.03.01 Assistance to member countries in orienting social welfare and community development education to developmental objectives
- 19.03.02 Exchange programme in social welfare and social development, including training among developing ESCAP countries (TCDC)
- 19.03.03 Seminar/workshops on social development manpower planning and utilization
- 19.03.04 Expert group meeting on the provision of comprehensive community-based services for the aged in urban and rural areas
- 19.03.05 Promoting population and family planning policies and programmes in the context of integrated development
- 19.03.06 Substantive backstopping of the operation of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre relating to its training and research programmes in social development
- 19.03.07 Expert group meeting to consider regional co-operation in training multidisciplinary rehabilitation teams among ESCAP countries
- 19.03.08 Technical assistance to and collaboration with UNICEF in developing UNICEF-assisted projects

Subprogramme 19.04: Integration of women in the development process, enhancement of their potential and elimination of discrimination against them

The general objective of this programme is to assist member countries in setting up/strengthening mechanisms to achieve the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the implementa-

tion of the recommendations of the Regional Preparatory Conference for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women. One of the primary aims would be to develop the potential of women to participate actively in improving the quality of their own lives and those of their families and communities; and in particular, to implement the Regional Plan of Action for the Enhancement of the Role of Women in the Development Process.

Programme elements:

- 19.04.01 Assistance to member countries in strengthening policies and programming for the integration of women in the development process
- 19.04.02 Assistance to member countries in formulating, implementing and monitoring national projects on women
- 19.04.03 Expert group meeting on the impact of the tourism industry on women's livelihood and welfare
- 19.04.04 Seminar on the employment and self-employment prospects for women in the Pacific region
- 19.04.05 Comparative country case studies on progress achieved in the integration of women in the development process since the year 1975
- 19.04.06 Assessment of national mechanisms for co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of national programmes for the integration of women in the development process

Subprogramme 19.05: Mobilization of youth for national development

The general objective of this subprogramme component is to enhance the welfare and status of youth in the region and their integration in development. More specifically, it aims at increasing the level of national concern with problems of youth in national development efforts, increasing the contribution of youth to development processes and building up trained manpower and necessary leadership to undertake youth development work.

Programme elements:

- 19.05.01 Country and regional studies on youth problems, programmes, policies and specific issues of youth in development
- 19.05.02 Regional, subregional and national seminars, expert group meetings and training workshops on different aspects of youth policy and development, with emphasis on rural youth development and pressing issues affecting youth in the urban areas
- 19.05.03 Regional training workshop on the establishment of programmes to enhance the status of young female industrial workers and their contributions to development
- 19.05.04 Short-term study tours and field attachment programmes for youth workers, trainers and leaders in some current outstanding youth development programmes in the ESCAP region
- 19.05.05 Promoting the role and participation of youth and youth organizations in environmental issues
- 19.05.06 Promoting the role of youth in responsible parenthood programmes in Asia and the Pacific
- 19.05.07 Assistance in strengthening national policies, plans and programmes for more effective mobilization and integration of youth in development
- 19.05.08 Formulation of a regional plan of action for International Youth Year
- 19.05.09 Guidelines for the advanced training of youth leaders, workers and trainers in youth work

Subprogramme 19.06: Social development information system

To consolidate and strengthen the information system of the secretariat in social development in order to ensure that ESCAP has an optimum and continuous influx of country information for formulating effective responses to the regional social development needs as required to pursue the development goals of countries; to provide a regional focal point for stimulating and facilitating the exchange of social development information between the member countries on a regular and systematic basis; and to inform countries of the region of social development trends in other member countries.

Programme elements:

- 19.06.01 Consolidation and strengthening of a social development information system
- 19.06.02 *Social Development Newsletter*
- 19.06.03 Subregional workshops to formulate modes/procedures for a social development information system
- 19.06.04 Regional seminar to consolidate a social development information system

PROGRAMME: POPULATION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES (20)

Subprogramme 20.01: Policy formulation and programme direction

The development of a balanced programme of regional activities in the field of population based on recognized needs and priorities of member countries; general direction and supervision of specific activities of other programme components and periodic evaluation of their achievements; provision of regional advisory services in population matters and training activities in the field of population.

Programme elements:

- 20.01.01 Policy formulation and direction and co-ordination of regional population activities
- 20.01.02 Support of regional and subregional training programmes in population
- 20.01.03 Regional population advisory services
- 20.01.04 Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Subprogramme 20.02: Population and development

To assist member countries in formulating more effective development strategies through promoting a better understanding of the relationships between development objectives, population and other socio-economic factors, use of technology and resources, and the environment.

Programme elements:

- 20.02.01 Establishment of population units in national development planning agencies in countries of the ESCAP region
- 20.02.02 Country monographs on the population situation
- 20.02.03 Comparative study on migration, urbanization and development in the ESCAP region
- 20.02.04 Workshop on linkages between population, resources, environment and development
- 20.02.05 Medium-scale demographic-economic modelling for selected ESCAP countries
- 20.02.06 Study of international migration in Asia and the Pacific
- 20.02.07 Subregional seminar on the second-stage analysis of WFS data with special emphasis on the interrelation between fertility and socio-economic factors
- 20.02.08 Regional seminar on approaches to integrated population and development activities in planning in ESCAP countries
- 20.02.09 Population study tours
- 20.02.10 Subregional seminar on micro-analysis of demand for children
- 20.02.11 Study on estimation and analysis of mortality statistics
- 20.02.12 Projections of rural and urban households and population size by sex and age
- 20.02.13 Improvement of vital registration systems
- 20.02.14 Regional comparative analysis of World Fertility Survey data

Subprogramme 20.03: **Population policy**

This subprogramme is to be based on interlinked building blocks (each one containing several programme elements):

One block is to provide the latest demographic analysis of fertility levels, trends and changes focusing on the 1980 round of censuses and their comparison with the 1970 results and the World Fertility Survey. This information is indispensable for policy formulation and implementation.

Another block is to conduct research to analyse the areas of persistence and change, i.e., the factors affecting the trends in fertility identified in the first block and their implications for policy development. Such information is indispensable for effective integration and implementation. Activities are to cover research on the family, other forms of networks, cultural and socio-psychological aspects of fertility etc.

The factors are studied at three different levels: (a) the general cultural level, the manner in which it hinders or favours fertility behaviour change; (b) the societal level, for which the focus is on the family as a unit playing a major role in fertility behaviour; and (c) the individual level, in which the focus is on factors affecting continuation/discontinuation of family planning practice once it has been adopted.

The third block is that of population policy development itself, with three sets of activities: the theoretical development in new key areas, the problems of application and implementation of programmes, and the related study of the effects and evaluation. It should be noted that population policy goes beyond its fertility component, but at present this remains one of its major ones. The programme elements are serialized according to the blocks and they are independent in their own right.

Programme elements:

- 20.03.01 Study on a mechanism for the evaluation of integrated food, nutrition and health services and population programmes
- 20.03.02 In-depth study of the integration of family planning activities and other developmental efforts at the micro (community) level
- 20.03.03 Input-output analysis to measure the efficiency of programmes
- 20.03.04 Studies on cultural and anthropological aspects of fertility behaviour
- 20.03.05 Study on social and psychological aspects of the continuation and discontinuation of family planning practice
- 20.03.06 Study on the relationship between fertility behaviour and size, structure and functions of the family
- 20.03.07 Demographic, social and economic consequences of fertility decline at the national level
- 20.03.08 Study on the impact of family planning programmes on fertility
- 20.03.09 Study on the fertility levels and changes between the censuses of 1970 and 1980

Subprogramme 20.04: **Clearing-house and information on population**

The over-all objective is to provide key personnel in the field of population with up-to-date information on the development of population policies and programmes in ESCAP countries with a view to sharing experiences and providing guidelines for programme development. Particular attention will be given to activating systems conveying information to key personnel, strengthening national population information infrastructures and developing a systematic flow and exchange of population information.

Programme elements:

- 20.04.01 Selective computerization of the population resource base and provision of better outreach services in population information
- 20.04.02 Technical assistance and training for development of national clearing-house and information systems
- 20.04.03 Facilitation of the flow and exchange of information among key personnel and institutions in the field of population
- 20.04.04 Processing, publication and selective dissemination of population information

- 20.04.05 Co-ordination of population information activities within the secretariat at the national and regional levels, and those linked with global activities
- 20.04.06 Evaluation and improvement of the effectiveness of the regional population information programme
- 20.04.07 Specific activities of the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference

PROGRAMME: STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES (21)

Subprogramme 21.01: Statistical development

To promote statistical development among countries of the region through dissemination of information on statistical methodologies; promote and adapt international statistical standards; provide technical assistance in the form of expert consultancy and advisory services; organize technical meetings; use consistent definitions, classifications and methodologies to generate meaningful data for decision making and for regional and international comparison; and serve as a focal point for the statistical requirements of, and services to, other units/divisions within the secretariat and other United Nations bodies.

Programme elements:

- 21.01.01 Promotion and adaptation of international statistical standards and recommendations
- 21.01.02 Promotion of the development of national accounts in the countries of the region
- 21.01.03 Development of regional statistics on energy
- 21.01.04 Development of regional transportation and communication statistics
- 21.01.05 Development of regional industrial statistics, statistics relating to household industries and assistance to countries in planning, conducting and processing the 1983 round of industrial censuses
- 21.01.06 Development and harmonization of international trade statistics and customs tariff nomenclature
- 21.01.07 Development of statistics relating to prices and quanta and labour productivity
- 21.01.08 Development of statistics relating to distributive trades and services
- 21.01.09 Improvement of basic population statistics in the countries of the region
- 21.01.10 Promotion of the development of social statistics and indicators, including statistics on women, youth and children
- 21.01.11 Assistance to countries in the planning, conduct, processing and analysis of their population and housing censuses
- 21.01.12 Promotion of the development of regional environmental statistics
- 21.01.13 Promotion of national household survey capability among countries and collection/publication of information on current sample surveys
- 21.01.14 Assistance to countries in the organization of training programmes, and support to regional training projects with special reference to training provided by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
- 21.01.15 Development of methodologies for and promotion of the collection, organization and management of statistics needed for regional programmes for rural development
- 21.01.16 Promotion of improved techniques in the processing of statistical data and computer applications in member Governments
- 21.01.17 Promotion of technical co-operation among countries of the region for statistical training, organization of technical meetings, exchange of expertise and assignment of experts on a non-reimbursable basis

Subprogramme 21.02: Statistical compilation and analysis

To acquire demographic, social, economic and other statistics from member countries, assess the quality of the data received and edit, reformulate and maintain them in a form suitable for retrieval for users and for publication.

Programme elements:

- 21.02.01 Collection of basic monthly, quarterly and less frequent data in all statistical fields, including energy and international trade, their edit and compilation for publication
- 21.02.02 Maintenance of statistical data in time-series form
- 21.02.03 Reformulation of basic data held by the secretariat for special compilations
- 21.02.04 Data search and liaison with statistical organizations of ESCAP region countries

PROGRAMME: INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES (22)

Subprogramme 22.01: Development of government information systems

To improve government information systems through the transfer of methodology for the organization, management, storage and retrieval of machine-readable data needed for planning and decision making.

Programme elements:

- 22.01.01 Entry, edit, organization, storage and retrieval of census and survey data
- 22.01.02 Establishment of a central mechanism for the management and co-ordination of information for planning and decision making within government
- 22.01.03 Promotion of geographical referencing systems (geocoding)
- 22.01.04 Improvement of information systems in the traditional sector, including data needed for rural development
- 22.01.05 Improvement and wider utilization of information in administrative registers
- 22.01.06 Organization, establishment and improvement of urban information systems
- 22.01.07 Organization, establishment and improvement of information systems for the management of natural resources
- 22.01.08 Transfer of computer technology

Subprogramme 22.02: Data base for the interchange of socio-economic data among member countries

To provide countries with quantitative information in machine-readable form on the socio-economic characteristics of other countries, where appropriate for policy making and planning.

Programme elements:

- 22.02.01 Operation of a regional data base on trade and shipping
- 22.02.02 Development of a regional demographic data bank

Subprogramme 22.03: Documentation and library services

To assist Governments in the organization and management of their documentary information, whether in the form of actual documents or computerized references to documents, through improving indexing methods, facilitating access to external sources of information and making the socio-economic literature of the secretariat and other offices of the United Nations more accessible to users.

Programme elements:

- 22.03.01 Establishment and maintenance of a documentary data base of socio-economic material held in the secretariat and pertaining to development in the region
- 22.03.02 Reference and current awareness services to users of secretariat documents
- 22.03.03 Union list of serials
- 22.03.04 Information services for rural development
- 22.03.05 Phased establishment of a documentary data base of socio-economic material held in the region and pertaining to development in the region

PROGRAMME: PROMOTION OF AND SUPPORT FOR ECDC AND TCDC (23)

Subprogramme 23.01: Development and exchange of information and analysis to promote ECDC and TCDC

To strengthen national information systems, promote information networks in various sectors, create appropriate functional linkages between national and inter-country ECDC and TCDC information systems, form the regional arm of TCDC/INRES and other global systems, develop interregional links, prepare and publish specific problem-oriented TCDC information series and apply appropriate electronic technology, in order to expand and rationalize flows of information needed to enhance economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. To establish and operate an inquiry service for member Governments.

Programme elements:

- 23.01.01 Core services for an Asian and Pacific information system to promote economic and technical co-operation among developing countries
- 23.01.02 Co-ordination of TCDC referral services and compilation of publications, including directories
- 23.01.03 Monitoring of inter-country institutional arrangements for TCDC and ECDC; regional file, directory and review of developments
- 23.01.04 Analysis and dissemination of information on systems, modalities and techniques for implementing TCDC
- 23.01.05 Research and analysis of progress in and potential for subregional, regional and interregional ECDC

Subprogramme 23.02: Preparatory and supplementary assistance to identify opportunities and to facilitate the implementation of ECDC and TCDC

To channel technical and financial assistance and to mobilize supplementary finance, organize or strengthen appropriate mechanisms, and assist in the arrangement of meetings, study tours and other events, in order to prepare the ground for inter-country co-operation and assist its implementation.

Programme elements:

- 23.02.01 Promotional and supportive measures in favour of economically or geographically disadvantaged developing countries
- 23.02.02 National, subregional and regional seminars to strengthen capabilities and formulate TCDC programmes and supporting projects
- 23.02.03 Development and support for interregional action programmes for TCDC and ECDC
- 23.02.04 Support for inter-country technical and economic groupings, networks and arrangements for collaborative research, joint ventures or exchange of material and know-how
- 23.02.05 Supplementary external financial assistance to facilitate inter-country co-operative activities

**SUMMARY OF RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR THE PROGRAMME OF
WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1982-1983**

**I. PROGRAMME OF WORK IN PRIORITY
AREAS**

		<i>Resources in man-months for programmes</i>								
		<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource increase/decrease</i>		
		<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>
01	Development of food and agriculture	240	424	664	288	200	488	+48	- 224	- 176
02	Evaluation, development, use and management of energy resources	176	114	290	190	51	241	+14	- 63	- 49
03	Raw materials and commodities	48	59	107	54	88	142	+6	+29	+35
04	Development and transfer of appropriate technology	168	96	264	176	238 (36)	414	+8	+142	+150
05	International trade, transnational corporations and external financial resource transfers	323	579	902	353	895	1 248	+30	+316	+346
06	Integrated programme on rural development (Integrated Rural Development Unit only)	24	27	51	12	18	30	- 12	- 9	- 21
Total: Programmes 01 to 06		979	1 299	2 278	1 073	1 490	2 563	+94	+191	+285
II. PROGRAMME OF WORK IN OTHER FIELDS OF ACTIVITY										
07	Development planning projections and policies	342	210	552	390	258	648	+48	+48	+96
08	Industrial development	160	324	484	160	355 (108)	515	-	+31	+31
09	Human settlements	72	420	492	72	166	238	-	- 254	- 254
10	Environment	24	165	189	50	295	335	+26	+120	+146
11	Development of shipping, ports and inland waterways	192	746	938	264	432	696	+72	- 314	- 242
12	Development of transport	212	471	683	260	705	965	+48	+234	+282
13	Development of communication facilities	4	177	181	4	441	445	-	+264	+264
14	Development of tourism	29	-	29	29	47	76	-	+47	+47
15	Evaluation, development, use and management of mineral resources	158	115	273	192	88	280	+34	- 27	+7
16	Evaluation, development, use and management of water resources	180	126	306	180	24	204	-	- 102	- 102
17	Remote sensing, surveying and mapping	12	96	108	12	96	108	-	-	-
18	Special measures for the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries	60	124	184	72	228	300	+12	+104	+116
19	Policies and programmes for social development and welfare	144	550	694	168	343	511	+24	- 207	- 183
20	Population policies and programmes	120	671	791	168	906 (17)	1 074	+48	+235	+283
21	Statistical development and services	192	192	384	216	240	456	+24	+48	+72
22	Information systems and documentation services	96	150	246	120	198	318	+24	+48	+72
23	Promotion of and support for ECDC and TCDC	72	-	72	96	54	150	+24	+54	+78
Total: Programmes 07 to 23		2 069	4 537	6 606	2 453	4 866	7 319	+384	+329	+713
TOTAL PROGRAMMES		3 048	5 836	8 884	3 526	6 356	9 882	+478	+520	+998

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>										
<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource increase/decrease</i>				
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>		
PROGRAMME 01: DEVELOPMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE										
01.01	Improvement in agricultural plans, programmes and information systems	33	48	81	45	30	75	+12	-18	-6
01.02	Diversification of agricultural production and augmentation of food resources	78	76	154	66	66	132	-12	-10	-22
01.03	Increased supplies of agricultural requisites with emphasis on agro-chemicals	28	282	310	76	104	180	+48	-178	-130
01.04	Rural development, with emphasis on policies, strategies and institutions	101	18	119	101	-	101	-	-18	-18
Programme total:		240	424	664	288	200	488	+48	-224	-176
PROGRAMME 02: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES										
02.01	Appraisal of availability and use of energy resources	34	18	52	34	6	40	-	-12	-12
02.02	Integrated development, use and management of energy resources	78	82	160	101	39	140	+23	-43	-20
02.03	Supply and use of energy in rural areas	64	14	78	55	6	61	-9	-8	-17
Programme total:		176	114	290	190	51	241	+14	-63	-49
PROGRAMME 03: RAW MATERIALS AND COMMODITIES										
03.01	Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities	21	18	39	27	30	57	+6	+12	+18
03.02	Assistance on raw materials and commodities to member countries and to established commodity communities and promotion of new communities for commodities of socio-economic interest to the region	27	41	68	27	58	85	-	+17	+17
Programme total:		48	59	107	54	88	142	+6	+29	+35
PROGRAMME 04: DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY										
04.01	Science and technology policies and institutions	52	46	98	84	72 (22)	156	+32	+26	+58
04.02	Development of indigenous capabilities to generate, select and adapt appropriate technology	68	46	114	38	38 (12)	76	-30	-8	-38
04.03	Support to regional technological institutions	31	2	33	38	126 (2)	164	+7	+124	+131
04.04	Standardization, quality control and technical information systems	17	2	19	16	2	18	-1	-	-1
Programme total:		168	96	264	176	238 (36)	414	+8	+142	+150

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>										
<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource increase/decrease</i>				
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>		
PROGRAMME 05:										
INTERNATIONAL TRADE, TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND EXTERNAL FINANCIAL RESOURCE TRANSFERS										
Part A: International trade										
05.01	Co-operation for trade expansion	61	177	238	61	252	313	-	+75	+75
05.02	Trade promotion and development, including consumer protection	116	202	318	116	360	476	-	+158	+158
05.03	Monetary co-operation	16	42	58	16	48	64	-	+6	+6
05.04	Trade facilitation, insurance and re-insurance	35	58	93	41	72	113	+6	+14	+20
Total: Part A		228	479	707	234	732	966	+6	+253	+259
Part B: Transnational corporations										
05.05	Research studies on the operations of transnational corporations	48	46	94	60	61	121	+12	+15	+27
05.06	Technical co-operation activities on matters related to TNCs	6	6	12	6	9	15	-	+3	+3
05.07	Development of a comprehensive information system on transnational corporations	33	12	45	45	24	69	+12	+12	+24
Total: Part B		87	64	151	111	94	205	+24	+30	+54
Part C: External financial resource transfers										
05.08	Investment promotion and tax administration	8	36	44	8	69	77	-	+33	+33
Total: Part C		8	36	44	8	69	77	-	+33	+33
Programme total:		323	579	902	353	895	1 248	+30	+316	+346
PROGRAMME 06:										
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Integrated Rural Development Unit only)										
06.01	Policies and planning	24	27	51	12	18	30	-12	-9	-21
06.02	Agriculture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
06.03	Industrialization in rural areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
06.04	Physical infrastructure, natural resources and the environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
06.05	Application of science and technology to rural development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
06.06	Health and social services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
06.07	Human resources development and institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Programme total:		24	27	51	12	18	30	-12	-9	-21

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>										
<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource increase/decrease</i>				
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>		
PROGRAMME 07: DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, PROJECTIONS AND POLICIES										
07.01	Information services on economic and social development	106	-	106	48	6	54	-58	+6	-52
07.02	Economic and social development strategies and policies	54	36	90	114	48	162	+60	+12	+72
07.03	Development planning methods	60	24	84	60	40	100	-	+16	+16
07.04	Macro-economic modelling and projections	62	48	110	84	56	140	+22	+8	+30
07.05	Administrative systems for development	-	54	54	24	60	84	+24	+6	+30
07.06	Economic co-operation among developing countries	60	48	108	60	48	108	-	-	-
Programme total:		342	210	552	390	258	648	+48	+48	+96
PROGRAMME 08: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT										
08.01	Industrial development and planning	104	164	268	104	256 (76)	360	-	+92	+92
08.02	Regional co-operation in industrial development	56	160	216	56	99 (32)	155	-	-61	-61
Programme total:		160	324	484	160	355 (108)	515	-	+31	+31
PROGRAMME 09: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS										
09.01	Settlement policies and strategies	7	76	83	15	34	49	+8	-42	-34
09.02	Settlement planning	9	24	33	13	20	33	+4	-4	-
09.03	Shelter, infrastructure and services	22	173	195	23	42	65	+1	-131	-130
09.04	Land	9	19	28	6	18	24	-3	-1	-4
09.05	Public participation	-	10	10	-	12	12	-	+2	+2
09.06	Institutions and management	25	118	143	15	40	55	-10	-78	-88
Programme total:		72	420	492	72	166	238	-	-254	-254
PROGRAMME 10: ENVIRONMENT										
10.01	Environmental awareness	6	10	16	12	15	27	+6	+5	+11
10.02	Institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management	6	20	26	12	25	37	+6	+5	+11
10.03	Management of terrestrial ecosystems	6	50	56	14	58	72	+8	+8	+16
10.04	Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems	6	85	91	12	187	199	+6	+102	+108
Programme total:		24	165	189	50	285	335	+26	+120	+146

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>										
<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource in crease/decrease</i>				
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>		
PROGRAMME 11: DEVELOPMENT OF SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS										
11.01	Manpower development	32	50	82	40	75	115	+8	+25	+33
11.02	Development of maritime policy and institutions	24	100	124	40	62	102	+16	-38	-22
11.03	Merchant shipping development	45	103	148	40	72	112	-5	-31	-36
11.04	Port development	32	221	253	40	74	114	+8	-147	-139
11.05	Development of inland water transport	24	212	236	64	75	139	+40	-137	-97
11.06	Shippers' organizations and co-operation	35	60	95	40	74	114	+5	+14	+19
Programme total:		192	746	938	264	432	696	+72	-314	-242
PROGRAMME 12: DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT										
12.01	General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic	102	64	166	102	65	167	-	+1	+1
12.02	Highways and highway transport	55	188	243	79	213	292	+24	+25	+49
12.03	Railways and railway transport	55	219	274	79	427	506	+24	+208	+232
Programme total:		212	471	683	260	705	965	+48	+234	+282
PROGRAMME 13: DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES										
13.01	Development of telecommunication facilities and services	2	153	155	2	411	413	-	+258	+258
13.02	Development of postal services	2	24	26	2	30	32	-	+6	+6
Programme total:		4	177	181	4	441	445	-	+264	+264
PROGRAMME 14: DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM										
14.01	Fostering of tourism growth in the ESCAP region	27	-	27	18	26	44	-9	+26	+17
14.02	Co-ordinated development of tourism	2	-	2	11	21	32	+9	+21	+30
Programme total:		29	-	29	29	47	76	-	+47	+47
PROGRAMME 15: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES										
15.01	Appraisal of geology, and of occurrence and development of mineral resources	86	83	169	96	38	134	+10	-45	-35
15.02	Promotion of investigation and development of mineral resources	72	32	104	96	50	146	+24	+18	+42
Programme total:		158	115	273	192	88	280	+34	-27	+7

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>										
<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource increase/decrease</i>				
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>		
PROGRAMME 16: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES										
16.01	Water use and efficiency	34	24	58	52	-	52	+18	-24	-6
16.02	Policy, planning and management	72	36	108	66	12	78	-6	-24	-30
16.03	Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts	34	48	82	27	-	27	-7	-48	-55
16.04	Public information, education and train- ing	40	18	58	35	12	47	-5	-6	-11
Programme total:		180	126	306	180	24	204	-	-102	-102
PROGRAMME 17: REMOTE SENSING, SURVEYING AND MAP- PING										
17.01	Technical assistance in the use of remote sensing techniques	12	96	108	12	96	108	-	-	-
Programme total:		12	96	108	12	96	108	-	-	-
PROGRAMME 18: SPECIAL MEASURES FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND DEVEL- OPING ISLAND COUNTRIES										
18.01	Assistance to the least developed, land- locked and developing island countries of the ESCAP region	24	14	38	36	54	90	+12	+40	+52
18.02	Assistance in the development/improve- ment of transport and transit facilities for developing land-locked countries	24	92	116	24	150	174	-	+58	+58
18.03	Assistance to the developing island coun- tries	12	18	30	12	24	36	-	+6	+6
Programme total:		60	124	184	72	228	300	+12	+104	+116
PROGRAMME 19: POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE										
19.01	Social development policy, survey and analysis	-	-	-	24	-	24	+24	-	+24
19.02	People's participation and institution building	24	68	92	24	48	72	-	-20	-20
19.03	Development orientation of policies and programmes for vulnerable and marginal population groups	40	64	104	34	73	107	-6	+9	+3
19.04	Integration of women in the development process, enhancement of their potential and elimination of discrimination against them	24	296	320	14	108	122	-10	-188	-198
19.05	Mobilization of youth for national devel- opment	48	102	150	48	90	138	-	-12	-12
19.06	Social development information system	8	20	28	24	24	48	+16	+4	+20
Programme total:		144	550	694	168	343	511	+24	-207	-183

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>										
<i>Available and expected in 1980-1981</i>			<i>Required 1982-1983</i>			<i>Resource increase/decrease</i>				
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Total</i>		
PROGRAMME 20: POPULATION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES										
20.01	Policy formulation and programme direction	5	110	115	17	134	151	+12	+24	+36
20.02	Population and development	43	202	245	55	388	443	+12	+186	+198
20.03	Population policy	48	119	167	60	120	180	+12	+1	+13
20.04	Clearing-house and information on population	24	240	264	36	264 (17)	300	+12	+24	+36
Programme total:		120	671	791	168	906 (17)	1 074	+48	+235	+283
PROGRAMME 21: STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES										
21.01	Statistical development	120	180	300	144	240	384	+24	+60	+84
21.02	Statistical compilation and analysis	72	12	84	72	-	72	-	-12	-12
Programme total:		192	192	384	216	240	456	+24	+48	+72
PROGRAMME 22: INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES										
22.01	Development of government information systems	42	72	114	66	114	180	+24	+42	+66
22.02	Data base for the interchange of socio-economic data among member countries	30	24	54	30	24	54	-	-	-
22.03	Documentation and library services	24	54	78	24	60	84	-	+6	+6
Programme total:		96	150	246	120	198	318	+24	+48	+72
PROGRAMME 23: PROMOTION OF AND SUPPORT FOR ECDC AND TCDC										
23.01	Development and exchange of information and analysis to promote ECDC and TCDC	32	-	32	54	42	96	+22	+42	+64
23.02	Preparatory and supplementary assistance to identify opportunities and to facilitate the implementation of ECDC and TCDC	40	-	40	42	12	54	+2	+12	+14
Programme total:		72	-	72	96	54	150	+24	+54	+78

RESOURCES FOR THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (06)

	<i>Man-months 1982-1983</i>		<i>Division/unit</i>	<i>Subprogramme of division/unit</i>
	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
06.01 Policies and planning	12	18	Integrated Rural Development	06.01
	36	—	Agriculture	01.04
	7	10	Development Planning	07.05
	4	4	Industry, Housing and Technology	09.02
	9	76	Social Development	19.02, 19.04
	6	24	Statistics	21.01
	14	26	Administration	22.01, 22.03
	<u>88</u>	<u>158</u>		
06.02 Agriculture	23	6	Agriculture	01.02, 01.04
	2	10	International Trade	05.02
	<u>25</u>	<u>16</u>		
06.03 Industrialization in rural areas	36	90	Industry, Housing and Technology	08.01
	<u>36</u>	<u>90</u>		
06.04 Physical infrastructure, natural resources and the environment	22	6	Natural Resources	02.03
	13	44	Transport, Communications and Tourism	12.02, 13.02
	<u>35</u>	<u>50</u>		
06.05 Application of science and technology to rural development	9	—	Agriculture	01.04
	6	4	Industry, Housing and Technology	08.02
	<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>		
06.06 Health and social services	26	12	Natural Resources	16.01, 16.02
	<u>26</u>	<u>12</u>		
06.07 Human resources development and institutions	44	—	Agriculture	01.04
	16	36	Social Development	19.02, 19.05
	<u>60</u>	<u>36</u>		
Total	<u>285</u>	<u>366</u>		

Annex II

**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND
PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION**

None of the resolutions adopted at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission have financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations.

Annex III

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report ^a</i>
Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment	Fourth session Bangkok 23-29 September 1980	E/ESCAP/190
<i>Chairman:</i> Vira Susangkarakan (Thailand)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> L.S. Perera (Sri Lanka)		
Committee on Natural Resources	Seventh session Bangkok 30 September- 6 October 1980	E/ESCAP/189
<i>Chairman:</i> Sunthom Ruanglek (Thailand)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Mardjono Notodihardjo (Indonesia)		
Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development	Second session Bangkok 9-15 October 1980	E/ESCAP/192
<i>Chairman:</i> Prathuang Kirtiputra (Thailand)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Adnan Haji Abdullah (Malaysia)		
Committee on Trade	Twenty-third session Bangkok 18-24 November 1980	E/ESCAP/191
<i>Chairman:</i> Francisco Valeda (Philippines)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Shaukat Umer (Pakistan)		
Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications	Fourth session Bangkok 16-22 December 1980	E/ESCAP/215
<i>Chairman:</i> Chitti Wacharasindhu (Thailand)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Mohamed Sidek bin Shaikh Osman (Malaysia)		
Committee on Development Planning	Third session Bangkok 2-6 March 1981	E/ESCAP/213
<i>Chairman:</i> G.Th.E.R. Arnold (Netherlands)		

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Copies of reports that are not available through the normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at Geneva may be obtained from the Regional Commissions Liaison Unit of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, at United Nations Headquarters.

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. PUBLICATIONS

Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, vol. XXX, No. 1, June 1979: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.13

Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1977, vol. XVI, Series A, No. 1: United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.80.II.F.9

Guidebook on Biogas Development (Energy Resources Development Series No. 21): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.10

Index to Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 1947-1978, Part I. Numerical list; Part II. Subject index: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.3, Parts I & II

Index to Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 1947-1978, Part III. Compendium of resolutions: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.3, Part III

Proceedings of the Sixth Session of the Committee on Natural Resources, Incorporating the Triennial Review of Mineral Development Activities in the ESCAP Region, 1976-1978 (Mineral Resources Development Series No. 47): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.15

Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, vol. IX, No. 3, September 1979, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.5; vol. IX, No. 4, December 1979, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.7; vol. X, No. 1, March 1980, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.14

Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region, vol. VII, "ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy II" (Mineral Resources Development Series No. 46): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.2

Regional Mineral Distribution Map of Asia and the Pacific (second edition): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.F.13

Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 53: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.8

Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 16: United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.80.II.F.4

B. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its seventh session (E/ESCAP/189)

Report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/190)

Report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-third session (E/ESCAP/191)

Report of the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (E/ESCAP/192)

Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) on its seventeenth session (E/ESCAP/193 and Corr.1)

Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas on its ninth session (E/ESCAP/194)

Progress report on the implementation of resolution 204 (XXXVI) on special measures in favour of the least developed countries (E/ESCAP/195)

Progress report on the implementation of resolution 206 (XXXVI) on establishment of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (E/ESCAP/196 and Corr.1)

Report of the Typhoon Committee on its thirteenth session (E/ESCAP/197)

Joint Inspection Unit report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/198)

Report on the implementation of resolution 196 (XXXV) on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/199 and Corr.1)

Report of the Governing Council of the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre on its third session (E/ESCAP/200)

The Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/201)

Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for the work programme of ESCAP (E/ESCAP/202)

Progress report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for 1980 (E/ESCAP/203)

Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for the regional training and research institutions (E/ESCAP/204 and Corr.1)

Environment (E/ESCAP/205)

Food and agriculture (E/ESCAP/206)

Special study on food supply in the ESCAP region (E/ESCAP/206/Add.1)

International trade (E/ESCAP/207)

Social development (E/ESCAP/208)

Statistics (E/ESCAP/209)

Human settlements (E/ESCAP/210)

Progress report on the implementation of resolution 205 (XXXVI) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries (E/ESCAP/211 and Corr.1)

Short-term economic policy aspects of the energy situation in the ESCAP region (E/ESCAP/212 and Corr.1)

Report of the Committee on Development Planning on its third session (E/ESCAP/213)

Implications of the restructuring of the United Nations system: some issues for the consideration of the Commission (E/ESCAP/214)

Report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications: Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing, on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/215 and Corr.1)

Programme changes, 1981 (E/ESCAP/216)

Programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983 (E/ESCAP/217)

Draft medium-term plan, 1984-1989 (E/ESCAP/218)

Report on the implementation of the programme of work, 1978-1979 (E/ESCAP/219)

Natural resources (E/ESCAP/220 and Corr.1)

Industrial development (E/ESCAP/221)

Technology (E/ESCAP/222)

Transnational corporations (E/ESCAP/223)

Integrated programme on rural development (E/ESCAP/224)

Development planning, projections and policies (E/ESCAP/225)

Shipping, ports and inland waterways (E/ESCAP/226)

Transport, communications and tourism (E/ESCAP/227 and Add.1)

Population (E/ESCAP/228)

Information systems and documentation services (E/ESCAP/229)

Report of the Management Board of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (E/ESCAP/230 and Corr.1-3)

Annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1980 (E/ESCAP/231 and Corr.1)

Technical co-operation activities of ESCAP, 1980 (E/ESCAP/232 and Corr.1 and 2)

Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific in 1980: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (E/ESCAP/233 and Corr.1)

Promotion of and support for ECDC and TCDC (E/ESCAP/234)

Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/235)

Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (E/ESCAP/236)

Communication from the Government of the United States of America requesting the admission of Guam as an associate member (E/ESCAP/237)

Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting of Development Assistance Co-ordinators in Asia and the Pacific on Item II: Consideration of the UNDP Inter-country Programme for 1982-1986 (E/ESCAP/238)

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1980: Recent Economic Developments, 1979-1980 (E/ESCAP/L.58 and Corr.1)

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(I) 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 connexion 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 devel-

opment 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, Burma, China, the Cook Islands, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, the New Hebrides, 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 and Viet Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, 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, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam, provided that any State in the area which may hereafter become a Member of the United Nations shall be thereupon admitted as a member of the Commission.

4. The associate members shall include Brunei, the Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Kiribati, the New Hebrides, Niue, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and Tuvalu.

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 (XLIV).

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 of 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 sub-commissions, 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

connexion 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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