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**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION**

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE
COMMISSION ADOPTED AT ITS NINETEENTH SESSION**

Resolution 209 (XIX) on the programme of
work and priorities for the biennium 1996-1997

1. In its resolution 209 (XIX) of 7 May 1997 on the programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1996-1997, the Commission took note of the changes made by the ESCWA secretariat in programmed activities and of the reasons for those changes, approving them, and requesting the Executive Secretary to report to the member States any subsequent changes introduced thereto.
2. The annex table to the present report lists the seven outputs that were modified after the nineteenth session of the Commission, along with relevant justifications. Most of the modifications are attributable to the high vacancy rate; the remainder derive from particular programmatic circumstances.

Annex tableModifications introduced after the Commission's nineteenth session
in programmed activities for the biennium 1996-1997

Subprogramme	Output	Modification
Subprogramme 1. Management of natural resources and environment	Non-recurrent publication Survey on incorporating the environmental dimension into development plans	Reformulated and reduced in scope owing to the high vacancy rate
Subprogramme 2. Improvement of the quality of life	Advisory services Formulation and evaluation of national population policies (RB/XB)	Terminated , as no requests on the subject were received
	Group training Workshop on community development (XB)	Terminated as per instructions received from the United Nations Development Programme (New York) owing to the embargo imposed on Sudan, where the workshop was scheduled to be held Six background studies on community development experiences, originally prepared for the workshop, were utilized as inputs into an umbrella project on community development services
Subprogramme 3. Economic development and cooperation	Recurrent publication Journal of Development (biennial)	Terminated at the initiative of the secretariat owing to the high vacancy rate
	Ad hoc expert group meetings Prospects for establishing a regional gas network	Terminated at the initiative of the secretariat to avoid duplicating the work of other agencies
	Non-recurrent publications Proposal for the establishment of a mechanism for a regional gas network	Terminated at the initiative of the secretariat owing to the high vacancy rate
	Technical material Development and maintenance of the database on economic statistics	Terminated at the initiative of the secretariat owing to the high vacancy rate
